

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

August 2015



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The Seavingtons' News

In the popular media we see and hear much about the shortcomings of our society's young people. Indeed, you might deduce that our country has no future because of the deficiencies of the generation we have bred to succeed us.

I have commented before how these caricatures of youth do not seem to match the youngsters of Seavington as we meet them in our daily lives. Our youths show initiative, know where they want to go and are always polite (perhaps it is my grey hair!).

It is therefore with great pleasure that the Seavingtons' News congratulates Charlotte Eardley on her fundraising achievement for the Macmillan Unit at Yeovil District Hospital—see her letter on page 28. In my own youth I have abseiled a few times and know that there is no descent as daunting as the sheer drop of a man-made structure. Well done and thank you Charlotte.

On another cheerful note, the Connecting Devon and Somerset programme is reporting that Seavington now has access to faster broadband thanks to a new street cabinet in Seavington St Michael. It is up to individuals to contact BT or their Internet Service Provider to make arrangements for the upgrade to their own service. I have been offered a minimum speed of 18Mb/s in Seavington St Mary!

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 14th August
until am Monday 17th August**

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

is the 15th August

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—Forthcoming Events

All events, unless otherwise shown, are held in the Millennium Hall
For bookings call 07914 710926

25 & 26th July	10.00 am	Flower Festival in St Michael's Church
28th July	7.30pm	Quiz Night—p14
30th July	6.30 pm	Morris Dancing at the Volunteer —p14
31st July	7.30 pm	Bavarian Evening – p14
1st August	2.00 pm	Have a Field Day— p15
1st August	7.00 pm	Proms in the (car) Park— p15
2nd August	11.30 am	Songs of Praise & footpath opening—p14
8th August	2.30 pm	Seavington Flower Show—p 5
10th August	noon	Seniors' Lunch in Cafe—p 27
15th August	10 am till noon	Coffee Morning in aid of Guide Dogs at "Torosay", School Lane—p 27

Regular Activities

1st & 3rd Tuesday	2.30 pm	Sport 50 in the Millennium Hall
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 (opp. 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

2nd August	11.30 am Songs of Praise at Seavington Playing Field
9th August	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
9th August	11.30 am Café Church at Seavington Café
16th August	11.30 am St Mary's Day service at St Mary's Church
23rd August	11.30 am Matins
23rd August	6.00 pm Prayers for a Summer's Evening
30th August	No service in Seavington but Holy Communion in South Petherton at 8.00 am (BCP) and 9.30 am (CW)

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

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial:	David Froome & Maria Potts
Advertising:	Tony Beresford
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Technical & web-site support:	Eugene Mulligan
Graphics & Visual Support:	George Brown

Village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org

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

Advertising Rates

	Annual	Monthly
Full Page	£ 100	£ 12
½ Page	£ 50	£ 6
¼ Page	£ 28	£ 4

Advertising enquiries to: adverts@theseavingtons.org

Royal Mail Collection Times

Royal Mail has just changed the last post collection times on Mondays to Fridays at two of the three post-boxes in our villages. The revised times are:

The Seavingtons' Postal Collections — June 2015

Seavington St Michael	4.45pm	Monday to Friday
Seavington St Michael	9.15am	Saturday
Water Street (by bridge)	10.00am	Monday to Friday
Water Street (by bridge)	9.30am	Saturday
Townsend (Seavington St Mary)	4.45pm	Monday to Friday
Townsend (Seavington St Mary)	10.00am	Saturday

No Sunday collections

The Saturday collection times remain unaltered. You should be aware that, although these are the “official” collection times, the postman may be impatient and finalise the collection earlier than these times. For example, on Monday last, he was seen clearing the Townsend box at 4.35 pm.

Sport 50 Takes a Holiday

The popular Sport 50 meetings in the Millennium Hall are being suspended for the holiday period and will resume on Tuesday October 6th 2015 at 2.30 pm. They will then continue on their normal days of the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

If you have forgotten about Sport 50 may I remind you that it is a programme, sponsored by the District Council, to help the over 50s to keep fit.

The scheme allows you to participate in a range of gentle activities which include new age curling, boccia, seated volleyball, short tennis and table tennis.

If you have any queries about Sport 50 please contact Brenda Lake on 01460 249304 or David Froome on 01460 249445.

Seavington Gardening Club

Kate Mulligan (01460 242023)

Visit to Midney Gardens on 9th July

If you want to see a garden that makes you smile, or at least one with a sense of humour, then Dave and Alison's quirky garden at Midney is the place to go.

On yet another perfect summer evening we had the chance to explore what had once been a small industrial site housing a saw mill, quarry and even the kennels for the local hunt hounds. Hard to believe today as this has now been completely transformed by Dave, since 2009, into a fantastic garden.

