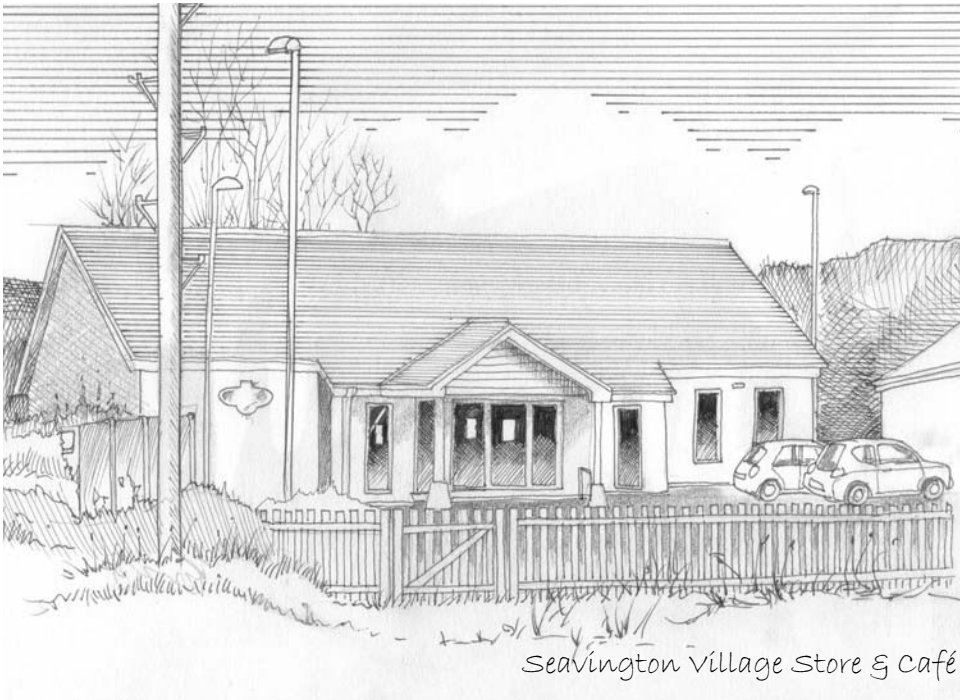


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

July 2013



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The Seavingtons' News

Since the Seavingtons' News was kicked off by France Jack in 1982 its production has been a voluntary effort with the funding for printing and equipment coming principally from regular collections of waste paper. This funding has been supplemented by revenues from advertising which is attractive because of our low charges.

These arrangements have allowed us to invest in specialist equipment such as a RISO printer, a collator and booklet stapler. Also, we have accumulated a modest surplus which, occasionally, we use to make grants to village organisations.

The success of our waste paper collection has been demonstrated by the need for two skips each month. However, you may have noticed that, for the past two months we have only been allocated one skip. The waste paper company tells us that the amount collected in The Seavingtons has dropped off and that, now, only one skip is required. They blame this on the local Councils now offering a kerbside collection for waste paper with residents now reluctant to store and deliver monthly to the skip.

If this is true then your monthly Seavingtons' News is at risk. We could not continue on the basis of advertising revenue alone without increasing advertising charges and thereby losing customers.

I will arrange for two skips in July in the hope that this spurs you all to support the Seavingtons' News by hoarding and delivering your waste paper and cardboard on a monthly basis as you have in the past.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 12th July
until am Monday 15th July**

**The Latest Copy Date
for the next issue**

is the 15th July

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—July 2013

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

For bookings call Pauline Eardley on 07914 710926

For other Millennium Hall matters call Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193

27th June	7.30 pm	Talk—"Meet the Ancestors" by BBC presenter Julian Richards - p28
6th July	9.00 am	St. Michael's Church Trust Books Sale at 2, Winchester Cottages – p14
8th July	Noon	Seniors' Lunch in Café - p30
11th July	7.00 pm	Gardening Club visit to Farndon Thatch, Puckington – p20
18th July	7.30 pm	Talk—"Somerset and the end of Roman Britain" by Dr James Gerrard – p30
10th August	2.30 pm	Seavington Annual Flower Show—p 6

