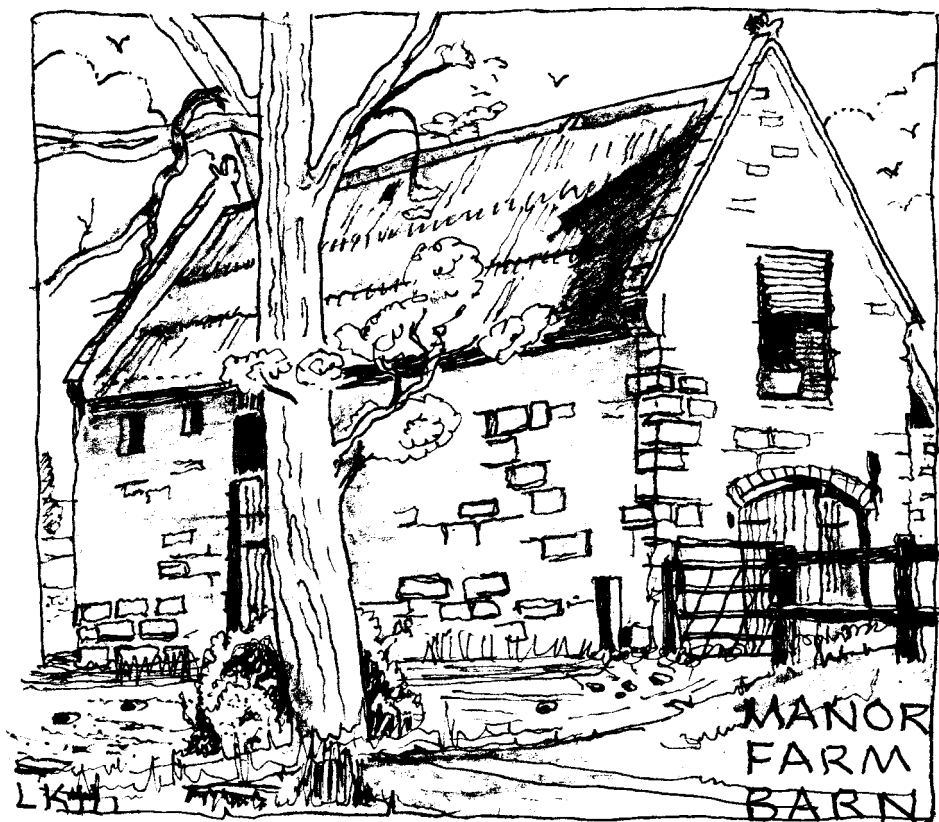


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

March 2011





What's on at the Warehouse Theatre, Brewery Lane, Ilminster
www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

AN EVENING WITH JULIE FELIX – March 6th

A chance to bring back memories as the well known folk singer visits Somerset

St.PATRICK'S EVENING WITH DIASPORA – March 17th

Sing along with Somerset's best known "Irish" band

THE SORCERER - March 18th

Somerset Opera bring this well known Gilbert and Sullivan show for one night

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JOE EGG

Tuesday 29th March, Thursday 31st March – 2nd April

An IES production of Peter Nichols 1960's black comedy directed by Philip Wells
(Please note that a small amount of content within the performance may offend some people)

Ticket Prices for IES productions.

£7.50 adults £7.00 concessions £4.50 child/student.

Box Office

Now open in **Lanes Garden Shop, Ilminster**

Monday – Saturday between 10am and 4 pm

Theatre box office please telephone 07943 779880

Ilminster Entertainments Society Ltd (Reg Charity No. 291977 Company No. 1882407)

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The Seavingtons' News

A couple of Saturdays ago the Village Store hosted a group of youngsters from Swanmead School who set up a cake stall in aid of their current charity project—Action Duchenne. What struck me was that, when I was eleven or twelve there was no thought of working to support a charity. I don't think that I am unique, it is just that today's youngsters are so much more worldly aware than my generation. Further, they even remembered a letter of thanks afterwards—see the Village Voice.

Last year I was invited to help judge an inter-school technology competition. This last week I spent a most enjoyable day at Wadham College as one of the judges for this year's competition. The youngsters, working in teams of four, applied themselves assiduously to the difficult task they were given and came up with some innovative solutions to a practical problem which they demonstrated at the end of the day.

