

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

December 2013

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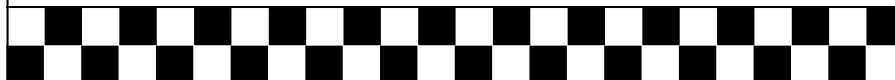
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The Seavingtons' News

At the recent Gardening Club open evening Brian Lawrence showed a video of village activities in the year 2000. It was clear from the various scenes that participation in village affairs was much higher then than now.

New members of our community, often from large towns or cities, always seem to enjoy our activities—see, for example, the article on page 5. Nevertheless, participation levels in our community affairs are noticeably lower than a few years ago both in leadership and participant rôles.

When the Parish Council consulted residents and produced its Village Plan in 2005 there was a high level of support for a village youth club. Over the years since then the new Youth Club has grown into a flourishing entity with a wide range of equipment and good funding.

As you will have seen in last month's magazine, the current leadership feels that it is time to pass the baton to another team but, sadly, no one has shown any interest in taking over. We have plenty of youngsters, which implies parents in the age group with the energy to take the club forward. Why is no one prepared to step forward or must the club close?

There is support available from the County Youth Service so you need not be shy or nervous - call Mark Isaacs on 01460 240550 and serve your community for a short while; it will be very rewarding at the personal level.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip! **pm Friday 13th December**
until am Monday 16th December

The Latest Copy Date **is the 12th December**
for the next issue

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 Pauline Eardley on 07914 710926

For other Millennium Hall matters call Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193

30th November	10.00 am	Christmas Market—pp 19 & 29
12th December	7.00 pm	Gardening Club Christmas Dinner – p17
14th December	5.00pm - 7.00 pm	Christmas Bash in the Village Store & Café – pp 5 & 22
14th December	7.30 pm	Flix in the Stix in Hinton St George Village Hall—p 9
16th—21st December	10.30 am - 4.00 pm	Crib Festival in St Peter's & St Paul's Church, South Petherton—p 31
18th December	7.30 pm	Christmas Quiz at the Volunteer Inn – p6
27th December	10.30 am	Boxing Day Walkies –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

1st December	11.30 am	Holy Communion
8th December	8.00 am	BCP Holy Communion
8th December	11.30 am	All Age Service
15th December	11.30 am	Carol Service at St Mary's Church
22nd December	4.00 pm	Christingle
25th December	10.45 am	Holy Communion

NB No service in Seavington on the fifth Sunday of each month but you are welcome to join the services in St Peter & St Paul's, South Petherton.

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.

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

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A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

It is amazing how our reasonably dry summer quickly ran into a rather damp autumn; nevertheless because the ground was rather dry the soil absorbed a lot of the rain that has fallen over the past weeks.

Overall, things look far better than they did a year ago when the land was waterlogged and a large proportion of the autumn crops remained unsown. Most of the crops that were sown went into the ground in far from ideal conditions, meaning that establishment was poor and the ground coverage patchy.

This time most of the autumn sown crops are looking far better and a lot of the seed that should have been sown a year ago has now been planted a year later.

Nevertheless it has been far from an easy time, there has been a lot of pressure on the farmers to seize every possible short dry spell to get the last of their crops harvested and the fields worked back into seedbeds for the new crops to be sown.

Much of the success has to be attributed to large modern machinery but this costs such a huge amount of money that many of us turn to contractors. They have not had an easy time either because they have had to work flat out every time it was possible to get on the land, to enable them to keep up with the demands of their customers.

Remembrance Sunday was delightful and it was a pity that it was followed by more rain during the night and on Monday. It is now Tuesday and it is looking brighter with the weather forecast giving a couple of sunny days to follow.

With this in mind, after the morning routine was complete, which is considerable now the dairy herd is now confined to the farmstead for the winter, John and I went off to inspect our autumn sown crops and also to see if it would be possible to try and snatch some fields of late grass that needs cutting for silage.

