

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

April 2011



**Congratulation to William & Kate
April 29th 2011**



The Warehouse Theatre

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Tel: 01460 57049

www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JOE EGG

Tuesday 29th March, Thursday 31st March – 2nd April

An IES production of Peter Nichols 1960's black comedy directed by Philip Wells
(Please note that a small amount of content within the performance may offend some people)

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An IES production of Tom Stoppard's comedy

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The Seavingtons' News

As I sit down to write this editorial it feels to me as if the world around us is changing in a significant and probably irreversible direction.

We have the turmoil in the Near and Middle East which poses an immediate threat to our current hydrocarbon energy and fuel supplies as well as an increase in the threat of terrorism together with the after effects of Japan's earthquake and tsunami which may delay or even halt the possibility of electrical energy from nuclear sources.

Whatever the outcome on these fronts we can expect our mobility to be savagely decreased because of fuel shortages and high prices. Further, we could find our home comforts impacted by the same cause and face the inability to afford electricity as an alternative for either heating, or lighting and the many electrical appliances that make our lives so much easier than folk in earlier generations.

It is hard to recall that many UK country areas like ours did not receive a proper mains electricity supply until the 1950s.

Thus, our lives will change; we will not travel as much as we do today and we may well have to change our lives in other ways. The community in which we live will become a more significant part of our lives and we may learn to share more with our neighbours, as our ancestors did.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 8th April
until am Monday 11th April**

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

is the 15th April

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—April 2011

4th April	7.30 pm	NADFAS meeting—Britain with Betjeman, talk by John Vigar—see p 6
14th April		Gardening Club Discount Evening at Brimsmore Garden Centre—see p 4
15th April	7.15 pm	SPFA Easter Bingo—see p 7
21st April	7.30 pm	RSPB Group—Life on a Seychelles Island with 250,000 birds. Talk by Sally Mills—see p 24
24th April	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm	Easter Flower Festival at St Michael's Church see p 5
25th April	10.00 am - 5.00 pm	Easter Flower Festival at St Michael's Church see p 5
29th April	7.30 pm	Royal Wedding Village Celebratory Family Barn Dance & Ceilidh—see p 24
7th May	7.30 pm	St Michael's Seavington Church Trust concert by Avon & Somerset Constabulary Choir p 8

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
Tuesday	9.30 am	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

3rd April	11.15 am Mothering Sunday Family Eucharist
10th April	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10th April	11.15 am Family Service*
17th April	11.15 am Holy Communion
24th April	8.00 am Easter Day Holy Communion (BCP)
24th April	11.30 am Easter Day Family Eucharist

* A 45 minute service for children to join in or to amuse themselves in the play area

The Rev David Jasper's office telephone number is 01460 240377
Associate Priest: 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

Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437
news@theseavingtons.org

Seavington Gardening Club

Secretary: Ry Coffman (01460 240004)

10 March 2011 – Talk on ‘Gardening in Victorian England’ by Sarah Darlington

Sarah gave us a fascinating insight into how the changing economic and social situation in the late 18th century impacted on Victorian Gardening. Through improved availability of gardening literature and the mass production of cheap goods it became possible for a far greater number of people to indulge in gardening.

With the invention of the Wardian Case, plant hunters were better able to return a huge range of exotic plants back home. And with relatively cheap greenhouses it was possible for gardeners to cultivate a far greater display in their gardens. Gardening style was somewhat eclectic, and later considered gaudy, during the Victorian period with gardeners drawing on influences from all across the Empire.

The talk concluded with a brief history into the introduction of tea into the country and how through deception and theft we are now able to enjoy a cup of tea without bankrupting the country!

Flower of the Month:

1. Jane Wyatt; 2. Kate Mulligan; 3. David Wills

Next Meeting:

We took a number of bookings for the trip on 14 April to the discount shopping evening at Brimsmore Garden Centre (25% off) followed by a buffet which is £10.25 per person however there are still places available for anyone wishing to join us. Please contact Ry to book a place and drop the money through her door.

On the evening of the 14th April Ry will be taking bookings for the trip on May 12th at 7pm to The Old Barn, Netherbury, near Beaminster – entry £4, buffet to follow (to be arranged). If you would like to go, please contact Ry to book a place.

