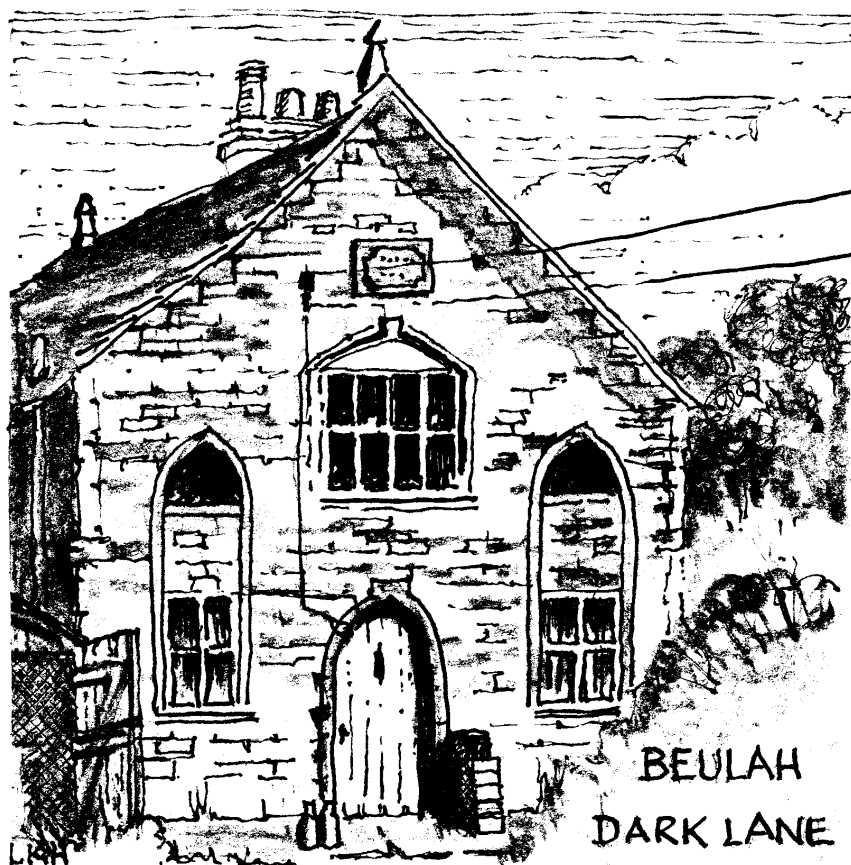


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

January 2011





What's on at the Warehouse Theatre, Brewery Lane, Ilminster
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ALADDIN – December 9th-11th and 16th -18th 2010

Ilminster Entertainments Society presents its Christmas pantomime.
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Ilminster Entertainments Society Ltd (Reg Charity No. 291977 Company No. 1882407)

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The Seavingtons' News

With the cold weather likely to persist and heavy snow forecast for the coming weekend it looks as if we might be looking forward to a white Christmas. If the previous snowy weather is an example we can anticipate that New Road, the main road to Ilminster and South Petherton, will remain untreated and will be treacherous for a week or more—take care.

With central government making the spending economies that it thinks necessary for our long-term national prosperity we can expect to see more cut backs in local services. The new parliamentary bill will trigger the rapid devolution of a number of responsibilities to lower tiers of local government.

Thus, the special Parish Meeting called by our Parish Council on 6th January (see page 8) is especially important. I urge anyone with a long term interest in the well being of our community to attend and participate in that meeting. It will be well worth reading press reports of the bill beforehand so that you are able constructively to contribute to the discussion

Another 12 months has passed and here we are starting 2011. Again, we are including with this issue a “pull-out” centre section—The Seavingtons' News Year Book. This contains a lot of useful information, that you will want to refer to as time passes, so please save it.

