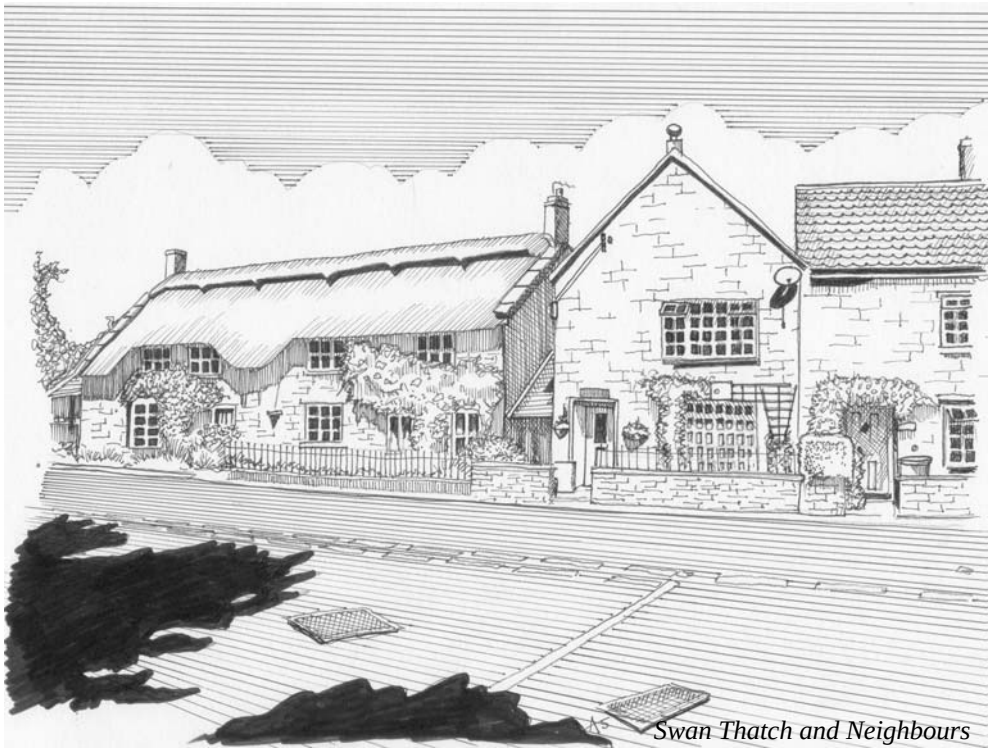


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

November 2013



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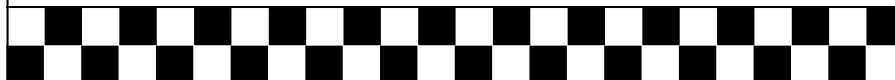
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The Seavingtons' News

Next year throughout Europe there will be events to mark the start of the "Great War" as the First World War was known up until the Second World War.

This war was the first that affected people and their families everywhere in the country, not through direct enemy attacks, as in the Second World War, but by recruitment to the army and the removal of vital resources such as horses and foodstuffs from every town and village.

The war memorials in our two Seavington churches bear witness to the loss of life in our villages although we seem to have fared better than many other communities.

There is much written material about the fighting itself, the stalemate in the trenches, the use of poison gas and the ultimate victory. However, not a lot is recorded about the impact on the families and communities left at home. Further, the "Tommies" themselves did not record much of their experience because so many, in those days, could not write.

I wonder therefore if our Seavington readers might look through their family memorabilia, photograph albums, word-of-mouth recollections etc and see if we can fill the gaps through articles in the Seavingtons' News. I can contribute the notes made by my maternal grandfather who served in the trenches as a mule driver. Please get in touch.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

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

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

is the 15th November

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—Forthcoming Events

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

For bookings call Pauline Eardley on 07914 710926

For other Millennium Hall matters call Pauline Parsons on 01460 240193

5th November	5.30 pm	Village Fireworks & Bonfire — p21 & 34
7th November	10.30 am	RNLI Coffee Morning and Christmas sales at Hunts House —p30
14th November	7.30 pm	Gardening Club Social Evening & Film Show —p33
16th November	2.30 pm	Christmas Fair at St. Peter & St. Paul's Church South Petherton —p33
20th November	8.00 pm	SPFA Quiz Night at The Volunteer —p5
29th November	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting —p5
30th November	10.00 am	Seavington Millennium Hall Christmas Market—p35

