

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

February 2013



JUST THINGS

a fair trade shop

26, Silver Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DR
(from the Market House, past the Minster Church, on the right hand bend)

We sell a wide range of fairly traded gifts, toys and food. Feel free to come in and browse.

Telephone: 01460 55884 Mobile: 07816 788457
Email : enquiries@just-things.co.uk Website: www.just-things.co.uk

Opening times: 9.30am – 5.00pm Tuesday to Saturday
Closed: Sunday and Monday



Tyres @ Reyland Autos

Prices:

Punctures £10.00; Tracking £12.80

Wheel Balance £ 5.00—X 2 wheels

Tyre swaps £ 2.50 per wheel

Second hand tyres £15.00—Any size, including fitting

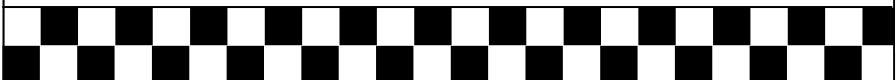
Buy 4 new or used tyres and get tracking free

- ☐ Gear Boxes ☐ Clutches ☐ Welding & Fabrication ☐ MOTs
☐ Servicing ☐ Latest Diagnostic Equipment ☐ Tyres & Tracking

Matthew Reyland

Reyland Autos, Sunnyside Farm, Seavington, Ilminster, TA19 0QB

01460 241238; 07969 206 866; reylandautos@hotmail.com



The Seavingtons' News

A thin magazine this month although, to judge from the Village Diary overleaf, there is still plenty going on within our community.

As you can imagine, this leads to my regular plea for you all to contribute articles and reports from your club or other organisation. We would particularly welcome articles based on your hobbies and other activities and about The Seavingtons' and their history.

You should have noticed a new name that has appeared in the team members on page 3. We are pleased to welcome Maria Potts who has been making a contribution for the last few months. Maria comes from Watergore and besides easing the monthly workload gives us some resilience against illness and other unforeseen events; e-mails to news@theseavingtons.org now go to Maria as well as me.

David Froome

Village Shop & Café

Winter Opening Hours

From 4th February the village shop and café will be opening during revised "Winter" hours.

The Café will be open from 9.00 am until 3.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays, from 9.00 am until 2.00 pm on Saturdays and will not open on Sundays. The shop will open from 8.30 am until 6.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays, from 9.00am until 3.00 pm on Saturdays and 9.00 am until 11.00 am on Sundays.

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

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

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

is the 15th February

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—February 2012

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

28th January	7.00 pm	Wine Tasting in the Village Café—p 17
2nd February	9.00 am	Book, Plants & Bric-a-Brac sale—p 12
4th February	2.30 pm	NADFAS talk: “Rescuing Zeugma...” by Louise Schofield—p 7
11th February	Noon	Seniors’ Lunch in Village Café—p 26 (Reservations 01460 249730)
14th February	7.30 pm	Gardening Club talk “Propagation” by Neil Lovesey—p 15
20th February	8.00 pm	SPFA Quiz at the Volunteer Inn—p 19
21st February	7.30 pm	RSPB Group talk: “The RSPB’s Nature Secrets” - p 25
22nd February	7.30 pm	Community Shop Quiz Night—pp 17 & 26

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

3rd February	11.30 am Holy Communion
10th February	08.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10th February	11.30 am Family Service
17th February	11.30 am Holy Communion
24th February	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.

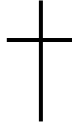
Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

Advertising Rates

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

Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437

adverts@theseavingtons.org



Edgar Hawkins—1913-2012

It is with great sadness to report the death of Edgar Hawkins in December.

Edgar would have celebrated his 100th birthday on February the 12th making him the oldest resident in the Seavingtons.

Apart from his years in the Tank Corps during WWII Edgar lived most of his life in Seavington. Having been born in Whitelackington he attended Seavington school and his first job was on Upton Lane Farm.

He married Annie a Seavington girl and they lived at Rowdells Orchard, Annie passed away in 1996.

He was able to remain in his home in Rowdells Orchard right up until early December when he was admitted to hospital and after a short illness sadly passed away.

News from your churchwardens

Manda Jagers (01460 240554) Carol Talbot (01460 241478)

Thank you everyone who contributed to the prayer chain over the Christmas period. If anyone has anybody or anything for which they would like to pray, from February there will be stars in the church on which to write (or draw) your message. You can then add it to the star chain or leave it and one of us will do so.

A group of Seavington ladies have, for the last few years, done a fantastic job cleaning the church. However, to quote them, they are not getting any younger and are finding it increasingly difficult and we wonder if there is anyone who could spare a few hours a month to help out. If you are interested please ring Carol or myself.