Arrangements for our 30th Anniversary Tea Party celebrations on 25th June are well underway with the invitations sent and the cakes and sandwiches ordered!

We took a number of bookings for the trip to the RHS Malvern Autumn Show on Sunday 25th September. There are however still places available so please contact Ry if you would like to come along. The cost will be £12 entrance and £10 for the coach per person.

Ry has also asked members for suggestions of talks and outings for the 2012 programme which she will be planning soon.

And finally Julie reminded members of the Plant Sale on Saturday 14th May at 10am and encouraged members to keep busy sowing seeds and potting up plants to sell on the day.

For future meeting and event dates please see the Seavington village website (www.theseavingtons.org)

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Book, Plant & Bric-a-Brac sale:

2nd April 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

Welcome to our EASTER FLOWER FESTIVAL

St. Michael's Church, School Lane, Seavington



Sunday 24th April 2–5(ish!) &

Monday 25th April 10–5(ish!)

Come & celebrate Easter with us in our lovely Church
Delight in the story of Easter represented by original floral
arrangements. Light refreshments, including tasty cakes
and biscuits will also be available for you to enjoy.

Proceeds to the Church.

Neroche Decorative and Fine Arts Society

On the Road to Mandalay.....

At a recent meeting of Neroche DFAS, members and visitors were able to enjoy the arts, architecture and crafts of Burma from the comfort of their chair in Seavington Millennium Hall. The speaker, Philip Halkin, explored the many diverse aspects of Burma and gave a brief history of the country from pre-British times to the present and relations between the ruling central Burmans and the many periphery hill dwelling tribes.

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Monday 4 April at 7.30pm at Seavington Millennium Hall. The subject will be "Britain with Betjeman" and speaker will be John Vigar, an architectural historian. If you are not a member and would like to attend please contact the Chairman, Ian Thornton, on 01460 239670.



Seavington Gardening Club

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday 14th May

10.00 to 11.30am

**Seavington Millennium Hall,
Water Street, Seavington**

Entrance Free

Raffle - Refreshments

Doors Open 8.30am for Plants



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23rd April and monthly on the 4th Saturday

Easter Bingo

Seavington Millennium Hall

Friday 15th April

Doors Open 6.45pm - Eyes Down 7.15 pm

Seasonal Prizes - Refreshments

Free Admission - All Welcome

SPFA Charity Number 268986

SPFA Lottery

February 2011 Winners

First Prize £40 - No 46 Lucy Parsons

Second Prize £20 - No 148 Mrs S Riley

Third Prize £10 - No 42 Jan Yolland

St. Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

Our next fundraising event will be on Saturday, 7th May 2011 when the

Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir

will give a concert in the Church of St Peter and St Paul, South Petherton. The Concert will start at 7.30 pm.

The Choir, which will be supported by a solo guest singer, gave a Concert in South Petherton last year which was a huge success. Those who came to it were full of praise for the choir. They were entertained to a superb programme of music with lots of well-known tunes as well as the traditional ones. Tickets will cost £6 and will be on sale from early April.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear this highly acclaimed choir! If you would like to know more about them, including their repertoire, go to www.policechoir.co.uk

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School

Heather Copeland (0776 543 7301)

With Spring well and truly here we have enjoyed watching our daffodils and crocus grow in our Pre-school garden and we are looking forward to planting our new raised bed at the Cowleaze Project. Many thanks to all concerned for allowing this to happen. The children have been watching the project grow and helped to plant some of the trees, watched the diggers moving the earth and watched the gardeners create the raised beds. Here's hoping the Wine and Wisdom evening goes well, will let you know the outcome next month and will be able to report on the visit to Barrington court. The children will be creating again this Easter for a competition and look forward to our little Easter Service in Church with Father Geoff before the Easter holidays.