The trouble is the days are so short and the grass so wet that ,even if the ground will take the weight of the machinery, it will be a job to get the grass dry enough to make it manageable. The alternative is to leave it for sheep to graze, but in an ideal world the crop is now far too bulky.

Judging by the amount of oil seed rape sown in the area, next spring should see many bright yellow fields, accompanied with a rather overpowering sweet smell that will fill the air bringing no comfort to hay fever sufferers. Spring may seem a long way away, but it will surely be with us once again as the cycle continues.

An appreciation of the SPFA apple harvest supper

Rosalind & Roger Clampitt

We hear much in the press and from politicians about the fragmentation of society and people living in lonely isolation. This is certainly true in many places. It is absolutely not the case in the Seavingtons. One must therefore ask why this is so. I believe the answer may partly be found in a quotation by former US President J F Kennedy, 'Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country'.

The reason the Seavingtons work so well is that many people give freely of their time and talents and create a place in which it is a pleasure to live. The recent Apple Harvest Supper is a case in point. It was a truly delightful evening made possible by the huge efforts of Annie Prichard and all the ladies who prepared the delicious food including Ruth's tasty home baked ham.

Thanks are also due to the youngsters who made the apple tree and apple banners and everyone else who contributed. Not every village has a couple of musicians of the quality of Andrew and Tony who entertained us (watch out Simon and Garfunkel!).

It maybe takes the new eyes of recent newcomers to appreciate just how well the village works; long term residents perhaps regard it all as perfectly normal and have forgotten just how much effort they put in to achieve that success.

Thanks again everyone for a smashing evening (even though we didn't win the raffle)!

Christmas Bash in the Village Store & Café

Saturday 14th December—5.00—7.00 pm

Father Christmas—Music & Carols—Christmas Draw

Apple Day 2013 at the Community Shop & Café

Jo Mills (01460 241886)

Friday 18th October was a much nicer day than the weather forecast predicted and consequently the shop & café welcomed lots of customers, many of them new, during the afternoon of Apple-based activities.

A queue of people seeking identifications for unknown apples soon formed, Liz Copas, author of 'A Somerset Pomona', very kindly worked hard all afternoon tasting and looking up a huge variety of eating and cooking apples from people's gardens.

Luckily Tim Edwards was on hand offering samples of Apple Brandy to taste from the Somerset Cider Brandy Company, whilst volunteers offered samples of apple juice from the North Perrott fruit farm and chatted about the apples on display.

A determined band gathered later in the afternoon trying to peel the longest Apple Peel. You might need to know that the record is held by a gentleman from Hereford whose peel was measured by Common Ground at 11.38m (that's about 37 feet!). Our winner, café volunteer Marion Bennett's, effort fell a little short of that distance at 1.95m. Marion has thrown down the gauntlet to Pauline Woodward, last year's winner as Pauline was unable to attend on Apple Day and defend her 2012 apple peeling title which she won with an unbroken peel 2.16m long!

The children's colouring competition Under 5's category was won with pointillist brilliance by Charlie Tither(aged 1 yr 9months). The Over 5's section was won by Natalie Goodwill who added a crowd as well as scenery to her colourful picture.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make the day a very successful and enjoyable one.

Christmas Quiz at the Volunteer Inn

A Christmas Quiz, in aid of the Seavington Playing Field Association, is being held at the Volunteer Inn on Wednesday 18th December, from 7pm, with the quiz starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets for the evening are £7 including food, with all diets catered for, or £2 for just the quiz.

Tickets are limited and are available from the Volunteer Inn (01460 240126) or Annie Prichard (01460 241762).

Seavington Playing Field Association Lottery

Lesley Gudgeon (01460 240236)

The Seavington Playing Field Association lottery offers prizes of:

First prize £30

Second £20; Third £15; Fourth £10; Fifth £10

October Winners

1st	Colin Male
2nd	Mrs J Kyte
3rd	J Noms
4th	Eugene Mulligan
5th	M Tolman

November Winners

1st	Sid Male
2nd	Eugene Mulligan
3rd	Michael Harrison
4th	Andrea Patch
5th	Mrs G Beveridge

Good News

Christmas at Seavington is not cancelled!