Best wishes for a Happy and Peaceful New Year from everyone at St Michael's.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460 241977)

As we start the New Year, the St Michael's Church Seavington Trust is looking forward to what it hopes will be another successful fundraising year. The highly popular Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir will be returning on Saturday, 18th May 2013. The Choir is too big to fit comfortably into the Village Hall, nor is the Hall large enough to accommodate the expected size of the audience. So, as in previous years, the Concert will take place in the church of St Peter and St Paul in South Petherton.

Later in the year, Lord Ashdown of Norton-sub-Hamdon has agreed to give an illustrated Talk in the Village Hall on the famous World War 2 commando raid – the Cockleshell Heroes.

We very much hope that, as many as are able, will help to support the Trust in its continuing efforts to raise funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the fabric of our village church.

Wild plant charity Plantlife

www.plantlife.org.uk are hoping to reach out to many wild plant enthusiasts and nature lovers by inviting them to become wild plant 'pioneers' and subscribe to a free quarterly e-learning bulletin to learn more about our native wild plants via the 'Wild About Plants' project website - www.wildaboutplants.org.uk.

The November e-bulletin is out now and the February issue being written as we speak! The Wild About Plants project aims to help people reconnect with the outdoors and their local greenspaces. Working with schools, families and communities from all walks of life and with fantastic free downloadable resources, the team hope to engage people with the nature on their doorstep. In recent years subscribers have been asked to record the plant life in their local area and recount what they used to see/pick and forage for. Wild About Plants is funded by Natural England through Access to Nature, as part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme. It is a partnership project involving partner organisations throughout the country.

A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

2012 will certainly go down as a very difficult year in the eyes of most farmers. I have huge sympathy for those who live and operate in areas that are prone to flooding such as the Somerset Levels.

Most days during the past month I have driven by the fields that surround Loxstons Garden Machinery and the fields at Dillington that were drilled with winter corn, under rather desperate conditions brought about by the wet summer, autumn and winter months. It has concerned me to see areas looking more like paddy fields. Although I consider the soil we enjoy in this area is forgiving, I fear it will be expecting rather a lot to see nice, or even well established, corn crops come the spring. This is disappointing for anyone, but particularly so for those who set out to achieve the highest standards. It just goes to show that no matter how good the machinery or the husbandry, without the cooperation of Mother Nature the outcome will not be good.

Call me old fashioned if you like, but I am not at all impressed with large areas of prime farming land being given over to solar panels. With the greatest respect for those landowners involved it seems just a case of easy pickings and any rhetoric forthcoming that they are playing a major role in saving the planet is sheer hypocrisy; there is no shortage of substandard farming land some of it much closer to the sun.

The field where I have been working on and off for the last two months was once used for the Seavington Clay Pigeon Shoot way back in the early days when we were all trying to raise some funds for our New Village Hall. That occasion will ring a bell with those intrepid folk who came over to the Blackdown Hills from the Seavingtons to help or add support. That February weekend during the nineteen nineties produced a considerable snowfall and it was bitterly cold. "With a chuckle" I have to admit all those involved still enjoy my appreciation and admiration.

One thing puzzles me, this area is off the beaten track and is very quiet with a lot of high neglected hedges and is adjacent to mature woodland. I would have expected it to be a haven for birds and other wild life, but this does not seem to be the case, it rather pours water on the theory that modern farming is solely responsible for the decline in wild bird numbers. I have a sneaking feeling that the generosity of the modern humans who are constantly topping up the bird tables with an assortment of bird food is enticing them from this traditional type of habitat, thus also allowing them easy pickings, maybe they will be back at nesting time, which seems closer

now the days are starting to draw out.

This afternoon I was pleased to have the company of a Woodpecker, who was calling close by as I was hedge laying beside the brook. Then as it was time to pack up tools, I heard the familiar chattering call from the odd Blackbird or two whilst they sought their roosting places. We are lucky over here though, when I was doing my National Service back in the 1950's I spent a year in Germany down around Lower Saxony, the wild bird life seemed noticeably less.

Just before closing I have had a look at the weather forecast on the Internet, it looks as though it will continue mainly dry with warmish days until the middle of January, this should help us a lot.

Neroche DFAS

Peter Hill, Vice-chairman (01460 67779)

Rescuing Zeugma from the Floodwaters of the Euphrates

A talk by Louise Schofield

Monday 4th February 2013 at 2.30 p.m. (please note earlier time)
Seavington Millennium Hall

In Spring 2000 an archaeological drama began to unfold in Turkey, on the banks of the River Euphrates close to the border with Syria. A small team of French and Turkish archaeologists found a Roman city, with mosaics and wall paintings finer than those of Pompeii.

However just beside them was the almost completed Birecik Dam, and the Turks had begun to flood the great reservoir behind it, taking the city under water.

This lecture tells the story of the extraordinary archaeological rescue excavation that then took place. And, as the waters rose at a rate of two feet a day, it tells of the fabulous treasures recovered.