Regular Activities

Every Monday	6.30pm	Young People's Group—all ages
2 nd Monday	Noon	Pensioners' Lunches in Village Café
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 Village Café
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

30th June	9.30 am	Parish Iona Communion at St. Peter and St. Paul's, South Petherton
7th July	11.30 am	Holy Communion
14th July	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
14th July	11.30 am	All Age Service
21st July	11.30 am	Holy Communion
28th July	11.30 am	Matins

NB No service at Seavington on 5th Sunday in the month

Rev Tom Handy telephone: 01460 240377; revdtomhandy@hotmail.com

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial: David Froome & Maria Potts

Advertising: Heather Scott

Production: David & Wendy Eliot

Technical & web-site support: Eugene Mulligan

Graphics & Visual Support: George Brown

Village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org

Contributions are welcomed. You may submit electronically or by handwritten or typed manuscript to the editor at the address on page 1. The contents of this village magazine are the copyright © of the Seavingtons' News unless the item concerned carries an alternative copyright assertion. However, all information on village activities and events may be freely reproduced.

Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

Advertising Rates

	Annual	Monthly
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Parish Councillors' Responsibilities

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

At the May 2013 meeting of the Parish Council the following appointments were made:-

Chair Simon Madge
Vice-Chair Peter Ashley

Allocated Responsibilities are as follows:-

Planning Sub Committee	All Councillors
Responsible Financial Officer	Pauline Parsons
Internal Auditor	Helen Anstey
Parish Paths Liaison Officer	Andrew Gillard (assisted by Phil Gordon-Smith)
Lenthsman co-ordinator	Simon Madge and Elaine Edwards
Highways Liaison	Peter Ashley
Tree Wardens	Alan Graham and Phil Gordon-Smith
Seavington Playing Field	Pauline Parsons
Community Shop	to be shared by Parish Councillors
Seavingtons News	David Froome
Neighbourhood Watch	Carolyn Farler
Neighbourhood Plan	Brenda Lake

Parish Council Meeting—Time Change

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Due to already known absences from the Parish Council Meeting due to be held on Tuesday 25th June 2013 at 7.30pm in the Millennium Hall the Parish Council has made a decision to change the time to 2.15pm.

Neither the date nor the venue for the meeting is changing.

Oh Deer!...All's Well That Ends Well

Carol Talbot (01460 241478)

Recently we had a phone call from friends concerned that one of our dogs had been run over near our house. I was relieved to find the dogs were safe but realised it was probably a deer.

Indeed, it was a Roe Deer, run over and lying dead in the road. Nigel carried her back and we noticed she was lactating so was either pregnant or had a fawn. She wasn't pregnant, so there was probably a distressed baby somewhere.

Nigel rang a friend who advised looking in long grass, so the search began. The doe had left tracks which lead to a field of rape, and searching for the fawn was like looking for a needle in a hay stack. We persevered for a couple of hours until it got dark, sadly without luck.

We were all worried about the fawn, and early in the morning Nigel went out looking again. This time he was luckier, phoning me excitedly to say he'd found a 'precious bundle!' Seems the fawn was being pretty noisy and was searching for its Mum.

Nigel brought the tiny fawn back, which was a bit damp around the edges, but otherwise okay. It was so pretty, so small and so vulnerable, a real Bambi. We phoned Hatch Animal Centre who asked Nigel to bring it along to join the 3 they already had. Off he went to Hatch only to be asked 'if he'd found another one, as they usually had twins'!

Nigel couldn't risk leaving another fawn alone so returned home to begin his search again, not sure there would even be another one. After a lot of looking he finally spotted it hiding, and like its brother, thankfully, no worse for its ordeal. So off he went to Hatch again, this time with a little female fawn.

The fawn twins were only a few days old, have been named Michael and Mary, and seem to be doing well thanks to the dedicated staff at Hatch. When the fawns are old enough they will be released back into the wild. AHH!!

So, please drive with care along this road as deer regularly leap across, often unsuccessfully, fatal for them and dangerous for you.