Regular Activities

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

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

www.theseavingtons.org

St Michael's Church, Seavington

3rd Sunday	11.30 am Holy Communion
10th Sunday	8.00 am Holy Communion BCP
10th Sunday	10.45 am Service of Remembrance
17th Sunday	11.30 am Holy Communion BCP
24th Sunday	11.30 am Matins

Service of Light—This will be held at 6pm on Sun 3rd Nov at St Peter and St Paul's, South Petherton. On All Souls Sunday, a service to remember those who have died.

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

adverts@theseavingtons.org

The Village Shop/Café Partition Project

Jo Mills (01460 241886)

We've done it!!

It is about 18 months since I undertook to raise the funds necessary to pay for windows to complete the partition between the shop & café areas of our community store. I am very pleased to announce that the second phase is now complete with the installation of folding glass screens to the right of the café doors.

The monies were raised through a series of events: in 2012 three talks – Bee-Keeping (Kate Lynch); Cider (Julian Temperley); and the Archaeology of Ham Hill (Niall Sharples); and this year talks on Roman Somerset (James Gerrard); the BBC's Meet the Ancestors (Julian Richards) and most recently a professional musical act from London (Jo Stephenson and Dan Woods) with their show 'Can You Dig It?'.

Although I arranged all of these events, nothing would actually have happened at all without the generosity of my friends, colleagues, and fellow volunteers at the shop who between them gave the talks; staffed the events; sold raffle tickets; poured drinks at the talks; washed up; held the fort at the door; ran the bar; donated raffle prizes; put out chairs and put them away again; and supported me personally and kept me sane!

I would like to proffer especial thanks to the speakers who kindly waived their fees; to SSDC for doing all the ticket and poster printing so efficiently; to Jim and Laurie who managed the tenders and over-saw the actual installation of the windows and facilitated communications between the contractor (he's brilliant too); the committee and the fund-raiser; and finally to Andrew Sutton.

I must own up to not having acknowledged Andrew's artistic contribution to 'Can You Dig It?' on the evening. Despite the fact that he would miss the performance; Andrew created the fantastic giant vegetable pictures which provided the backdrop to the show and were much admired by performers and audience alike. Thank you. (If you missed it you can see them on the web: <http://can-you-dig-it.co.uk/splendid-seavington/>)

Hopefully, the audiences of the six events have enjoyed the evenings; and now the wider community will be able to benefit from the added flexibility the completed partition will give to the shop/café building. So a heart-felt THANK YOU to everyone who supported this fundraising venture – it wouldn't have happened without you!

The Seavingtons' Year Book

David Froome, Editor (01460 249445)

With the January issue of The Seavingtons' News we normally include eight pages of local information entitled "The Seavingtons' Year Book".

This is printed on coloured paper so that it can be removed from the centre of the magazine and kept for reference. It contains details of local clubs and organisations as well as contact information about our local Councillors and national support organisations.

In theory all the local clubs and organisations send in the information for collation; in practice there has to be a lot of chasing around by your editors to ensure that we are up to date.

Therefore, it would be helpful to know if readers find this Year Book useful and if, indeed, they do save it for reference—please let me know if you would like the Year Book to be continued—contact details are on page 1, beneath the editorial. If I don't get a positive response there will be no Seavingtons' Year Book 2014.

SPFA Quiz Nights at the Volunteer Inn

Michael Harrison

Quiz nights in aid of Seavington Playing Field Association are being held at the Volunteer Inn on Wednesday 23rd October and Wednesday 20th November 2013.

The quiz starts at 8pm and costs £1 per person to enter.

All are welcome.

Parish Council—Change of Meeting Date

The October Parish Council meeting has been moved from Tuesday 22nd October to Tuesday 29th October, due to several Parish Councillors having other commitments and this meaning that the Council would not be quorate.