We are regularly told by the media that our youngsters are badly educated, badly behaved and ignorant. Based on my experience of these two separate instances I believe that these views are ill conceived and wrong.

Whilst working or serving in our village store I regularly encounter our young people and they always impress me with their politeness and maturity. Perhaps we should give these youngsters the benefit of the doubt without prejudgement.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 11th March
until am Monday 14th March**

**The Latest Copy Date
for the March 2011 issue**

is the 15th March

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—March 2011

7th March	2.30 pm	NADFAS talk: “Pagodas and Peoples” by Patrick Halpin
10th March	7.30 pm	Gardening Club Talk: “Victorian Gardening” by Sarah Darlington—see p 6
17th March	7.30 pm	RSPB Group talk: “A personal view of the RSPB” by Peter Holden—see p 8
20th March	9.30 am	“Continental Style” Seavington Breakfast in the Café —see p 17
26th March	10.30 am	Youth Club “Cake Morning”
26th March	8.30 pm	“Earth Hour” - see p 16
24 & 25 April		Easter Flower Festival at St Michael’s Church—see p 4
29th April	7.30 pm	Royal Wedding Village Celebratory Family Barn Dance & Ceilidh—see p 25
7th May		St Michael’s Seavington Church Trust concert by Avon & Somerset Constabulary Choir

Regular Activities

Every Monday	6.30pm	Young People’s Group—all ages
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 Café
Tuesday	9.30 am	In term time: Parents, babies & Toddlers Group
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—Services

27th February	11.15 am Matins
6th March	11.15 am Holy Communion
13th March	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
13th March	11.15 am Family Service*
20th March	11.15 am Holy Communion
27th March	11.15 am Matins
3rd April	11.15 am Mothering Sunday—see p27

* A 45 minute service for children to join in or to amuse themselves in the play area

The Rev David Jasper's office telephone number is 01460 240377
Associate Priest: Rev D Fyfe: 01460 241977

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial: David Froome

Advertising: Heather Scott

Production: David & Wendy Eliot, Angela Englefield & Anne Kinch

Technical & web-site support: Eugene Mulligan

Graphics & Visual Support: George Brown

Village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org

Contributions to both the Seavingtons' News and the web-site are welcomed. You may submit electronically or by handwritten or typed manuscript to the editor at the address on page 1. 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
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Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437
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St. Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

The Multiple Guess Music Quiz took place in the Millennium Hall on Saturday, 12th February. Chris and Sally Gough asked the questions and gave us the answers! Many thanks to them. With generous sponsorship from Branston Ltd and other kind individuals, the Trust was able to make an estimated profit of £550 which is a fantastic effort. Our thanks go to all those of you who supported us on that occasion. Thanks also to those kind persons who prepared a wholesome supper for everybody, including sausages, beans and baked potatoes!

Our next fundraising event will be on Saturday, 7th May 2011 when the

Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir

will give a concert in St Peter and St Paul's Church, South Petherton. This choir provided an excellent and highly entertaining evening to a very large audience last year. They are returning by popular request. Don't miss this opportunity to hear them!

If you would like to know more about them, including their repertoire, go to www.policechoir.co.uk

Welcome to our EASTER FLOWER FESTIVAL

St. Michael's Church, School Lane, Seavington



Sunday 24th April 2-5(ish!) &

Monday 25th April 10-5(ish!)

Come & celebrate Easter with us in our lovely Church
Delight in the story of Easter represented by original floral
arrangements. Light refreshments, including tasty cakes
and biscuits will also be available for you to enjoy.

Proceeds to the Church.

Neroche Decorative and Fine Arts Society

Julie Fowler, Vice Chairman (01460 54007)

Romance was in the air at a recent meeting of Neroche DFAS when the lecturer, Elizabeth Rumbelow, spoke about “The Three Romantics – Chopin, Delacroix and George Sand.”