Louise Schofield was Curator of Greek, Bronze Age and Geometric Antiquities in the British Museum for thirteen years. She now works on international archaeological projects, principally in Turkey and Albania, and lectures for a number of universities and institutions.

Visitors welcome (for up to 2 visits). Admission £3.
For more information see www.nerochedfas.org.uk



RICHARD CLIFTON

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Interior and exterior work
Free written estimates or quotations
Good preparation; Attention to detail

Tel: Ilminster (01460) 52544; 07773 373882



Andrew Lodge Plumbing and Heating



Central Heating and Boiler Specialists; Replace / Install oil tanks
Bathrooms & en suites designed & installed

All general plumbing work undertaken

Tel: 01460 249150 Mob: 07798 502367

Flying Chefs Let us do the hard work for you



corporate events
weddings
christenings
funeral teas
dinner parties
celebrations
any occasion catered for

Quality catering at affordable prices

Telephone: 01823 331968
Email: janecollard@tiscali.co.uk



Heavenly Food

Layzell

TRADITIONAL BUILDERS
Seavington

Conservation and new works undertaken

Visit our website to view gallery: www.mwlayzell-builders.co.uk

Tel: 01460 249468 or e-mail: office@mwlayzell-builders.co.uk



Trendle conservation

Carpentry and Joinery
Roofing and Electrical
Painting and Decorating
General Building Work

Aubrey Bage
07817 419022
Aubrey.bage@aol.co.uk

Specialists in the Repair and Renovation of Listed Buildings



Established 1976



R A WICKS
Fireplace Showroom
Chimneys Relined & New Build
Woodburning & Multi-fuel Stoves

Clapper Hay □ Church Street □ Merriott □ Somerset TA16 5PR

Tel: 01460 74612 Fax: 01460 76222 Email: rawicks@lineone.net
www.wicksheating.co.uk
VAT No: 785-3519-93

ISOKERN
A PERMANENT SOLUTION
TO CHIMNEY PROBLEMS



Private Car Hire

Get to those important appointments
Hospital, Doctor, Dentist
Local Airports, Railway Stations
Bus Stations, Ferries & Cruise Ships
Packets & Documents Delivered

Strictly Pre-booked
Call Nigel on 01460 72177



IOS - MonkeyPuzzle

Computer Services

Your local computer shop - for friendly, professional advice

Repairs and Upgrades
New Systems & Laptops
Virus Prevention
Web Design

Photocopy & Laminating
Ink Cartridges & Paper
Tuition & Support
Home & Business

**01460
53613**

**10 West St.
Ilminster
www.ios-tech.com**

Dinnington Docks

Real Ales

Garden



Skittle Alley

Live Music

Home-Made Food served 7 days a week

Dinnington, Nr Hinton St George, Somerset Tel: 01460 52397

Mark Hebron

Churchill House
25 East Street
Ilminster

Telephone: 01460 52476

HAIRDRESSING FOR ALL THE FAMILY

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL HAIRDRESSERS FEDERATION



CANINE SERVICES

Dog Grooming

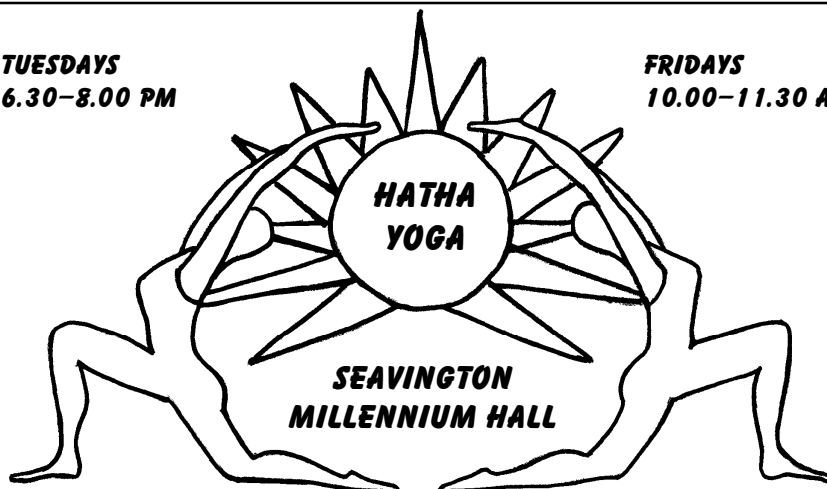
**Friendly Home Environment
Will Collect and Deliver**

**Available Weekdays, Evenings and Weekends
Please 'phone Helen**

Mobile: 07867 988109 or 01460 241053

TUESDAYS
6.30–8.00 PM

FRIDAYS
10.00–11.30 AM



YOGA IS FOR EVERYONE. IT IMPROVES STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY, BALANCE AND CONCENTRATION. IT RELAXES THE BODY AND CALMS THE MIND. POSTURES ARE MODIFIED OR EXTENDED TO MATCH YOUR OWN LEVEL OF FITNESS AND ABILITY. WE ALSO WORK WITH THE BREATHING TECHNIQUES OF YOGA AND END THE CLASS WITH A PERIOD OF RELAXATION.

