

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

April 2013



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The Seavingtons' News

I want to suggest that you all put 26th March into your diaries... Why?

I have commented on previous occasions on the great contribution made to our community life by volunteers. One group that is often forgotten is our small, elected, group of Parish Councillors. I imagine that we tend to forget them because we lump them together with politicians, many of whom we find it hard to respect.

However, unlike those participating in the higher levels of local and national government our Parish Councillors get no financial reward; they offer their services, at the ballot box, because they want to support their local community.

Further, the Parish Council inspires other volunteers including our Tree Wardens and Parish Footpaths Officer, all of whom contribute to our community's wellbeing through, largely hidden, hard work.

March 26th is the date for our Parish Council Annual General Meeting at which both the Councillors and other volunteers report back to us and seek our views on the way forward. It also gives an opportunity to question these folk and let them know of our own, personal, priorities.

Thus, I propose that you all make a firm commitment to be in the Millennium Hall at 7.30 pm on 26th March with the dual objectives of giving encouragement and helping to propose their future plans?

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 12th April
until am Monday 15th 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 2013

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

For bookings call Pauline Eardley on 01460 240995

For other Millennium Hall matters call Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193

26th March	7.30 p.m.	Parish Annual General meeting—p15
8th April	Noon	Seniors' Lunch in Village Café—p29
8th April		Art & Craft Fayre opens in shop—p20
11th April	7.00 p.m.	Gardening Club talk "Dahlias" by Terry Bratcher—p22
15th April	7.00 p.m.	Gardening Club visit at Brimsmore Garden Centre—p22
18th April	7.30 p.m.	RSPB Group talk "Birdwatching in Southern Europe—p28
24th April	8.00 p.m.	SPFA Quiz at the Volunteer Inn—p29

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

Please see page 30 for details of services during Holy Week

31st March	11.30 am Family Communion
7th April	11.30 am Holy Communion
14th April	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
14th April	11.30 am All age service
21st April	11.30 am Holy Communion
28th April	11.30 am Matins

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.

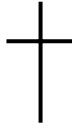
Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

Advertising Rates

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

Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437

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Lena Wills 1917—2013

It is with great sadness we announce the death of Lena Wills on the 3rd of January 2013 at Yeovil District hospital aged 95.

Lena was born and grew up in Ilminster where she became a machinist in the local shirt factory. She moved to West Street in Seavington St Mary following her marriage to Sid Wills in 1938 and although widowed in 1976, remained a resident of West Street until 2012. She leaves behind her daughter Julie and sons David and Christopher. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Her family would like to express their appreciation for all the condolences and cards they have received at this sad time.

Purple Field Productions

Sue Morley (01460 54142)

Purple Field Productions (or PFP) is an Ilminster based charity which was set up by local woman, Elspeth Waldie. In 2014 it celebrates its tenth anniversary. It is still a small charity but has made a huge impact on the issues it has tackled in the developing world. In these ten years it has moved from an income of a few thousand to last year an income of £28,852.00. PFP has a dedicated team of volunteers, trustees and two very part-time admin staff and it would like to recruit some more trustees. But first a little history.

PFP's beginning is a fascinating story. At an age when most people are thinking about winding down, putting their feet up and maybe taking up a dreamed-about hobby, Elspeth set off to Bangladesh in the late 1990s to teach English as a Foreign Language at the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP). Working with young Bangladeshi physiotherapy students she was asked by Valerie Taylor, the inspirational founder of CRP, to write a film script to challenge the prejudice suffered by paralysed people in Bangladesh and to spread the message that the paralysed are not a lost cause.

At this point most people would have thrown up their hands and explained that they had absolutely no experience of writing film scripts and no idea

how to go about it and thank you for the request but it's not possible. Elspeth tried, but Valerie persisted and so a short time later Elspeth returned home to research film writing and work on the script. The result, in 2001, was Bihongo, a wonderfully uplifting Bollywood style film about a young paraplegic girl who learns to paint with her mouth. Film is a powerful medium in an undeveloped rural country like Bangladesh and whole villages flock to see the latest touring production. So after the success of Bihongo, Valerie asked for another one and in 2004 Elspeth began working on Radio Bhai, another exciting full length Bollywood style love story about a young man in a wheel chair.