Seavington Annual Flower Show 2013

Baking Competition Recipes

The Seavington Flower Show will be held on Saturday 10th August 2013; the schedule was published as an insert in the March 2013 issue of The Seavingtons' News.

Seavington Gardening Club apologises for the late publication of these recipes. Fortunately the standard of entries is always so high that the reduced practice time should not cause anyone a problem!

Quick Cheese and Chive Bread

Ingredients:

250g self-raising flour, plus extra for kneading
salt and pepper
40g butter
125g cheddar cheese
small bunch fresh chives
1 egg
150ml milk
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

Method:

Set the oven to 200C/400F/gas mark 6.

Brush the baking sheet with a little oil.

Put the flour and salt and pepper into a large mixing bowl.

Cut the butter into pieces and add to bowl, then rub in with your fingertips or an electric mixer until the mixture looks like fine crumbs.

Grate the cheese coarsely and snip the chives into pieces with scissors.

Add the cheese and about 4 tspns of chives to the bowl and mix together.

Beat the egg and add all but about 2 tspns of the egg into the flour mixture.

Add the mustard then gradually mix in the milk to make a soft but not sticky ball with the fork or wooden spoon.

Sprinkle the work surface with a little flour, then tip the dough on to it.

Knead until smooth, then pat into a circle about 18cm or a little bigger than your hand.

Cut into 6 segments and put slightly spaced apart on the baking sheet.

Brush the tops of the rolls with the remaining egg.

Bake in the centre of the oven for 15 minutes until well risen and golden.

Somerset Cider Apple Cake

Ingredients:

175g sultanas
150ml dry cider
280g plain flour
1.5 tsp baking powder
1 tsp ground cinnamon
225g unrefined caster sugar
180g unsalted butter
2 eggs
finely grated zest of 1 lemon
2 large cooking apples such as Bramleys, peeled, cored and thinly sliced

Method:

Preheat the oven to 180C/gas 3. Grease a 20cm “springform” cake tin and line the base with a circle of greaseproof paper.
Soak the sultanas in the cider for about 20 minutes.
Sift the flour, baking powder and cinnamon into a bowl.
Cream the sugar and butter for about 5 minutes until pale and fluffy.
Add the eggs one at a time, beating as you go.
Fold in the dry ingredients, the lemon zest and the sliced apples.
Stir in the soaked sultanas, along with any remaining cider.
Spoon the mixture into a prepared tin and bake for 45-50 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean.

Broadband Internet

Those people amongst our readership who are concerned about the poor broadband speeds in the villages will be delighted in the following news sent to us by Mark Herrick (markherrick@me.com)

Mark tells us that our telephone exchange (South Petherton) is at long last “Under Evaluation” to see if we should have fibre broadband. This would bring benefits to all members of the local community. To register your interest please visit:

<http://www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/expression-gen.aspx>

This isn't signing up for the product but merely showing an interest, just think, we could use iPlayer and LoveFilm like most of the rest of the country.

Notes from the Parish Council

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Last month we asked all to be aware of overhanging vegetation etc that was causing some concern in the villages.

Recently, it has become obvious that it is difficult to exit from many of our minor roads ie School Lane, David's Lane, Upton Lane etc. There have also been some incidents reported that areas of Water Street and Upton Lane are becoming difficult for two vehicles to pass as vegetation and stones creep onto the Highway.

Some incidents have been reported to County Highways, but we would ask that you all become aware that at this time of year vegetation grows at a very fast rate and needs cutting back on a regular basis. We probably do not need to reiterate that you could be liable for any damage caused by vegetation or stones that encroach onto the highway or pavement from your property. As a Parish Council we are trying to keep open spaces tidy, and we hope you will agree that certain areas of the village are looking much better. However, all of this comes at a cost.

Our thanks go, however, to the District Council for tidying up the footpath on the eastern side of Seavington St Michael. The lengthsman has also been working in this area and we are hopeful that this may encourage motorists to slow down as they approach the village entrance.

