

# THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

February 2015



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# The Seavingtons' News

Just over a week ago Jenny and I enjoyed an evening in a way that I believed was only possible in a large town or city. We were in our villages' Community Shop, wine glass in hand, talking to two artists and seeing their work.

May we congratulate the organisers for their vision in arranging the event and the two local artists on the quality of their works? There is an account of the evening on page 17 of this issue of the Seavingtons' News which includes the promise of more, similar, events in the future; roll on the future!

The flip-side of our village life is demonstrated by the thinness of this issue of our magazine and, judging from the Village Diary, the paucity of events planned within our community.

Has the energy that used to mark our village life suddenly ebbed or is it, hopefully, being reserved for this summer's celebrations of the fortieth anniversary of the community's purchase of the playing field and the fifth anniversary of the opening of our community shop and café? Let us hope so, the last thing we want is for the Seavingtons to become soulless commuter communities.

Finally, may I urge you to read the exchange of letters about broadband between our Parish and the County Councils on pages 14-16?

*David Froome*

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## **DON'T FORGET**

**The Newspaper Skip!**

**pm Friday 13th February  
until am Monday 16th 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](mailto:news@theseavingtons.org)

## Village Diary—Forthcoming Events

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

For bookings call 07914 710926

For other Millennium Hall matters call Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193

|               |         |                                                                                                                 |
|---------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| February 2nd  | Noon    | Pensioners' Lunch in the Village Cafe—p 27                                                                      |
| February 4-7  | 7.30 pm | "Hay Fever" by Noel Coward at the Warehouse Theatre Ilminster—p 19                                              |
| February 12th | 7.30 pm | Gardening Club talk "The Garden Centre Year" & Flower of the Month —p 6                                         |
| February 14th | 7.30 pm | Flix in the Stix "A Most Wanted Man" in Hinton St George Village Hall—p 13                                      |
| February 19th | 7.30 pm | RSPB Group talk "A Journey to the Pantanal and Iguassa Falls in Southern Brazil" by Lynn and Steve Osborne—p 27 |
| All February  |         | Display of craft bags etc by Jhasper in the Village Store—p 17                                                  |

### Regular Activities

|                           |                     |                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday    | Noon                | Pensioners' Lunches in Village Café                                                               |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday  | 9.00 am—<br>2.00 pm | St Michael's Church Seavington Trust Book Sale at 2, Winchester Cottages (opposite The Volunteer) |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday | 10.00am             | "GET2GETHER" Group in Village Café                                                                |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.theseavingtons.org)**

## St Michael's Church, Seavington

|               |                                         |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1st February  | 11.30 am Holy Communion (CW)            |
| 8th February  | 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)            |
| 8th February  | 11.30 am Café Church at Seavington Café |
| 15th February | 11.30 am Holy Communion (CW)            |
| 22nd February | 11.30 am Matins                         |

**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:                  | Tony Beresford                 |
| Production:                   | Brian Edwards & Roger Clampitt |
| Technical & web-site support: | Eugene Mulligan                |
| Graphics & Visual Support:    | George Brown                   |

Village web-site: [www.theseavingtons.org](http://www.theseavingtons.org)

Any views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial team. Contributions are welcomed and may be submitted electronically or in 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 |
|-----------|--------|---------|
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| ¼ Page    | £ 28   | £ 4     |

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## Over the Counter

Mark Ellis (014601 241112)

**Bonds & Gifts.** Many of you will have taken out bonds when the shop was being planned (2009/10) and for this you will have received a bond certificate. The committee is currently assessing when we can afford to pay back these bonds and will write to all bondholders again after Easter 2015 explaining what is planned. This however should not be confused with another fundraising scheme we employed to raise funds just before we opened where you were able to gift a certain amount per month as a direct debit. This scheme did not buy bonds but merely gifted the sum into the shop build pot. Without both of these schemes the shop would not have opened and for this support we are all deeply grateful.

**Cottage Flowers Christmas Coffee morning.** This was held on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec and proved to be a most enjoyable and stimulating experience for all who attended. The winner of the Christmas wreath competition was Lis Tope and the event made a nice profit for shop funds.

