

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

May 2011





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

18th – 21st May

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND by Tom Stoppard
WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE BODY by Rae Shirley
A murderous double bill of two mystery plays

9th & 10th June

ERNIE'S ILLUCINATIONS by Alan Ayckbourn
A play written for children presented by Act 2 Youth Theatre

29th June – 2nd July

WAITING IN THE WINGS by Noel Coward
A comedy by this popular writer

Ticket Prices for IES productions.
£7.50 adults £7.00 concessions £4.50 child/student.

Box Office

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

Nigel England—Vice-Chairman of our Parish Council

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank-you to Nigel who now finishes serving on the Parish Council since he has chosen not to stand for election for a further term.

Nigel was born, educated and has lived all his life in Seavington. He was “press-ganged” into the Parish Council thirty-four years ago by Commander Jesseman, who was Chairman at the time.

Nigel's knowledge and expertise of the Parish will be greatly missed; over his time of service he has achieved an immense amount for the Parish, recently being the coordinator with the village shop project.

Nigel has served as Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk and has given huge support to me during my time as Chairman.

Thank you Nigel for all you have done for The Seavingtons.

Simon Madge,
Chairman,
Seavington St Mary and Seavington St Michael Group Parish Council

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 13th May
until am Monday 16th May**

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

is the 15th May

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—April 2011

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

For bookings call Janet Goode on 01460 240220

For other Millennium Hall matters call Peter Ashley on 01460 240353

29th April	7.30 pm	Royal Wedding Village Celebratory Family Barn Dance & Ceilidh
7th May	7.30 pm	St Michael's Seavington Church Trust concert by Avon & Somerset Constabulary Choir in St Peter & St Paul Church S Peth—see p 6
12th May	7.00 pm	Garden Club visit to Old Barn, Netherburn—see p 15
14th May	10.00 am	Gardening Club Plant Sale—see p6
19th May	7.30 pm	RSPB Group film—The Minsmere Year narrated by David Attenbrough -see p12
29th May	11.15 am	Rogation Sunday Service at Castle Farm—see p 21

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

1st May	11.15 am Holy Communion
8th May	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
8th May	11.15 am Family Service*
15th May	11.15 am Holy Communion
22nd May	11.15 am Matins
29th May	11.15 am Rogation Sunday at Castle Farm—see p21

* 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
¼ Page	£25	£3

Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437
news@theseavingtons.org

Seavington History Project Update

www.seavingtonwebmuseum.org.uk

Developing the web-site is proving to be a very rewarding experience. The web-site continues to grow and some of the main things we have added recently are as follows:

The text in brackets after each item tells you how to find that item on the web-site.

An interactive family history page – to which there is a steady response from abroad (Seavington People/Family History)

Arthur Linton Seavington's world champion cyclist (Seavington People)

Archaeological report on St. Michael's church with plans and photos (Historic Buildings/Worship/St.Michael's C of E church)

Conversation with Sid Male (Seavington People)

Churchyard Memorial Listings for both St. Michael's and St. Mary's (also under Worship)

Baptisms Marriages and Burials with a search facility (Official Records)

Dr Robert Dunning and David Bromwich of the SRO have given us permission to use the excellent photographs from their book Victorian & Edwardian Photographs of Somerset (Picture Album)

And we have loaded many more photographs to the picture albums.

In addition we have started adding articles from the old Seavingtons' News.

We are about to release an interactive Visitors Book so that visitors to the site can leave messages of interest to others and there is also going to be a new page on the development of the history project and the web-site.

Since the new Somerset Heritage Centre opened we have made several visits and found material of interest for the web-site. The SRO have been very helpful with copyright issues and have given us the endorsement below

'I must say that yours is an excellent website. I have bookmarked it and will email round the URL so my colleagues know to direct enquirers to it.'

The project keeps us very busy and every week something new arrives in the post or over the ether.

Contact us by phone or email:

Ry Coffman 01460 240004 (ry.coffman@virgin.net)

Carolyn Farler 01460 249192 (carolyn.farler@btinternet.com)

Nicky Wotton 01460 249414 (nicky.wotton@virgin.net)

S P F A Lottery

March 2011 Winners

First Prize £40 No 127 - Viv Rudd

Second Prize £20 No 6 - Pauline Lawton

Third Prize £10 No 154 - Andrew Meadows

This the last draw in the 2010/11 Season and our collectors will be calling in the near future inviting your support for the new season. Your continued participation would be very much appreciated. Remember there are three winners every month for ten months!