We will be welcoming new -3's after the Easter break and again after half term which is very exciting as they move up from the Toddler Group. Spaces still available please contact us on the above number if you have any enquiries. HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL



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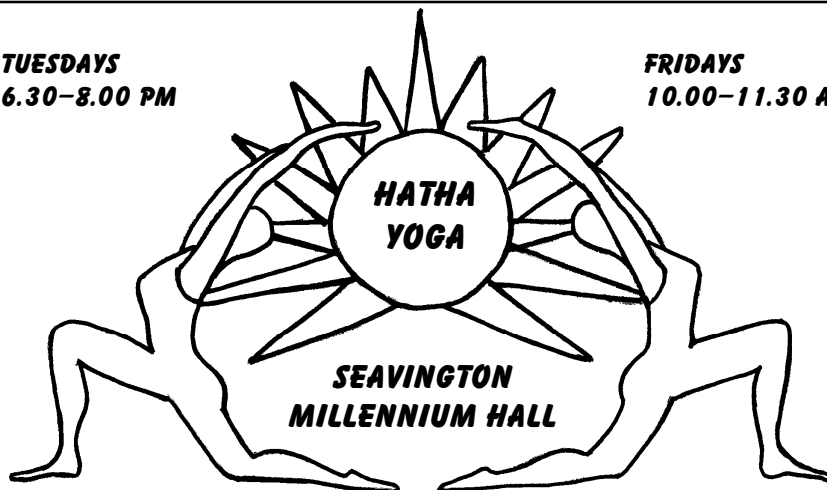
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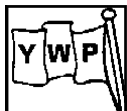
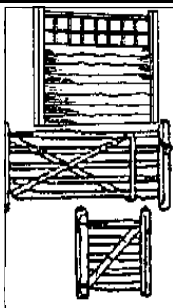
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From our PCSO

Rachel Napper (0845 456 7000)

Rise in metal related theft

There has been a rise in the area of metal related theft and the theft of gas bottles. There has been an incident of the theft of a gas bottle from a property in Seavington so the Police are asking that people do not leave gas bottles in view to avoid opportunists to take advantage and steal them.

Ways to contact the Police

How people want to contact the police is changing; most people now get in touch by phone, by going online or sometimes by seeing an officer in person when it's convenient for them.

Reflecting this change, we have recently announced plans for the front office at Somerton police station to be open for appointments only by June this year.

Instead of expecting you to come to us at specific times, we will be more flexible and visible meeting people in places they already go as part of their daily routine.

If you want to meet an officer, you can attend a beat surgery or book an appointment by calling us on: 0845 4567000. This can take place at the police station, at home, at work or wherever is easier for you. This is why the post box has been installed in the Seavington Store, to make contacting me easier and more convenient for you.

Fake email scams

Police are warning people who sell goods on auction sites to beware of email scammers. Anyone using these on-line sites should be aware of the dangers of sending out goods before you have received any money. One scam, that seems to be happening more frequently, involves people visiting sites such as E-Bay, Trade It or Gumtree, posing as genuine buyers and tricking people into sending their property to an address, (normally overseas) in the belief it has already been paid for. The fake buyers offer a price for something they want and then say they will make a payment through PayPal. However, these fake buyers then send sellers fraudulent PayPal emails that look very genuine. The email claims to be a

notification of funds pending that will be paid into the sellers' PayPal account as soon as a tracking reference number is given to ensure the items have already been posted. The sellers then post off their property and email the tracking number in the belief that the money has already been paid and is waiting to be transferred, but they never see a penny. The best way to avoid being a victim of this type of fraud is to not send any goods out until you can see the funds in your PayPal account. If you can't see it, simply wait.

Calling all kind, generous people making cakes and other goodies for the Easter Flower Festival at St. Michael's Church

If you are one of the very kind people that has offered to make something for this village event at the Church, it would be wonderful if you could bring them along to the Church sometime after 10 a.m. on Saturday 23rd April, where someone will be able to take them.

If there is a problem, please ring Sheila Riley on 242778 and we will try to make other arrangements.

If you haven't yet thought of donating a cake or biscuits, but feel you'd like to, then we will be more than willing to accept your kind generosity!

A big 'Thank You' in advance to you all.

Village Breakfast

There will be no Village Breakfast at the Village Store and Café during April.

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.

Homes required for about 19 six month old fish. Not sure of breed – several different type were breeding when I took the eggs out last year! Some look yellow goldfish, some white gold fish, some carp. All nice condition – been kept in an indoor tank over the winter – I need to retrieve the space. All about 3-4 inches long. Call 01460 241223.