**Christmas Raffle.** Once again the Christmas draw was a great success thanks not only to Clive and June who organised it but also to all those who donated gifts as well as all those who bought tickets. The monies raised from this sort of fundraising event are crucial to the shop's overall income. Thank you to all who supported us.

**Seavington Calendars.** The village calendar has been a great success since it went on sale in Oct with sales income exceeding cost. This is down to all the hard work involved in collecting photos, selecting themes and putting it together. Thank you to all involved. That said there are a small number still unsold and we have therefore reduced the cost to £5 per calendar. This is good value as it gives you a snapshot of the village in pictorial form so get yours quickly before they are all sold out.

**Volunteers.** Yet another plea for volunteers to help run the shop and café I'm afraid. Many of you will have read similar requests before in the last 5 years and for this I apologise but we do need your support if we are to keep the shop and café running in the village. Earlier this year we employed a cook in the café and as a result have managed to do away with the unplanned closures of the café we were forced to make in 2013 through lack of volunteers. In 2015/16 (funds permitting) we plan to do the same in the shop by employing a manager. That said we still need volunteers - to either work the till or help Jane in the café. 3 hours a

week at a time suitable to you is all we ask. The benefits are that you get to know your neighbours and fellow villagers very quickly as well as feeling that you have given something back to your community. You also have a shop in your village. If you can help then please call the shop on the number below for more details

**Volunteer Evening.** The next volunteer social evening is to be held in the café at 1900 on Fri 20 Mar 2015. The event is effectively a thank you to all our volunteers for the hard work they have put in during the last year. Details of the event will be posted in the shop but please keep this date free.

Community shop contact no 01460 249730

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## Can you help?

An 18 year old female French student will be coming to Seavington on a work placement scheme and will be working at our community shop from April 11th to May 15th.

She needs accommodation for this period on a board and lodging basis for which her parents will pay. This accommodation needs to be in Seavington as the student will not have her own transport.

There was a similar work placement last year and the host family were very happy with their student but unfortunately are not in a position to commit themselves at the moment due to business matters.

Anyone who can help may contact the organiser: Angela Tyszka, by e-mail to: [angela.tyszka@organge.fr](mailto:angela.tyszka@organge.fr) or by telephone: 00 33 553 058 956.

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# Seavington Gardening Club

*Chris Ginger (01460 929357 or [chris.ginger@talktalk.net](mailto:chris.ginger@talktalk.net))*

## **January 8th 2015: Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nursery, "The Nursery Year"**

At our first meeting of 2015 we were once again entertained by Neil Lovesey with his talk, "Behind the scenes in the nursery and garden". As well as entertained, also informed and truly amazed at the sheer scale of the work that Neil and his workforce, of only 2 others, manage to get through in a year. Not only does the nursery propagate every single plant they sell but they also have rare breed pigs and an apiary.

Neil is justifiably proud of the fact that they propagate all their plants, but if you have an unusual or rare plant in your garden and it catches his eye, you may find him knocking on your door, (he always asks), to request a cutting or two.

Neil and his "team" aim to propagate approx. 1.000 plants a week, every week, whilst also preparing and maintaining the display and selling areas, planting and maintenance of the lovely garden, attending Plant Fairs/sales, and still finding time to speak on his many and varied talks which always manage to both amuse and inspire us. Thank-you Neil.

It was so nice to see such a large number of our members at the meeting in what so far has been a rather grey and drab month and to also welcome some new members.

## **Flower of the Month:**

1<sup>st</sup>, Karen Day—Scabious,- Raspberry Sorbet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Linda George – Hellebores; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Anne Wills, - Hellebores.

## **Forthcoming Events.:**

Our next Meeting is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. Talk from The Gold Club, " The Garden Centre Year". Plants for sale. Flower of the Month Competition.

If there are any members who have not received a 2015 programme, please let me know and I will try to get one to you ASAP.

A new nursery has opened at Low Ham. They are "Somerset Plants", Fir Trees Farm, Low Ham, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9DP---[www.somersetplants.co.uk](http://www.somersetplants.co.uk)

Please remember that Club yearly membership subscriptions are due this month.