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Book, Plant & Bric-a-Brac sale:

7th May 2011

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

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

Tickets are already selling well for the **Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir Concert** which takes place on **Saturday, 7th May 2011** in the Church of St Peter and St Paul, South Petherton. The Concert will start at 7.30 pm, with doors opening at 7.0 pm. There will be a licensed bar.

We are expecting a large audience and, as there is a limit to the number that can be seated in the Church, it would be wise to purchase your tickets in advance. Tickets cost just £6.

Don't miss this opportunity to have a highly enjoyable and memorable evening!



Seavington Gardening Club

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday 14th May

10.00 to 11.30am

**Seavington Millennium Hall,
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Raffle - Refreshments

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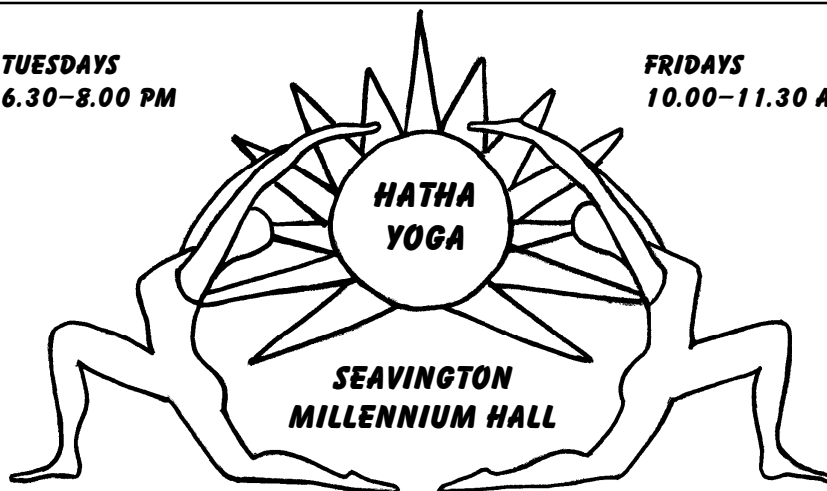
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AVON & SOMERSET CONSTABULARY MALE VOICE CHOIR

Saturday, 7th May 2011

in

**the Church of St Peter and St Paul, South Petherton
at 7.30 pm (Doors open: 7.0 pm)**

Licensed Bar

Tickets: £6 - available from:

**Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977) Annie Prichard (01460- 241762)
N & D News, South Petherton**

SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB LOCAL GROUP

FILM SHOW AND PLANT SALE

The Minsmere Year – This film, narrated by David Attenborough, portrays RSPB Minsmere Reserve throughout the year, showing all the key birds including avocet, bittern, marsh harrier and nightjar, as well as red deer, otter and other wildlife. Minsmere in Suffolk is the RSPB's flagship reserve.

Also our annual bring 'n buy plant sale.

Thursday 19th May – 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/southsomerst

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

Waste Paper Report

Heather Scott (01460 241437)

Thank you to everyone who makes the monthly trip to the skip! We are slowly building up our waste paper tonnage! The last quarter's figures are:

2.5 tonnes in January
3.04 tonnes in February and
2.4 tonnes in March,

making a grand total of **7.94 tonnes** in the first quarter of this year! We appreciate you taking the time to take your waste paper and cardboard to the monthly skip so that everyone can benefit from having the free Seavingtons' News! Looking forward to another record in the next quarter!

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-School

Heather Copeland (0776 543 7301)

Our visit to Barrington Court was a great success and what a beautiful day it was too! We walked over the hill to the Court and enjoyed exploring around the grounds. We took part in a Treasure hunt looking out for stars and seeing how many benches we could rest on, on the way round. Pete, the gardener let all the children plant a potato in the Kitchen Garden and our picnic lunch went down well after a very busy morning. Thank you to all the Court staff for having us!

Our Wine and Wisdom evening was an excellent evening and raised £550 for Pre-School funds. Many thanks to all the helpers and the pudding makers and congratulations to the winners, staff member Suzanne and her team.

We finished the Spring Term with our Easter service and Easter hanging creation competition - well done Charlotte and Harry who were the winners. The Summer term is always a busy one, being the last of the school year with regular visits to School, P.D. sessions changing into P.D. kit and plenty of Sports practice in preparation for our Sports Day. Our Easter Holiday Club was well attended and great fun was had by all, plenty of crafty activities, icing Easter biscuits, chick hunt, games in the garden and the everyone's favourite the parachute games. If anyone is interested in joining in with the fun next time we will be opening on Tuesday 31st May and Wednesday 1st June during the next half term holiday. Contact us on the above number for more information. Welcome to the new children who have just joined us and hope they have fun.