By this time Elspeth was totally convinced of the power of film to challenge perceptions in the developing world and to initiate change. She had researched not just the writing but also the work behind the camera so that she was able to take an active part in filming. This is the point at which PFP, the charity, begins its life with the object of making interesting, beautiful films to highlight problems in the developing world; films made in the local language using local people. Now, with two full length films in Bangladesh under her belt, the second one under the banner of PFP, Elspeth moved on to short documentary style films.

PFP was incorporated as a charitable company in 2007 and has produced a number of documentary films in Africa and one in Cambodia, in local languages using local people. The films have dealt with issues such as AIDS and farming in Malawi, peace initiatives after the genocide in Rwanda, Cerebral Palsy in Ghana and most recently street children in Sierra Leone. For each film PFP works with partner charities which have links both in the UK and in the particular country. PFP sends out a volunteer film crew who are often young film makers looking for experience. The films are made on the smallest budget imaginable; the results are of the highest quality possible. PFP has won several prestigious awards for its films.

PFP would dearly love to recruit some more trustees. One of the most pressing needs is for someone to co-ordinate and oversee the volunteer fundraisers. The fundraising team are dedicated, imaginative, committed and fun but they need a co-ordinator. Could you help with that? Do you have other skills? Could you help out with publicity? If you can spare a couple of hours a week please get in touch.

For more information about PFP, and to view trailers of the films, please have a look at the website <http://www.purplefieldproductions.org> or our facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/purplefieldproductions>

For a chat about becoming a trustee or volunteer please contact Fiona or Elspeth at admin@purplefieldproductions.org or leave a message on the answer phone at 01460 54142.

Seavington Youth Club

Jenny Isaacs (01460 240550)

The start to 2013 has been a bit of a slow one; the weather meant that we had to cancel one night in January. The Millennium Hall had also been booked and there have been school holidays so we have only had a few nights.

We have now received some good news—we can now use the hall every Monday so that the only time we will not hold meetings will be during the school holidays. Thus, the Youth Club meets in the Millennium Hall every Monday evening from 6.30 until 7.45 taking ages from 8-16 years old.

There is so much for the youngsters: we have X-Box with Kinect, Wii, table tennis, snooker & pool, games, arts & crafts and power stilts to name but a few. Soon the clocks will change and the lighter evenings will be here which means that cricket, football and rounders can be enjoyed outside on the playing field.

We could really do with some new faces to come and join us. If you fancy a night at the Youth Club we would love to see you, if we have no youngsters we will cease to exist. If you are an adult and fancy coming along to help we'd love to see you too.

For information on the Youth Club contact Jenny Isaacs (01460 240550) or Julie Ginno (01460 249099).

SPFA Lottery Winners

Lesley Gudgeon (01460 240236)

February 2013

1st 140 Teddy Williams
2nd 154 Mr A Meadows
3rd 105 Graham Bonning
4th 122 Janet Lister
5th 114 Janet Ash

March 2013

1st 18 Ethan Ash
2nd 88 Sue Sprague
3rd 5 Ellie Ash
4th 148 Sheila Riley
5th 21 Kate Gudgeon

News from Seavington Playing Field Association

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

In a very short time you will see Solar Panels being put on the Millennium Hall roof.

A new piece of play equipment has been ordered. This is a Log Basket Swing. Several children in the village have been asked about this and all only had positive comments to make. It is hoped that this will be installed in readiness for the Whitsun half-term and will link into the other village events already being planned. The monies raised during the Jubilee Event (£850) will go part way to the cost.

For the 5-year plan the Committee are in discussions about having a path around the whole of the field, with the one from the over-flow car park being lit in some way. We are trying to find out about Solar, movement activated lights. It is felt that this will make the field more accessible to the disabled, parents with prams and pushchairs and also the path would be suitable for children to ride their scooters and bikes on. There could also be an activity trail. This, of course, will come at a cost. However, there may be various grants that we can apply for but it will mean that we will have to be fund raising on a much larger scale than in the immediate past.

One way of supporting the SPFA is by buying a Village Lottery Ticket. The cost for each ticket is £10 and 10 draws will be made during the year. Prize monies will depend on the number of tickets sold as under Lottery Law we cannot give away more than 50% of the total monies collected. The rest of the monies raised goes to the SPFA for new projects and general day to day running costs of the Field. The Millennium Hall at present is self financing from hire charges.