It is divided into zones each with a specific theme and relevant colour planting, all linked by a meandering path. Within each section there are sculptures or unusual objects peeping out of the foliage, completely part of their surroundings. For example an old rusty bicycle has been "parked" vertically to act as a frame for sweet peas and a real bed frame marks the boundaries for the Sleep Garden. Even the polytunnels are themed for a trip around the world with plants from Morocco, the Middle East and South America. There is also the "air stewardess - Gloria" keeping a watchful eye on proceedings.

Far too much to mention to do it justice here but a "must see" place to experience. Also plants available to buy grown on site and delicious home made cakes in the tea rooms.

Forthcoming events:

Saturday 1st August 2pm the Gardening Club will have a plant stall at the Village Fete. Plants and bulbs will be on sale.

Saturday 8th August 2.30pm Seavington Village Flower Show. There will be plants for sale and refreshments available.

Thursday 10th September 7.30pm will be our next meeting in the Millennium Village Hall. Phil Kerton will be giving a talk about Sweet Peas. Visitors welcome - £2.00 per person.

For further information about Seavington Gardening Club please contact Karen Day (01460 249728).

A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

I hesitate making the following statement, because I feel it might tempt fate, nevertheless. Things back on the farm seem to have worked out fairly well over the last month because last week a second cut of grass silage was safely gathered in.

This time it was taken care of by our own small team using the trailed forage harvester, rather than bringing in the contractor. This was an attempt to cut costs. Arthur was on the pit with the buck rake, Toby transporting the trailers to and from the fields whilst John took care of filling the trailers with the harvesting. They did get caught out with a drop of rain in and out but nothing too drastic.

Prior to the above about twenty acres had been cut baled and wrapped and some hay made to provide quick clearance extending the grazing area for the milking cows. This was first quality material made under perfect weather conditions.

The re-growth of the original grazing area had held up well, but as the season has progressed the intensity of cow pats pollutes large areas of the grass and the cows naturally resist eating from them.

That is why it was a good plan to move on to some clean pasture, allowing the original grazing area to have all the uneaten coarse grass cut off.

This will in turn allow a new generation of re-growth which the herd will find far more palatable to graze.

Whilst all this has been going on there have been a considerable number of young heifers calving in for the first time, increasing the number of dairy animals having to pass through the milking parlour. In turn this has taken the amount of milk produced on our farm to new records. This should be great news, but I have little doubt in my mind that because it has been good weather conditions for dairying elsewhere this trend will be rather general and can only put pressure on an already falling milk price situation.

Now I am taking a back seat I have time to wander around the super markets, it is noticeable that since the pound has grown in strength our old trading partners on the other-side of the World are once more gaining an increased market share over here. New Zealand lamb for

example is now very prevalent on the supermarket shelves and very competitively priced.

This is just the way of things, it is no different for those in the manufacturing industries.

By the current look of the winter barley combine harvesters will soon once more become a familiar sight in the landscape.

One can only conclude that so far this year's favourable weather conditions are helping to level out the adverse effects of falling farm gate prices for the British farmer.

Tomorrow is another day, what it will bring we will just have to wait and see?

Help Wanted

Anne Shaw has decided to end her book-keeping work at the shop after a very efficient and productive 5 years. This will leave the Village Community Store and Café with a gap to fill. We are volunteers who give our time for the good of the community and so we are looking for a like-minded person who has used book-keeping software or would like to learn how to do the work. A number of our volunteers have obtained paid work directly due to the experience they have gained in either the shop or the café.

Anyone interested in helping us please contact Ken Lake at the shop on 01460 249730 or by email at ken.lake46@gmail.com

The South Petherton Photographic Society Advance notice

Liz Randall (01460 241626)

The South Petherton Photographic Society is organising the annual exhibition on Saturday 12th September, 10.00 a.m.- 4.00 p.m.

Venue: The Blake Hall, South Petherton, TA13 5BT

Free entry, refreshments, calendar sales, competition, photographic advice.

Wine Trip to Bridport

Ken Lake (01460 249304)

Having had a discussion with several like minded folks in the village on the subject of wine and its virtues a group of local residents decided that a trip to a nearby vineyard might be a pleasant way of spending a day out. The minibus arrived at Seavington and our first stop was a visit to Palmers Brewery in Bridport and of course the obligatory sampling afterwards.

Palmers is a fine example of a local working Brewery and currently employs over 55 people. We came out of the Brewery more tired than we went in after climbing up and down many steps and listening to a two hour informative tour. Clutching our free tankards we headed back to the minibus ready for our lunch at Washingpool Farm Shop on the outskirts of Bridport. If anyone has not visited this Farm shop with restaurant I would urge you to go as the food is good and the views across the Dorset countryside are glorious.