Secret World

After the floods in Wales in February 2011 three tiny three-day-old badger cubs were found crying, hungry and cold in a metal barrel by a couple out working on their land in a flood hit area; their mum was nowhere to be seen. Secret World staff believe she detected the oncoming flood danger - as animals often sense disasters before they strike - and moved them to higher ground to stop them from drowning.

When she did not come back for them Secret World were contacted to ask for advice and they are now being cared for at the centre, when they arrived they weighed just 2 ozs each and were the tiniest cubs ever seen by charity founder Pauline Kidner and her team.

Because of their light weight and the need to measure them carefully the two females and one male have been named Lavender, Saffron and Nutmeg after spices used for cooking. "They're the first of the year and it's a nice message for everyone that Spring is just around the corner," said Pauline.

Now the babies are being kept in an incubator and will be fed special milk for the first five weeks before being moved into a cubby hole in Pauline's farmhouse kitchen. Here they will be provided with a heat lamp, fleeces and even a webcam, which can be seen at www.secretworld.org.

Once they have grown big enough, they will be free to roam around the kitchen until they are ready to be weaned from their milk and moved eventually to a nearby enclosure. From here, the lucky trio will be transferred to a pen in the "millie building" at the centre and then onto a grassy pen where all human contact will be limited and they will be free to learn survival skills like digging and foraging before being released into the wild.

Over the Easter weekend, April 22nd-25th, Secret World is open to the public for the first time in 2011. This is the '**Badger Bonanza Wild Weekend**' and is the only time of year that the public get a chance to see these beautiful creatures up close. This is when the young badgers are being bottle fed at the centre - which is the largest badger cub rearing unit in the country. Visitors will be able to view some of the casualty and rehabilitation pens via the Secret World CCTV system. Ferret racing, a play area, beehive observation tank, wildlife education tent, animal talks and displays are also a part of any visit.

This weekend, and the other four open weekends throughout the year, provide a fantastic visitor experience by allowing the general public to see some of the round the clock work that goes on at the rescue centre.

2011 Open Weekends:

Badger Bonanza - April 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th

Wildlife Babies - May 28th, 29th and 30th

Nature's Hunters - June 25th and 26th

Tortoises & Hedgehogs - July 30th and 31st

Animal Bonanza- August 27th, 28th and 29th

Healing Weekend - 8th, 9th and 10th of July

You will find Secret World at: New Road, East Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3PZ or at www.secretworld.org.

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The college is offering flexible teaching hours, including evenings. Group numbers are often small affording the support you need and you learn in a very relaxed environment.

Why not contact the college for an informal chat and maybe arrange an appointment to go along and see what it can offer you.

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Contact Gail, Karen or Victoria at Somerset College on 01823 366462 or email learningworkshop@somerset.ac.uk for further information

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LIFE ON A SEYCHELLES ISLAND – with 250,000 seabirds!

An illustrated talk presented by Sally Mills, who in 2007 took a two year contract to manage a seabird island in the Seychelles. The talk will focus on the marvellous birds and also life on the island.

Thursday 21st April – 7.30pm – The Millennium Hall, Seavington

Entry: group members £2.50, non-group members £3.50, under 18's free.
(tea/coffee & biscuits included). Wheelchair access.

EVERYONE WELCOME

For further details contact: Denise Chamings (Group Leader) on 240740
www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset

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Celebrate the Royal Wedding!

Join your fellow Seavingtonians at a

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Seavington Millennium Hall

Friday 29th April 2011; 7.00 pm until 11.00 pm

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(www.jeroka.co.uk)

Tickets available in advance from the Village Store
Adults £7; Under 16 £4; Family £20 to include Rustic Supper
£9 and £6 at the door

Holy Week Services

The Parish of South Petherton with the Seavingtons

Monday 18th April Day of Cleansing	7.15 pm	St Mary's Church, Seavington*
Tuesday 19th April Day of Teaching	7.15 pm	Still to be decided
Wednesday 20th April Day of waiting	7.15 pm	St Michael's Church, Seavington
Thursday 21st April Sign of Christ's humility	7.15 pm	St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Friday 22nd April Good Friday Litany and meditation	9.00 am	St Michael's Church, Seavington
Friday 22nd April Good Friday Stations of the Cross	10.00 am	St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Friday 22nd April Good Friday 7 words from the Cross	12 noon	St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton

* Please bring a torch and wrap up warmly

Wanted

A volunteer to occasionally ring the St Michael's Church bells on Sunday morning is required!