Revd Tom Handy (01460 240377)

Many apologies for the slightly premature notice in last month's Seavingtons' News that our Christmas service would be a joint one with the other parishes in our benefice.

Admittedly this was looking like a possible way forward given a diminishing team of service leaders, but I am pleased to confirm that we will be able to staff a Christmas Communion Service at St. Michael's at 10.45am on Christmas Day.

I hope to see many of you over the Christmas period and enjoy continuing to get to know you all slowly but surely.

Seasons Greetings, (as I write, the first I have given!)

Christmas is on it's way, and lots of birds are too!!

Becky Thorpe (01458 252820)

Starlings in their millions! Now is the best time to see huge numbers of these birds flock together and do aerial displays in the Somerset Levels. Most arrive here to enjoy our milder winters, travelling from places like Norway, Finland and Russia, where many of them nest in spring. Some starlings are here all year round in very small numbers, but most are visitors, making Somerset their winter home. For more details on where to see them, as they do move around a lot, check our website ham.wall@rspb.org.uk or contact the starling hotline number, Avalon Marshes Starling Hotline - 07866 554142.

It's also 'nice weather for ducks' here in Somerset, when it's cold and wet in winter! Come and see lots of different ducks splashing about, such as widgeon, teal, shoveler and pintail.

All these ducks holiday here for winter and go back to Russia and other countries in Eastern Europe and Scandinavia, in time for spring to nest. So visit our reserves to see these beautiful winter visitors. Greylake has a choice of two hides and a viewing screen to sit and enjoy close up views.

Many of the fields here get very wet in winter, perfect for wading birds. Golden plovers, and lapwing love wading around in shallow water and muddy edges of fields, and can be seen in their thousands at Greylake and West Sedgemoor. These birds also call the Somerset Levels home in winter, coming from similar places to the ducks and starlings mentioned above.

Foxes, stoats, otters, badgers, water voles and hedgehogs live on our reserves too. Look out for their footprints in the mud and if you are really lucky you might even see one!

EVENTS:

Ducktastic! RSPB West Sedgemoor

**Sunday 1 December, Wednesday 18 December, Boxing Day
Thursday 26 December, 10 am-12 pm**

Binoculars and telescopes, hot refreshments provided. Wear warm, waterproof clothing and wellies or hiking boots. RSPB members £2, non-

members £5, under 18 free, pay on the day. Booking essential. Call 07774 620879 or email west.sedgemoor@rspb.org.uk.

Winter Wetland Safari, RSPB Ham Wall

Sunday 8 December, 1.30-4.30 pm

A walk to see the excellent selection of wildfowl and other wildlife that spend the winter months at Ham Wall. If we are lucky, we may see barn owls, marsh harriers and bitterns. Followed by tasty soup, homemade cookies and hot drinks at Meare Manor (included in price). £7 per person. Booking essential, contact Meare Manor 01458 860449.

Crane Safari

Would you like to go on safari to see spectacular wildlife? The Great Crane Project is offering people special opportunities to see the cranes by going out in the 'crane truck' with members of the project team. The project's volunteer 'crane monitors' find the cranes by radio tracking them across the Somerset Levels, and then identify individuals by their coloured leg rings and observe their behaviour and welfare. From November to March you can join them for a morning watching these wonderful birds (and other wildlife along the way), followed by lunch and a film about the project, all for only £15 per person. The project is organising these Crane Safaris with the Willows and Wetlands Centre, through which bookings can be made (phone 01823 490249). More information at:

<http://www.thegreatcraneproject.org.uk/seeing-cranes/events>

'Flix in the Stix'

Rosemary Tout

Hinton St. George 'Flix in the Stix' presents 'Robot and Frank' (12), on Saturday, December 14th in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or, £5.50p on the door. To reserve Tickets please contact 01460 72906.