We left Washingpool feeling refreshed ready for our trip around Furleigh vineyard.

Furleigh is noted for its sparkling wine and in 2012/13 their winemaker Ian Edwards won the UK Winemaker of the Year award. We enjoyed an informative talk and tour around the vineyard and realised how much work actually goes into keeping the vines in good shape and the number of jobs still done by hand. The serious task of the wine tasting took place afterwards and rounded off an enjoyable day.



St Mary's Church

Church Lane, Seavington St Mary

Sunday 16th August

Come and join us at 11.30 a.m.

To celebrate St. Mary's Day

SPFA Village Lottery

Lesley Gudgeon (01460 240236)

The Seavington lottery has recommenced with monthly draws until March 2016 inclusive. The prize money remains the same as last year with 181 numbers entered into the draw: The results of the July draw are:

First	£35	Sophie Wicks
Second	£20	Samantha Gough
Third	£15	Ed Rudd
Fourth	£10	Colin Male
Fifth	£10	Mrs. Loxston

Anyone wishing to join the village lottery please contact a member of the SPFA. Good Luck to all who play.

Car Keys

They weren't in my pockets. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the car park. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He was afraid that the car could be stolen.

As I looked around the car park, I realized he was right. The car park was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all to my husband:????."I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen."

There was a moment of silence. I thought the call had been disconnected, but then I heard his voice.

"Are you kidding me?? he barked, "I dropped you off!" Now it was my turn to be silent???. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me."

He retorted, ?. "I will, as soon as I convince this police officer that I didn't steal your wretched car!"

Welcome to the silver years...

Jimmy James

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The Seavingtons' Celebrations

To mark the 40th anniversary of the opening of the Playing Field and the 5th birthday of our community shop and cafe

Welcome to the Caravan Club of Great Britain Concert Band

A full week of events for you to enjoy!

There may still be time for you to buy tickets for

THE CELEBRATIONS QUIZ

on Tuesday 28 July at 7.30pm

in the Millennium Hall, Water Street

Tickets IN ADVANCE @ £7 include Ploughman's supper. Under 12s free. Bar.

Available from The Volunteer and the Seavington Community Shop

HAVE A FEAST AT RUTH'S BBQ AND ENJOY THE

WYVERN JUBILEE MORRIS MEN

on Thursday 30 July from 6.30pm

at The Volunteer, New Road, Seavington St Michael

BAVARIAN EVENING WITH BARON VON SCHMIDT-HAUS

on Friday 30 July at 7.30pm

in the Millennium Hall, Water Street

Tickets IN ADVANCE @ £7 include bangers, beans and jackets. Under 12s free.

Bring your own drinks and stein!

Available from Sally Gough 01460 240897

HAVE A FIELD DAY AND PROMS IN THE (car) PARK

on Saturday 1 August from 2.00pm

SONGS OF PRAISE

on Sunday 2 August at 11.30am on the playing field

followed by

OPENING OF THE SEAVINGTON "ACCESS FOR ALL"

FOOTPATH

and

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC

Pimms will be available to accompany your picnic

Bring your own chairs, blanket etc

Proceeds from the Quiz and Have a Field Day will be used for improvements by the SPFA and The Seavington Community Store

The Seavingtons' Celebrations

"HAVE A FIELD DAY"

on August 1st at 2pm

PLEASE DONATE ITEMS TO MAKE OUR CELEBRATIONS A HUGE SUCCESS!

We need bottles, tombola prizes, bric-a-brac, books, cakes, plants, toys and anything you think is saleable or makes a good prize.

DONATIONS - THERE IS A COLLECTION POINT IN THE SHOP AND WE WILL CALL ON EVERYONE FROM THE WEEK BEGINNING 13 JULY

BRING YOUR DOG TO HAVE A FIELD DAY

Yeovil Agility Club and Pawsability will do a display and your dog can have a go on an agility course

CALLING ALL CHILDREN IN THE SEAVINGTONS!

**Would you like to help us open "Have a Field Day" on
Saturday 1 August @ 2pm?**

If so please ask a parent to ring Marion on 01460 249522

CAN YOU HELP ON A STALL OR SIDESHOW?

Please ring Marion if you can help. Number above.

BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR THE GRAND DRAW! A FANTASTIC SELECTION OF PRIZES!

Including an Ariel Atom Experience, £100 cash, helicopter ride, a meal for 2 at The Volley and lots more.

Tickets on sale at The Seavington Community Shop

ENJOY JANE'S ROAST PORK BAPS FROM 5.30-6.30 served from the cafe

PROMS IN THE (car) PARK AT 7PM

with the Caravan Club of Great Britain Concert Band

Enjoy all your "last night" favourites

Over the Counter

Mark Ellis (01460 241112)

Thank You to all who attended our low key **5th birthday party**. Low key because the real celebration is yet to come. Without all your support the enterprise would most certainly not be viable and I therefore sincerely thank you.