Those of you who have been in the lottery for several years will know that last year we were very late in collecting the monies and only 6 draws were done – the last of these being drawn at the Easter Bingo. It is hoped that collecting will start in April and draws will be done in June, July, August, September, October, November, December, January, February and March. This links in with the SPFA financial year which runs from April – March. Please complete the application form overleaf and return to one of the Committee members listed if you wish. However, collectors will still call on you during April and May if you have not returned a completed form.

Finally thank you to all those who supported the Easter Bingo.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

The Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir will be performing in the Church of St Peter and St Paul in South Petherton on Saturday, 18th May 2013 at 7.30 pm in aid of the Trust. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear a wide variety of all kinds of music, sung by a highly regarded male voice choir. It is one of the Trust's principal fundraising events of the year – so please come along, bring a friend, and support us on this occasion. It should be a great evening.

An advertisement printed elsewhere in this edition of the Seavingtons' News gives all the details. Tickets will be on sale from early April.

Seavington Playing Field Association Lottery

I / we would like to join / renew our lottery tickets for the year from April 2013 to March 2014 at a cost of £10 per ticket.

Name:

Address:

.....

Name:

Address:

.....

Ticket No(s) if known

Cash or cheque payable to Seavington Playing Field Association

Please return your form and payment to: Lesley Gudgeon, Upton Cottage, Upton Lane; Annie Prichard, 2, Winchester Cottages (opposite Volunteer); Elaine Edwards, Peels, West Street or Pauline Parsons, Opus One, School Lane



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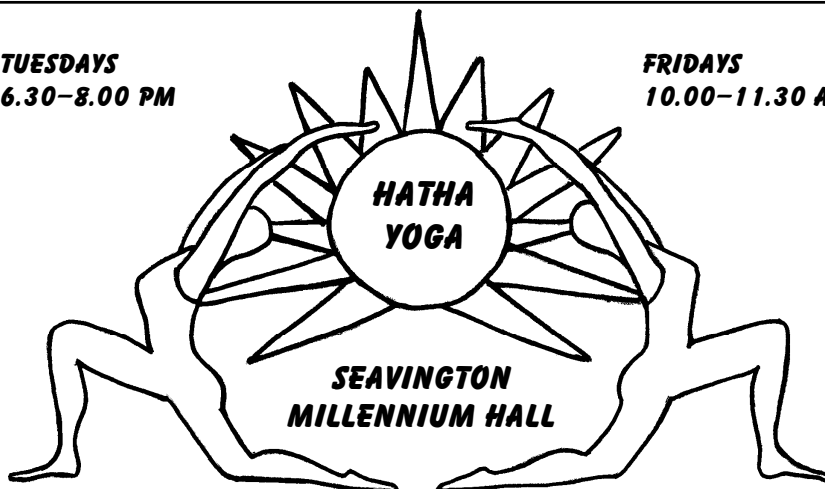
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Over The Counter

Carolyn Farler (01460 249192)

March was a busy month for promoting the Seavingtons and the Store & Café with an article in Somerset Life and later a special lunch for representatives of various Tourist and Local Information Centres giving them an opportunity to see how our community venture works.

As part of the grant funding we have received, we have been busy buying some new equipment for the kitchen and planning some cookery workshops to take place over the next few months. *(Look out for the details to be published soon).*

This funding will also allow us to employ a cleaner for the Café, which will be much appreciated by the cooks who have to clean up after their busy shifts in the kitchen. Adverts can be seen in the store.

This month will see the solar panels being fitted on the store and we will be looking forward to some sunshine to make the savings they will bring. You will also be able to view some of the properties for sale in the area when a local estate agent starts using some of our window space.

In support of one of our local suppliers, in the chilled cabinet you will now be able to find cooked meat from Osbornes.

We are always looking for more volunteers, but currently we really do need some more help in the Café. To help ease the pressure on the current team we are making a few changes to the hours and the services offered.

With effect from the 1st April, the Café will extend the opening hours until 4pm Monday to Friday, but will be only serving drinks and cakes after 2pm. It is hoped that some more people will feel able to help with these afternoon sessions.

One bonus for all our volunteers now is they have the chance to take advantage of the corporate membership rates at a local leisure club.

