

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

April 2012





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The Seavingtons' News

Sixty years ago, at the age of fifteen, I was hoiked out of school and told the King had died. As a bell ringer at our local Parish Church I was asked to go to the bell tower to toll the tenor bell to mark this sad and significant event in our nation's life. Later that day it fell to me to fit leather muffles to the clappers of all eight bells so that the event could be marked with a half-muffled peal in which I was too inexperienced to participate.

I well remember the coronation in 1953 and enjoyed the celebrations arranged in our local community. Although living only twenty miles from London it never occurred to our friends and family to visit the capital's celebrations; our thoughts lay in our local community.

Over Her Majesty The Queen's sixty years reign many things have changed. Local has often been overtaken by "national" or even "international" in terms of celebrations and events; for example, our media tell us more of the US Presidential election than they do of many important events nearer home.

Seavington is reviving the "local" concept in organising the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee. A weekend of activities and events await us that will stay in the memories of our youngsters more permanently than, yet another, trip to the big city.

Let us support and enjoy the Jubilee Weekend and not forget to thank our friends and neighbours who are making the arrangements.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 13th April
until am Monday 16th April**

**The Latest Copy Date
for the next 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 2012

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

For bookings call Janet Goode on 01460 240220

For other Millennium Hall matters call Peter Ashley on 01460 240353

31st March	7.15 pm	SPFA Easter Bingo—p 24
16th April	6.45 pm	Gardening Club at Brimsmore Garden Centre—p 4
16th April	7.30 pm	Jubilee Celebrations Committee meeting at The Volunteer—p16
19th April	7.30 pm	RSPB Group talk on British Owls—p 24
21st April	10.00 am	Labrador Rescue Trust Coffee Morning in the Village Café—p17
21st April	10.30 am	“Jubilee Walkies”. Start in hall car park, Brunch in The Volunteer—p17
23rd April	7.30 pm	World Book Night in the Village Café—p25
12th May	10.00 am	Gardening Club Plant Sale—p26

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 Village Café
Tuesday	9.30 am	Toddlers group (temporarily suspended)
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

1st April	11.15 am Palm Sunday —Holy Communion
8th April	11.30 am Easter Sunday —Holy Communion
15th April	11.15 am Holy Communion
22nd April	11.15 am Matins
29th April	11.15 am Matins

Rev D Fyfe telephone: 01460 241977

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial: David Froome, Advertising: Heather Scott

Production: David & Wendy Eliot & Anne Kinch

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.

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

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Seavington Gardening Club

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

'Roses Old and New' – Dinah Lindon Critchley

Dinah is a fan of old roses and she guided us through her favourites via the roses that she had found already growing in the various houses that she has lived in. All were neglected and were renewed by vigorous pruning. She gave us advice on where each of her chosen varieties would grow best and their habits, rambling, climbing, shrub – thorned or thornless, and how to position them in our gardens. Pink roses, many old ones from French origins, are her favourites. Dinah also gave us advice on feeding and caring for roses to keep them healthy and disease free. Most people came away from the meeting clutching a rose or a plant from the collection of plants that Dinah brought to sell. Dinah runs a small nursery near Shepton Mallet.

EGM

A short EGM was held before the talk to vote on the proposal to adopt a Constitution which had been circulated to members previously. The motion was carried and the new Constitution adopted. Another vote was also taken to change the Club's year so that the programme and financial year ran concurrently which was also agreed. In future the financial year will run from January 1st to 31st December (like the programme) and subs will be due on 1st January. There will not be an AGM at our September meeting; the next AGM will be held at our March 2013 meeting. This year members will benefit from 3 months free membership as this change takes place!

Coach trip to RHS Wisley

The Club will be running a coach trip to the RHS Wisley Flower Show on Sunday 9th September which we will open up to other local clubs. The trip is on the Sunday to take advantage of the plant sell off at 4.30pm. The cost will be £21.50 per person to include coach trip and entrance. Please contact Ry if you wish to go.

Plant of the Month: 1st Angela Waterhouse – Camelia, 2nd Jane White – Daffodil, 3rd Jackie Hann – Camelia.

