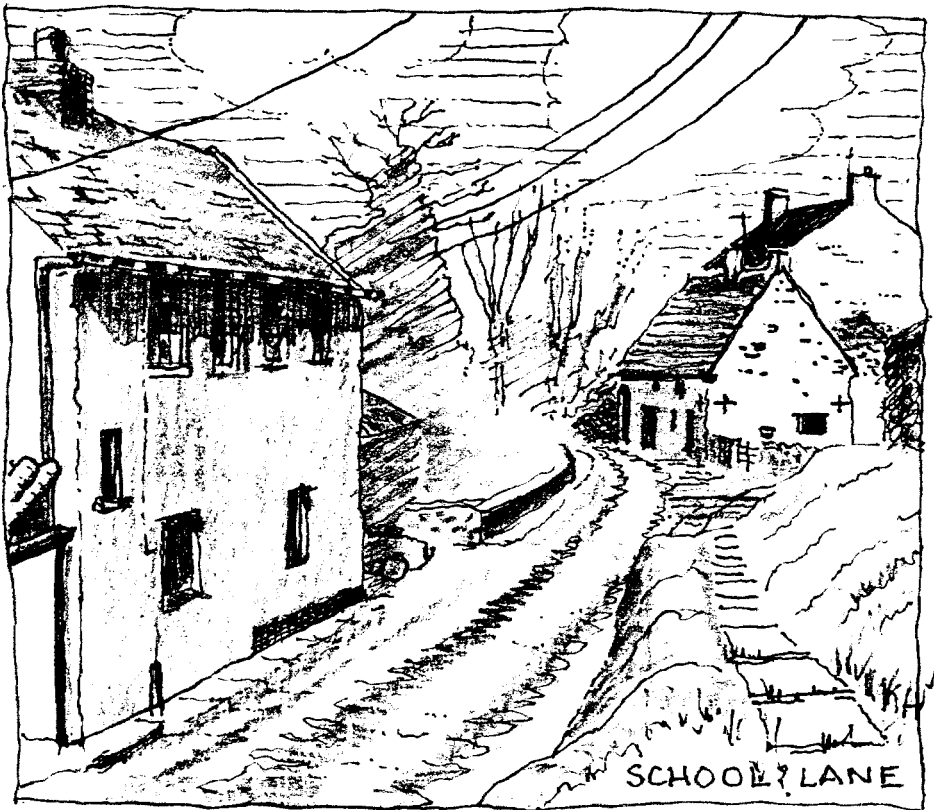


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

May 2013



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The Seavingtons' News

We are just back from a holiday in a much warmer climate to find that Spring still doesn't appear to have arrived yet. However, we note that the farming community is optimistic with the Manor Farm dairy herd back in the fields, during daytime at least.

Nevertheless all forms of plant life still seem dormant or dead and the tinge of green in the hedgerows is only just visible; on our return from Heathrow it was not noticeable at all until we reached Salisbury Plain.

If you compare this March's weather statistics with the 2012 ones (see page 32) it makes one shiver!

That said, time marches on and I would like to draw your attention to the Seavington Playing Field Association's Annual General Meeting on 23rd May (see page 4). AGMs can be unattractive entertainment at the best of times but this one will be different. It will mark the end of Peter Ashley's service to our community both as an active member and leader of the SPFA and as a Parish Councillor.

As a community we should give Peter a good send off and I urge you to put the date in your diary now and, on the evening, to put aside the remote control and come to the Millennium Hall. Our community life and village amenities would not be as they are without Peter's voluntary contribution over the past many years.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

**pm Friday 10th May
until am Monday 13th May**

**The Latest Copy Date
for the next 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—May 2013

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

9th May	7.00 pm	Gardening Club visit to the Old Rectory, Limington, Nr Yeovil—p7
11th May	10.00 am	Gardening Club Plant Sale—p7
13th May	Noon	Seniors' Lunch in Café—p30
16th May	7.30 pm	RSPB Group talk on Grandma—the oldest albatross—p28
18th May	7.30 pm	Somerset & Avon Police Male Voice Choir in South Petherton Church—p6
23rd May	7.30pm	SPFA AGM—p4
25, 26 & 27 May	11.00am-5.00pm	Flower Festival in St Michael's Church—p29
31st May	7.30pm	SPFA Quiz Night—p30
1st June		Safari Supper around Seavington—p29