300 MILLION YEARS OLD AND STILL FLYING!

Summer brings with it brilliantly colourful dragonflies and damselflies, emerging from ponds, rivers, streams, ditches and pools, all over the UK. Fossils of dragonflies have been found, thought to be dated around 300 million years old, the same structure as the winged insects we see today, but they had a wing span of 2 feet wide! Somerset is home to many different species of both dragonflies and damselflies, thankfully with much smaller wing spans than their fossilised ancestors! The main difference between them is that dragonflies hold their wings open when perched, but damselflies fold their wings together down their bodies when perched. Damselflies are generally smaller than dragonflies too.

Discover the fascinating life cycle of the dragonfly along our dragonfly trail at RSPB Greylake Reserve near Othery, Bridgwater. Sunday 28th July—DAZZLING DRAGONFLIES, 11am-1pm. RSPB Greylake Reserve, to book, telephone: 07774 620879 or e-mail: greylake@rspb.org.uk

News From Seavington Playing Field Association

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

1. **Scarecrow Competition** – Thanks go to all those who joined in with the scarecrow competition. There were not as many as last year – but that was to be expected – but there were several good ones. Finally the one voted the best was the Shepherd, his dog and sheep which was in the garden of End House Cottage, Seavington St Michael.

2. **Consultation on the proposed paths around the field** – Again thank you to all those who attended the consultation at the Hall and for the comments received. Obviously this is a long term project and will be dependent on what grants we can obtain and the support the SPFA gets with fund raising. However, by making the field more accessible to the disabled and introducing some form of fitness trail we may be able to find funding from different sources.

Path A seems to have been well accepted – this is the one linking the overflow parking area to the main Hall Car Park. This will be designed so that it will provide access to the disabled. The intention is to light this path with some form of solar lighting that will be set into the path.

Path B was not so well accepted and perhaps was not explained fully enough. This path will follow the tree line up from the Hall and then turn to join up with the hard track. This will be surfaced with compacted gravel as used in many of the areas being developed by SSDC. The thinking behind this path is to open up the top of the field so that it can be accessed all year round. It is envisaged that this path would serve both old and young alike. The path could be used by children learning to ride a bike. Some fitness equipment could be spaced along the path to provide some form of circuit training or it could be used for a walk before shopping or enjoying a cup of coffee etc in the Village Shop/Cafe. There are probably many more ideas and we would welcome yours. Maybe through the Newsletter is the best way so that all can join in the debate.

3. **Petty vandalism** – there has been some minor vandalism around the hall, shop and playing field recently. This has been reported to the Police who have promised regular patrols and we are hopeful that this will 'nip the problem in the bud'.



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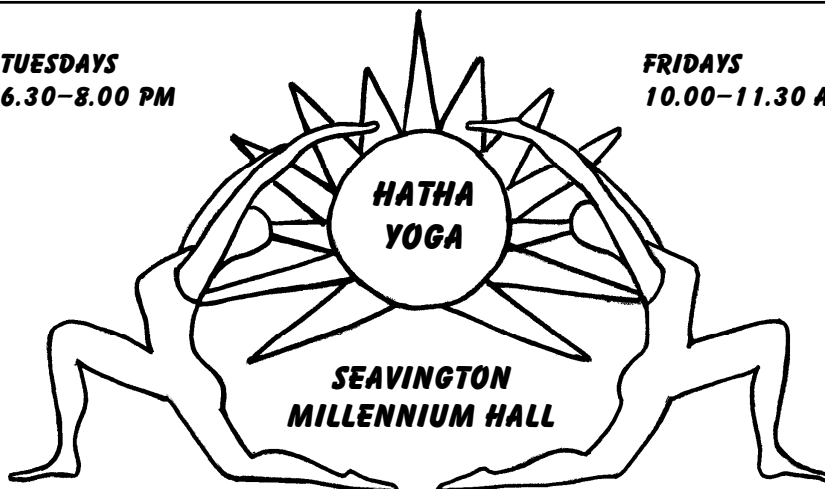
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Seavington Flower Festival, 25th-27th May 2013

Sheila Riley (01460 242778)

The Flower Festival was certainly a celebration of country life. The displays in St Michael's Church gave an insight into life here in Seavington, covering rural crafts, sheep farming, beekeeping, poultry fancier, dairy farming, the cottage garden, cider making and the potato farmer plus the "wellie boots" which have been very much to the fore during the past winter and spring.