A Reminder!

The Parish Annual General Meeting is being held in the Millennium Hall at 7.30 p.m. on the 26th March. Please come along and support your Parish Councillors and take this opportunity to raise any issues or questions that you may have.

God and Lawn Care

The Seavingtons' News does not normally indulge in telephone tapping. However, this conversation, heard via a crossed line by Sue Collard, seems well worth passing on!

God said: "Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colours by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles."

St Francis: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

God: Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colourful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

St Francis: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

God: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

St Francis: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

God: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

St Francis: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags or bins.

God: They bag or bin it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

St Francis: No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

God: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to

**The Seavington
Art & Craft Fayre
is back
from
Monday 8th April
until
Saturday 18th May**

at the Seavington Shop

**There's plenty of parking so you can
browse the crafts and then stay
for a cup of tea**



Come on you crafty lot...

Our Seavington Christmas Craft Fayre has become a very popular event at the Shop and Café with a whole array of local, handmade crafts, from pictures and jewellery, to dolls, cards, cushions, doorstops and candles.

So... it's time to GET MAKING.

Space is at a premium and we are therefore having to restrict the area for exhibiting in order to offer as many people as possible the chance to sell.

The Shop and Café are a great showcase, attracting a variety of folk from far and wide, so why not take this opportunity to make a bit of cash and promote yourself.

So, if you **paint**, draw, **sculpt**, sew, **photograph** or make anything such as **cards**, bags, **soft toys**, cushions, **jewellery** and more, and would like to include something in the next sale... we would like to hear from you.

Just fill in the application form attached and return it to the shop by Monday 1st April.

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Sarah: 01460 240230
or Jill: 01460 241311**

Application Form

Name:.....

Tel No:.....

Description of Craft:.....

.....

.....

.....

Please note that: the space is at a premium and we are therefore having to restrict the area for exhibiting to 60cm square in order to offer as many as possible the chance to sell.

The space will be offered on a first come, first serve basis and this year will be situated in the shop area.

The shop will charge a **fee of 20%** per item sold.

Sellers will be totally responsible for checking their goods throughout the sale and replenishing where items have been sold.

Please also note that: the Seller agrees to make no claim against the Seavington Village Shop (SVS), the owner of the space where the sale is held, or any volunteer or organiser in the SVS, for the damage, theft or loss of any items consigned to the SVS. SVS does not anticipate any thefts, damage, or loss and takes every precaution to prevent them, but occasionally these events may occur.

Set up day is **Saturday 6th April** from 9am.

I have read and agree with the terms and conditions as set out above

signed

date

throw it away?

St Francis: Yes, Sir.

God: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we usually cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

St Francis: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

God: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

St Francis: You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

God: No!? What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

St Francis: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and purchase something which they call mulch. They haul it home and then spread it around in place of the leaves.

God: And where do they get this mulch?

St Francis: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

God: Enough! I don't want to think about this again. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What film have you scheduled for us tonight?

St Catherine: 'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

God: Never mind, I think I heard the whole story just now from St Francis.

A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

Fortunately February did not live up to the old saying "February fill dyke" and provided a lower than average rainfall, this came as a huge relief to the farming community; one could feel an air of optimism having endured six months in succession of persistent wet weather and its continuing consequences.

The first ten days of March brought some more rain and tended to start undoing some of February's benefits, but now there is a very bitter drying wind outside with snow in many areas. March can be very fickle, last year it was so dry and warm that it set off alarms of a drought.

Back on the farm the conserved winter forage stocks are starting to look critical and we are wondering just how much longer the cattle will have to remain in their winter quarters.

Since January, from my home I have observed the development of a flock of lambs being finished ready for the butcher, they have been grazing off a crop of stubble turnips and enjoying other supplementary feeds provided by the shepherd. The turnips seed was drilled directly into the corn stubble soon after harvest, but like the rest of the autumn sown crops they have been stunted by the severe wet conditions. Nevertheless they have struggled through and are providing much needed fodder. It is nice to see this traditional method still in use. There used to be a very strict crop rotational system and the sowing of catch crops like turnips on arable land for the out of season grazing by sheep was a major part of this method.