For more information contact Sandra Harvey (BNM DIP) on 01460 281883



Karen's Alterations
Byways, Church Lane, Horton,
Tel. 01460 55627 / 07813143616



I can alter adult or children's clothing: Take up a hem, replace a zip and more.

Curtains or blinds made to measure.

Nothing is too small



WISHING WELL CUPCAKES



Luxury Homemade Cupcakes, Cakes, Brownies, Cookies & Slices

Large Parties to Small Gifts ◦ Special Occasions & Events

Wedding Cupcake Towers ◦ Birthday & Anniversary Number Cakes

Quality Ingredients – Organic Flour, Butter & Cocoa, Local Free Range Eggs

Contact Sarah – 01460 241320 / 07709194559

www.wishingwellcupcakes.co.uk mail@wishingwellcupcakes.co.uk

Fully registered & Inspected with South Somerset District Council

Jimmy James

CARPENTRY & FURNITURE

SINCE 1989

Built-in wardrobes...cabinets...
Bookcases...kitchens...
Individually designed and made

For a free quotation
'phone me on

Ilminster (01460) 53889

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

sale of :

Books, Plants & Bric-a-Brac

2nd February 2013

at 2, Winchester Cottages
(Opposite The Volunteer)

New and Second-hand Books

Selection of bric-a-brac

*A great selection for children of
all ages from stories to study!*

NB—Open 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

please come and browse

AUTOMOBILE CRASHREPAIRS

(Established over 35 years)

For all your vehicle body repairs from bumper scratches
To a full re-spray of cars and light commercials

Our estimates are free



Free delivery and pickup service



Courtesy car available



Insurance approved

**Contact Gary James on
01935 823694 or 07838 589208**

**Parrett Works, Martock, on South Petherton to Martock Road
www.automobilecrashrepairs.co.uk**

D.J.G WINDOW CLEANING & GARDENING SERVICES

- Window, Gutter, Fascia, u-PVC cleaning
- Pressure Washing
- Hedge & grass cutting, General gardening
- Hedge laying & fencing
- House, garden clearance
- Logs

Fully insured: Call Dan on 01460 57877 or 07519174788

Domestic Electrical & Property Services

All aspects of domestic electrical work undertaken

- Testing and inspection
- Commercial installations
- Part 'P' registered electrician
- Property maintenance
- Mechanical maintenance
- CCTV & Intruder Detection, Installation, Service & Repair

☒ Fully Qualified ☒ Fully Insured ☒ Warranty Available

All work considered throughout the South West

For a Reliable, Honest & Efficient Service

Please Call John on:

01525 782 678

01460 54583

Or e-mail: JohnnyKay@talktalk.net

Special rates as new in business

ELECSA
Part of the ECA Group

**Part P
Approved Contractor**

www.elecsa.co.uk



NICK RUTTER — CHIMNEY SWEEP

Experienced, Approved, Established 10 Years

All types of fires and appliances cleaned with brush and vacuum

Full insurance valid certificate issued with every visit



Tel: 01460 52951; www.guildofmasterchimneysweeps.co.uk

Seavington Gardening Club

Secretary: Ry Coffman (01460 240004)

Note: new email address: ry.coff13@gmail.com

‘Lift the Latch’ garden through the year – Pauline and David Wright

A few years ago SGC went on a visit in May to ‘Lift the Latch’ at Forton near Chard when the weather was not kind to us - in fact it tipped down!

David’s photographs enabled us to watch the development of this spectacular garden over the last 30 years from a very run down cottage garden. It all started with Pauline laying out the garden roughly with breeze blocks according to her view from an upstairs window; then a digger dug a very large hole which became a very large and beautiful pond adjacent to the stream that runs along the boundary of their garden.

Clever design and purchasing of plants, and propagation over the years, has created one of the most colourful of foliage gardens. Pauline has sought out golden and purple/red plants to give lots of spring and autumn colour in the garden, some with coloured stems for the winter. Pauline encouraged the moving of plants at any time of the year if they are in the wrong place - if in summer, with plenty of watering!

‘Lift the Latch’ garden appeared with Carol Klein on a BBC programme promoting the NGS scheme but was a rather disillusioning experience for Pauline and David.

The garden has been open to the public through the NGS Yellow Books scheme – but now Pauline and David are happy to open their garden to anyone who gives them a ring and SGC will definitely be booking another visit in 2014 – which will hopefully coincide with better weather!