Naomi Long has been doing this for the past 6 months or so, but she has recently returned to her work in East Anglia. So, we need a replacement. Our thanks go to her for helping us out.

You will be surprised how quickly one learns to ring the bells and no great strength is needed. The requirement takes up about 30 minutes of your time, on a Sunday morning, once or twice a month. That is all!

Anybody interested, please contact Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977).

Over The Counter

News from our Community Store and Café

We have received a number of favourable comments about the store layout changes we told you about last month. We are now going to re-organise some of the behind-the-scenes areas to allow our multi-purpose room to be used by various visiting services—more on this next month.

In the meantime we have an attractive supply of Easter Eggs and chocolates to tempt adults and children, all at competitive prices—why not drop by and be tempted?

Whilst on the subject of prices, there seems to be a misunderstanding that we are necessarily more expensive than the big supermarkets. This is certainly not the case; we supply a range of goods which can often be lower in price than the biggies. We also stock some better quality lines which cannot be compared easily because the biggies don't use many local suppliers whereas we aim to provide local food wherever possible

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

Waxwing **Bombycilla Garrulus (7")**

Annie (01460 241762)

There is no time lie Spring,
When life's alive in everything,
Before new nestlings sing,
Before cleft swallows speed their journey back,
Along the tireless track -
God guides their wing,
He spreads their table that they nothing lack -
Before the daisy grows a common flower,
Before the sun has power,
To scorch the world up in his noontide hour.

Chrisina Rossetti (1834-94)

At the February meeting of the RSPB, waxwings were reported at the entrance to Johnson Park in Yeovil. They were perched high in the trees and the group stayed immobile for quite a long period; remaining on these trees for a number of days.

The waxwing is a winter visitor to Western Europe from Northern Europe (ie Scandinavia) and Asia. Severe winters and shortage of food pushes them across the Channel from countries like Belgium and The Netherlands. Waxwings favour conifer and birch trees for their seeds. They also feed on berries like berberis, cotoneaster, pyracantha and rowan. Visits to gardens and parks are not unknown, especially if there are any apples around. Whilst feeding they are very acrobatic. Their flight action is similar to starlings. It is a fairly silent bird; only calling to each other in a feeble, high-trilling, "SIRRCCE".

The waxwing is an attractive bird with basic colouring of pale pinkish-brown and darker on its upper parts; it has a fairly long and striking crest. The face has a black mask which gives a slightly severe expression. The throat is a short black bib edged with white and there is a short, slightly decurved bill. The lower back and rump are grey and the legs are black. The tail is also black but with a broad yellow tip with and underneath of lovely chestnut-brown. Now to the wings which have white and bright yellow markings and the secondary wing feathers bear blobs of red like "sealing wax"; hence the name Waxwing.

On a dull winter's day, when the weather has been rather harsh, take a second glance at the starlings—are there any red blobs on their wings?

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 Editor,

Theft of gas bottle from Church Lane.

One of my two 47 kg. Calor gas bottles was stolen on Friday 4th March at about 7 pm. The thieves cut the hose connecting the bottle to the regulator and carried the bottle away. They must have been two of them since the bottles are too heavy for one person to lift, and there was no evidence of dragging or rolling.

Neither my dog Cholmondeley or the tenant's dog Hudson reacted, so they were very quiet. My dog can hear the postman's van hundreds of yards away! The first I knew about it was when the stew in the oven came out warm instead of boiling hot as normal. Strangely they took the nearly empty bottle rather than the full one next to it.

Neighbours are advised to secure their bottles and similar exposed items with a stout chain and padlock. If you see a discarded 47 kg. (about 4' 6" tall) red gas bottle please let me know.

John Schofield

The Seavingtons' Weather in February 2011

This year—2011

Previous year—2010

Temperature

Average Minimum	3.67°C	1.21°C
Average Maximum	10.41°C	7.15°C
Average Mean	7.04°C	4.18°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	46.5mm (1.86")	73.0mm (2.92")
Yearly Total (to date)	130.3mm (5.21")	36.3mm (5.45")



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