There was a tendency for this to go out of fashion, I think it probably started back in the 1960's when the wide spread use of artificial fertilisers made it possible to consider continual corn growing with a good degree of success. However the cost of these fertilisers just like oil has soared so much that alternative traditional soil nutrients are once more attractive.

This morning, for the second week in succession the shepherd has rounded up all his lambs into an elaborate portable fold and run them through the scales selecting out the ones for the butcher, then aided by his hardy wife they were loaded into the twin decked trailer hitched behind a Land Rover ready for departure. I happened to venture outside to get an extension lead from an out-building for a heater in my office and

had a quick word, it sure was a bitter wind, both the shepherd and his wife were well wrapped up in warm clothing and they needed it. *(Nothing comes cheap, the shepherd told me his portable fold was an investment of £7000, but it is a fantastic bit of kit that he can tow around behind his Land Rover or Quad Bike. (The latter machine appears almost to have become indispensable on most livestock farms including our own.)*

During my farming career there have been so many major developments that it is difficult to remember them all. For me the portable electric fencer is among those that stand out, in my book it has to be worthy of an accolade.

I confess I never liked working with sheep very much and have not had a great deal to do with them, other than when I worked for Abraham Green. For me they tended to have three very nasty habits, one was to get out of the field they were supposed to be in, preferably into one owned by a neighbouring farmer and always at the most inconvenient times. The second is a desire to drop dead without notice or commit suicide, in the case of pregnant ewes this was demonstrated by rolling on their backs with all four feet reaching towards heaven. The third option was achieved by thoroughly wrapping themselves in a tangle of hedgerow brambles so they could not escape unaided. Hey Ho!! The electric fencer can deny them two of these options. I admit, I do enjoy watching sheep and their bleating is a pleasant sound compared to that of the persistent blaring of a cow or calf.

I also enjoy Lamb chops and Mint sauce! Lets hope a pleasant spring is just around the corner.

Village Scarecrow Competition

Following the great success of the Scarecrow Competition last year the SPFA are organising another one. This year it will coincide with the Flower Festival, being held at St Michael's Church from Saturday 25th May to Monday 27th May. The theme for both of these events is RURAL LIFE. In order that another competition can be planned using the Scarecrows we would ask that all Scarecrows are in place by the evening of Saturday 25th May. We are not asking you to fill in an entry form as this did not really work last year—the Scarecrows just seemed to multiply. Only scarecrows in place by the 25th will be used in the additional competition, but late entries will be acceptable for the scarecrow competition.

Scarecrow judging and competition results will be announced on Sunday 2nd June at a Cream Tea. More details of this will be published later.

Craft Fayre

Phil Gordon-Smith (01460 242277)

Readers will undoubtedly see the centre insert advertising another Craft Fayre in the village store. There are a few changes this time; the most notable is that the Fayre is to be sited in the main body of the shop. Thus, space for exhibitors will be limited and so it is important to note the closing date for entries as this WILL be the closing date. Also, please bring your goods or arrange to have them delivered, on the Saturday specified, unless the organisers tell you otherwise. The other change is that entry will only be considered if exhibitors have signed and returned the centrefold sheet.

Because of the reduced space and the increase of costs in general, the Fayre will be taking a 20% commission this time. All the money raised by these Fayres is donated to the shop to help fund projects that enhance the to the shop and its environs.

The Children's Society Stamp Collection

Gill Beveridge (01460 242828)

Thanks to all the stamps you have been supplying, there has been over £3,500 raised in the last 18 months for the Children's Society.

More stamps, especially foreign stamps or foreign postcards with the stamps still attached, are always welcome and can be left at:

- ◇ The doctors surgery or the pharmacy at South Petherton hospital
- ◇ St Peter and St Paul's Church, South Petherton
- ◇ Just Things, the Fair Trade shop, in Silver Street, Ilminster
- ◇ The community shop, Water Street, Seavington
- ◇ The Children's Society shop, Crewkerne

Or they can be sent by post to:

Gill Beveridge, Whiteridge, Upton Lane, ,Seavington,TA19 0PZ

Thank you again for your support of this worthwhile cause. Details of the Children's Society can be found at www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Barn Owl

Tyto Alba (13½")

Annie (01460 241762)

No gradual bloom is wanting from the bud,
First-born of Spring, to Summer's musky tribes;
Nor hyacinths, of purest virgin white,
Low-bent and blushing inward; nor jonquilles,
Of potent fragrance; nor narcissus fair,
As o'er the fabled fountain hanging still;
Nor broad carnations, nor gay-spotted pinks;
Nor shower'd from every bush, the Damask Rose.