Pauline has recently been diagnosed with a melanoma on her lip, and the fee for the talk will go to the cancer charity Aboutface: <http://www.about-face.info/>

Flower of the Month

1. Julie Sibley – Witchhazel (Hamamelis)
2. Gill Beveridge – Sparaxis (Harlequin flower)
3. Jackie Hann – Winter Jasmine

Members were also asked for their ideas for visits and talks for the 2014 programme – please return these to Ry by March. Discount cards and order forms for deliveries from Brimsmore were also distributed.

Next Meeting:

7.30pm Thursday 14 February – ‘Propagation’ with Neil Lovesey from Picket Lane Nursery. This will be a practical session with plants for sale and don’t forget your ‘flower of the month’!

Waxwing

Bombycilla Garrulus (7")

Annie (01460 241762)

A wrinkled crabbed man they picture thee,
Old Winter, with a ragged beard as grey
As the long moss upon the apple-tree;
Blue-lipt, an ice drop at thy sharp blue nose,
Close muffled up, and on thy dreary way
Plodding alone through sleet and drifting snows.

Winter—Robert Southey, 1774-1843

This bird inhabits the coldest northern most parts of Europe and Asia. It winters in central and southern Europe; sometimes as far west as Great Britain. In some numbers they may be seen in tree-lined avenues (Yeovil), gardens and parks. It is possible to approach quite close to a flock in a tree without them taking flight because they are fearless and inquisitive by nature.

Waxwings are smaller than the Blackbird and the flight silhouette is similar to that of a Starling. It has shining, silky, plumage and a striking crest. The wing pattern is black and yellow with “sealing-wax-red” tips to the coverts.

The voice is a high trilling “sirrrr”. It can be seen in flocks perched, especially in berry-bearing trees or shrubs and, to seek these, it will also visit gardens.

Seavingtons' News Grants for 2013

Heather Scott (01460 241437)

The Seavingtons' News Team have just met to review the newsletter's finances. We are pleased to announce that the News has four grants to a maximum of £250.00 available for village organisations and villagers to bid for. If you are interested in obtaining a grant please write to:

The Seavingtons' News Team,
c/o Heather Scott,
Four Gables, Water Street, Seavington,
Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0QH

or email Heather at adverts@theseavingtons.org

You will need to outline how much you would like, what you intend to spend the grant on and how it will benefit The Seavingtons. Successful bidders will also be asked to write a short article to keep us all up to date when the grant money has been spent.

Applications must be received by 5pm on Friday 22nd February at the latest. (We will not be able to consider late applications.)

The News Team will meet early in March and successful bids should be notified by the end of March, early April.

The money the Seavingtons' News has available is due to a combination of advertisers filling all our available advertisement space and to everyone in the village taking their card and paper to the monthly skip at the Millennium Hall Car Park.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed! We are also pleased to keep the advertising rates for 2013 at the same level as 2012.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The Seavingtons' News Team

Over The Counter

Carolyn Farler (01460 249192)

This is the first opportunity to report back on the success of our Christmas activities. Our Christmas evening of carols and mince pies accompanied by the music of Chris and Sally Gough was a great success and many children came along to see Father Christmas. The Raffle was extremely well supported and raised over £300 for the store, and Clive and June would like to pass on their thanks to all the participants and many donors of prizes.

The Arts and Craft Fayre also proved very popular and provided a number of delightful Christmas presents. It was a display of local handiwork that we hope to see more often during the year.

The Café continues to build its popularity with the monthly Seniors' Lunches and is also working with the Millennium Hall to provide lunches for many of the NADFAS members before their meeting.

While we would always like to see more business going through the store & café, we remain on target and have already paid off 50% of our loan from the Co-op and have started repaying SSDC on a regular basis.

February sees the first fundraising event of 2013 for the Village Store with a **QUIZ NIGHT on Friday 22nd 7:30pm in the Millennium Hall** with quizmaster Ian Pamplin, where we hope you will all come and enjoy a fun evening with subjects for everyone. A ploughman's supper will help stimulate those 'little grey cells'.

This time of year can be a quiet period for the Store but it is a great time to start volunteering. We have many opportunities for people who can spare just a few hours a week, be it behind the till, in the café, helping with the purchasing, admin or the cleaning. It really is a good way to get to know people and feel you are contributing to an important village asset. If you think you might be interested just come along and have a chat.

And finally a last minute reminder about our 'Introduction to Wine Tasting' taking place in the Café on Monday 28th January at 7pm in the Café.

Tracks in the mud

Dave Laithwaite (01458 252820)

The vastness of the winter floods has given incredible landscape views over the Somerset levels and moors. However, as the waters now begin to recede and leave bare ground behind, my eyes have been drawn to the much smaller scale of animal movements. It seemed almost impossible to miss the numerous types of footprint pressed and preserved perfectly in the muddy ground either side of the trail path at Greylake, whilst attempting the second clear up operation this winter before re-opening the reserve.

I could certainly identify the deep, four toed, almost triangular swan prints. Nonetheless, it was the small mammal tracks that had me more stumped, and without an ID guide to hand I could only surmise later from one photograph and memory that the one set of tracks, for example, made up of small imprints, each 2.5cm in length, consisting five toes, and followed by a tail drag line was left by a water vole.