Spring well and truly here we have enjoyed watching our daffodils and crocus grow in our Pre-school garden and we are looking forward to planting our new raised bed at the Cowleaze Project. Many thanks to all concerned for allowing this to happen. The children have been watching the project grow and helped to plant some of the trees, watched the diggers moving the earth and watched the gardeners create the raised beds.

The children will be "creating" again this Easter for a competition and look forward to our little Easter Service in Church with Father Geoff before the Easter holidays. We will be welcoming new -3's after the Easter break and again after half term which is very exciting as they move up from the Toddler Group. Spaces still available please contact us on the above number if you have any enquiries. HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL

Jay
Garrulus glandarius (7")
A member of the crow family (Corvidae)

Annie (01460 241762)

Loveliest of the trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride
Wearing white for Eastertide.

A E Housman (1859-1936)

You are more likely to hear a jay than to see one. It is shy and usually found in mixed woodland with dense thickets. It usually gives away its presence with a harsh "SHRAAAK-SHRAAAK". Other quiet mewing and clucking noises are also made although, at nesting time, it remains silent. The jay "jumps", albeit rather clumsily, from branch to branch.

It is the most attractive bird of the crow family, with its pinkish-brown upper body and a lighter, shaded, breast. There is a distinctive whitish crown streaked with black which forms a small crest. A drooping black "moustache" adds a comical touch above the white patch below the beak. When flying, the black wing feathers have a bright, white, panel which is clearly visible; the flight is slow and fluttering. The sexes look similar.

The nest is often in tree forks - a cup-shape of sticks and twigs, lined with fine roots or hair. There is one clutch, in late May, of 5-7 dark buff, mottled with pale brown and black streaks, eggs.

The jay will visit gardens and feed from bird-tables but much prefers insects and seeds and, above all, acorns. They have a distensible pouch in which to collect nuts. Many nuts are buried for winter feeding of which many remain uncollected and contribute to the regeneration of oak woods.

The ugly side of this colourful bird is that it steals eggs and kills fledglings of other species, but, perhaps, only when they have young of their own to feed.

Seavington Gardening Club

Secretary: Ry Coffman (01460 240004)

14 April 2011

25% Discount Shopping Evening and Buffet at Brimsmore

Members enjoyed having Brimsmore Garden Centre to themselves for an evening of 25% discount shopping. One has to congratulate the Gardens Group on their helpful staff and excellent Garden Centres. Beautifully laid out, great choice of plants, pots, implements and everything the gardener needs. It is always a pleasure to visit. After shopping the group enjoyed a really delicious buffet in the Café!

Forthcoming Events:

The next trip on May 12th at 7pm is to an interesting garden - The Old Barn, Netherbury, nr Beaminster – entry £5, buffet at the Admiral Hood in Mosterton £8. Names and money to Ry by 7 May please.

Hot on the heels of the visit is the ANNUAL PLANT SALE ON SATURDAY 10-11.30AM 14TH MAY. Most years, most of the best plants are sold out by 10.30am - so come early!

Our visit on 9th June is to Yews Farm in Martock and is £4. A buffet will be arranged.

Arrangements for our 30th Anniversary Tea Party celebrations on 25th June are well underway with the invitations sent and the cakes and sandwiches ordered! We are planning fun gardening-related activities for the afternoon! Please don't forget to RSVP to Ry by 1st June.

Last visit of the summer is a fascinating visit to the Bishop's Palace Gardens at Wells. The inclusive cost of this visit with buffet at the Bishops Palace is £12.95. Please let Ry know if you would like to come on this visit.

We took a number of bookings for the trip to the RHS Malvern Autumn Show on Sunday 25th September. There are, however, still some places available, so please contact Ry if you would like to come along. The cost will be £12 entrance and £10 for the coach per person. If there are any other Seavington people who would like to come, please contact Ry. We shall be opening this trip up to other local Gardening Clubs.

For future dates please see the Seavington village website: (www.theseavingtons.org)



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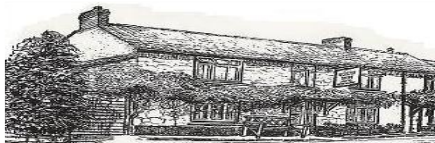
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From our PCSO

Rachel Napper (0845 456 7000)

Bogus Callers in the Area

There has been a rise in the number of bogus callers and suspicious people going door to door in the Seavington and South Petherton areas. The reasons for people knocking range from fitting free loft insulation, checking to see if you are eligible for free broadband and also installing cheap or free burglar alarms.