Chopin and George Sand became icons of the Romantic Movement which swept Europe in all the arts from the late 18th to the mid 19th century. Both of them were also close friends of Delacroix, the leading French Romantic painter, who fought for acceptance of his revolutionary Romantic style against the conservative neo-classicism of the French Academy. The lecturer described the separate and inter-twined lives of these three individuals: the music of Chopin, with its phenomenal emotional range; the painting of Delacroix, with its brilliance of colour and highly imaginative and dramatic effects; and George Sand’s amazing output of novels, plays and political writings. It was a tale of three Romantics, two of whom were geniuses and one an extraordinary woman.

The next meeting of Neroche DFAS will be held on 7 March at 2.30pm at Seavington Millennium Hall. The talk will be on “Pagodas and Peoples” and the Guest Lecturer will be Patrick Halpin. For further information please contact Julie Fowler on 01460 54007.

Royal British Legion Poppy Day Appeal

Monica Pye (01460 241861)

On behalf of the late Jim Burrell who sadly died in October 2010 may I thank all of the collectors in the Seavingtons for their very hard work in achieving the sum of £713.43 in this past year? This is £216.82 more than in 2009. Well done.

As from April 2011 I will be relinquishing my post as collector and distributor of the poppy boxes; a new volunteer is needed urgently. Please contact me if you are willing to take on this rôle.

Seavington Gardening Club

Ry Coffman (01460 240004)

Thursday 10 February 2011 – Talk: Low Maintenance Gardening – Malcolm from the Gold Club

Low maintenance gardening must be on every gardener's wish list! Good gardening weather had not yet come to Seavington this damp February evening but Malcolm encouraged us to get out there soon and implement some easy steps to make our gardens easier to look after in future. He had brought along a selection of plants that he recommended for their ease of maintenance but also produce a good display for the garden.

He suggested ways of managing edging, reducing weeding, tips for containers and hanging baskets, different products for fertilisers and how to use them, suggesting little and often works best. He brought along several different ways for supporting plants. Many members' plants had suffered from the severe winter weather, last winter and this and Malcolm gave members suggestions of how to reduce the damage using fleece and hessian sacking etc. in the future.

Hopefully spring weather will come soon and we will be able to get out into our gardens and implement Malcolm's suggestions!

Flower of the Month:

1. Snowdrop – Jane White
2. Iris – Gill Beveridge
3. Viburnum – Julie Sibley

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be at **7.30pm on 10 March**. The talk will be on **Victorian Gardening** by Sarah Darlington.

On 14 April we have a discount shopping evening at **Brimsmore Garden Centre (25% off)** followed by a buffet which is £10.25 per person. Ry will be taking names and money for this evening at the March meeting.

Arrangements for our 30th Anniversary Tea Party celebrations on 25th June are going well and we hope to be sending out the invitations in March.

In September we are planning a trip to the Malvern Autumn Show on Saturday 24th or Sunday 25th and Ry would like to take names at the next meeting so that we can start planning for this event.

Ry also asked members for suggestions of talks and outings for the 2012 programme which she will be planning soon.

SPFA Lottery

January 2011 Draw Winners

First Prize £40 No 245 - Jim Dare

Second Prize £20 No 197 - Thelma Turner

Third Prize £10 No 71 - Brenda Lake

Parish & District Council Elections 2011

Thursday 5th May 2011 will see us electing new Parish and District Councillors. This is therefore the time to be considering whether you are prepared to serve your community by standing for election.

There will be vacancies on both the South Somerset District Council and the Seavington Parish Council.

The District Council has arranged information sessions, during March, for those interested; any one may drop in, without booking, on these sessions to discuss what is involved.

Date	Time	Place
Tues 1 March	10.00 am—12 noon	Parish Rooms, Somerton
Wed 2 March	2.00 pm—4.00 pm	Ilminster Council Chamber
Mon 7 March	12.30 pm—2.30 pm	SSDC Offices, Wincanton
Thurs 10 March	6.30 pm—8.30 pm	SSDC Offices, Yeovil

Saving Hinton Shop and PO

Jane Jackson (01460 74162)

As you may know, the shop and PO in Hinton St George is under threat of closure when the current owners retire in July, unless funds can be raised to save it.

A local group has recently formed a social enterprise and will shortly be offering local residents and businesses the opportunity to become members and participate in a community share offer.

It is really important that the wider community – not just those in Hinton - is seen to support the initiative – as this improves the chances of grants.