Next Meeting on Monday 16th April is our 25% Discount shopping evening at Brimsmore in conjunction with Over Stratton Gardening Club. Please be at Brimsmore at 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start. Prior to shopping there will be a talk by one of their staff and refreshments at the café. Please let Ry know if you are going.

Plant Sale: Make a note in your diaries that the annual Plant Sale will be at 10.00am – 11.30am 12 May – an early visit is advised before all the plants go!

Additional new Meeting: 7.30pm – 8th November A video of the fundraising and construction of the Millennium Hall by David Ades.

The Gardening Club have decided that the additional new meeting date will be an Open evening annually, particularly this year to encourage non-members to see David's film. This video is quite a historic record of Seavington 15 years ago featuring the old pavilion, the days when the flower show was held in a marquee, and much more, including lots of familiar Seavington residents! Please put this additional date in your diaries as not to be missed! Mulled wine and mince pies will be served!

Holy Week Services

The Parish of South Petherton with the Seavingtons

Monday 2nd April 7.15 pm St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Day of Cleansing

Tuesday 3rd April 7.15 pm St Mary's Church, Seavington*
Day of Teaching

Wednesday 4th April 7.15 pm St Michael's Church, Seavington
Day of waiting

Thursday 5th April 7.15 pm St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Sign of Christ's humility

Friday 6th April 9.00 am St Michael's Church, Seavington
Good Friday
Litany and meditation

Friday 6th April 10.00 am St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Good Friday
Stations of the Cross

Friday 6th April 12 noon St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Good Friday
7 words from the Cross

* Please bring a torch and wrap up warmly

Easter Waste Collections

Please note that our Seavington domestic waste collection which would have been made on Easter Monday, 9th April, will be made on Tuesday 10th April.

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School

Heather Copeland (07765437301)

Our regular Wellie Walks will be coming to an end soon as after the Easter holidays we start our P.D. afternoons, practising changing into P.D. kit ready for school in September. Also School visits will be taking place after Easter too, which is very exciting for those children going to school this year. The time has come around so quickly! This does not mean we will not be going out and about as we use the garden area daily.

This year for the very first time we had our own Egg Shackling event. Although the School has been Egg Shackling for many many years, we had not adopted this tradition before. The children decorated their eggs and they were shackled in a garden sieve by Fr. Geoff on the Monday and Heather on Shrove Tuesday. Both staff members Heather and Alison remember taking part in this event when they were at school, and their parents and grandparents before them!! Our winners were Grace and Mollie, well done to everyone who took part.

The children have been busy making Spring pictures to decorate the Church and making Mothering Sunday and Easter gifts to take home.

Our Wine and Wisdom event was a great success with all the tables taken. A Very Big Thank You to all who supported and helped with this event, the profit from the evening was somewhere in excess of £500 which is a fantastic amount! Congratulations to the winners Cheddington Chumps, Meadow Larks second and the 4B's and Donkey Broth shared third place. The full list of results can be seen in the Post Office window.

Reminder : Bags2school will be happening again with the collection just after the Easter holidays on 18th April. Bags can be dropped off at the hall either before the Easter holidays (2nd April) or after from 16th April to 9am on 18th April. Many thanks for your continued support.

We are welcoming new children to our group almost on a weekly basis at the moment, with more booked in for after Easter, half term and again in September. And looking ahead there seem to have been quite a few babies born just recently and several more on the way! Congratulations to those who have arrived and good luck to the others to arrive shortly!

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

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Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

The General Knowledge Quiz took place in the Millennium Hall on Saturday, 10th March. It proved to be a highly successful and very enjoyable evening. Over 70 people attended and some 14 teams competed. The winning team came from South Petherton, but they were closely challenged by a Seavington team led by Ry and Paul Coffman.

Our thanks go to the Question Master, Rod Page. We must also thank all those who helped with the administration of the event – those who cooked and prepared the wholesome supper, those who acted as scorers and those who helped in other ways. However, our principal thanks go to all of you who supported us that evening. Thanks to you, we raised the magnificent total of £648 for the Church Trust – a truly excellent result.