Regular Activities

Every Monday	6.30pm	Young People's Group—all ages
2 nd Monday	Noon	Pensioners' Lunches in Village Café
1 st Saturday	9.00 am—2.00 pm	St Michael's Church Seavington Trust Book Sale at 2, Winchester Cottages (opposite The Volunteer)
3 rd Wednesday	10.00am	"GET2GETHER" Group in Village Café
2 nd Thursday	7.30pm	Seavington Gardening Club

To keep up to date check out the village web-site which is updated regularly and brings you the latest information on village matters, the programmes of village organisations and much more. Pass the address to your friends and relatives and let them keep in touch as well.

www.theseavingtons.org

St Michael's Church, Seavington

5th May	11.30a.m. Holy Communion
12th May	8.00a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
12th May	11.30 am Rogation Service at Manor Farm—see p31
19th May	11.30 am Holy Communion
26th May	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.

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

Advertising enquiries to: Heather Scott, 01460 241437

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Seavington Playing Field Association

Annual General Meeting – Thursday 23rd May 2013

Pauline Parsons, SPFA Chair (01460 240193)

This year this meeting will be more important than in the recent past. Many of you will know that Peter and Carol Ashley have been talking of leaving the village to move closer to their family and to this end their home in Seavington has recently been put on the market.

Peter and Carol moved into Upton Lane some 23 years ago and almost from the beginning both have had close links with the SPFA and Millennium Hall and for many years Peter was not only Chair, but Treasurer, Secretary and general handyman. Peter has also served as a Parish Councillor since 1999.

At the last AGM Peter indicated that he could no longer continue with this and changes were made. However, Peter has continued to work as Treasurer and will continue to serve on the committee and as Parish Councillor until the move is made.

To this end the SPFA and Parish Council would like to invite all villagers to the AGM – Thursday 23rd May 2013 – 7.30pm at The Millennium Hall – to say their thanks to both Peter and Carol.

Drinks and nibbles will be available.

We hope to see you there.

Flower Festival Teas

On the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May in conjunction with the flower Festival at St. Michael's Church the GET2GETHER ladies group are organising afternoon teas on Saturday, Sunday and Monday 25th, 26th and 27th May, and any help on these afternoons would be appreciated.

If anyone would like to donate a cake or cakes we would be very grateful. If you are able to do so please contact Sue Dewsbury on 01460 241155.

Other News from the SPFA

Recently a small working party cleared undergrowth etc from an area close to the Shop/Cafe in readiness for the new fencing to be erected. Thanks go to those who have done the clearing works. It is hoped that once this fence is erected it will make the play area at the rear of the Hall safe for children to use whilst parents may be in the Shop/Cafe. It seems that some are unaware that this small play area can be used by all – it no longer is just for the use of Hall users. Obviously there will be times when hirers of the Hall will have priority, but this is not very often. Details on progress regarding the path around the field will be given at the AGM.

Scarecrow competition and Quiz evening

Please don't forget that the SPFA are running the Scarecrow competition again this year linking in with St Michael's Church Flower Festival. The theme is Rural Life, which gives much scope, so please get your thinking caps on and let us see if we can surpass the 60 scarecrows from last year. On Friday 31st May there will be a Quiz Evening in the Millennium Hall with supper and a bar. Price £5.00 per person. [No team to be more than 6 in number].

There will be a secondary competition linked in with the scarecrows, more information regarding this will be in the next Newsletter, but all scarecrows to be included in this competition must be in place by the morning of Sunday 26th May. Others can be put up later but will not be included in this competition but will be included in the final judging to take place on Sunday 2nd June, when Cream Teas will be available from the Cafe. We will also formally 'open' the new piece of play equipment that has been purchased for the large play area.

Les Miserables

Hinton St. George 'Flix in the Stix' presents 'Les Miserables' (12A), on Saturday, May 11th in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or, £5.50p on the door. (Contact tel. 01460 72906). Keenly awaited adaptation of the hugely popular musical, based on the novel by Victor Hugo. Brilliantly acted, superbly directed, a visually stunning performance – not to be missed!

Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir

A Not-to-be-Missed Evening of Choral Music

The Avon & Somerset Male Voice Choir was formed in 1974 and is truly representative of the force with members consisting entirely of serving and retired police officers and serving and retired members of support staff and the special constabulary.

Their repertoire covers a wide range, from medieval & classical choral musical, much loved ballads & operatic classical choruses to arrangements of popular songs and songs from stage and film.

They share their wonderful musical tradition with the community and raise funds for local organisations. The choir enjoys a high reputation for its quality of performance and have earned numerous awards. We are lucky enough to be hosting this choir for the third time, and we are truly grateful for their return visit, by popular request.

If you enjoy good music, this event is a must, come along and enjoy the inspiring music of this brilliant choir.

Date: Saturday 18th May 2013

Venue: St. Peter & St. Paul's Church, South Petherton

Doors open at 7.00 pm — commences 7.30pm; Licenced bar

Tickets £ 7 available from:

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N & D News, South Petherton.

Funds raised to benefit St. Michael's Church, Seavington.
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Mid-summer Music...

Sally Gough (240897)

The planned Mid-Summer Music Evening at St Mary's Church in Seavington on Saturday 29th June will go ahead. Full details will follow next month but it will be a short programme of music featuring choirs/smaller vocal groups and a Brass quartet with perhaps a Monologue or two.

Seavington Gardening Club

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

11 April 2013 – ‘Dahlias’ – with Terry Bratcher

Apologies to members! For the first time in my time as Secretary – the speaker did not show up! I had rung and checked on Monday that he was still available to do our talk and his wife said he was; they had been talking about it at breakfast!

We waited for a while but then we had a quiz instead, which is always fun! The winners were Fred and Doreen Lane and Linda George. I have made enquiries to find out what happened to Terry...

Dates for diaries: NGS Open Gardens in 2013 will be at South Meade, Meade Lane, Seavington St Mary and 1 The Pheasant, Seavington St Michael – Saturday 15 and Sunday 16th June, and again at 1 The Pheasant on Monday 22 July and Saturday 27 July.

Growing Competition: There are still a few geraniums left so any members not present will still be able to pick up their plant plug/pot from Ry.

Flower of the Month:

1. Linda George – Camellia, 2. Kate Mulligan – Hellebore,
3. Marlene Tolman – Narcissus.

Visit: 7.00pm Thursday 9th May - The Old Rectory, Church St, Limington Nr. Yeovil, BA22 8EQ – John Langdon and Paul Vintner - £3.50p. Romanic walled garden; formal parterres, herbaceous borders. Many unusual shrubs and trees including 200 year old lucombe oak, liriodendron, paulownia, davidia, laburnocytissus, leycesteria and poncirus. Followed by buffet at The Volunteer £7.

Don't forget the Plant Sale: We have had a very late spring this year but I'm sure the plants will have caught up and there will be the usual wonderful choice of plants on **Saturday 11 May at the Millennium Hall: doors open at 10.00am**. Plants go very quickly – so don't be late!

Some Days Out:

The weather is warming up and dare I say it, it feels like spring is here! The first swallows are arriving, bluebells are coming into flower, and birds are singing their various dawn chorus songs. Bats are coming out of hibernation, dragonflies are on the wing, butterflies are warming their wings in the sunshine, too!

One of the first birds to herald spring in song is the chiffchaff, a small but perfectly formed little yellow brown warbler. Its song as the name suggests, goes 'Chiff-Chaff-Chiff-Chaff-Chiff-Chaff' from about now fairly continuously throughout the spring and summer. Listen to this little bird's pronounced song along with others on our dawn chorus walk. Then join us for a walk to listen to more unusual dawn chorus songs of wetland birds, and a full English breakfast to finish!!

INTERNATIONAL DAWN CHORUS DAY

On Sunday 5th May join us at Swell Wood to enjoy International Dawn Chorus day to listen to the incredible sounds of woodland birds in all their spring glory, with a warden on hand to help identify one song from another. What a blissful way to start the day! 6.30-8.30am - £10 per person, payable in advance (includes full English breakfast at the Crown Inn, Fivehead). To book phone 07774 620879 or email swell.wood@rspb.org.uk.