It certainly seemed possible as they had been known to favour the spot in the past. Still, I wish now I had taken the time in making a better record-maybe through a detailed sketch (perhaps aided in its accuracy by drawing on gridlines), by taking more photos and including something better for size comparison, or best of all would have been to try taking a simple plaster cast.

Despite being such a small experience, seeing all of this made me think again about keeping an open mind ready for whatever nature can throw at me. It also spurred me on to improve my animal tracking!!! This lovely article was prepared for us by our People Engagement Volunteer, Dave. Do look out for him if you are visiting Greylake. He's very happy to have a chat and answer any questions, as are our other regular Information Wardens, Mike and Steve.

Despite the floods, and having had to cancel some walks due to inaccessibility to the viewing platform at West Sedgemoor, we are hoping that our February events will be back on track.

Greylake (07774 620879 / Greylake@rspb.org.uk)
Sunday 10 Feb – 10-11.30am-Birdwatching for Beginners

West Sedgemoor (07774 620879 / west.sedgemoor@rspb.org.uk)
Wed 13 Feb, Sun 24 Feb – 10am-12pm – Ducktastic

Ham Wall (ham.wall@rspb.org.uk)
Sat 2 Feb – 11am-1pm – Duck Walk for World Wetlands Day-Family
Event (01458 860494 or email as above)

Sun 3 Feb – 2-5pm – New Year Wildlife Walk (01458 860449-Meare
Manor Hotel)

Wed 13 Feb – 2-5pm – Birdwatching for Beginners (as above)

Thurs 14 Feb – 2.30-6pm – Starling Valentine's Day Spectacular –Family
Event (01458 860494 or email as above)

And do visit www.rspb.org.uk/reserves for future events and find out
more at www.rspb.org.uk/somerset.

News from the Volunteer Inn

I would just like to thank everyone who turned up on a very wet Boxing Day for brunch. Although not a lot of walking happened, this didn't dampen the turn out.

Also we would like to thank everyone who braved the weather for our new years eve party. I hope like myself you enjoyed a good fun night, singing, dancing, doing Michael's Olympic picture quiz, and the secret raffle.

For those of you who may not be aware we unveiled a signed print of Bradley Wiggins.

Continuing the success of the Christmas and new year quiz the next quiz is on Wed 20th Feb 8pm start £1.00 per head. Venue Volunteer Inn. In aid of SPFA.

Blush Hair & Beauty Salon

Kelly's Yard, Parrett Works, Martock, Somerset

Tel No: 01935 826888

Hair Removal / Waxing

Manicures / Pedicures

Nail Extensions

Eyebrow & Eyelash Treatments

Eyelash Extensions / Permanent Mascara

Facials

Stand-up Tanning booth

also

Sienna X Spray Tanning



Customer Parking right to the door

(on the South Petherton—Martock Road)

Qualified
and Insured



T: 01460 929774

M: 07880 828800

george.bannister@hotmail.co.uk

www.grabtreeservices.co.uk

George R. A. Bannister
Tree and Hedgerow Services

Professional maintenance, removal and disposal of trees
and hedgerows, all undertaken at reasonable rates.

Bonhams Exeter, your local gateway to the international fine art & antiques market

Providing local access to Bonhams fast growing network of national and international salerooms, and our strong range of specialist departments and regional sales, we can offer the ideal market place for any items you may wish to enter into sale.

Bonhams in Exeter are pleased to offer a wide range of services including auction valuations, probate and insurance valuations either in the office, at one of our valuation days, or in the privacy of your own home or bank.

For further information about our specialist departments or to make an appointment at Exeter, please contact Sam Tuke on 01392 425 264 or email: sam.tuke@bonhams.com

Bonhams
The Lodge
Southernhay West
Exeter, Devon EX1 1JG
www.bonhams.com

Bonhams¹⁷⁹³

London • New York • Paris • San Francisco • Los Angeles • Hong Kong • Sydney • Dubai



*Beautiful & Unique
Handmade Bags & Accessories*

Chris's Studio Originals / Jhasper Limited Editions / Tailor Made Service

Please visit our website or contact us directly for more information or to discuss your own ideas or requirements

Jhasper Limited, Farlands Barn, Water Street, Seavington St Michael,
ILMINSTER, Somerset, TA190QH. Tel: (01460) 240818
Website: www.jhasper.co.uk—**Email:** info@jhasper.co.uk

FREE TRAINING...Offering a package to help you find sustainable employment...
(Based on 16 hours per week)



Step 1

Employability and Personal Development

City & Guilds

Step 2

Customer Services or IT skills

City & Guilds

Step 3

Choice of Vocational Qualification:

- ◆ Forklift Truck Licence ◆ CSCS Card ◆ Sage Accounting
- ◆ Food Hygiene ◆ Web Design and Graphics ◆ and many more

Eligibility:

Age 19 (as of 31st August 2011), UK/EU Resident for 3 years, in receipt of means tested benefit (JSA, Income support etc)

How to contact TABS TRAINING:

Tel: 01935 411711 Email: Yeovil@tabs.ltd.uk

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 09.30 am to 4.30 pm
Park House, 45 The Park. Yeovil. BA20 1DF

LIVE-IN CARE

A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO RESIDENTIAL CARE

**Is someone you care about finding it difficult to manage at home?
Is residential care being considered?**

If so, we would like to offer an alternative – Live-In Care.