Frank is a retired jewel-thief, living alone. His son tries to care for him from afar and finally gets a robot caretaker. But Frank soon learns that it is as useful as a burglary aid.



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Seavington Gardening Club Programme 2014

Talks are held at Seavington Millennium Hall and are open to visitors £2
 Annual Membership £7.50 payable in January
 Contact: Ry Coffman 01460 240004

Time & Date	Subject
Thursday 7.30pm 9 January	Talk: 'Heritage Vegetables' – Chris Smith, Pennard Plants Plants for Sale <i>Flower of the Month competition</i>
Thursday 7.30pm 13 February	Talk & Demo: 'Propagation Part 2' with Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nursery Plants for Sale <i>Flower of the Month competition</i>
Thursday 7.30pm 13 March + AGM	Talk: 'Shady Ladies and Sunseekers' Mary Benger, Burrow Farm followed by AGM <i>Flower of the Month competition</i>
Thursday 7.30pm 10 April	Talk: 'History and Practical Uses for Unusual Herbs' – Carrie Packenham <i>Flower of the Month competition</i>
Monday 6.45 for 7pm 14 April	Visit: 25% Discount Shopping at Brimsmore Garden Centre (with Over Stratton Gardening Club)
Thursday 7.00pm 8 May	Visit: 'Lift the Latch' David and Pauline Wright. Blacklands Lane, Forton, Chard TA20 2NF Entry £3 - £2 for tea and cake.
Saturday 10.00am 10 May	Seavington Gardening Club PLANT SALE at Seavington Millennium Hall
Thursday 7.00pm 12 June	Visit: 'Northfield', Watergore TA13 5LH – Vernon and Jane White Entry and Refreshments £5
Thursday 7.00pm 10 July	Visit: 20 Budwith Road, Chard TA 20 2BN Paul and Barbara Blackburn £2. Supper at the Volunteer, Seavington
Saturday 2.30pm 9 August	Seavington Gardening Club Flower Show at Seavington Millennium Hall
Thursday 7.30pm 11 September	Talk: 'Putting Gardens to bed for the Winter' – The Gold Club <i>Flower of the Month competition</i>
Thursday 6.30pm 9 October	Guest Night Buffet and Talk: 'On Wings and Wind – the pollination of Flowers' Dr. Anne and Mr J Bebbington <i>Flower of the Month Competition and annual presentation of Irene Williams Memorial plate.</i>
Thursday 7.30pm 13 November	Social tbc
December	Christmas Lunch tbc

Seavington Gardening Club

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

Social Evening 7.30pm Thursday 14 November – Open to Non-Members!

Mince pies and mulled wine greeted members and guests for the film show. Brian Lawrence introduced the 3 films he was presenting this evening. He was accompanied by Alan from the U3A team that made two of the films. We started with the film called 'The Story of the Chard Canal' made by the U3A team. The canal ran from Chard to Creech St Michael near Taunton and opened in 1842. 25 years later it had been abandoned with the arrival of railways in Somerset. The film follows the route and finds fascinating evidence of the canal which has now all but been forgotten. This was followed by a hilarious clip of out-takes from the Canal film!

Next Brian showed a film about the Chaffcombe Waterwheel restoration, also made by the U3A team. The Waterwheel originally powered a butter factory using water that flowed from Chard reservoir. The film showed the loving restoration and re-siting of the watermill. It was a reminder of how clever Victorians were at creating power at the point it was required from the natural environment.

Lastly we watched the 'Seavington 2000' film made by Brian, with a voice over by Gill Lawrence and edited by Ken Wensley – a true 'School Lane Production'! The film was made to commemorate the Millennium and features events that happened in Seavington throughout that year. A welcome trip down memory lane and an important social record.

Many thanks to Brian and Alan for an excellent evening.