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# A Farmer's Diary

## *Farm Boy*

Most generations will be familiar with this nursery rhyme

*The Grand old Duke of York he had ten thousand men  
He marched them up to the top of the hill  
And he marched them down again.  
When they were up, they were up  
And when they were down, they were down  
And when they were only halfway up  
They were neither up nor down.*

This seems to me an appropriate barometer for farming fortunes ever since we joined the E.E.C.

On the national news this morning it was confirmed that one major supermarket is now selling milk below the price of bottled water.

So the dairy farmers having marched to the top of the hill are now marching down again, this time at such a speed, in military terms, it is at the double.

I feel for my son and all farmers who have the day to day responsibility of running their dairy farms.

Farming is different to most other industries in many ways, but the same basic rules of commerce apply. One of the most important issues is complying with the supply and demand.

The simple truth at the moment is that milk production is still outstripping demand and is being aggravated by the sanctions against Russia.

There could be worse to come, because milk quotas that were introduced in 1984 and designed to control demand during over supply are now due to be scrapped. This could be the worse possible scenario as far as the established dairy farmer is concerned.

Sadly farming has never enjoyed the same degree of freedom that many other manufacturing industries have; this is because of political interference.

For example, had the milk quotas not been introduced during 1984 it would have been the survival of the fittest and in the short term would most likely have led to a drastic cut in production and an eventual shortfall in supply. This in turn would have escalated the price to the public and the dairy farmers would once more start climbing the hill.

For those not familiar with the impact of the introduction of the milk quotas during the 1980's I will give you an example of what the impact was on our own farm. A compulsory cut in milk production of 19% or pay a hefty penalty for over-production; this was so hefty it was better to spread the surplus milk on the land.

It was not long before milk quotas became a tradable commodity attached to the land. Firstly on an annual leasing basis; this was a complicated affair involving mainly fictional yearly "grass keep" tenancies from those who had surplus market capacity. The annual prices paid per litre became very high and many faint hearted producers decided to sell the cows and live off the back of those who intended to stay in production.

The next thing, the quotas became purchasable to those who owned land even a well known Football Club bought some because the return from leasing was such a good investment.

Nevertheless, for those who wanted to stay in milk production, purchasing milk quotas offered security. The end result was we paid out more money buying milk quota than we paid for my retirement bungalow in Seavington. Milk quota was only a paper document and now worth nothing. But it did act as a fall back for a number of years.

---

## **‘Flix in the Sticks’**

*Rosemary Tout (01460 72906)*

Hinton St. George ‘Flix in the Sticks’ presents ‘A Most Wanted Man’ (15), on Saturday, February 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 Bob Kefford on 01460 72563.

# Broadband in Seavington

*David Froome (01460 249445)*

Last month we reported on a public meeting, arranged by the Parish Council at which the Somerset County Council reported on the project which should bring broadband to the Seavingtons via the South Petherton telephone exchange.

It was clear that the intention was to allay fears that extensive programme delays and BT's commercial interests might mean that South Petherton slipped out of the programme. Accordingly, after the meeting our Parish Council wrote to Cllr Hall seeking agreement to an unequivocal statement on the matter.

The reply to this letter was received too late to be included with last month's article. Both the Parish Council's letter and the County Council's reply are reproduced below so that residents can form their own view on the true position.

From: Simon Madge, Chair, Seavington Group Parish Council

Cllr David Hall,  
Somerset County Council,  
County Hall,  
Taunton,  
TA1 4DY

Dear David,

First, may I thank you for making the time available to visit Seavington on Tuesday last. I am sure that it was helpful for some of our residents to hear of the County Council's broadband plans at first hand.

After considering the reassurances that you felt able to give I believe that it would be very helpful if we broadened the recipients of your statements by publishing something in our village magazine, The Seavingtons' News that goes to all households. I propose:

*On Tuesday November 25<sup>th</sup> Cllr Hall and Nathaniel Lucas of Somerset County Council explained the progress of the Connecting Devon & Somerset programme to bring broadband Internet to*

*communities where it was not commercially viable for BT. Cllr Hall made it clear that although the work for South Petherton telephone exchange, and thus the Seavingtons, had been delayed by a year or so we had no cause to be concerned. Cllr Hall stated that both the study and installation work for South Petherton exchange was firmly written into the County Council's contract with BT and would be completed by the end of the contract in December 2016.*