With best wishes for Christmas and 2011.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 7th January
until am Monday 10th January**

**The Latest Copy Date
for the February 2011 issue**

is the 15th January

Editorial content and diary entries to:

David Froome, Middlefield Barn, Church Lane, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster,
TA19 0QP Tel: 01460 249445; e-mail: news@theseavingtons.org

Village Diary—January 2011

All events, unless otherwise shown, are held in the Millennium Hall

For bookings call Janet Goode on 01460 240220

For other hall matters contact Peter Ashley on 01460 240353

19th December	09.30 am	Seavington Breakfast in Village Café—see p 24
19th December	3.00 pm	Christingle at St Michael's Church
28th December	10.30 am	Boxing Day Walkies & Lunch—see p 7
6th January	7.30 pm	Special Parish Meeting—see p 8
13th January	7.30 pm	Gardening Club talk by Mike Pollock—Plants Worth Knowing—see p 6
12th February	7.30 pm	St Michael's Seavington Church Trust—Multiple Guess Music Quiz—see pp 5 & 26

Regular Activities

Every Monday	6.30pm	Young People's Group—all ages
1 st Saturday	9.00 am— 2.00 pm	St Michael's Church Seavington Trust Book Sale at 2, Winchester Cottages (opposite The Volunteer)
3 rd Wednesday	10.00am	"GET2GETHER" Group in Café
Wednesdays	1.00pm	In term time: Parents, babies & Toddlers Group
2 nd Thursday	7.30pm	Seavington Gardening Club

To keep up to date check out the village web-site which is updated regularly and brings you the latest information on village matters, the programmes of village organisations and much more. Pass the address to your friends and relatives and let them keep in touch as well.

www.theseavingtons.org

St Michael's Church, Seavington—Services

25th December	8.00 am	Holy Communion
25th December	11.30 am	Christmas Day Family Service
26th December	11.15 am	Matins
2nd January	11.15 am	Matins
9th January	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9th January	11.15 am	Family Service
16th January	11.15 am	Holy Communion
23rd January	11.15 am	Matins
30th January	11.15 am	Matins

The Rev David Jasper's office telephone number is 01460 240377
Curate: Rev D Fyfe: 01460 241977

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial: David Froome

Advertising: Heather Scott

Production: David & Wendy Eliot, Angela Englefield & Anne Kinch

Technical & web-site support: Eugene Mulligan

Graphics & Visual Support: George Brown

Village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org

Contributions to both the Seavingtons' News and the web-site are welcomed. You may submit electronically or by handwritten or typed manuscript to the editor at the address on page 1. Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

Advertising Rates

	Annual	Monthly
Full Page	£90	£10
½ Page	£45	£5
¼ Page	£25	£3

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Waste Paper Collections at the Millennium Hall

Heather Scott (01460 241437)

Here are the amounts of waste paper we collected in Seavington during the last quarter:

July 1880 kgs; August 1880 kgs; September 1840 kgs

Many thanks for all your work in achieving these figures.

Support the Seavingtons' News Keep by saving your paper - there is still a bit of room in the skip for more contributions each month! I am going to look up our records and see how well we have been doing - so let's always look to break the previous records to benefit our village magazine—The Seavingtons' News.

The dates for the paper skip next year are (*The second Saturday every month!*):

8th January, 12th February, 12th March, 9th April, 14th May, 11th June, 9th July, 13th August, 10th September, 8th October, 12th November and 10th December, 2011.

The skip normally arrives on Friday afternoon and is removed on Monday morning.

Seavington Playing Field Association

The Committee would like to thank all those who attended, supported and generously gave to two of our recent events.

Firstly, the Bonfire and Firework Party on November 5th was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all who came. Thanks to Peter and Steven Ash for expertly dealing with the fireworks and to all those in the kitchen cooking and dispensing numerous burgers and hot-dogs and to the bar.

Secondly, the Christmas Bazaar where all the tables were taken. Again everyone seemed pleased with the morning and many were seen leaving loaded with prizes and purchases. Again sincere thanks to all who had a table and those who spent so generously.

Finally the Playing Field Committee send Seasonal Greetings to all who have supported us throughout the year and Best Wishes for the coming year.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

The Trustees would like to thank all those who have supported us during the past year. We are most grateful. It has been a successful year. Our policy to have fewer – but better (if possible!) – fundraising events seems to be working well. Our financial position at the end of the year shows that we managed to raise approximately £3,750 as a result of donations and our fundraising efforts.

This year the Trust has paid for the splendid new railings which have been installed by Mark Isaacs up the church steps. This will make access to the Church rather easier for those who are older or more infirm. We aim to extend the railings further up the church path in due course.

Our fundraising for 2011 gets under way on Saturday, 12th February 2011 when Sally and Chris Gough will be running a Multiple Guess Music Quiz for us in the Millennium Hall. This will be good fun and we look forward to welcoming plenty of teams, all eager to demonstrate their knowledge of all types of music! Supper will be provided and there will be a licensed bar. So, start getting a team together and join us for what, I am sure, will be an enjoyable evening.