Anyone interested in receiving full information should contact Jane Jackson 01460 74162, or email theshop@hintonstgeorge.org.uk no later than 14 March 2011.

SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB LOCAL GROUP

A CELEBRATION OF BIRDS

An illustrated talk presented by Peter Holden (who recently retired from the RSPB after a career spanning 40 years). Peter's presentation is a personal view of the RSPB, the birds and a few of the people who have shaped the Society and nature conservation in Britain today.

Thursday 17th March – 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.

EVERYONE WELCOME

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

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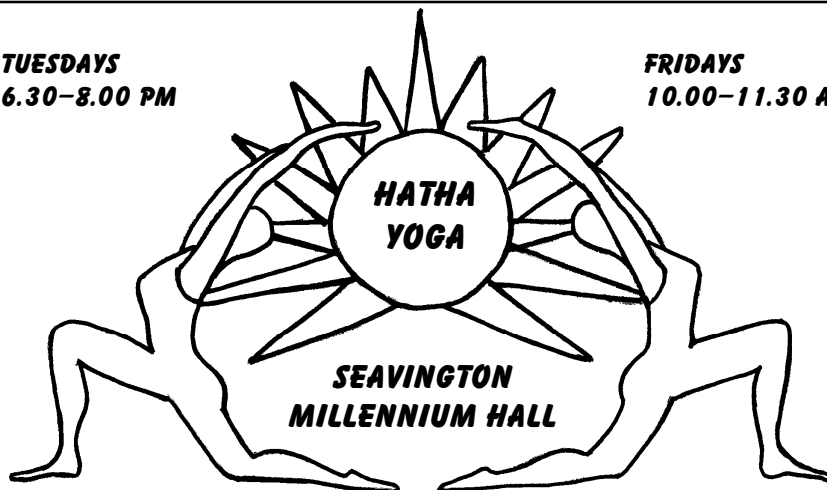
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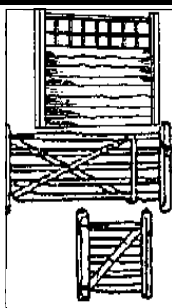
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First Sight of Spring

Annie (01460241762)

The hazel blooms in threads of hazel hue
Peep through the swelling buds and look for spring
Ere yet a whitethorn leaf appears in view
Or March finds thrushes pleased enough to sing
On the old touchwood tree woodpeckers cling
A moment and their harsh toned notes renew
In happier mood the stockdove claps his wing

John Clare, (1793-1864)

On Thursday 20th January the South Somerset Local Group of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds met at the Millennium Hall. An illustrated talk on the work and progress of Radipole Reserve, Weymouth Wetlands, was given by Nick Tomlinson, the site manager.

The reedbeds in the reserve have been in urgent need of an overhaul. In the Autumn of 2008, Weymouth District Council, after 8 years and many applications, granted permission for work to begin in the reserve. An environmental grant of £80,000 was given and work began cleaning reedbeds in the Winter of 2009. We saw slides of “before” and “after”. Spring 2009 showed us the new growth amongst the thinned out reeds with the channels of water becoming more free flowing and more “edges” created between the water and the reeds.

Bearded Tit, who live on this reserve, like the vegetation around the new edges. Breeding begins in April when a deep cup nest is built amongst the reeds. They feed on beetles, midges, spiders and snails. Bittern, the loud “boom” heard at dawn and dusk from January to April wintered amongst the reed beds. The improved channels of water provide them with a good diet of fish, eels, frogs and small mammals. Marsh Harrier also nested, in the Spring of 2009 and 2010, amongst the reedbeds and produced young on both occasions. More work was done last Winter and in the Spring the wildlife had increased immensely; many more frogs, an escalation of water voles and the presence of otter. It is hoped that otter will breed this year.

Nick also looked into the usage of the cut reed. The yearly production will thatch about 4 roofs. Another grant of £120,000 has been given to create “dipping pools”; cameras in the nesting areas to relay back to the visitors’ centre for you to watch with one camera in the vertical sandy bank to observe the nesting sand martins; an improved canteen and much more.

Radipole Reserve is well worth a visit.