I feel sure that such a statement would satisfy even the most vociferous of the concerned Seavington residents and will put the matter to bed. Perhaps you could confirm that you are content with this statement or, alternatively, suggest amendments. The next issue of our magazine goes to print on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

I repeat my thanks for your visit on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Madge,  
Chair, Seavington Group Parish Council

And the reply from:

David Hall  
Cabinet Member for Business, Inward Investment and Policy

Somerset County Council  
County Hall  
Taunton

19th December 2014

Simon Madge,  
Chair, Seavington Parish Council

Dear Simon,

Apologies for the delay in responding to your letter of 2nd December.

I am glad to hear that myself and Nathaniel's attendance at Seavington was of use to the residents that attended. It is important for residents and businesses to hear first-hand information pertaining to future broadband plans. It is such a hot topic for so many people and this is why we visit as many communities as possible.

Nathaniel has already been in touch with David Froome and provided some wording for the village magazine around the subjects discussed at the meeting which David advised he was going to publish. I am more than happy for you to include the additional statement, however it might be a case of checking with David Froome first of all.

If you do decide to include the additional statement you have proposed I would like to point out a miss-quote which needs to be amended slightly. "Cllr Hall stated that both the survey and installation work for South Petherton exchange was firmly written into the County Council's contract with BT and would be completed by the end of the contract in December 2016."

On the night of the meeting Nathaniel and I confirmed that Seavington and the surrounding area falls within the Connecting Devon and Somerset intervention area (area that can benefit from investment) and therefore is included in the Programme. In addition the timescales for survey work and build of the infrastructure fit within the tolerances for completion by the end of 2016.

If you could re-word the statement based on the above paragraph I would very much appreciate it and send it to me before publishing I would be grateful.

Finally, your point about further delays and how it might impact the delivery date I do not perceive as an issue. The Programme is delivering improved broadband services at an increased rate. Additional resources are also being deployed and through the continued hard work of the CDS team and BT the Programme will deliver in the timescales allotted.

I hope this outline is helpful to you. I would be happy to discuss this further either in person or over the phone. If you would like to contact my PA Natalie James ([njames@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:njames@somerset.gov.uk)) (01823359025) she will be happy to make the arrangements.

Your sincerely,

David Hall  
Deputy Leader of the Council  
Cabinet Member for Business, Inward Investment and Policy

# Display of Local Craft Work in Seavington Shop to Continue

*Jo Mills (01460 241886)*

In step with the aims set out by the first shop & café management committee, the shop and café are at last in a position to promote local artists and crafts people all year round. It has been a matter of getting all the ducks in a row really. For almost two years the café walls have been used to display local artists work on a rolling bi-monthly programme, and this is planned to continue. Interestingly there is now a list of artists waiting to be chosen to display their art work there.

As footfall and turn-over increased, it was necessary at Christmas this year to open the shop up back to its original dimensions and make room for the Craft Fayre and the extra Christmas stock. In the space vacated at Christmas by the annual craft fayre there is for the first time a display of other local work. On this occasion, for the whole of January, Ashill-based sculptor Sue Williams exhibited a range of ceramic (raku) birds and animals, and concrete sculptures. "Concrete?" you ask, don't imagine that this is any sort of concrete used in the building trade. This is concrete made by Sue from carefully selected materials ranging from stone dust collected at the Doultong quarries to finely-crushed green marble.

For the first two months of 2015 the Café walls will be adorned with prints made by a new Glastonbury-based artist: Joanna Briar. Her work is carefully considered and executed with bold, clean lines, sometimes with the addition of thought provoking quotes and sayings.

Early in January, for the first time, we held a preview of the work of both artists. The idea, and the artists' work, were met with much acclaim; in fact both artists have been asked to take part in other events and exhibitions on the strength of the work shown here in Seavington! Organisers Thandi Wilson and Jo Mills couldn't be more pleased as supporting and promoting local artists was one of their main aims.

Throughout February the work displayed in the shop area will be a range of delightful and individual carpet-, or Gladstone-bags produced here in Seavington by Jhasper. Each is made with a unique combination of materials carefully selected by Chrissie the talented designer and maker of the bags. Do come and have a look. And remember next month there will be new pictures and some beautifully made ceramics on show.