In the meantime, the Trustees wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and a Joyful New Year.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Book, Plant & Bric-a-Brac sale:

12th February 2011

at 2, Winchester Cottages (Opposite The Volunteer)

New and Second-hand Books

Selection of bric-a-brac

A great selection for children of all ages from stories to study!

NB—Open 9.00 am to 2.00 pm—please come and browse

Seavington Gardening Club Christmas Dinner

Ry Coffman, Secretary (01460 240004; ry.coffman@virgin.net)

Seavington Gardeners kicked off Christmas with a really delicious dinner at Perry's Cider in Dowlish Wake on 25th November! We had the place to ourselves, and enjoyed a menu of homemade dishes with lovely fresh vegetables all served with excellent service. We were even serenaded by a young lady clarinettist – a lovely touch! We are lucky to have such great places to eat so close by. Thank you to Liz Perry, Sally Wills and the team at Perrys for making it such a good evening.

The Gardening Club has a rest in December; hope everyone has had a good Winter break! But on 13 January it all starts again with a talk by Seavington resident Mike Pollock. His talk is entitled 'Plants worth Knowing'. Last year we had booked photographer Colin Varndell in January and had to cancel because of the snow, you will remember, so we haven't taken any chances with the January speaker this year – Mike will be able to walk if we have some adverse weather, hopefully! Don't forget the 'Flower of the Month' competition – this can be a challenge in January! New Programmes will be given out as well.

The Gardens Group Gold Club: Seavington Gardening Club is a member of the Gold Club which entitles us to twice yearly discount vouchers. Spring 25% discount vouchers (valid for January and February 2011) and Order Forms for gardening purchases from The Gardens Group (Castle, Brimsmore & Poundbury) will be available at that meeting. The range of things covered by the vouchers has widened this year to include almost anything in the shops including some plantlets and seedlings, onions/shallots and seed potatoes.

The Order Forms cover a range of purchases which can be ordered and paid for by cheque or on the phone by credit card –and then delivered to your door free. This is a very good way to buy your supply of compost and any other heavy bulky items! The other very useful thing I have found in the car park at Brimsmore is a bin where people can recycle their plastic pots and trays when they no longer need them or when they need more. I always run out before the plant sale! If members can't make the January meeting and would like vouchers and order forms, please contact me.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again in January 2011. Best wishes for the New Year! New members always welcome contact Ry Coffman, Secretary, Seavington Gardening Club 01460 240004, ry.coffman@virgin.net

Boxing Day Walkies

Tuesday 28th December

A perfect antidote to the over indulgence of Christmas is a stroll around the fields and lanes of The Seavingtons, ending up at The Volunteer for brunch—Lasagne, Sausage & bean feasts and a vegetarian dish to choose from at 12.00 noon.

Please meet at the Millennium Hall at 10.30 am. If you don't fancy the walk, join us for brunch! Dogs welcome.

Tickets £7; children £3.50. To help with catering please purchase tickets in advance from:

The Volunteer (01460 240126 or Annie Prichard (01460 241762)

In aid of St Michael's Church Trust

Please be aware of the following scam

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DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £315 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655.

If you have information about any crime, phone the police on 0845 456 7000 or you can call anonymously to the independent charity CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111. For general information about Neighbourhood Watch nationally see the www.mynhw.co.uk website.

Parish Meeting – Thursday 6TH January 2011

7.30pm at the Millennium Hall

[An important date for your diary]

As you are all probably aware Somerset County Council has recently announced severe cuts in its budget for next year which will have implications on us all.

It is at this time of the year that your Parish Council has to decide on its precept [budget] for 2011/2012. Although the Parish Council has funds Councillors are concerned that these will be quickly eroded when we have to fund services previously paid for by the County Council.

A letter received from the Chief Executive of Somerset County Council has given us some idea of the areas to be cut and listed below are areas that may have a cost implication on the Parishes.

- Highways - Verge cutting, weed control, drain/ditch clearing
- Youth Services
- Footpaths – more reliance on voluntary help as maintenance levels are reduced
- Grants to voluntary groups.
- Possibility of withdrawal of funding for the Lengthsman Scheme

Although Central Government has prevented excessive council tax increases by both County and District it has not yet included Parishes, but it may well do so in the future.