James Thomson (1700-48)

Well, are we not lucky to have these lovely birds around our villages, They have been seen along field edges, roadside verges and across the fields. There are Barn Owl boxes placed around our villages.

The Barn Owl has a heart-shaped face, long slightly rounded wings with either white or speckled underparts. Sexes are distinguishable by the spots on the underside of their wings: males have tiny, or no, spots; females have clearly defined spots. Legs are long and feathered.

It hunts at dawn and dusk. It has excellent hearing and acute eyesight which aids the hunting of mice, shrews, voles, small birds, frogs and insects. Various hissing, snoring, and yapping noises are usually heard around the nest. When in flight, there is a wild, unearthly shriek.

Its nest is a bare scrape often made up of food pellets; found in holes in old buildings, trees, barns and 'man-made' boxes.

Keep your eyes and ears peeled also for the Tawny Owl-kee-wick, hoo, hoo, hoo-oo-oo-oo. Little Owl- rapid kwee-kwee-kwee-kwee followed by along leou-leou-leou -uttered in flight.

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Seavington Gardening Club

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

14 March 2013 – ‘Peonies and Irises’ – with Sue Applegate

Sue Applegate, who grew up in Seavington, spent many years working as Production Manager at the Kelways Nursery at Langport which was established 150 years ago. She told us about the history of Peonies and Irises, their provenance and all the different varieties, colours and how to plant them to get them to flower well. She also showed us how to propagate irises, and warned us that you have to be really patient when propagating peonies as it is a very, very, slow business!

After the tea interval, a short AGM was held where the majority of the Committee (Sarah as Chair, Joy as Treasurer, Ry as Secretary, Lis and Charo) were all re-elected en-bloc; Fiona Day is stepping down this year and was presented with a gift for her work on the Committee and Flower Show in the past. New Member Chris Ginger was welcomed to the Committee. The Club's finances are still in good heart even in an extended year after the Club's financial and programme years were realigned to run January - December concurrently in future.

Growing Competition: Members were invited to join in a Growing Competition sponsored by the Garden's Group Gold Club who have donated geranium plant plugs, pots and compost free to members. Geranium plants to be judged at the Flower Show in August. Members took plants/pots away with them at the end of the evening. Members not present will be able to pick up their plant plug/pot at the next meeting.

Seavington Open Gardens – 2014

Sarah announced that the Gardening Club are proposing to run an 'Open Gardens' event next year in aid of charity, and several members volunteered to open their gardens for the scheme.

Flower of the Month:

1. Jackie Hann – Camellia,
2. Chris Ginger – Primula,
3. Anne Wills – Daffodil St Keverne

Next Meetings: 7.30pm Thursday 11 April 'Dahlias' – with Terry Bratcher, with plants for sale, then on Monday 15th April at 6.45pm Visit to Brimsmore Garden Centre for 25% off shopping with Over Stratton Gardening Club.

Hardy Plant Society Plant Fair will be held at East Lambrook Manor on Saturday 30th March 10.00am-5.00pm.

Plant Sale: Saturday 11 May at the Millennium Hall: doors open at 10.00am.

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Coming Soon to The Warehouse Theatre Ilminster!

12th April 2013 - Mrs Gerrish's Guesthouse. It's 1958 and the summer season at Weston-Super-Mare has ended but Mrs Gerrish's Guesthouse is still full. Come and meet the guests!

26th April 2013 - Teasing the Cat. A welcome return of this five piece band from West of England specialising in traditional music from many countries.

8th – 11th May - I Hate Hamlet. A hilarious comedy, performed by IES and written by Paul Rudnick. A young actor is haunted by the ghost of the late, great actor, John Barrymore. The best Hamlet ever!

Tickets are available from Lanes Garden Shop, 17 Silver Street, Ilminster or phone 07943 779 880.

The Warehouse Theatre has seating for up to 150 people, fully licensed bar, coffee area, disabled access and T-loop hearing system.

www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

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Thursday 18th April – 7.30pm – The Millennium Hall, Seavington St. Mary
Entry: group members £2.50, non-group members £3.50, under 18's free.
(tea/coffee & biscuits included) Wheelchair access.