A big thank-you to all the ladies involved for their time and initiative in creating the countryside in the church with the displays, country flowers and tree blossom.

The weather was wonderful on the Sunday and no one got wet either on the Saturday and Monday. It was good to see so many people coming to enjoy the Flower Festival and then stopping for light refreshments in the church garden. Your generosity raised the sum of £570 for St Michael's Church Seavington Trust.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped in the tea tent. Without the generosity of everyone who contributed cakes and biscuits the event would not have been such a success.

We had shelter from both wind and sun in the marquee which was erected and dismantled by Mary & Peter Wyatt's family in record time. The bunting on the railings leading up to the church made everything look very festive.

It is a great privilege for me to be associated with such a great team of enthusiastic volunteers. Thank you for your hard work and support which was very much appreciated.

Hinton St. George

Hinton St. George 'Flix in the Stix' presents 'Lincoln' (12A), on Saturday, July 13th in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or, £5.50p on the door. (Contact tel. 01460 72906). Steven Spielberg's latest masterpiece, a compelling portrait of Abraham Lincoln, played by Oscar-winning Daniel Day Lewis. Meticulous recreation of 19th century Washington DC. A memorable film, not to be missed.

St. Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

The Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir gave a very successful Concert in the Church of St Peter and St Paul in South Petherton on Saturday, 18th May 2013 in aid of the Trust. The Choir performed a varied and versatile programme of music which was much enjoyed by those attending. The Trustees would like to thank all of you who supported this event. It was nice to see a good number of people from the village. The event made a profit for the Trust of just over £800 which was a marvellous result.

Another very successful fundraising event took place over the Bank Holiday weekend at St Michael's Church, Seavington. This was the Flower Festival which was held over 25th, 26th and 27th May, when the church was beautifully decorated with wild flowers, from fields and gardens, by ladies from our village and beyond. All day refreshments were available, served by a roster of volunteer helpers who kindly gave up their time. Our thanks are due to Sheila Riley and Sue Dewsbury who oversaw the main responsibilities. The Trust was delighted to receive the magnificent sum of £570 as a result of this event.

On Saturday, 1st June, a Safari Supper, splendidly organised by Annie Prichard, took place. By moving from house to house during the evening, many different factions of the village community were able to meet, ending up at the Volunteer for coffee (or something stronger!). Many thanks to Ruth for allowing us to descend upon her premises. We are also very much indebted to all those other people who acted as hosts/hostesses during the evening.

Finally, a reminder that none other than Lord Ashdown of Norton-sub-Hamdon will be giving a Talk on the World War 2 'Cockleshell Heroes' in the Millennium Hall on Thursday, 26th September 2013. Please put it in your diaries!

New County Councillor

Following the recent local government elections we have a new County Councillor—Mr Christopher Le Hardy.

Officially he is County Councillor for the new Division of South Petherton and Islemoor and he may be contacted by e-mail or telephone:

CLeHardy@somerset.gov.uk and mobile phone number 0780 389 4992.

A Farmer's diary

Farm Boy

My word, what a busy month this has been on the farm, there has been so much to do and the farmers prayers have been rewarded by a nice long dry spell that has drained away the surplus moisture from the land after the months of continual wet weather.

I may be an old romantic but I do not think I have ever seen the countryside look more beautiful than it did a few weeks ago with so many rich shades of green.

When we moved to Seavington over twenty years ago, my wife Chris planted a honeysuckle under the fence on the south side of our bungalow. The root originated from the farm, over the years it has trailed its way across the fence for about sixteen feet and has even stolen its way through a Winter Jasmine that climbs a small portion of old brick wall. This has been in flower for about two weeks now.