Before your Parish Councillors can make a decision we need to hear the views of residents and this is why you are all invited to the above meeting. This is your opportunity:-

- § to find out how your village precept is spent at present,
- § to say what local services you would like to see retained,
- § help Councillors make the final decision with regard to the setting of the precept.

Signed – Parish Councillors of Seavington St Mary/St Michael



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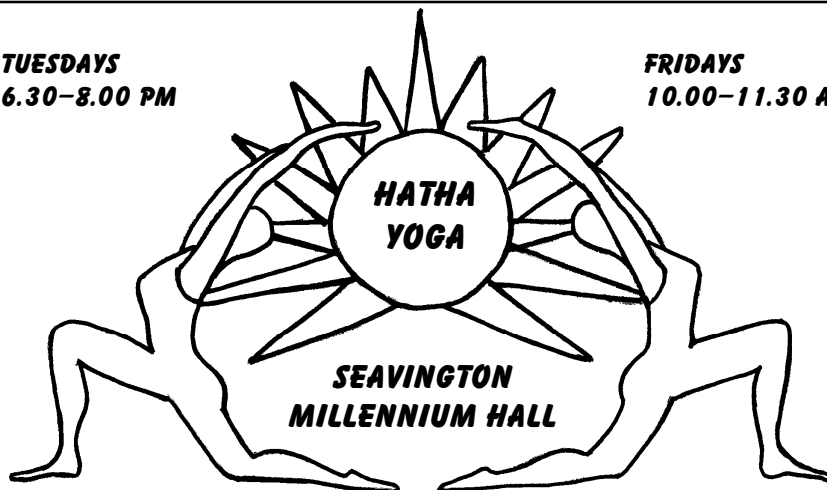
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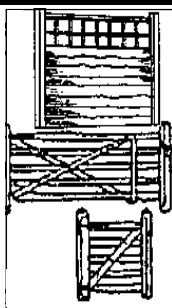
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In the Madhouse

David Eliot (01460 240758)

In Autumn 1970 I was sent to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) Main Building in Whitehall – known to friend and foe alike as The Madhouse – to become a Desk Officer in the Directorate of Naval Operations & Trade, one of the four divisions of the Naval Staff under the First Sea Lord, and his Deputy, the Vice Chief, known as ‘V’.

Our office was the Operations Room, manned by the Director (a Captain), his Deputy (ditto), seven Commanders and nobody else. No back-up was needed: we produced virtually no documents and lived on a diet of phone calls, pithy Naval Signals and very verbose Diplomatic Telegrams - our diplomats suffer from chronic literary diarrhoea and could save millions in communication costs if cured of this fell disease! By day, five Commanders dealt with Operations and two with Trade, but all seven formed the Duty Commander (DC)’s union, the sole eyes and ears of the Navy in MOD outside working hours

One end wall of the Ops Room was entirely covered by a world chart stuck with red butterfly pins marking the position of every British warship at sea anywhere on the planet, updated daily. A door in Polynesia led to a small flat, where the DC lived one weekend in seven and one weekday night in turn, armed with enough food to see him through because he was actually locked into the building.

The day job was interesting, but DC was more so because one never knew what the next phone call or signal would bring. It was a point of honour never to call upon colleagues for help unless a submarine was reported missing or sunk, when it was ‘all hands to the pumps’. Signals arrived continually during the night from everywhere, those marked IMMEDIATE being delivered to one’s bedside by a porter, the less urgent being stacked up till dawn.

Our office kept a file of classic signals. Only one pair made this file during my time. A minesweeper on Fishery Protection patrol in the Channel reported: HAVE ARRESTED JESUS OF NAZARETH FOR ILLEGAL FISHING. AM ESCORTING HIM TO DOVER. Three days later, after the Court case, we received the expected follow-up: JESUS OF NAZARETH FOUND GUILTY OF ILLEGAL FISHING, FINED FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS, NETS CONFISCATED. The ‘Jesus’ was a Belgian trawler.

But it was the DC’s telephone that produced the real gems. One night, the DC was phoned by the Queen of California. This nutty American, who clearly had a complete crush on the Royal Navy, said she would be bringing

her son - whom she called the Crown Prince - to Britain with her and asked how the Navy would entertain them? The DC strung her along for some time on tape, finally persuading her not to cross the Pond. This hilarious tape got wide circulation.