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

LIVE-IN CARE GIVES YOU:

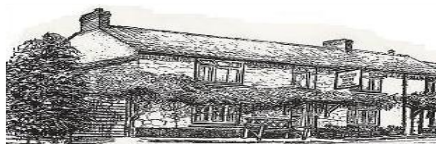
Individual attention ● Control of daily life ● Companionship ● Peace of mind
Cover for a family carer ● Convalescent help ● Short or long term help

Contact us on 01225 719850 or visit www.candlelightcare.co.uk



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE





Welcome to the **New Inn**

18th Century Traditional Public House
Picturesque Beer garden
Bar Snacks & Chefs Daily Specials
Locally Supplied Well Kept Real Ales
Richard's Home Made Sunday
Lunch Roasts

Warm & Friendly Welcome
Bed & Breakfast
A la Carte Menu
Local Ciders & Fine Wines
Monthly Quiz Night
Large car park

Open 7 days a week

11.30am - 3.00pm (Lunch & Bar Snacks available until 2.30pm)
6.00pm - 11.00pm (Evening Meal available until 8.45pm)

Table & Room Bookings - (01460) 52413
www.newinn-ilminster.co.uk

New Inn, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0NZ



All Rubbish & Chard House Clearance



WE CLEAR:

Business's, Homes, Garages, Gardens, Outbuildings,
Shop Fitters Clearances, Asbestos, Furniture, Carpets, WEEE, Rubble,
Soil, Builders Waste, Flood & Fire Damage, Tree Felling & Surgery,
Asbestos Surveys, Demolition, Single Items, etc.

House & Business Contents Clearances

We do the loading & can still be more competitive than a skip!

7 Day

07813 836876 01460 259600

Service

Committed To Recycling



Licensed Waste Carriers & Brokers



C.B. POTTS

ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

**Rose Cottage, Watgore,
South Petherton,
Somerset TA13 5JQ**

Telephone: 01460 242021

Facsimile: 01460 249021

E-mail: ben.potts@zen.co.uk



VAT Reg No: 529 7932 02

***Portable Appliance Testing (PAT); Electrical Power Quality Analyser
Periodic Inspection Reports (Domestic and Commercial)
Fire Alarm and Emergency Light Testing; Wireless Inspection Camera***

Domestic & Commercial Work Undertaken:

- ***Rewires***
- ***Extensions***
- ***Computer/Telephone points***
- ***Security and Access Lighting***
- ***Fire Alarms; Nurse Call Systems***
- ***Electrical accessories***
- ***Cable laying and ducting***
- ***Electrical Door/ Gate Systems***
- ***Additional sockets***
- ***Listed building work***
- ***Whole House sound systems***
- ***CCTV Camera Installation***
- ***Control Panel design & build***
- ***Engraving of labels***
- ***Outside Events***
- ***Intercom and Entry Systems***

Marilyn Hills BA MA Core Process Psychotherapy

01460 249176

Psychotherapy can help you with :

Stress : Anxiety : Depression : Debt : Loss : Grief : Relationships: Personal growth

Contact me for a FREE Introductory Session

Email : marilynhills@fastmail.fm

Website: www.marilynhills.co.uk

Ash Bros SEAVINGTON

**BUILDERS, DECORATORS, PLUMBING
AND HEATING ENGINEERS**

Established over 50 years

A member of The Master Builders Federation

Telephone: South Petherton 240434 / 241141



Coming Soon to The Warehouse Theatre Ilminster!

6th to 9th February 2013

KNIGHTS IN PLASTIC ARMOUR - Ilminster Entertainments Society present this first-class comedy written by Robert Shearman, best known as a writer for Doctor Who. Set in today's time, it revolves around six people preparing to re-enact battles fought during the Wars of the Roses. Directed by Gordon Neagle.

20th to 23rd March 2013

GOD OF CARNAGE - Ilminster Entertainments Society present this highly acclaimed play written by Yasmina Reza in which parents meet in a civilised manner to discuss their children and the evening degenerates into chaos. Directed by Philip Wells.