SPFA Lottery

February Winners

First Prize £40 - No 160 Peter Ash

Second Prize £20 - No 19 Michael Harrison

Third Prize £10 - No 142 Janice Ash

=====

Easter Bingo

Please Note This is Now

Saturday 31st March



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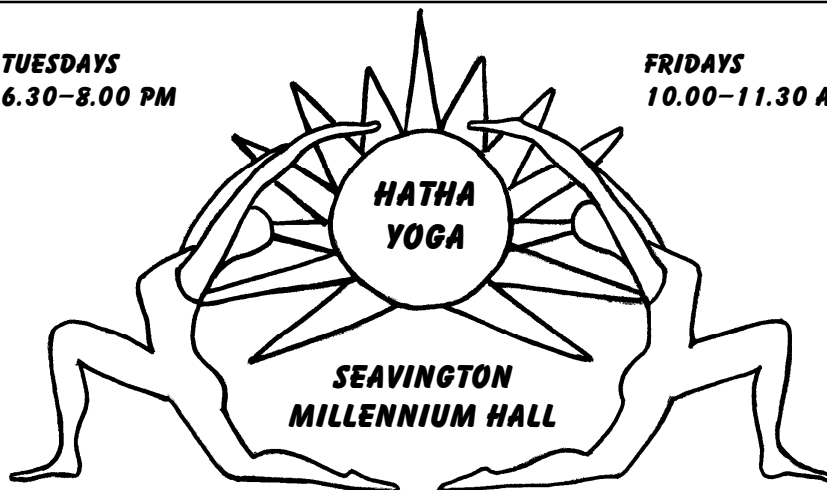
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Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition 2012

Your garden could be as good as a mini-rain forest for wildlife, according to Somerset and Dorset Wildlife Trusts, launching the Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition for 2012. Now in its third year in Dorset, the competition sponsored by The Gardens Group aims to recognise the increasingly important contribution gardeners are making to the conservation of wildlife, even in the smallest spaces. It has been so successful that it is now being launched for the first time in South Somerset, due to popular demand from the county's wildlife loving gardeners.

Beth Jerrett, Communications and PR Manager at Somerset Wildlife Trust, said: "Gardens are an essential part of the network of wildlife corridors that criss-cross Somerset's towns, villages and countryside. With 124,500 gardens in Somerset, covering 19 square kilometres, it's an inspiring time for gardeners with the realisation that what you do in your own patch can be of real value to local wildlife."

The competition is the brainchild of Dorset Wildlife Trust's Community Conservation Officer, Joy Wallis, who said: "Gardens are proving to play an ever more important role in helping to connect countryside across built-up areas and they can be vital wildlife havens. A recently published 30-year study has identified over 2673 different species in a very ordinary suburban garden in Leicester, making it as bio-diverse as parts of the rain forest!"

Somerset and Dorset Wildlife Trusts and The Gardens Group are keen to encourage owners of all types and sizes of gardens to enter the competition, as the many mini-habitats in our gardens form part of a greater area that can be used by wildlife. Hedgehogs are known to need around 12 gardens for foraging and flying insects will happily visit a garden no bigger than a large plant pot.

This year's garden categories are: Patio or Small (less than 100 square metres); Medium – Large; Large; Community or School; and Best Improved Garden for last year's winners. Entrants are encouraged to send in photos of their wildlife features, such as a nectar-rich border, bird feeders, pond or bath, native trees, hedge and long grass area. Winners will receive a plaque and there are wildlife-friendly prizes for the runners

up and for every school that enters the competition, kindly donated by The Gardens Group.

The closing date for entries is 18th May and judging will take place from May to June. For wildlife gardening ideas and to enter the competition, visit or ring 01305 264620 for Dorset and 01823 652400 for Somerset.