On the far side of the small area of lawn is a strong red poppy which manages to compete with the grass; when the two are in flower together I always associate it with first cut silage. I have always purposely gone out the side door so that I can take in the aroma of the honeysuckle and pause and listen for the call of skylarks before leaving for the farm. This year I am surprised to see that the Camellia still has some flowers and even some new buds on it. Our first cut silage was completed on June 6th, the anniversary of D-Day 1944, just a reminder for the global warriors that the weather was not so good then!

On the subject of weather, I thought I caught a piece on the TV about our local stone at Ham Hill, a guy was saying that it was formed when the area was nearer the equator thousands of years ago?? Did I dream this?

The farm crops seem a little behind this season, any winter barley that managed to survive the winter is now coming into ear, I used to grow a fair portion of it back in the late seventies and early eighties, I recall a variety called Sonia which I grew for a number of seasons, using home saved seed.

Growing winter barley became a nightmare because I ran into problems with heavy rook attack. This happened round about silage-making time if there were any weak patches in the crop. This year there can be few winter barley crops that do not have them. The rooks liked landing in the weak areas and gorging themselves on the newly forming soft grain, then by flapping their wings on the edge of the crops they could pull the crop

over, making it easy for them to feed, large areas were destroyed in a very short period of time.

I am wondering if history may repeat itself? There seems to be no shortage of rooks. They have always congregated for nesting in very large rookeries; now for some reason the rookeries seem more scattered but not so large. Not so many years ago, by tradition, the farmers congregated with their shot guns for an annual rook shoot involving in an all out attack on the rookeries. This was just before the young birds flew from the nests. I believe this was where the old nursery rhyme derived from “Five and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie”

Spotted Flycatcher

Musicapa Striata (6”)

Annie (01460 241762)

And loop this red rose in that hazel ring
That snares your little ear, for June is short
and we must joy in it and dance and sing, and
from her bounty draw her rosy worth.

Francis Ledwidge, (1891—1917)

The Spotted Flycatcher arrives from its winter quarters in tropical and South Africa in late April, returning at the end of August, early September. It is found in woodland, orchards, parks and gardens. Flycatchers are the “masters” of catching insects in the air. From an exposed perch it catches them on the wing. It will dart out from its perch in a graceful sweep to snap at a passing insect and return to the same perch.

You may hear the clicking of the bill as it catches the insect. Its diet consists mainly of flies, bees and butterflies. They tend to perch very straight and upright when hunting, flicking their tails impatiently.

The Spotted Flycatcher is a slim bird, with grey-brown colouring above and the throat, breast and underparts are cream with brown speckling; the bill and legs are black. Both parents build a cup-shaped nest of woven moss, grass and twigs bound with cobwebs and lined with feathers and hair. One brood of pale blue or white eggs blotched with red-brown are laid late May to June. There will be plenty of insects to feed the fledglings when they hatch in about three weeks time.

Its call is a high-pitched but quiet ‘TSEE, TSEE’ but the song is shrill, squally and really not very recognisable!!

Seavington Gardening Club

Ry Coffman (01460 240004 or ry.coff13@gmail.com)

Visit to Moorland Cottage, Moor, South Petherton; Helen and Dick Gale

The day was not promising with 50mph winds forecast! Luckily by the evening they had blown themselves out and we were treated to a sunny evening visit to this delightful garden. Moorland Cottage is a lovely old Hamstone house, draped in blue wisteria. The Gales have developed the garden over the 26 years that they have lived there, incorporating the three standard trees already existing, one of which is an interesting spindle tree.

Deep herbaceous beds curve and ramble round the different areas of the garden filled with, amongst other things, fox-gloves, hardy geraniums and delphiniums waiting in the wings. There is a fine bed of Hostas of every size and colour with no holes in the leaves! Yellow poppies are everywhere, and along the new paths pergolas lift and carry honeysuckles, clematis and roses; candelabra primroses nestle along the paths. In one corner bantams have a pen and there is a tidy vegetable garden in another corner, and in the fruit garden a heavy crop of gooseberries is coming on!