And just to give you a flavour of what's to come, here's more:

Saturday 11 May – Greylake Spring Spectacular – 2-5pm – free event – bring the family/have a picnic.

Saturday 11 May – Batty about Greylake? – 8-10.30pm – evening stroll to enjoy the wild nightlife!

Saturday 26 May – Flowers, bugs & butterflies – 2-4pm – West Sedgemoor – sunhat and suncream at the ready

Sunday 30 June – Bugs & butterflies – 11am-1pm – Greylake – enjoy a balmy afternoon in the sun.

And if you want to know more about booming bitterns, experience a warbler workout, or go on a cuckoo quest be sure to check out the events at Ham Wall. All these and dazzling dragonflies too! www.rspb.org.uk/reserves or phone the reserves offices on 01458 252805 (Swell Wood/West Sedgemoor/Greylake) or 01458 860494 (Ham Wall) to find out about guided walks and events taking place at our four reserves in Somerset. See our South West life Guide in your local shops and libraries too.



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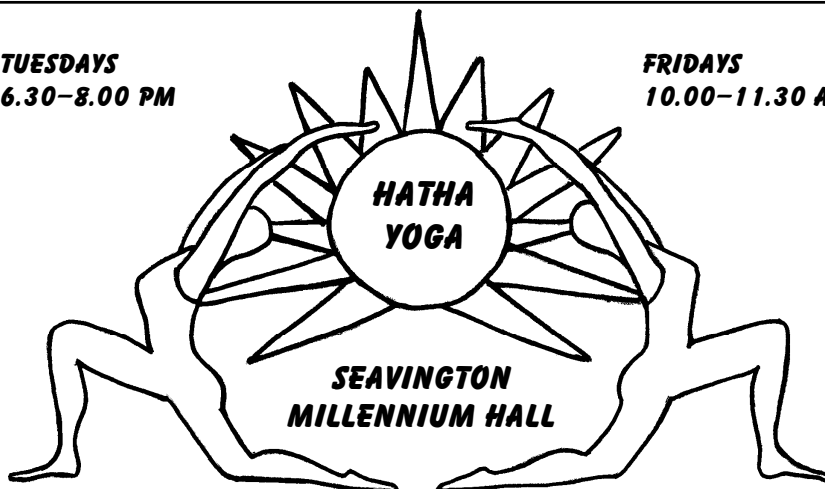
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Over The Counter

Carolyn Farler (01460 249192)

Sitting here on a sunny evening it is hard to believe how cold it has been in April and that Easter has past already. But our Easter raffle, organised by Jo Mills, added a few more pounds towards our fundraising and was won by Craig Owen with Sheila Reyland and Pauline Parsons taking the second and third prizes.

For those of you keen to support local suppliers we now have a new source of jams, marmalades and chutneys in the store– **Preserving Pan**. The two local ladies grow as much of their own produce as possible, or if not they try to use other local ingredients in season. They cook in small batches and use no additives and they are very good (*especially the onion marmalade*). So if you want to try some you need to get in soon.

The last of the equipment for the café, purchased by the grant from SCF, is in place and hopefully making life a little easier for our cooks. We are still going to continue our seniors' lunches on the second Monday of the month as these are proving popular and well supported.

We have now booked the first of our cookery workshops – Canapes & Confection – on the 6th June. Local cook Maxine Clare will be coming to show some interesting ideas for canapés and desserts and how to prepare and present them. There will be opportunities to taste the food on the evening. A booking list has been started already by the till. Places are going quite quickly.

As always, I am going to ask if you have a few hours to spare each week, be it to help in the store or the café or even with the admin. We would be delighted to see you, just come along and introduce yourself and we will do the rest.

A one day Floral Painting Workshop

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A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

We are now halfway through April and at last the green shoots of spring are reluctantly starting to appear, but outside it is a damp and chilly day that finds most of the regions cattle still in their winter quarters, with fodder stocks running low.