The Neighbourhood Team at Somerton are asking people to report all suspicious callers to Police on 0845 4567000 or on 999 if they are abusive and are trying to gain entry and you feel threatened. This will give the Police a chance to attend and to check the identity of these persons to see if they are legitimate.

Never let anyone into your house until you have checked for ID and if they claim to represent a utilities company, then check with the company direct to see if they have members of staff in the area

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number or:

rachel.napper@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Crime Statistics

The good news is that there has been no crime reported in Seavington for the month of March into April at the time of writing this which is good news, but this does not mean you should stop being vigilant. Please continue to report any suspicious activity to the Police on 0845 4567000 so that we are made aware of what is happening.

Rogation Sunday—29th May

This year the Reyland family warmly invites you to Castle Farm, Gummers's Castle, Seavington (Leaving the village on New Road, going eastwards, on the right hand side, just before the "Reyland Potato" sign—there will be adequate signing). Please bring chairs.

Rev Jasper will bless the land with hope of a good harvest. There will be drinks and nibbles afterwards—Do come and join us.

Recycling Centres

As a part of its economy measures the County Council has changed the arrangements for the opening of the Recycling Centres in Chard and Crewkerne.

With immediate effect the new Recycling Centre in Beeching Close, Chard will not open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. It will open on Mondays from 8am—7pm, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8am—4pm and Sundays from 8am—1pm.

The Crewkerne Recycling Centre will not open on Thursdays and Fridays, will open from 8am—7pm on Mondays, 8am—4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays and 8am—1pm on Sundays. Additionally, there will be a £2 admission fee to the Crewkerne site.

For waste which is not considered normal domestic waste eg hardcore, gas bottle, tyres etc there will be charges for its deposit.

For further information see: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Visit Seavingtons' Community Shop and Café



There's always a warm welcome in the café and a choice of delicious cakes, teas and coffees, as well as freshly –made light lunches.

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** !

Opening Times:
Monday-Friday 8.30am– 6pm; Saturday 9am– 3pm
01460 249730

Our Village Voice Column

The Editor

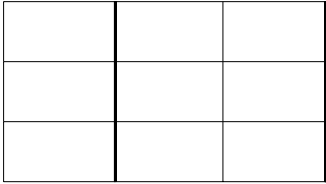
An italicised note at the head of our “Village Voice” column has always made it clear that we will not publish any contribution unless we know who has written it; we have, however, always been prepared to publish over a pseudonym.

This month we have made an exception.

We have received a letter which, when published, should create some good debate about the facilities and organisations we want in our community.

However, sadly, the author failed to give a complete address and neither Royal Mail nor his putative neighbours could identify him. Perhaps Mr Smith could identify himself to us.

In the meantime I hope that many of our readers will rise to the letter’s implicit questions and respond—giving their full names and addresses!

Seavington Postcard Puzzle Use the following eight prime numbers: 7, 13, 31, 37, 43, 61, 67, and 73, along with the number 1 (which is not prime!) to make a 3 x 3 magic square.	
In a 3 x 3 magic square all the horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines must add up to the same number. (Called the magic constant!)	There are 8 different ways of making a 3 x 3 magic square using the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. What is the magic constant? How many of these different ways can you find?

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Heather Scott

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.

Please see note on previous page

Dear Sir,

One of the things that struck me on moving to the West Country was the strong sense of "community" in the local villages. Much of this, through necessity, has to be supported through volunteers and Seavington has many good examples of it in practice. However, I believe that individual community activities should complement each other and not seek to compete with each other.

Historically one of the institutions at the centre of the local community has always been the public house. Again Seavington is lucky still to have one of these. In the current economic climate many are closing across the country or working to tighter and tighter margins. In order to preserve this institution I would urge people to support it before, like many other villages, it becomes too late.

Yours sincerely,

Norman Smith, Marle Ground

The Seavingtons' Weather in March 2011

This year—2011

Previous year—2010

Temperature

Average Minimum	2.16°C	1.90°C
Average Maximum	12.23°C	10.42°C
Average Mean	7.20°C	6.16°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	22.8mm (0.91")	45.8mm (1.83")
Yearly Total (to date)	153.1mm (6.12")	182.1mm (7.29")



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