Neighbours

Roger and Rosalind Clampitt (01460 241900)

We moved to Seavington in 2012 from Hertfordshire. We were looking around South Petherton one day and asking questions in the Library when Adrian Day and Hannah realised we were newcomers and introduced themselves as neighbours in School Lane.

During the conversation I asked where they thought we could get key rings with label tags as we were having trouble distinguishing the keys in our new home. We arrived home shortly afterwards to find a large selection of just the right tags which Adrian had very kindly acquired for us. What neighbourliness!

We have had various contacts over the year and recently Hannah presented us with a card and a poem which she had written herself celebrating our move. Yet again we were touched and want to share with others what we consider to be an amazing talent. Hannah must be the youngest poet to have her work published! And rightly so.

Moving On

Traveling in a loaded truck,
A new journey beginning,
Moving from dawn to dusk,
Shaking hands with your friends.

You finally arrive,
Lots of new faces,
Before sunrise,
Taking you to new places.

The party is over,
Time to settle down,
Tomorrow more adventures,
In the countryside or town.

Times flown on,
The cake eaten,
Party decorations gone,
The first year beaten.

Hannah Day, 8 years,
28/09/13

News from The Seavingtons' Plan Update Group

In September and October's edition of The Seavingtons' News, we made a plea for residents of our villages to complete the first (and what we thought the most important and possibly controversial) of a series of questionnaires concerning issues central to our community. In order that the Group could revise the Village Plan of 2005 and bring it up to date we needed data; your views, desires and aspirations of how you wanted the future of our community to be. The Group's overall aim is as stated in July's edition of The News "to update the Village Plan with a consensus of your views, containing a concise and coherent statement of your vision for the future of our community".

From the returned questionnaires we have put together a consensus of opinion and listed a number of bullet points. These are itemised below and apply to **both** the general topic of development and the specific types mentioned in no set order of importance:-

- Ours is a rural community and wishes to remain so. This was an overwhelming view.
- The current infrastructure copes with the size of our community but wouldn't cope with any significant building development
- Further larger scale commercial development was not warranted, however smaller agricultural/cottage-based businesses should be permitted and encouraged, but enterprises such as fracking, wind and solar farms should not.
- Any **new** residential building should be within current village confines, affordable to the young, architecturally uncontroversial and between 2 and 4% of the current number of dwellings

The Update Group will be presenting this analysis to the Parish Council for their endorsement and eventual inclusion in the Village Planning Statement contained within the Village Plan.

Whitelackington Village Hall Christmas Fayre

Saturday 16th November 10am – 2pm

50p entrance (under 14's free)

Over twenty stalls selling local crafts, charity trade goods (R.N.L.I),
produce and gifts, raffle & refreshments.

All proceeds to hall restoration fund (charity number 246963)

Over the Counter

Ken Lake (01460 249304)

Over the last few weeks we have been working hard to recruit new committee members and I am very pleased to report that we have made progress. Mark Ellis is bravely taking up the chairing role, Marion Bennett is leading Diary Events plus helping with other planning issues and Pauline Lawton will join us to represent the café view.

With these new additions the management committee is looking far healthier than discussed at the AGM with a total of 9 members now. On top of this we have also had offers of aid on specific topics from other members of the community and look forward to having their help and expertise. A list of the areas where we need help is being compiled as recommended at the AGM and will be out shortly.

Those of you that are observant will have noticed that the second window between the shop and café has now been installed and looks pleasing to the eye, although there are some minor adjustments to be made before we can use it properly.

This window will fold right back so that we can let the air circulate between shop and café as happened previously. With the windows closed we will have the opportunity to hold meetings in the café and to hear each other speak. Thanks to Jo for raising the money and the other volunteers who have put effort into making this happen.

The financial results for September have been somewhat disappointing with the takings through the till being down almost 10% on the previous month's. We experienced a similar downturn last year and this is felt to be a reflection of a general downturn with the September return to school. That said, we will continue to monitor the figures but are also looking to take action to increase our turnover generally through a number of new initiatives in the Autumn and Winter so, watch this space.