The remains of the wet, autumn sown, corn crops struggle to establish themselves, yet here in the south west we were very lucky to miss the recent heavy falls of snow endured by those further north. The cold easterly winds during the latter end of March and the first week of April helped to some extent to dry out the sodden arable and grass fields, allowing most of the farmers to get back on the land so as to cultivate for sowing spring corn or top dressing the autumn sown crops and potential grazing grass fields with badly needed nutrients.

We had one partly ploughed field on the heavier clay soil where we had hoped to sow winter wheat, but the continual wet weather meant it remained partly ploughed and fallow until about a week ago, then it became possible to complete the ploughing, cultivating and sowing of spring barley seed. The area that was left unploughed became far more manageable than that ploughed in the autumn. Leaving us in no doubt that the field would have profited had we not touched it at all after last autumn's wet harvest.

It is with great interest that I am monitoring the recovery of the winter wheat that was sown in less than favourable conditions last autumn between Whitelackington and Seavington St Michael, I hope it will be better than I predicted, for winter wheat has this wonderful ability to tiller, meaning that the existing plants can send outside side shoots during early spring giving greater ground coverage.

We managed to sow one five-acre field with winter wheat near Buckland St Mary on the top of the Blackdowns, this germinated but just seemed to vanish as the wet cold winter progressed, yet on close inspection last week there are still signs of dwarfed almost purple plants in the drills, so we top dressed it with fertilizer in hope!! Normally here in the valley spring comes a week or so earlier than on the higher ground so any sign of recovery down here is good news for us. One thing is for sure the farmers have done all they can to save their crops; but the one thing needed above all is warm sunshine.

A farming friend of mine from my school days, a good few years ago made an outstanding statement by uttering, "I have a degree in hindsight" At the time I found this most amusing, but on reflection I realized what a great statement he had made. No matter who you are or whatever background you come from, you can only qualify for such distinction having lived for many years.

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

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Saturday 4th May 2013

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Raven

Corvus Corax (25")

Annie (01460 241762)

Blows the thaw wind pleasantly,
Drips the soaring rain,
By fits look down the waking sun;
Young grass springs on the plain;
Young leaves clo the early hedgerow trees;
Seeds and roots, and stones and fruits,
Swollen with sap put forth their shoots;
Curl-headed ferns sprout in the lane;
Birds sing and pair again.

Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

The largest and most powerful of the Crow family; even bigger than the Buzzard at 22"! The Raven has an entire black plumage with a blue/purplish/greenish gloss which glistens in the sunlight. It has a huge, forceful, curved bill, a diamond-shaped tail, shaggy throat feathers which, when raised, make an impressive beard—all in black too—which give this bird, at times, a most menacing look.

It has broad long wings that, when the flight feathers are extended, are rather like fingers. It often soars to a great height on motionless wings, gliding and soaring off thermals. Especially during the breeding season pairs will perform aerial acrobatics. Whilst diving and tumbling at great heights Ravens will sometimes carry pebbles or sticks which they drop and then swoop down to recover with either beak or claw.

The voice is a deep "Pruk, Pruk" in flight followed by a throaty "Grok". Food is carrion, mammals, birds or insects and they habitually store food when it is plentiful.

Ravens stay in pairs all year round. The large nest, often repaired from previous years, is a bulky structure made from small branches and twigs reinforced with mud and lined with wool and hair and mostly found in trees. A single brood of 3-6 greenish-blue eggs with dark brown markings are laid in March.

Ravens have been seen around our villages. When on the ground they sometimes hop but usually walk with a rather stately gait!

NB Ry Coffman sighted a pair of Swallows in School Lane on Thursday 11th April and, on Friday a few were seen swooping over the reservoir—warm weather on its way!

Somerset Remembers: The First World War

August 2014 will mark the centenary of the outbreak of the war to end all wars; in January 2013 the Somerset Heritage Service received £66,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to help us mark this centenary. Drawing on this poignant moment in national history the Somerset Remembers project will explore the impact and long-term legacy of the conflict on the county of Somerset. The project is themed around 'remembering' and will look at the many ways in which Somerset people and communities have remembered the Great War.

At the heart of the project is the ambition to connect Somerset of today with Somerset 100 years ago, providing people with the opportunity to commemorate and learn about the war that changed Somerset forever.