Wildlife Friendly garden features could include:

- ◇ *Wildlife Pond*
- ◇ *Bog or permanently wet area*
- ◇ *Bird bath*
- ◇ *Bird Box*
- ◇ *Wild flower meadow*
- ◇ *Long grass area*
- ◇ *Nectar rich flower border and bushes*
- ◇ *Mixed Native Hedge*
- ◇ *Mature native tree*
- ◇ *Log pile and/or substantial decaying tree stump*
- ◇ *Compost heap*
- ◇ *No-go area*
- ◇ *Climbing plants/trellises suitable for nesting and feeding*
- ◇ *Slug pellet free*

From the Parish Council

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

As you are all aware the new notice boards are now in place and the very old one by the telephone box on the Village Car Park has been removed. Various Parish Councillors now hold keys for the lockable boards and anyone wishing to display a notice should take sufficient copies to either The Volunteer Inn or the Village Shop from where they will be collected and posted on the appropriate boards. We hope that this will simplify matters for everyone.

The Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Plans are going well for the weekend. Draw tickets are now on sale and books are with committee members, The Volunteer and The Village Shop. First prize is £100 cash and there are numerous other prizes. Please support the event by buying tickets. If you would like to sell some tickets please contact Pauline or Ruth.

Entry forms for the various competitions will be in the May newsletter, there will be no charge for any entry.

For the Saturday fete we would like some teams of 4 persons to take place in various races such as 'sack race', egg and spoon race, etc. We are also looking for volunteers to do a 10 minute stint in the 'village pillory' to have wet sponges thrown at them. You can either volunteer yourself, or nominate someone else!!!!

The next meeting of the committee is Monday 16th April - 7.30pm at The Volunteer. If you can offer your help, particularly on the Fete day, can you please let us know.

Many thanks in anticipation of what could be a great weekend.

Royal British Legion Poppy Day Appeal

Monica Pye (01460 241861)

I have now received Carol Goodall's return for the amount collected by the Seavingtons' volunteers and the static collections for 2011.

Although the total is not quite as high as the previous year, given the economic climate I think that we have done extremely well.

The total for 2011 was £662.79 collected in The Seavingtons and the district total was £8,886.50 with some wreath cheques and gift aid still to added.

The Labrador Rescue Trust

Phil Gordon-Smith (01460 242277)

On Saturday the 21st April, the Seavington Café will play host to the Labrador Rescue Trust coffee morning.

This event, sponsored by D.J. Miles & Co Ltd, is being held at the start of Labrador awareness week, and will start at 10am and finish promptly at 12pm, the café will be open as per usual hence the prompt finish.

Please come along and help raise much-needed funds for the Trust, which is soon to re-home its 10,000th dog. For a donation of £3.50 tea, coffee, and hopefully hot chocolate plus a home made cake as well, will be on offer. There will also be a raffle, (any prizes welcome) and a Labrador Rescue merchandise stall with information about the Trust's work.

Another local event is on the 29th April at Isle Abbots (Laurel Cottage TA3 6RH). Here the gardens will be open, (entry £2.50p), and again merchandise will be on sale, plus a varied choice of plants.

Please do find the time to come and support this cause, and if you have any raffle prizes you would like to give, please contact Phil on 01460 242277. Look forward to seeing you.

A Right Royal Jubilee Walkies!

Saturday 21st April—Her Majesty's Birthday

Enjoy the spring morning with a stroll around the fields and lanes of The Seavingtons. Ending up at The Volunteer for brunch—Lasagne, Sausage & Beanfeast and a vegetarian dish to choose from at “High Noon”.

Please meet at The Millennium Hall at 10.30 am. If you don't fancy the walk then join us for the Brunch! Dogs welcome...especially Corgis!

Tickets are £7; children £3.50p. To help with the catering please purchase tickets in advance from The Volunteer (240126) or Annie Prichard (241762).

This event is in aid of funds for the Village Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Neroche DFAS April Meeting

Peter Hill (01460 67779; peter@polscribber.co.uk)

On Monday 2nd April 2012 at 7.15pm the Neroche DFAS meeting in the Seavington Millennium Hall will be a talk on 'Plantation Houses of the American South' By Roger Mitchell, an Oxford M.A., an expert on country houses in England and America, and lecturer for Liverpool University.