A Koi Carp pond with bubbling fountain and a wildlife pond surrounded by yellow flags finish off this really exceptional cottage garden. Finally we were treated to Helen's delicious Somerset Supper - bread and cheese and delicious homemade cakes and fruit – and welcome cup of tea or coffee! What an enchanting garden – our thanks to Dick and Helen for allowing us to visit!

Forthcoming events:

Visit: 7.00pm Thursday 11 July 2013 - Farndon Thatch, Puckington, Ilminster TA19 9JA; Bob and Jane St John Wright. Entry £3. Tea/Coffee and cake £3.

Martock's East Street Open Gardens Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June 2-6pm. Tickets £4 from Marfleet House, East St.

Tintinhull Open Gardens Saturday and Sunday 13th and 14th July 11am-5pm Tickets from Village Hall £5 on day.

Hinton St George & District Open Gardens Saturday 13 and Sunday 14th
July 2-5.30pm £5

Seavington NGS Open Gardens - South Meade, Meade Lane will be open
from Monday 22 July to Saturday 27 July Admission £3 and Plants for
Sale.

Seavington Gardening Club FLOWER SHOW – Saturday 10th August
2013.



It's True—Scientific Proof!

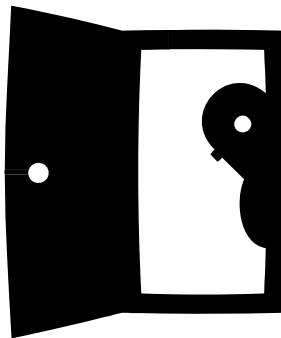
Whew, scientific proof. What a relief to
learn this!

Ever walked into a room with some purpose in mind, only to completely
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thoughts and memories from the next.

Your brain files away the thoughts you had in
the previous room and prepares a blank slate
for the new locale.



Thank goodness for studies like this. It's not our age, it's that stupid
door !

PS Have we printed this already?

Joint Parish Service: St Peter and St Paul's, South Petherton

Manda Jagers (01460 240554) & Carol Talbot (01460 241478)

The 30th June is the 5th Sunday of the month, so there will be one, joint service that day. The service will be at the new time of 11.30 and will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch at St Peter and St Paul's church in South Petherton.

The June service will be Iona pattern communion and is an opportunity for the congregations of Seavington, South Petherton and East Lambrook to worship together.

We hope you will be able to join us. Please let Carol Talbot or Manda Jagers know if you will be there, to help with catering arrangements or sign the list in the back of the church.

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Details of future productions can be found in the local press or on our website: **www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk** (plus details of audition nights, youth theatre, IES Membership and more) or call **01460 62739** or email: **info@thewarehousetheatre.org.uk**

Your theatre needs you!** The Warehouse is run entirely by volunteers and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to get involved by helping backstage or front of house during show weeks, or simply by becoming a member of IES. **Can you help?

An Illustrated Talk by BBC presenter Julian Richards:

MEET the ANCESTORS

Seavington Millennium Hall

Thursday 27th June starting at 7.30pm

Advance Tickets £6 (U16 £4) [£7.50 (U16 £5) on the door] available from Seavington Shop & Café or N&D News, South Petherton

Julian will talk about the latest series of MEET the ANCESTORS and the fabulous new discoveries made possible by modern science which feature in the programmes. So, if you missed the programmes here's the chance to hear the best bits from the horse's mouth! If you watched them come and hear all the extra details and meet Julian too. A fascinating evening guaranteed!

To raise funds to complete the village shop/café partition project

Over the Counter

Carolyn Farler (01460 249192)

When you have driven through the village lately you might have noticed a glimmer from the roof of our community store and café. In fact, in recent days, when it seemed that summer might have arrived, it could be seen shining brightly as the sun struck the fantastic 12.75kw panel solar array. The Management Committee has negotiated to rent out the roof for 20 years so that our community business will benefit from the electricity.

Solar South West Ltd, who installed the array in April, explained that the amount of electricity they expect the roof to generate will save the store at least £2000 off our electricity bill in the first year alone. In the first 6 weeks since installation the system has generated an amazing 3616 kilowatts of electricity and that has been in the mostly dull weather of this cold spring.