I got my share. I was once phoned by a very retired naval officer who offered to relate his conversation over tea with the Soviet Naval Attache at his Embassy. Having politely thanked him for his pains, I asked Naval Intelligence if they wanted to know. I was forcibly told No, and advised how to deal with this crank the next time.

Occasionally something so serious happened that the Top Brass had to be told. The destroyer *FIFE* caught fire off Crete one night when I was DC. I phoned my Director, who told me to tell the Duty Admiral, who told me to tell V, who told me to tell the First Sea Lord. Phoning the latter was dangerous, he being a byword for rudeness and intolerance. In fact, new DCs were specifically told how to avoid decapitation: prepare a spiel, deliver it in one long burst, shut up and expect no comment for about 30 seconds. I followed this advice to the letter & earned a 30 second silence. Finally God growled 'What's the weather off Crete?' I told him, and a whole lot more as the hours passed and *FIFE* burned. I even lived to see dawn.

In 1971, the famous yachtsman Sir Chay Blyth sailed solo round the world the 'wrong' way in *BRITISH STEEL*. As he was a former Royal Marine, the Navy took a friendly interest in his epic voyage. We stuck a black butterfly pin on our world wall chart and tracked him round the globe. We arranged for the Navy's Antarctic Patrol ship, *ENDURANCE*, to deliver his mail south of Cape Horn on Christmas Day. Expecting a story of epic seamanship in mountainous seas, we felt let down when *ENDURANCE* reported the transfer had been made when the Davis Strait was as flat as the Serpentine! Returned triumphant, V invited Chay to the Ops Room, where we ceremonially presented him with his butterfly pin mounted in an acrylic block.

The last word shall go to another famous sailor, Sir Francis Chichester, who set out single-handed into the Western Approaches to die at sea, or so it was said; but he got into trouble and was rescued by the Navy. On the Saturday morning of this operation, as DC I was phoned by Lord X, who claimed to be a personal friend of the Secretary of State. He told me to tell V that the Navy shouldn't waste taxpayers' money rescuing an ancient mariner who had gone to sea to die. The problem was: if Lord X was an imposter and I phoned V, my head would be on a pike; likewise, if he was genuine and I didn't tell V, same result. Since V, unlike his boss, was revered and loved in equal measure, I made the call. V instantly declared he knew Lord X well and that, privately, he entirely agreed with him; but 'we can't let this famous sailor die at sea, can we? Carry on!' So Sir Francis, to his annoyance, was duly rescued at taxpayers' expense.

Village Store—Official Opening

For a short while on Saturday 4th December Seavington found itself being likened to Ambridge, the fictional setting for BBC Radio 4's *The Archers*.

Carole Boyd, who plays the part of Lynda Snell in the, long running, BBC series, came to Seavington to perform the official opening of our, volunteer staffed and managed, Village Store and Café.

Some 200 people, comprising local residents and invited guests, gathered in the Millennium Hall to mark the occasion. The gathering was chaired by Nigel England, vice-chairman of the Parish Council who reiterated the Council's support for the project which originated in the 2005 Village Plan.

James Alcock, the community retail manager for the Plunkett Foundation reminded the audience that the Seavington store and café was now a member of a family of 246 community shops in the UK. Plunkett's role was to provide support for such shops from concept to trading. It achieved this through strategic partnerships with government departments and other organisations such as the Esmée Fairbairn Trust which offered grants through Plunkett's *Store is the Core*, programme; Seavington had received £20,000 through this scheme.

David Froome offered a potted history of the Community Shop Project from the identification of residents' wishes in the village plan through the construction to the present day. David reminded people that between 2005 and 2010 the financial climate has changed significantly. Whereas, at the start of the decade, it was not uncommon to see five figure grants from central government by 2009 there were virtually none.

Seavington had suffered some "near misses", such as a grant scheme for the Somerset levels where the A303 has been selected as a cut-off boundary. In the end we received funding from all levels of local government and the Esmée Fairbairn Trust with significant other monies being raised within the community through fund-raising events, residents' loans and a bank loan. There had also been great generosity from other organisations including the Co-op which had donated the display shelving and some of the refrigeration equipment.