The stunning architecture of the American South went along with cotton, tobacco, slavery and the Confederate flag. English colonial settlement goes back over 400 years, to the establishment of Jamestown in Virginia in 1607. Roger Mitchell traces the development of houses along the 1000 miles of America's eastern seaboard, from the struggles of the first settlers to survive in timber-framed buildings, to the homes of the wealthy landowners and industrialists, with their fine brick exteriors, their elegant verandahs, and their panelled interiors.

He will talk about the impressive Palladian homes in Virginia and the Carolinas, but will also include the more exotic houses along the Mississippi River, which drew on French, Greek and Moorish sources, and even "Steamboat Gothic".

Mr Mitchell has given well over 200 lectures to NADFAS Societies both here and in Australia, including presentations on American art and on Bess of Hardwick. After studying history at Oxford and Fine Art at Leeds, he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to travel and study in the USA. Admission to non-members of Neroche DFAS: £3. If you have any queries please ring Peter Hill on 01460 67779.

Seavington Flower Show Schedule

In the centre of last month's (March) Seavingtons' News you will have found the schedule and entry form for the 2012 Seavington Flower Show.

Unfortunately, due to a technical production problem, not all of the Class Numbers in Divisions 1 and 2 were reproduced correctly. All of the numbers printed should be prefixed with the number "1" and the first items in Division 1 should be numbered from 1—8 (there is no Class 9)

We apologise for the error and trust that this note clarifies matters.



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St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

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We provide a qualified, professional carer to live with them in their home to give the help and support required. Live-in care is cost-effective and particularly suitable for couples where one or both require help.

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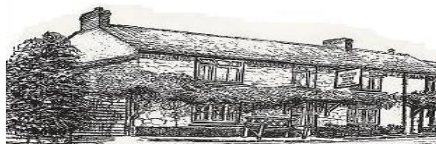
Individual attention ● Control of daily life ● Companionship ● Peace of mind
Cover for a family carer ● Convalescent help ● Short or long term help

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Seavington Community Store and Café



We are entirely run by volunteers

We can offer:

- Local produce including Burrow Hill Cider, Osborne's fruit and veg, bread from Bakery Roy-Al and Sally Ann's Cakes
- A selection of Wheat free and Gluten free products
- Dry cleaning service – collections and deliveries Tuesdays and Fridays
- A warm welcome in the café, offering good coffee and freshly made snacks.

Why not pop in and see for yourself.

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SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB LOCAL GROUP

‘BRITISH OWLS’

An illustrated talk presented by Ian McGuire, who is a wildlife enthusiast and specialist in educating on the conservation of owls and other birds of prey. Ian's talk is packed full of information on British owls, including the 'song' (calls) that each owl uses. The talk is accompanied by over 100 high quality images of owls.

Thursday 19th 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.

NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

For further details contact: Denise Chamings (Group Leader) on 240740

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset

Registered Charity: England & Wales No. 207076, Scotland No. SC37654.

Easter Bingo

Seavington Millennium Hall

Saturday 31st March



Please
note change
of date

Doors Open 6.45pm - Eyes Down 7.15 pm
Seasonal Prizes - Refreshments
Free Admission - All Welcome

SPFA Charity Number 268986

World Book Night

Monday 23rd April 2012 - 7.30pm

Come and celebrate World Book Night with us at Seavington Community Shop.

World Book Night is a celebration of reading and books and this year Seavington Community Shop has been chosen as a giver. We will have 24 copies of "The Secret Dreamworld of a Shopaholic" by Sophie Kinsella to give away.

What's the book about?

Rebecca Bloomwood is a journalist. She spends her working life telling other people how to manage their money but she spends her leisure time shopping.

Retail therapy is the answer to all her problems. She knows she should stop, but she can't. She tries cutting back, she tries making more money, but nothing seems to work. The stories she concocts become more and more fantastic as she tries to untangle her increasingly dire financial difficulties. Her only comfort is to buy herself something - just a little something....

Shocking statistics in the UK show that one person in six struggles to read and write. This can affect health and well-being, confidence and employability. World Book Night's charitable mission is to assist in the promotion of literacy and spread the love for books.