Not only have we been making alterations to the roof, the inside is seeing changes as well. The first half of the partition between the store and café has been installed thanks to the fundraising efforts of Jo Mills. It is hoped that this will reduce some of the noise from the bank of fridges in the store. Fundraising activities will be taking place over the next few months to pay for the second half. The first of these is a talk by James Gerrard on Thursday 18th July in the Millennium Hall. (see separate advert).

Speaking of refrigeration, as part of our grant funding, we now have a brand new ice cream freezer which we are in the process of filling and you will be able to look forward to some special offers in the near future. This month has seen the first of our cookery workshops where three different cooks demonstrated some interesting suggestions for canapés, main course and dessert. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Look out for further dates to be announced.

Village Mart

Village Mart is offered as a free service to residents of The Seavingtons for sales of a non-commercial nature. Just contact the editor—see page 1 for details.

Garage to Let at Marle Ground, Water Street:
Enquiries to 01460 259392

Somerset & The End of Roman Britain

On **July 18th at 7.30pm**, Seavington Millennium Hall will be the venue for a talk by one of the country's leading experts in the final years of Roman Britain.

Dr James Gerrard lectures in Roman Archaeology at Newcastle University and has long had a particular interest in the end of the Roman occupation of Britain and what happened next! James was born and bred in Yeovil and runs a survey and excavation project based around Lufton Villa during the summer. A fascinating and informative evening is promised.

Tickets £6 (£4 for U16s) in advance (£7.50/£5 on the door) are available from Seavington Community Shop & Café, and N&D News in South Petherton. The money raised will help to pay for Phase II of the glazed partition between the shop and café.



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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. All opinions and views expressed are the sole responsibility of the writer and do not reflect the views of The Seavingtons' News. For legal reasons we must have the name and address of the writer but can normally publish over a pseudonym on request.

Dear Villagers, Friends and Colleagues,

Presentation Evening

Carol joins with me in sending our sincere thanks to all concerned for the very kind words and the gifts given to us on Thursday evening, 23rd May 2013. To say that we were surprised and humbled is an understatement!

Whilst the wine may have been an inducement, it is nice to feel that so many villagers came to say 'thank you' and also gave so generously. It makes the many years working on behalf of the Villages on the Hall worthwhile.

In wishing the Hall continued success it just goes to show that AGM's can be an enjoyable occasion!

With sincere thanks,

Carol and Peter Ashley

Announcement:

The Jagers family would like to thank our family and friends for joining our celebrations last month, we had a fantastic weekend. We received £300 in donations for the Air Ambulance and Samaritans. Thanks to Rev Tom Handy for the lovely service where we renewed our vows and to Ruth Turner and staff for producing a fantastic lunch for 30 of us.

Manda & Terry Jagers

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School News

Heather Copeland (07765437301)

We were very lucky to be able to visit "Mollies Farm" on a glorious sunny morning in the middle of the beautiful countryside. The children were able to see the calves having their milk for breakfast, stroke the baby lambs, see pigs, ducks, chickens, rabbit, dogs and a pony. Even lucky enough to collect the eggs from the chicken coop. Thank you to Mollie and her family for having us.

The recent fundraiser, Bags2School collection was a success again, thank you to everyone who supported us by filling the bags, we raised £145.00 for Pre-school funds.

Our next fund raising event will be **Summer Saturday** and **Sports Day** which will take place on Saturday 29th June at the village hall starting at 2pm. There will be stalls, games, refreshments etc., fun for all the family. Please come along and support us, we are hoping the weather will be kind!

Great fun was had by all during our Fireman Sam week, surprising what you can do with a few cardboard boxes, pipes and foam building blocks! Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends will be helping us with our colours and numbers and then the themes move on to people that help us.

The Seavingtons' Weather in May 2013

This year—2013

Previous year—2012

Temperature

Average Minimum	7.03°C	6.92°C
Average Maximum	15.89°C	17.87°C
Mean	11.46°C	12.40°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	57.7mm (2.31")	45.0mm (1.80")
2013 Total for the year	300.8mm (12.03")	273.8mm (10.95")



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