It had not proved possible to raise sufficient money for the, originally proposed, masonry building and, with support from the planning authorities, we had constructed a timber building to a high specification. Much money had been saved through the flexibility of the builder in

allowing us to substitute local volunteer labour in appropriate places throughout the project. This included site clearance and much of the “first” and “second” fix activities.

Now that it was open the shop was endeavouring to stock local products wherever these were available. Currently, these include meats, cheeses, cider and cider brandy, vegetables, fudge, honey etc.

Carole Boyd explained that she did not live in a village but understood the need for the community focus traditionally offered by the village shop. Slipping in and out of her character as Lynda Snell, Carole told us that she was well acquainted with the difficulties associated with reliance on volunteers; and how impressed she was with the effort of Seavington’s volunteers.

Carole then led the assembly out to the front of the shop where she cut the ceremonial ribbon before leading everyone inside where she took over the job of “check-out” volunteer by, after a little instruction, manning the till.

In both shop, café and Millennium Hall local suppliers manned tables offering tastings of various local products available in the shop whilst visitors enjoyed mince pies and tea.

SPFA - Lottery

Drawn on 4th November

First Prize (£40) No: 94 - Fenella
Raymont
Second Prize (£20) No: 38 - Emma
Gough
Third Prize (£10) No: 25 - Sian
Sainsbury

Drawn on 5th November

First Prize (£40) No:84 - Phil Gordon-
Smith
Second Prize (£20) No: 76 - Julie Sibley
Third Prize (£10) No: - Sally Wills

Drawn on 6th December

First Prize (£40) No: 69 - Mrs Murray
Second Prize (£20) No: 137 Mr Loxton
Third Prize (£10) No: 7 Mr J Lawton

Drawn on 7th December

First Prize (£40) No: 136 - Ed Rudd
Second Prize (£20) No: 110 - June
Reeves
Third Prize (£10) No: 117 - Roy Ash

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From our PCSO

Rachel Napper (0845 456 7000)

Neighbourhood Watch

In the past month there has been an audit of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in order to confirm who is a co-ordinator on the scheme already running in the villages. This audit has shown that within the Seavingtons we have lost a few co ordinators. If anybody would like to be a co-ordinator for Seavington St Michael then please contact me on 0845 4567000 or at rachel.napper@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

Frequent Beat Surgery?

Within South Petherton, I hold an hour and a half beat surgery every month in the Police Post in order to give members of the public a chance to come and see me and to pass on their concerns. I was planning on doing the same in Seavington and using the village shop as my meeting place but only if there is a need for it.

If you would like to have a regular beat surgery of an hour a month within the village, then please let me know. In addition to this, I would like to install a small police 'post box' which will allow members of the community to post messages and to pass intelligence anonymously. Please let me know what you think of this idea.

Happy New Year

Seavington Village Store and Café



Invites you to enjoy

A “Seavington Breakfast”



in the Café on Sunday 16th January from 09.30 until noon

Bring the whole family (and friends too!)

A Frosty Day

Annie Prichard (01460 241762)

When the waves are solid floor,
And the clouds are iron-bound,
And the boughs are crystall'd hoar,
And the red leaf nailed a-ground,
When the rusty blackbird strips,
Bunch by bunch, the coral thorn;
And the pale day-crescent dips,
New to heaven, a slender horn.

Lord de Tabley (1835-95)

Berries, such as hawthorn and holly are a natural food for birds, especially in the winter. During this harsh weather, birds are forced to rely on berries when their normal food supply is locked in the frozen ground. Well stocked bird feeders are lifesavers. Small birds, like the tit family, love to be acrobatic on the peanut feeder or a coconut. Most birds will come to bird tables for table scraps such as cooked bacon rinds, shredded suet, breadcrumbs and diced cheese.

Remember though, not to put out too much at any one time; it may go bad and spread disease amongst the birds. Little and often if you are able to manage it. Fallen fruit, left on the ground, is welcomed by blackbirds, thrushes and wintering fieldfares and redwings.

During these freezing winter days it is important that bird-baths are kept free from ice. Birds need drinking water but they also like to bathe in frosty weather to maintain their plumage in peak condition so as to stay warm.

May I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, New Year?

Playing Field Bird Boxes

A big thank you is due to David Wills who has made 12 bird boxes from recycled wood for the trees that surround the Playing Field. These have now been installed with approximately one in every other tree. Hopefully some of these will be occupied in the Spring!