From our PCSO

Rachel Napper (0845 456 7000)

Crime Statistics

The good news is that there has been no crime reported for the month of January or the first half of February within Seavington. The only thing I would want to make people aware of is the rise of heating oil thefts. This is not occurring in the Seavington area but in the High Ham area in Langport but this does not mean you should get complacent.

Please secure your heating oil tanks as best you can and be aware of suspicious vehicles and people in your neighbours gardens.

Please report anything suspicious on 999 if on-going or on the non-emergency number 0845 4567000.

Anti Social Behaviour

There have been no reports of anti social behaviour for the month of January and the beginning part of February which is very good news.

Police Post Box

The Police Post box is now in the Seavington village shop. Please use it to pass on any information to me or to request me to make contact with you. It is confidential and only I have the keys to it and it will be checked weekly for messages. Do not use it to report crime, only use the phone numbers above to do so.

If you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact me on rachel.napper@avonandsomerset.police.uk, by the Police Post Box or on 0845 4567000.

Don't Forget!

To visit your Village Store and Café! Enjoy one of our Cappuccinos or teas and a piece of cake while your children use the playground or just drop in for soup and a roll one lunchtime.

Why not meet your friends for a chat and a cuppa?

Over The Counter

News from our Community Store and Café

Over the next couple of weeks you will see changes to the layout of our village store which will enable us to introduce some exciting new services. We intend that these changes will enable you to use us a “one-stop” centre for more than just your convenience shopping.

Our Café is already attracting more visitors, many of them from outside our immediate community. They tell us that this is because they like our clean and airy atmosphere and the friendly and courteous service from our army of volunteers.

For example, the South Petherton Walking Group has come to us several times for it's end-of-walk refreshments. On Sunday 27th February this group is starting a circular walk from the Millennium Hall car park at 11.00 am and will return around 1.00 pm for light refreshments. Anyone may join this walk just by turning up on the day.

Earth Hour

8.30 pm on 26th March 2011

Jo Mills has brought to our attention the “Earth Hour” which is intended to draw attention to climate change and the need to take steps to control it. Organised by the WWF, from London to Sydney, New York and Singapore, people across the world will be joining us on 26 March 2011 to switch off their lights. It's a reminder to us all that we only have one planet Earth. And it's an urgent message that we want to reduce the impact our energy system has on that planet.

Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia when 2.2 million individuals and more than 2,000 businesses turned their lights off for one hour to take a stand against climate change.

In 2010 a record 128 countries and territories joined the global display of climate action. Iconic buildings and landmarks from Asia Pacific to Europe and Africa to the Americas switched off. People across the world, from all walks of life turned off their lights and came together in celebration and contemplation of the one thing we all have in common – our planet.

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School

Heather Copeland (0776 543 7301)

Great fun was had by all during the week that we celebrated Chinese New Year. We took the Chinese Dragon for a walk to the School to meet up with their dragon in the playground and there was great excitement.

The children enjoyed making Chinese lanterns and fans and tasting a variety of Chinese food. We are continuing learning the phonics and have great fun looking for things beginning with the letter of the week on our Wellie Walks.

During March we will be walking over to Barrington Court to look around the gardens and take part in a treasure hunt around the grounds and have a picnic (weather permitting). Many thanks to the staff at the Court for having us.

The Parish Plan committee organised a Paparazzi evening during February in aid of the Pre-school and the village hall. We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all who organised the event and those who supported it. We were given a cheque for £395 many many thanks.

Holiday Club happened again during Half Term and we hope to do the same over the Easter Holidays, please contact us if you are interested. Our next fundraiser will be our popular "WINE AND WISDOM EVENING" on March 12th 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Contact us for spaces available, don't leave it too late or you will miss a good night!

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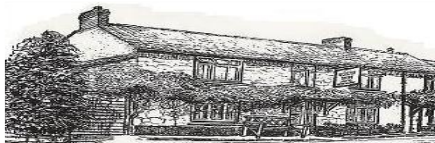
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Seavington Gardening Club Flower Show Competition Recipes

The Seavington Gardening Club annual Flower Show on August 13th may seem a long way away but here are the two recipes for the baking part of the schedule—there is nothing like practice when it comes to baking and eating!