# Brambling

*Fringilla Montifrigilla (Finch Family—Fringillidae) 5¼"*

*Annie (01460 241762)*

Now the meadow water smokes,  
And the hedgerows dripping oaks  
Pitter-patter all around  
And dimple the once dusty ground;  
The spinners' threads about the weeds  
Are hung with little drops in beads.

John Clare  
(1793-1864)

Sightings of the Brambling have been made in our villages this winter. Every year this bird migrates to much of southern Europe from the end of September until March. It comes from its, mainly, Scandinavian breeding quarters where it nests in coniferous forests.

In winter the Brambling's head, cheeks and upper part of back are black edged in sandy-brown. The rump is white; throat and breast a pale orange-brown and the rest of the under-parts are white. The wings are black edged with orange-red, with yellow and white bars. The tail is black and the bill yellow.

The white on the rump is very conspicuous when the bird flies up off the ground which distinguishes it from the Chaffinch, with whom the Brambling will flock along with House Sparrows. The female bird's colouring is duller.

The Brambling feeds on the seed of Birch and Alder and the berries of Mountain Ash. An important food item though, is the beech-mast so beech-woods are a firm favourite. In severe winter, Bramblings will visit gardens for seeds and nuts.

# SPFA Village Lottery

*Lesley Gudgeon (01460 240236)*

Here are the winners of the January 2015 SPFA Lottery draw:

First     £35   No: 58     Ken Wensley  
Second   £20   No: 38     Emma Northover  
Third     £15   No: 147   J Norris  
Fourth   £10   No: 91     Jane Rice  
Fifth     £10   No: 121   Peter Lister

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## At the Warehouse Theatre

*Nicola Della Valle*

From February 4th—7th the Ilminster Entertainment Society (IES), at the Warehouse Theatre, is presenting "Hay Fever" a light comedy by Noel Coward.

Set in the 1925 home of the eccentric Bliss family, Judith a recently retired stage actress, David a novelist and their two equally unconventional children, live in a world where reality slides into fiction. Unsuspecting weekend guests, a diplomat, a flapper, a boxer and a fashionable sophisticate are thrown into melodramatic scenes that do not really exist. The resulting chaos ends when the tortured visitors .... "

Tickets from £8 from Lanes Garden Shop Ilminster or by phoning 07943 779880.



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

### 'Café Church'

to be held every Second Sunday of the month at 11.30pm.

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



# Seavington Gardening Club Programme—2015

Secretary: Chris Ginger (01460 929357)

*Talks are held in Seavington Millennium Hall and are open to visitors at £2.  
Annual membership fee is £7.50, payable in January*

| Time & Date                               | Subject                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>January 8th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm    | <b>Talk: Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nursery “The Nursery Year. Behind the scenes in the nursery &amp; garden”</b><br><i>Flower of the month competition</i>                                                      |
| <b>February 12th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm  | <b>Talk: Gold Club “The Garden Centre Year” Plants for sale</b><br><i>Flower of the Month Competition</i>                                                                                                         |
| <b>March 12th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm     | <b>Talk: Marion Dale “An Introduction to Arts and Crafts and Edwardian Gardens”</b><br><i>Flower of the month competition</i>                                                                                     |
| <b>April 9th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm      | <b>Talk: Martin Young “Hostas. Heucheras and Hellebores”</b><br><i>Flower of the moth competition</i>                                                                                                             |
| <b>May 9th</b><br>Saturday 10.00 am       | <b>Seavington Gardening Club PLANT SALE At Seavington Millennium Hall</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>May 14th</b><br>Thursday 7.00 pm       | <b>Visit: Rathdown, Upton Lane, Seavington, TA19 0PZ</b><br><b>Mike and Janet Pollock</b>                                                                                                                         |
| <b>June 11th</b><br>Thursday 7.00 pm      | <b>Visit: Westbrook House, West Bradley, near Glastonbury, BA6 7HR. Entry &amp; glass of wine £6</b>                                                                                                              |
| <b>July 9th</b><br>Thursday 7.00 pm       | <b>Visit: Midney Gardens, Mill Lane, Midney, near Somerton, TA11 7HR. Entry, tea &amp; cake £6.50</b>                                                                                                             |
| <b>August 8th</b><br>Saturday 2.30 pm     | <b>Seavington Gardening Club FLOWER SHOW At Seavington Millennium Hall</b>                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>September 10th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm | <b>Talk: Phil Kerton “Sweet Peas”</b><br><i>Flower of the month competition</i>                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>October 8th</b><br>Thursday 6.30 pm    | <b>Guest Night Buffet and talk: Mr &amp; Mrs Pitman, “Mews Cottage through the Seasons”. Plants for sale.</b><br><i>Flower of the month competition and annual presentation of Irene Williams Memorial Plate.</i> |
| <b>November 12th</b><br>Thursday 7.30 pm  | <b>Social Evening.</b> Details to be confirmed.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>December</b>                           | <b>Christmas Lunch.</b> Details to be confirmed.                                                                                                                                                                  |