The greatest reading journeys start when you put a book in to someone's hand and say 'this one's amazing, you have to read it'. Start your journey with us:

Seavington Village Store & Café - 7.30pm Monday 23rd April 2012



Seavington Gardening Club

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday 12th May

10.00 to 11.30am

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

Entrance Free

Raffle - Refreshments

Doors Open 8.30am for Plants



CARTE BLANCHE AT THE SEAVINGTON CAFÉ

Would you like to learn, refresh, improve or perfect your French? Then join us for an hour per week over a 6 week course for cake, coffee and chat. All are welcome. Please complete and return this form to the Seavington Store or ring Véronique on 01460 241398.

When are you free to come? (please circle 1 or more)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Mornings	Afternoons	Evenings		

What is your level?

Complete Beginner	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced / Fluent
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Each lesson will cost £5 per week or £25 in advance for the 6 week course.

Name:

Phone number:

Reed Bunting

Emberiza Schoeniclus (6")

Annie (01460 241762)

The Spring is come, and spring flowers coming too,
The Crocus, Patty Kay, the Rich Heartsease;
The Polyanthus peeps with blebs of dew,
And Daisy flowers; the buds swell on the trees;
While o'er the odd flowers swim grandfather bees.

John Clare (1793-1864)

Reed Buntings have been seen in our villages this winter. After the breeding season they will join in the flocks of Buntings, Finches and Sparrows. During the winter they will be seen on farmland, especially stubble fields, in search of fallen seeds.

In summer it will feed on caterpillars and spiders and the natural habitat of reed-beds and wetlands. It often sings from the top of a reed stem or perched on a low bush. It is a simple repetitive "Tweek, Tweek, Tweek, Twitty-Tweek". The call is a shrill "Tsew" or "Tsink" when in flight.

The male is very noticeable with its black head and throat and white collar. The brown and black streaked back is sparrow-like. In fact, an old country name for the Reed Bunting is Water Sparrow. It is the white outer tail feather, which it constantly flicks, that makes it different from the House Sparrow. The female has a dull-brown head with a buff eyestripe and throat.

It is a lively bird when flitting through the reed-beds or hopping walking on the ground.

Nesting is near water, low in sedges, rushes and gorse. It builds a bulky nest of dry grass lined with fine grasses and down from reed-beds. It has two broods of four or five eggs, laid in April through to May.



What's On At The Warehouse Theatre, Ilminster

The Warehouse Theatre is community-owned and run entirely by volunteers and members of Ilminster Entertainment Society (IES). It provides high quality amateur and professional productions throughout the year for the enjoyment of audiences of all ages and represents one of the most well equipped, professional-standard amateur theatres in the county. Seating up to 155 people it has a fully licensed bar, coffee lounge and T-loop system.

The First Kids in Space – April 20th (7.30pm) & 21st (11.30am)

Written by Debbie Campbell and performed by the IES Youth Theatre. A fun, space adventure musical full of information about technology, the solar system and travel. All tickets £3.00

All My Sons – May 22nd to 25th

Written by Arthur Miller and directed by Cathy Stuckey

A powerful, emotional award-winning play about a man called Joe Miller who has done a terrible and tragic thing and the resulting consequences.

Tickets: £7.50 (concessions £7.00 and students £4.00) are available from Lanes Garden Shop, Ilminster or by phoning Theatre Box Office on 07943 779880.

Full details of What's On, IES Youth Theatre, future Auditions, Membership and more can be found on the theatre website or by phoning the Theatre Box Office.

The Seavingtons' Weather in February 2012

This year—2012

Previous year—2011

Temperature

Average Minimum	0.91°C	3.67°C
Average Maximum	8.45°C	10.41°C
Mean	4.68°C	7.04°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	16.1mm (0.64")	46.5mm (1.86")
Yearly Total (to date)	57.7mm (2.31")	130.3mm (5.10")

Driest February since 1998 but January 1988 was rather wet! Each dry February has followed a wet January but not this time! Rain please, but know when to stop



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