Melting Moment Biscuits

Ingredients

125g/4oz butter or margarine
75g/3oz caster sugar
150g/5oz self-raising flour
half an egg
1 teaspoonful of vanilla essence
rolled oats
glace cherries

Method

Cream the butter and sugar.
Beat in the egg and vanilla essence.
Mix in the flour.
Damp hands in water and roll into walnut sized balls and toss in rolled oats.
Place well apart on a greased baking tray, flattening slightly, placing half a cherry on top of each biscuit.
Bake for 10 – 15 minutes in a moderate oven – Gas mark 4, 180 degrees C, 350 degrees F.
Turn out on a wire rack to cool.
Makes approximately 30 biscuits.

Seavington Gardening Club 30th Anniversary Celebration Cake

Ingredients

110g/4oz butter
110g/4oz caster sugar
2 eggs
110g/4oz self raising flour sifted

2 tablespoons raspberry jam

Method

Preheat the oven to 190 degrees C, gas mark 5

Prepare 2 x 15cm/6in sandwich tins

Cream the butter and sugar

Beat the eggs and gradually add into the creamed mixture

Fold in the flour adding enough water to bring the mixture to a dropping consistency

Divide the mixture between the prepared tins

Place in the middle of the preheated oven and bake for about 20 minutes or until the cakes are well risen, golden and feel spongy to the finger tips.

Turn out cakes on to a wire rack to cool completely.

Sandwich the cakes together with the jam

Decoration

The decoration for the cake needs to be appropriate for a Seavington Gardening Club 30th Anniversary Celebration Cake and may be done in any style you choose.



Celebrate the Royal Wedding!

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In the shop we sell **A**pples, **B**read, **C**hocolate, **D**og food, **E**ggs, **F**rozen meals, **G**reetings cards, **H**ummus, **I**ce creams, **J**elly, **K**etchup, **L**oo roll, **M**ilk, **N**ewspapers, **O**range juice, **P**asta, **Q**uorn, **R**ice, **S**tring, **T**ea & coffee, **U**nsmoked (and smoked) bacon, **V**egetables, **W**ashing powder, **X**tra strong mints, and **Y**azoo. But we don't sell *ANYTHING* beginning with **Z** !

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Thank you so much for all the stamps you have sent, especially the foreign ones, they help raise much needed money for the Church of England Children's Society. More stamps are always welcome and there is a ready market for them so please let me have any used stamps, especially foreign and special edition/commemorative stamps, or foreign postcards with the stamps still attached. Unfortunately, proceeds are considerably down on previous years so more stamps are urgently needed!

Gill Beveridge

Seavington Mums & Toddler Group

Following last month's article, the mums and Toddlers Group will now be meeting weekly on Tuesday mornings from 9.30 am until 11.30 am in the Millennium Hall. There are about half a dozen mums and grannies meeting at the moment but it's a huge hall with loads of toys and lots of coffee and biscuits so there is plenty of room for you and your toddlers to come and join us!

We hope to see you on Tuesday mornings.

Calling All Children

Mothering Sunday is on 3rd April

Family Eucharist

Please bring Mum, Family & Friends to the service at

St Michael's Church at 11.15 am

And take home a bunch of flowers for each of them

Village Mart

Village Mart is offered as a free service to residents of The Seavingtons for sales of a non-commercial nature. Just contact the editor—see page 1 for details.

Wanted

I am looking for a 2-seater bed settee, so if anyone is up-grading their furniture please think of me before dumping your old one. Please call Jo Mills on 241886. Thank you.

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. For legal reasons we must have the name and address of the writer but can publish over a pseudonym on request.

Dear Editor,

I would like to say a big thank you to the village shop committee for letting me run a cake stall at the village shop. I would also like to thank everyone who supported me on the day and helped me raise £31.94 in aid of our Swanmead School charity—Action Duchenne .

Thank you loads,

Charlotte Eardley.

The Seavingtons' Weather in January 2011

This year—2011

Previous year—2010

Temperature

Average Minimum	1.08°C	-0.76°C
Average Maximum	7.09°C	4.94°C
Average Mean	4.09°C	2.09°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	83.8mm (3.35")	63.3mm (2.53")
Yearly Total (to date)	83.8mm (3.35")	63.3mm (2.53")



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