Forthcoming events:

The Club Christmas Dinner will be at 7pm 12 December at The Volunteer

2014 9th January: The New Year starts with '**Heritage Vegetables**' by Chris Smith from Pennard Plants.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Sally Gough (01460 240897)

The Trust has had a good fundraising year. Some £2,700 has been raised through fundraising events which is great credit to the enthusiasm and energy of the Trustees and the committee members. It also shows what excellent support we have received from those living in the village who are keen to support their village church.

A meeting of the St Michael's Church Seavington Trust was held on 14th November. Sally Gough was unanimously elected as Chairman. She has taken over from Alastair Fyfe who has retired after 5 years in the post. His leadership and hard work have been much appreciated and he will be a hard act to follow! Christina Bancroft has also retired as a Trustee after nearly 9 years of loyal and dedicated service to the Trust. The committee thanks them both for all their support over the years.

Below is a list of the current Trustees:

Trustees:

Mrs Sally Gough (Chairman)	Mrs Manda Jagers
Mrs Carol Talbot	Mr Chris Gough (Honorary Treasurer)
Miss Annie Prichard	The Reverend Tom Handy – ex-Officio

Committee Member (non-Trustee):

Mrs Joy Madge

Village Mart

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Seavington Playing Field Association

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Bonfire and Fireworks Evening – Our thanks go to all who supported the event, whether or not they attended, on 5th November, and I am pleased to say that at present the evening raised £278 for Playing Field funds.

We would also like to thank those who donated materials for the bonfire. As children arrived for the event you could hear them getting excited about its size. After a few concerns the bonfire did light and thanks go to Philip and Matthew Eardley for their work. Also thanks go to the extended Ash Family for their pyrotechnics expertise.

Again thanks to all who made this such an enjoyable and successful event. Shall we do it again next year and should it be on the 5th November – not the weekend before or after? Let us know what you think.

Next funding raising events are

Christmas Market – Saturday 30th November

Christmas Quiz – at The Volunteer (with food) – tickets to be bought in advance. [please see more information on page 6]

Opening up the field for use by all – The next big funding raising project for the SPFA will be hopefully the 'Paths around the field project' which we consulted on earlier in the year. At the moment we have a 6 acre field that is used by dog walkers, every other week during the football season by a team who come from Chard, and occasionally the other goal areas are used for a general 'kick around'. It is obvious that the lighted tarmac path from the overflow car park to the Hall, Shop and Cafe is the priority, and initial costs are estimated at some £20,000.

Members of the Committee have recently spoken to people who hopefully can point us in the right direction for grant funding. We would also like to be able to provide the two smaller paths as this will open up the field and play areas for use, particularly in the winter months, by parents with pushchairs, by walkers and enable the seats at the top of the field to be more readily accessible. The paths would also provide an area where young children could scoot or learn to ride their bikes in safety. Some form of fitness trail could also be included with equipment for use by our older children and adults. The location of the paths will not threaten the use of the playing field for sport. However, we need your support to do this.

Seavington Web Museum

Ry Coffman (01460 240004)

We had an interesting response to our request for help in identifying the locations of some of the old photos we have been donated.

David's Lane Cottages: Bill Collins called to say that the original wall of one of the cottages is buried under roadside vegetation by the garages on David's Lane. David Wills said the cottages in the photo were where the new houses on the corner of David Lane are now – the wall identified by Bill Collins belonged to another cottage that used to be there.

Unknown Cottage, Seavington: No progress on this one

John and Vicky Hopkins outside a house on School Lane: No progress on this one either – Marion Bennett said that the windows and doors do not tie up with Orchard Cottage. Probably this house does not exist anymore.

Seavington Club photo taken in St Mary's: This was confirmed to be at the top of West Street with, if you look carefully, Hurcott Hill in the background.

Thanks to everyone who contacted us to help with research – we solved 2 out of the 4!

From the Parish Council

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Village Car Park - Assumptions had been made in the past that the area of land known as the Village Car Park (formerly the village pond) was owned by the Parish Council. However, this was not the case and some three years ago the Parish Council started proceedings to get the area registered. We are now pleased to report that this has finally happened.