**Tickets available from Lanes Garden Shop, Ilminster
or call 07943 779880**

The Warehouse Theatre has seating for up to 155 people, a fully licensed bar, coffee area, disabled access and T-loop hearing system.

www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB LOCAL GROUP

THE RSPB'S NATURE SECRETS

An illustrated talk presented by Peter Holden, a popular speaker with our group, who is now retired from the RSPB after a career spanning 40 years. Peter will tell us about the birds and other wildlife that benefit from the RSPB's work – from rare hoverflies to magnificent red deer and from the angel-wings fungus to the Scottish Primrose.

Thursday 21st February – 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.



COME AND ENJOY A WARM WELCOME

Book now for our popular

SENIOR'S LUNCHES

Mon 11th Feb, 11th Mar

T: 01460 249730

Our café is a perfect place to meet friends and have a delicious coffee and a snack. Space to park, children's play area in view, free internet access + book exchange scheme, all with comfy chairs



Don't miss our fundraiser 'QUIZ NIGHT' at the Millennium Hall on Friday 22nd February at 7:30pm.

Tickets £5 incl. supper



A one day Floral Painting Workshop

Take a new challenge, treat and surprise yourself. Beginner and improver classes in watercolour. Up to 5 students for very personal tuition. Classes are in the Artist's home in Seavington. All enquiries - email to charo.r@talktalk.net or phone Charo Ritchie (SFP) on 01460 249690.

Cleaner/Ironing Service Available in The Seavingtons

I am a trusted local cleaner looking for additional work in Seavington.

I can carry out all cleaning tasks in any room in you home or business, including dusting, Hoovering, ironing etc. I can also offer an ironing service from my own home in Seavington.

If I can be of any help to you, please call me after 6pm on 01460 241614.

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School News

Heather Copeland (07765 437301)

Our Crafty Christmas event was as popular as ever and everyone got very sticky and had great fun! Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event and to all those who helped or donated towards the running of the morning. We made a profit of £328.61 for Pre-school funds. Many thanks one and all.

The Christmas Play was "one of the best yet!" All the children did so well on the stage in front of a packed village hall where we saw many characters from Nursery Land visit the stable to bring baby Jesus gifts. We are very proud of them all!

Party day was, as always, a very hectic but happy occasion, then finishing off the term with our annual visit to Buttle Close to sing to the residents there. Thank you to the residents for having us again.

The new term has got off to a good start and we welcome the new children to our group and all have settled well after the Christmas break.

We have started the new term with the theme of Snow White, colouring, counting and drawing our faces when looking in a mirror! On our Wellie Walks we have been playing "Pooh Sticks" and investigating the mole hills and new shoots sprouting up in the garden down at Cowleaze.

Healthy Living & Exercise

Following the holiday period most of us are in need of exercise. Sue Collard, an expert in these matters, offers these simple options.



Sunday Newspaper Deliveries

Mr and Mrs Male who have delivered newspapers in the Seavingtons for many years have retired. Their business has been taken over by Mr Alan Morrison who will continue the service trading as A M Papers.

Mr Morrison can be contacted at 45, Southway Crescent, Yeovil, BA21 3EA or by telephone at: 01935 471169 or 0782 528 4499.

Oh You Crafty Lot!

Phil Gordon-Smith (01460 242277)

For those of you wondering that no mention of the craft fayre was mentioned in January, here it is now. The fayre was extended after the Christmas break and was wound up on January 12th. It really was a great success, raising in excess of £150 for use at the shop. A huge thank you to all those who entered craft and art items and added thanks to all the shop volunteers for entering sales and taking the money and there general support.

The organising committee will soon be in discussion to decide on the date of the next event, so those of you who wish to enter need to get making their stock!

The Seavingtons' Weather in December 2012

	<i>This year—2012</i>	<i>Previous year—2011</i>
<i>Temperature</i>		
Average Minimum	4.42°C	4.17°C
Average Maximum	9.77°C	9.88°C
Mean	7.10°C	7.03°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	134.96m (5.38")	75.3mm (3.01")
2012 Total for the year	1,175.7mm (47.03")	559.3mm (22.37")

The rainfall total for 2012 exceeds the previous wettest years in Seavington which were 2000 with 1,113.0 mm (44.52") and 1974 with 1,076 mm (43.04").

NB the 2012 rainfall was over twice that of 2011!



Taunton

**Kitchen worktops, replacement doors,
bathroom makeovers, commercial projects
and much more! Call for a FREE quote:**

01823 530 310

granitetransformations.co.uk/taunton

Don't replace it, reface it!

- **No demolition**
- **No mess**
- **1-2 day installation**

The top that fits on top

LAWRENCES

A U C T I O N E E R S

CREATING A BUZZ



Victorian diamond bee brooch, 5cm

BOUGHT FOR £6570

Weekly General Auctions

Six Major Catalogued Sales per Year

Full Team of Specialists

Home Visits without Charge

(01460) 73041

South Street, Crewkerne, TA18 8AB

www.lawrences.co.uk