NON-MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

For further details contact: Denise Chamings (Group Leader) on 01460 240740
www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset

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



SPFA Quiz Nights

Quiz nights in aid of Seavington Playing Field Association are being held at the Volunteer Inn on Wednesday 20th March and Wednesday 24th April

The quiz starts at 8pm and costs £1 per person to enter

All are welcome

The Playing Field Association is also holding a Quiz Night at the Millennium Hall on Friday 31st May.

Further details will be available soon.



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SENIOR'S LUNCHES

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Holy Week Services

The Parish of South Petherton with the Seavingtons

Monday 25th March	7.15 pm	<i>Reflection for Monday of Holy Week</i> St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Tuesday 26th March	7.15 pm	<i>Reflection for Tuesday of Holy Week</i> St Mary's Church, Seavington*
Wednesday 27th March	7.15 pm	<i>Reflection for Wednesday of Holy Week</i> St James', East Lambrook
Thursday 28th March	7.15 pm	<i>Agape Supper (sign up on list in churches)</i> St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Friday 29th March	9.30 am	<i>Morning Worship</i>
Friday 29th March Good Friday	2.30 pm	<i>Reflections on the Cross</i> St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton
Friday 29th March Good Friday	2.30 pm	<i>Good Friday Liturgy</i> St Mary's, Seavington*

* wrap up warmly

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.

For Sale

Hotpoint 4 burner stainless steel gas hob for mains or LPG £25.

Kitchen unit oak doors. £5 each.

5 @ 590 x 595; 3 @ 295 x 595; 1 @ 240 x 595; 1 @ 265 x 595

Kitchen drawer oak fronts, £3 each

2 @ 120 x 290; 2 @ 120 x 590; 3 @ 300 x 590

Please call 01460 249414

The Labrador Rescue Trust

Phil Gordon-Smith (01460 242277)

Locals who were around last year may remember the very successful coffee morning held to support the Labrador Rescue Trust. For those of you who were not around or have forgotten, and now ask why on earth a Labrador should need help, I offer you the following; divorce, the rise in the cost of living, death, illness in the owner and illness in the dog, the inability of an owner to control a dog, old age in the dog, and a ton of stupid made up excuses just to get rid!

The Trust covers a large area right from the tip of Cornwall up to Rutland in the north and spreading eastwards to Hampshire and Wiltshire. These areas are split into regions and each region managed by a voluntary coordinator, helped by a band of helpers. For anybody who wants to know more there is a web site—www.labrador-rescue.com.

This year there are two events being held locally, which you can support, either by turning up or by donating money. The first event is a quiz night, to be held at the Candlelight pub in Bishopswood on the 24th April, which is just off the A30 passed the Eagle Tavern. There will be free food and the ticket price of £5.00. The other event is at Isle Abbots on the 28th April, start time 2pm, where there will be a Fun Dog Day. Lots of fun thing for your dog to enter, sausage racing, scurry etc. For those of you who are dog less there are some stalls and afternoon tea to entertain you.

For more information, or for donations please telephone the number above. There is an answer phone on, so please leave your name and telephone number and I will return your call.

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 Editor,

The Inner Wheel Club of Taunton held a Coffee Morning at Carter's Barn, Seavington St Mary on Wednesday 6th March for the Akamba Aid Fund.

Thank you to everyone who came or sent donations. A total of £800 was raised for this very worthy charity and we are grateful to you all for your support.

Joy Madge, Chairman, Overseas Committee

WANTED A CLEANER

Seavington Village Store and Café require a cleaner for one hour per day, 5 days per week, to clean the Café after end of trading sometime between 4pm and 6pm. Rate to be agreed. For details please contact : Manda Jagers on 01460 240554

The Seavingtons' Weather in February 2013

This year—2013

Previous year—2012

Temperature

Average Minimum	-0.47°C	0.91°C
Average Maximum	6.80°C	8.45°C
Mean	3.16°C	4.68°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	29.2mm (1.17")	16.1mm (0.64")
2013 Total for the year	158.1mm (6.32")	57.7mm (2.31")

A cold, dry month and rather dull



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