Our new County Councillor, Christopher Le Hardy, has been sending monthly briefings to the Parishes in his Ward and it has been agreed that, rather than have a synopsis of this in the Seavingtons' News, the whole document will appear on the village web-site. We all hope that you will find this interesting and informative to keep you up-to-date with what is happening at County Hall.

Don't forget...



There is a Family Carol Service at

**St Mary's Church, Sunday 15th December
At 11.30 am**

Wrap up warm!

Come & enjoy yourselves with seasonal carols & readings

Ladies who take tea

Gilly Myers (01460 242477)

We had a most enjoyable and instructive afternoon on Friday, 25th October. After Alastair Fyfe had given a brief introduction and outlined what The Farm Community Network's aims are, Angie, of Cottage Flowers, Ilminster, gave a most amusing and inspiring demonstration on how to make various Christmas decorations using mostly wild and garden foliage with very few flowers. As a bonus at the end she also showed how to decorate a couple of pumpkins for Halloween. Afterwards a delicious (and fattening!) tea was indulged in by all as many people had made a huge and delicious array of cakes, biscuits and sandwiches. I believe everyone enjoyed it and we managed to make £168 for the Charity.

There are many people to thank. First, Alastair and especially Angie and, of course, all the people who so kindly contributed cakes, etc. Also, we should like to thank Monica Pye who kindly washed up for us afterwards and my two daughters, Sophie Stovin and Emma Way, who helped set it all up and clear up afterwards. We are also very grateful to Mark Ellis who kindly folded and put away all the tables and chairs for us. Everyone was so kind and Annie and I are very grateful.

Over the Counter

Mark Ellis (01460 241112)

Many of our long term residents will recall the previous shop(s) in the village. Indeed, these memories are undoubtedly behind some of the support the new shop gained when the idea was first mooted (over 10 years ago now) and I am pleased that this support has continued through the concept stage and is still being offered now we are fully operating.

There are many reasons people continue to support the idea of a shop in the village but I suspect that one of them is that people know what sort of things having a shop can mean to the community. Not just the provision of a local shop for groceries or indeed the meeting facilities of the café but also services such as a dry cleaning pickup, seniors' lunches, meeting place for local MP surgery, youth club support, craft fair and many others all on our doorstep. The issue of the sort of useful services the shop can bring to the community are often discussed by volunteers and management committee and we are never short of ideas and suggestions.

Both the 2012 survey of the villages and the more recent trawl for your views have come up with several good suggestions many of which we are actively trying to implement. Postal drop off point, grocery delivery service, "cashback" on shopping and many other ideas are being looked at as services we can provide our residents and, volunteer force permitting (which is most often our limiting factor), I am confident we will be able to implement some in the near future but I would also urge you to lodge any further ideas you have with the duty volunteer so they too can be assessed.

The shop is now gearing up for Christmas with both our range of Christmas goods on display as well as many local craft-works of all types for sale as part of the craft fair. In line with most other shops we will have our Christmas decorations up by the end of November so that we are in a good position to say thank-you for all your support at the Christmas bash in the shop and café on 14th December 17.00-19.00. Father Christmas will be there and there will be music on hand for some carol singing as well as making the Christmas draw.

A Volunteers' evening is planned for Friday 17th January and the theme will be "Spanish" so please keep your eyes on the notice board for signup nearer the time. Finally, to all our residents, I wish you a merry Christmas and a rewarding new year.

Community shop contact No: 01460 249730

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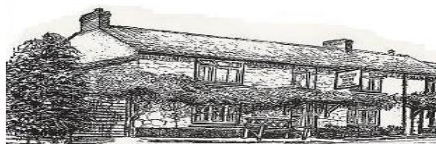
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Boxing Day Walkies

Friday 27th December

After the “indulgence” of Christmas and before the “over-imbibing” of New Year’s Eve why not enjoy a stroll around the fields and lanes of The Seavingtons, ending up at The Volunteer for Brunch—sausage and bean feast, lasagne 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, join us for brunch! Dogs welcome.