The Seniors' Lunches are resuming due to popular demand, the first being just before Christmas, on Monday 16 December 1230 - 1330. As usual there is a form in the shop (on the desk at the till) which already has a number of people signed up for that date. As spaces are limited please call in or telephone to book a place.

We plan to hold another village "Christmas get together" this year at which the Christmas Raffle draw will be made so, keep the early evening (5 – 7pm)

of Saturday 14th December free. The raffle is being organised by Clive and June Reeves as usual, more news on carols and Father Christmas attendance etc to be released later.

A Volunteers evening is planned for early 2014 so please keep your eyes on the notice board for details nearer the time.

Community shop contact no 01460 249730

St Michael's Church Seavington Trust

Registered Charity No: 1068251

Alastair Fyfe (01460-241977)

Our final fundraising event of the year was a Talk by Lord Ashdown of Norton-sub-Hamdon in the Seavington Millennium Hall on Thursday, 26th September 2013. A large audience was assembled to listen to an accomplished and high-profile speaker. Those present were not disappointed.

Paddy's Talk was entitled 'The Cockleshell Heroes'. It told the story of the daring raid by Marine Commandos in 1942 against German merchant shipping moored in the French port of Bordeaux. He had a tremendous grasp of the subject matter and Paddy was able to punctuate his Talk by introducing some personal, and very moving, accounts of some of the young Marine Commandos involved in the raid.

Paddy Ashdown refused to take any payment for the Talk and this generous gesture on his part helped the Trust to make an overall profit of £1003.65 which was a magnificent result. The Trust would like to thank all those who supported it on this occasion.

At the end of his Talk, the paperback version of Paddy Ashdown's book - "A Brilliant Little Operation" was on sale. Many people took the opportunity to buy the book and to acquire his signature with it.

Remembrance Sunday

This year's Remembrance Service is on Sunday 10th November at 10.50 a.m. at St. Michael's Church, School Lane.

Everyone is welcome as we remember those who fell in wars which guaranteed the freedom we enjoy today . We shall also remember our Armed-Forces who are at present overseas making the same sacrifices.



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Seavington Youth Club 2014

Jenny Issacs (01460 240550) & Julie Ginno (01460 249099)

The Seavington Youth Club is now in its 5th year, the club is fully equipped with games consoles, table tennis, pool table and jumping stilts to name but a few. We are affiliated to the Somerset Rural Youth Project who visit us regularly and support us with policies and advice. Financially the club is in a good state of health thanks to generous grants from The Parish Council, The Seavingtons' News, The Parish Church and local businesses.

The club is open on Mondays during term time from 6.30pm to 7.45pm for ages 8-16. Youth Club members have enjoyed various activities through the years such as bowling trips, Halloween and Christmas parties, drum workshops, circus skills, belly dancing, guitar workshop and barbeques.

We believe that the Youth Club has become a great success and asset for the village with at least 50 children visiting us at some point over the years. It has been very rewarding watching the children grow and develop, forming new friendships, improving social and team building skills, and having a lot of laughs along the way.

After 5 years the present committee now feel the time is right for a new team to take over with fresh ideas and new enthusiasm. Ideally 4 people would be required to form the new committee, the Youth Club is straightforward to run and maintain, all policies are in place and week to week running is not hard work.

The present committee will be stepping down from their roles at the end of March 2014 and would like to see a new committee in place by the end of 2013, this will allow a smooth transition and CRB approvals to be processed in good time.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the running of Seavington Youth Club or want more information please contact any of the present committee:

Chairperson - Julie Ginno 249099
Treasurer – Mark Isaacs 240550
Secretary – Jenny Isaacs 240550

Seavington Web Museum

Mystery Photographs of Seavington

Can you place these photos? Do you know anything about them?

Over the years of creating the web museum we have been given access to almost 600 photographs. Most of them we can identify but we have a few that we need some help with.

You may be able to identify them yourselves or perhaps you can show them to one of the senior Seavington residents, even if they have left the village who may know the history behind these photos.