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**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.

Run by Ilminster Entertainments Society (IES) it represents one of the best equipped, professional-standard amateur theatres in the county and facilities include:

**Seating for 150 people, fully licensed bar, coffee area, disabled access and T-loop hearing system.**

Details of future productions can be found in the local press or on our website: **[www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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 Michael's Church Seavington Trust**

**Next sale of : Books & Bric-a-Brac**

**Saturday 7th March 2015**

at 2, Winchester Cottages (Opposite The Volunteer)

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## ***WE REALLY, REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!***

At present we have no regular volunteers in the shop for the following shifts

Week 1

**Tues 3pm-6pm**

**Thurs 11-30am-3pm**

**Thurs 3-6pm**

Week 2

**Tues 3pm-6pm**

**Weds 11.30am-3pm**

**Thurs 11.30am-3pm**

**Thurs 3 - 6pm**

***PLEASE*** think about whether you could help. Training will be given.

You will receive a warm welcome and lots of support.

If you can help please contact Diane Bale at the shop or call 01460 249522



### ***FEBRUARY SPECIAL OFFER IN THE CAFE***

Tea and a slice of cake for just £3.00

New this month - lemon and ginger cake.

### ***TREAT YOURSELF TO A TASTY SENIORS' LUNCH***

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## **SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB LOCAL GROUP**

### ***'A Journey to the Pantanal and the Iguassa Falls in Southern Brazil'***

An illustrated talk presented by Lynn & Steve Osborne. Join them on a journey around southern Brazil in search of jaguars, hyacinth macaws and much more. Lynn & Steve's entertaining talk will be accompanied by high quality digital photographs.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset)

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

# The Craft Fayre

*Phil Gordon Smith (01460 242277)*

The Craft Fayre, in the shop, which ran until Christmas Eve, did not yield as good a result as past years. However, our usual thanks goes to the shop volunteers who gladly work the system for us and ensure we know who has sold what, and of course those folk who enter their wares into the Fayre.

These Fayres have been held, over the past few years, as an independent unit to the shop, but all the profit from them is donated for shop use. Hopefully the cash can be put to enhancing the outside areas which would otherwise be left because of more pressing items needed for the shop interior.

Alas this is the last Craft Fayre that Jill, Sarah and myself will be putting on. I would like to personally thank Jill and Sarah for their sterling work over the last few years, and especially Jill who has had to bear the wrath of those who like to complain, or generally moan - not a very pleasant job. And of course thank you to all who have taken part over the years, without whom there would not have been a show to put on. The only sad part is that there were not more Seavingtonians entering their crafts, as this had been the original inspiration for the event.

## The Seavingtons' Weather in December 2014

*This year—2014*

*Previous year—2013*

### **Temperature**

|                 |        |         |
|-----------------|--------|---------|
| Average Minimum | 3.49°C | 4.61°C  |
| Average Maximum | 9.58°C | 10.42°C |
| Mean            | 6.53°C | 7.51°C  |

### **Rainfall**

|                    |                   |                  |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Monthly Total      | 44.2mm (1.77")    | 152.2mm (6.29")  |
| Total for the year | 1082.4mm (43.30") | 817.6mm (32.70") |

*The third wettest year in the last twenty-five years*



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