Ry Coffman

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MUSIC?

MULTIPLE GUESS MUSIC QUIZ (FOR ALL TASTES!)

Saturday, 12th February 2011

The Seavington Millennium Hall, at 7.30 pm (Doors Open: 7.0 pm)

Teams of 6 maximum

Make up a team beforehand — or just turn up and join a team on the night

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Tickets: £7.50 or £9 on the evening (including supper) available from:

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977) Annie Prichard (01460-241762)
N & D News, South Petherton

Visit Seavingtons' Community Shop and Café



There's always a warm welcome in the café and a choice of delicious cakes, teas and coffees, as well as freshly –made light lunches.

In the shop we sell **A**pples, **B**read, **C**hocolate, **D**og food, **E**ggs, **F**rozen meals, **G**reetings cards, **H**ummus, **I**ce creams, **J**elly, **K**etchup, **L**oo roll, **M**ilk, **N**ewspapers, **O**range juice, **P**asta, **Q**uorn, **R**ice, **S**tring, **T**ea & coffee, **U**nsmoked (and smoked) bacon, **V**egetables, **W**ashing powder, **X**tra strong mints, and **Y**azoo. But we don't sell *ANYTHING* beginning with **Z** !

Opening Times:

Monday-Friday 8.30am– 6pm; Saturday 9am– 3pm
01460 249730

You can't be too careful!

This note about a new scam was passed to the editor by a friend living on the south coast. It is passed on as a warning to all.

Check your receipts before leaving the supermarket checkout! I bought a bunch of stuff, over £150, & I glanced at my receipt as the cashier was handing me the bags. I saw a cash-back of £40. I told her I didn't request a cash back & to delete it. She said I'd have to take the £40 because she couldn't delete it. I told Her to call a supervisor. Supervisor came & said I'd have to take it. I said NO! Taking the £40 would be a cash advance against my Credit card & I wasn't paying interest on a cash advance!!!! If they couldn't delete it then they would have to delete the whole order.

So the supervisor had the cashier delete the whole order & re-scan everything! The second time I looked at the electronic pad before I signed & a cash-back of £20 popped up. At that point I told the cashier & she deleted it. The total came out right. The cashier agreed that the Electronic Pad must be defective.

Obviously the cashier knew the electronic pad was defective because she didn't offer me the £40 at the beginning. Can you imagine how many people went through before me & at the end of her shift how much money she pocketed?

Just to alert everyone. My co worker went to a south coast supermarket last week. She had her items rung up by the cashier. The cashier hurried her along and didn't give her a receipt. She asked the cashier for a receipt and the cashier was annoyed and gave it to her. My co worker didn't look at her receipt until later that night. The receipt showed that she asked for £20 cash back. She had not asked for cash back! My co-worker called the company who investigated but could not see the cashier pocket the money.

She then spoke to someone who works for a bank and was told that this is a new scam. The cashier will key in that you asked for cash back and then hand the cash to her friend who is the next person in the queue. Please, please, please check your receipts right away when using credit or debit cards!

Village Voice—letters to the editor

The Seavingtons' News wants to hear and publish your views on both the "News" itself and topics of importance or interest to our community. Please send your letters to the address on page 1. For legal reasons we must have the name and address of the writer but can publish over a pseudonym on request.

Dear Friends,

A short note to thank you all for your good wishes during my recent indisposition. I am now at home and being well looked after by June.

I hope you all have a happy Christmas and send my best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Clive (Reeves)

Don't Forget

...to pull out and save The Seavingtons' News Year Book which is bound in to the centre of this issue of our magazine.

This contains useful information, telephone numbers etc that you may need during the year. It includes such information as the dates of Parish Council meetings and the waste paper collections as well as contact details for our village clubs and other organisations.

The Seavingtons' Weather in November 2010

	<i>This year—2010</i>	<i>Previous year—2009</i>
Temperature		
Average Minimum	3.34°C	6.96°C
Average Maximum	9.63°C	11.82°C
Average Mean	6.49°C	9.39°C
Rainfall		
Monthly Total	95.4mm (3.82")	185.2mm (7.41")
Yearly Total (to date)	597.7mm (23.91")	758.0mm (30.32")

Sunday 28th November was coldest day with a maximum temperature of -2.2°C



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