The highlight of the project will be a six month exhibition at the Museum of Somerset, opening in August 2014, with events such as a memorial football match, diary readings and open days running alongside it. We also aim to create a Somerset Remembers Online Community Archive, where people can share their stories and research. Finally we aim to digitise a number of records held at the Somerset Heritage Centre which relate to Somerset's role in the conflict.

However, **WE NEED YOU**, to make this project a success. We are looking for volunteers to help us research what was happening in the county during the war. Much of this research will involve reading contemporary newspapers and creating an index to war related articles and photographs. We also need volunteers to help us digitise and transcribe some parish returns, which detail the war effort of 170 parishes. Finally we need a group to research the archives held at the Heritage Centre, to help us better understand the impact of the First World War on Somerset. Some of this research will need to take place at the Heritage Centre, whilst newspaper research can be carried out in various libraries across the county and the transcription can be carried out at home.

If you would like more information on the project or to volunteer please contact Liz Grant at the Somerset Heritage Centre, by email: or by phoning 01823 278805.



Caught in the web..... Stories from the Seavington Web Museum

Seavington History Project 2012–13

www.seavingtonwebmuseum.org.uk

The last 12 months have not been our most productive, as both administrators have been hijacked onto other village projects. But the site has been officially transferred to the Parish Council to secure its future for the villages.

It is pleasing to note that the transfer of items of interest from the Seavingtons News is now complete up to 2007.

Also, following an enquiry from Mr Brian Murless, Hon. Archivist for the Somerset Industrial Archaeological Society (SIAS), more information has been found out about the Snowden Collar Factory based in Seavington St. Michael. We would dearly love to put names to the people in the photographs so if you think you had relatives who might have worked there please have a look in the Photo Gallery - Business and Village occupations and let us know. <http://www.seavingtonwebmuseum.org.uk/gallery/pictures/2>

The Family History Research pages are still proving popular with correspondents from home and abroad. There have been at least 12 contacts over the last year that have either been put in touch with family members or been able to progress their research.

The main thrust for 2013 is to produce a book of photographs and snippets from the web-site so far in time for Christmas. Advice is being sought from Sarah Harmer about options to progress this idea.

Carolyn Farler 01460 249192 Ry Coffman 01460 240004.

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.

For Sale: Any offers for a Hammond Electric Organ, Model 123J2? Also cycle carrier suitable for an older Renault saloon and a pair of roof bars for a Peugeot 405 Estate with roof rails. Call Peter Ashley on 01460 240353.

From the Parish Council: Changes to Bus Services

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Nippybus are withdrawing the NI0A bus service between Crewkerne & Taunton on 19 April 2013. As a result there are new arrangements for a replacement service between Crewkerne and Ilminster with an extension to Donyatt, where there have been requests for a regular service to Ilminster, from Monday 22 April.

Please find the timetable below, these timetables are also being made available to passengers on the NI0A. Holders of Concessionary Bus Passes will be able to use this service with their passes at all times.

The roadside publicity will be updated shortly.

Donyatt - Ilminster - Crewkerne				Service 9	
Mondays to Fridays (except Public Holidays)					
Donyatt, George Inn	....	0945	1145	1300	1500
Ilminster Square	....	0955	1155	1310	1510
Ilminster Medical Centre	....	0958	1158	1313	1513
Seavington St. Mary	....	1007	....	1322	1522
Lopen	....	1012	....	1327	1527
Hinton St. George	....	1022	....	1337	1537
Merriott, Church	0829	1029	....	1344	1544
Crewkerne Ashlands Road	0839	1039	....	1354	1554
Crewkerne, George Hotel	0843	1043	....	1358	1558
Crewkerne , Kings Arms	0845	1045	....	1400	1600
Crewkerne, Ashlands Road	0849	1049	....	1404	1604
Merriott, Church	0901	1101	....	1416	1616
Hinton St. George	0909	1109	....	1424	1624
Lopen	0919	1119	....	1434	1634
Seavington St. Mary	0924	1124	....	1439	1639
Ilminster Square	0931	1131	1245	1446	1646
Ilminster Medical Centre	0934	1134	1248	1449	....
Donyatt, George Inn	0942	1142	1256	1457	....