AGM. Don't forget that this year's Shop Association Annual General Meeting is to be held in the Millennium Hall at 7:30 on Tuesday 4th August. Our last year's accounts are now finalised and if you want an advance copy prior to the AGM then call in at the shop where these are available. All are welcome and encouraged to attend and let us know your views but remember, only those who are members of the association may vote. If you have not yet joined and you would like to have a vote/be a shareholder in the enterprise, then as a villager you can do this at any time for the lifetime sum of £5. Please speak to the volunteer on the till for a membership form.

Village Celebrations. I know these are covered elsewhere in the Seavingtons' News and so I won't list what is happening here but I would like to make you aware of the masses of hard work and planning that has been put into organising the weeks events. Many, many hours have been put in over the last 6 months by the organising committee to ensure that the events planned will be varied, interesting, fun but most of all enjoyable by all who attend. Even more time will be given up by stall holders and event coordinators on the day so that we can all enjoy the particular event. It is this coming together of many villagers who willingly give their time and effort freely into events such as are planned that makes Seavington a very special village. I know this is not unique, as many other villages around the country do the same (although I would argue often to a much lesser extent than here in Seavington), but to me this community spirit is exactly what makes living in the village meaningful.

Property Value. Discussions with a local Estate Agent recently pointed out that many people looking to move to Somerset are only interested in moving to a village with a shop or amenities. This he reckons adds a

premium to the value of house values within the village of between £10k and £15k per house when compared to similar houses in a village without a shop!

Community shop contact no 01460 249730

Sunday 30th August

Deanery Service of Songs and Praise

At 11.00 a.m.—Stocklinch

Ottersey Church—(Church-In-The-Field)

Please join us afterwards with your picnic lunch



Plus

Exhibition of Royal Family Memorabilia

Saturday 5th September 2015

South Petherton

Methodist Church

10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.

Summer Time

Annie (01460 241762)

The cattle graze along the ground, the
lark she wets her wings
And chatters as she whirls around,
Then to the wet corn sings
And hides upon her twitchy nest,
Refreshed with wet and speckled breast
To see the drops on bushes hing
And Blackbirds prune a dabbled wing.

John Clare (1793—1864)

A warm, clear, still summer evening. The breeze whispers over the grasses and pink clover. The buzz of the busy honey bee and butterflies flutter across the meadows. Overhead, buzzards soar in wide spirals on the thermals with very little wing movement. Their enjoyment is heard by the drawn-out mewing “Pee-oo” across the skies. The Skylark gives forth an unending stream of warbling notes as it rises on quivering wings; mounting higher and higher until it is merely a black speck in the sky. The singing continues while descending then suddenly stops and drops silently, gliding to the ground.

After a summer-shower, Swallows swoop lowly over the meadow with a high-pitched “Twist-Twist-Twist”, catching flying insects; while their young wait, excitedly twittering, perched on nearby overhead wires. As the evening closes in, the silence is broken, high in the sky, by the shrill piercing “SCREECH” of a party of chasing Swifts; in pursuit of a late supper of insects.

As the sun slowly sets a Blackbird in a neighbouring tree, closes the evening with its mellow, fluting song.

Stress Reliever

Girl: 'When we get married, I want to share all your worries and troubles and lighten your burden.'

Boy: 'It's very kind of you, darling, but I don't have any worries or troubles.'

Girl: 'Well that's because we aren't married yet.'



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St. Michael's Church Seavington
invites you to join us for

'Café Church'

to be held every Second Sunday of the month at 11.30 am

The Café is situated in the Community Shop,
next to Seavington Millennium Hall.

Everybody Welcome—Come and join in!

N.B. there will be no service in the Church at 11.30





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

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

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Come and meet some of the dogs starting out on their training

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,

I expect many of you know I recently took part in the abseil challenge at Yeovil Hospital. I am pleased to say it was successfully completed and it was an amazing experience.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Volunteer Inn and the Community Shop for allowing me to put my sponsorship forms in their premises which resulted in me raising £328.85 for the Macmillan Unit at Yeovil Hospital. I wish to say a big thank you to everyone who supported me for their generosity.

Thank you.

Charlotte Eardley

The Seavingtons' Weather in June 2015

	<i>This year—2015</i>	<i>Previous year—2014</i>
Temperature		
Average Minimum	8.95°C	10.56°C
Average Maximum	20.55°C	21.269
Mean	14.75°C	16.13°C
Rainfall		
Monthly Total	30.4mm (1.22")	57.1mm (2.28")
Total for the year	236.4mm (10.50")	685.0mm (27.40")



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