Tickets £7; children £3.50. To help with catering please purchase tickets in advance from:

The Volunteer (01460 240126) or Annie Prichard (01460 241762)

In aid of St Michael’s Church Trust



Seavington Playing Field Association
(Registered Charity No: 268986)

Don’t Forget!

THE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 30th November
Seavington Millennium Hall 10.00 am to mid-day

Stalls include: Freshly Baked Bread & Quiches; Home made Chutneys & Jams, Locally made Cupcakes & Cookies
For Christmas Cards & Gifts: Jewellery, Puzzles & Games, RSPB, Bric-a-Brac, Labrador Trust & Raffle amongst others

Tables still available at £5; Set-up from 8.00 am to book one call Annie: 01460 241762 (Answerphone)

Come and Join Us—Bring Family and Friends

The Christingle Service On Sunday 22nd December at 4.00 pm

St Michael's Church

Children—would you like to take part in a short Nativity Scene?

Fancy dressing-up: as either Mary & Joseph, Mum & Dad of Baby Jesus or Shepherds, who bring their love to Baby Jesus or 3 Kings, who bring their gifts to Baby Jesus or Angels who guide the shepherds & Kings to see Baby Jesus. There are reading parts as well.



Rehearsal in St Michael's Church on Saturday 21st December at 3.00 pm.

For more information please call Manda (01460 240554), Carol (01460 240748) or Annie (01460 241762). There are answerphones so you can leave a message and we will call back.

After the service there are mince pies and mulled wine at The Beeches by kind invitation of D and Alastair Fyfe.



The Warehouse Theatre Ilminster

is a little gem which can be found right in the heart of the town. It brings high quality entertainment throughout the year to audiences of all ages, as well as running a thriving youth theatre and being a venue for local groups and clubs to hire.

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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?*



**St. Peter's and St Paul's Church
South Petherton**



South Petherton's first Crib Festival

The church will be open for viewing the cribs from
Monday 16th to Saturday 21st December 2013
– between 10.30am to 4pm each day

Refreshments will be served each morning between
10.30am-11.30 am and 3-4pm in the afternoons.

It is **OPEN TO ALL to take part**. Individuals, families, groups etc are warmly invited to join in by creating their own crib; details and application forms are available at the back of the church.

If you would like to help during the viewing week, a rota is at the back of the church

Somerset Chamber Choir Taunton Concert: 'Light out of darkness'

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Somerset Chamber Choir

Somerset Chamber Choir's next concert takes place on Sunday 5th January at King's College Chapel, Taunton at 3pm. The concert promises a feast of music for Christmas, New Year, Epiphany and Candlemas, including music by Bach, Berlioz, Byrd, Holst, Matthew Owens, Vaughan Williams, Eric Whitacre and more. With Richard Pearce (organ) and conductor Graham Caldbeck.

Tickets are available from Taunton TIC (01823 336344) or online:

www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

Further details on request.

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.

Sir,

I would like to say what an enjoyable evening I had at the SPFA's Apple Harvest Supper on October 18th. The atmosphere was welcoming, the decorations delightful, the food was fantastic and the addition of live music and games instead of the usual raffle was enlightened. Everyone I spoke to really enjoyed the evening and we are all looking forward to a similar opportunity where we can win that pot of £30 which remains un-won... I for one am looking forward to it.

Yours,

Jo Mills, Dark Lane

Editor's Note: Hear Hear

The Seavingtons' Weather in October 2013

	<i>This year—2013</i>	<i>Previous year—2012</i>
Temperature		
Average Minimum	10.40°C	7.75°C
Average Maximum	16.38°C	16.82°C
Mean	13.39°C	12.99°C
Rainfall		
Monthly Total	174.3mm (6.97")	51.5mm (2.06")
Total for the year	615.0mm (24.6")	434.3mm (17.37")

It was wettest October since 2002 which had 178.0mm



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