**English National Concessionary Travel Scheme bus passes
are valid for all journeys on this timetable**

Branston Award Celebrates Local Artists

Jennie Holland or Rose Williams (0115 8532 110)

ALISON Bowskill is celebrating after becoming the winner of the fourth annual Branston Art Award – scooping a £300 cash prize and a promise of a 2014 exhibition for her work.

The UK's largest potato supplier, Branston Ltd, sponsors the annual award at the Ilminster Arts Centre to celebrate the work of established and emerging artists living and working in the South West area. Alison wowed the judges with her coloured etching "Gig Racing" – a depiction of Cornwall's gig racing events. She will share the exhibition prize with the two joint second prize winners Shena Bulcock and Richard Kent, who received £100 each.

General manager of the Branston South West site, Ian Wait, announced the winner and runners up at a special ceremony at the exhibition's preview event. Ian said: "We are absolutely delighted to sponsor this event once again and, indeed, in future years. The Arts Centre in Ilminster is a fantastic facility and we are very keen to support local art and our region's talented artists."

There were a record number of 65 visitors to this year's preview event and over 170 paintings, sculptures and ceramics were on display, selected from 75 regional artists. The works are currently being displayed at an open exhibition at Ilminster Arts Centre until 6 April.

Sue Bishop, visual arts coordinator at Ilminster Arts Centre, said: "The standard of entries was particularly high this year and the exhibition is a tribute to the talent that exists in the South West. Branston's sponsorship enables us to give prize money to the winners. This has encouraged more artists to see the arts centre as a worthwhile space to exhibit in, and as a result, our following has grown year on year. The exhibition has increased in popularity over the past four years and I hope that our association with Branston will continue."

Winner Alison Bowskill, from Lyme Regis, is a part-time art teacher at Woodroffe School in the Dorset town. She has a degree in fine art and a post-graduate qualification in printmaking. Alison said: "I am thrilled to win this prize and am grateful that my work has been acknowledged. It's a real confidence boost and I can't wait to see my work on display at my own exhibition next year. I have a real passion for printmaking and I've recently started working part-time so I can spend more time on my art work. I hope my exhibition will be the first of many."

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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?

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Entry: group members £2.50, non-group members £3.50, under 18's free.
(tea/coffee & biscuits included) Wheelchair access.

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Come and join us, and whilst visiting, enjoy spotting the Scare-crows dotted around the village! (to be judged on the 2nd June.)

Please support us again by donating cakes. These can be delivered to the Church on Friday 24th May, or by contacting Sheila Riley on 242778 or Sue Dewsbury on 241155.

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Village Voice—letters to the editor

The Seavingtons' News wants to hear and publish your views on both the "News" itself and topics of importance or interest to our community. Please send your letters to the address on page 1. All opinions and views expressed are the sole responsibility of the writer and do not reflect the views of The Seavingtons' News. For legal reasons we must have the name and address of the writer but can normally publish over a pseudonym on request.

Dear Editor,

We only moved to the village 7 months ago so perhaps ought to keep our traps shut. However, as we sit in our new home on a beautiful Easter Sunday morning our house and others in Upton Lane are engulfed in thick, choking bonfire smoke. Unfortunately this isn't the first time a fine day (and our washing drying on the line) has been spoilt by smoke from a fellow villager's bonfire. Can we appeal through the magazine for a bit of thought and consideration before swamping the village in unhealthy smoke? Incidentally, we haven't lit a bonfire in 30 years of managing fairly large gardens so it isn't a case of "do as I say, not as I do".

Best wishes for a pleasant day.

Andy Brooke, Maples, Upton Lane

The Seavingtons' Weather in March 2013

This year—2013

Previous year—2012

Temperature

Average Minimum	-0.72°C	3.81°C
Average Maximum	6.62°C	14.00°C
Mean	3.45°C	8.91°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	60.2mm (2.41")	20.6mm (0.82")
2013 Total for the year	218.3mm (8.73")	78.3mm (3.13")

Brr...rr - A cold month, no wonder nothing grows



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