If you have any information could you ring either Ry Coffman on 240004 or Carolyn Farler on 249192 or email us on:

info@seavingtonwebmuseum.org.uk

1. Davids Lane – presumably these cottages no longer exist but do you know where they were – was this the blacksmiths?
2. John & Vicky Hopkins – house on School Lane? Could this be Orchard Cottage?
3. Unknown Cottage – we have been told it could be in Seavington but we cannot place it?
4. Seavington Club – we think this might be taken by Manor Farm what do you think?

We are still missing old photos of the following: Water Street Farm and Winchester Cottages in Water Street, any photos of when the A303 Ilminster bypass was being built, the orchard where St Mary's Close is now, any views of Upton Lane, Scotts Hill, Court Farm.

If you live in a conversion of the various farm barns, do you have pictures of your house before conversion? We would love to hear from current residents and those who used to live in Seavington.

To visit the Web Museum go to: www.seavingtonwebmuseum.org.uk



1. Davids Lane – presumably these cottages no longer exist but do you know where they were – was this the blacksmiths?



2. John & Vicky Hopkins – house on School Lane? Could this be Orchard Cottage?



3. Unknown Cottage – we have been told it could be in Seavington but we cannot place it?

Latest news from the Web Museum

Although this project has become a winter activity for the team, we are always happy to receive additions to the Web Museum and have recently received a photo of one of the old barns in the village before it's conversion into residential use. We are looking forward to receiving some of the reports from the Somerset Vernacular Buildings Society about the houses in the village they have been investigating lately - so do keep checking for those.

If you are new to the village and find some interesting facts from your deeds about your property we would be interested to hear. If you are clearing out your cupboards and find some old photos do think of us, we have a lot of interest from outside the village and abroad, from people researching family links with the area who love to see the pictures we have been able to save.

We are also hoping to produce a book of some of the photos we have collected over the years and we are currently absorbed in the difficult task of selecting which ones to print.



4. Seavington Club – we think this might be taken by Manor Farm what do you think?

News from Seavington Playing Fields Association

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Remember, Remember the Fifth of November

Yes, the Association is holding the Annual Firework display on the Playing Field on Tuesday 5th November. Food will be served from 5.30pm, Bonfire lit at 6.00pm and Fireworks at 6.30pm. There will be a licensed bar and all profits will go towards the SPFA.

Please come and support us. The Committee decided this year to go away from the usual Saturday slot as this clashes with the large Somerset Carnivals in Bridgwater and North Petherton. Instead of buying your own small fireworks why not donate the money saved towards the evening? Hope to see you there.

With regard to the bonfire, if you have any articles suitable can you please take them to the field – BUT NOT BEFORE SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER. If you have materials but cannot get them there please contact me Pauline Parsons 240193 or Elaine Edwards 241601 and we may be able to arrange collection.

Recent works carried out by the Association

The Committee is pleased to report that the fencing around the outside area of the Shop/Cafe has now been completed and hope that the area will be enjoyed by all using it. The large gate at the top of the area is to be kept closed – this is to try and keep animals out of the area and should there be parents and children enjoying snacks and a drink outside, keep the children in. The gate leading into the small play area behind the hall will be kept open but the small gate on the other side of the Hall has been padlocked. There is a small gate, above the Wendy House, that can be used to access the play area from the field. Again this was done so that children using the area, whilst parents are in the cafe area, cannot easily get on to the Hall car park.

Posada

Posada is the word for an inn in Spanish. “Posada” is the tradition in South America where the crib figures, Mary, Joseph and the donkey travel daily from house to house on their way to church in time for Christmas.

Posada starts on the first Sunday in Advent, which this year is Sunday 1st December.

If any family would like to have the crib figurines for a night they should call Annie Prichard on 01460 241762 and she will be happy to explain more to you.

A Farmer's Diary

Farm Boy

It is the 13th of October and it reminds me of what lies ahead. The sky is very overcast and we have had enough rainfall today to start producing mud. The grass fields are very green with an abundance of quickly grown grass; hidden among some of the dense herbage is the last of this years' wild mushrooms, now looking rather bedraggled and uninviting, many trodden aside by wandering grazing cattle.

Much of this late grass will be rejected by the cattle as they search for something more substantial. It is so easy to look over a gate at this time of year and come to the conclusion that there is a lot for them to eat. In most cases, because of the intensity of farming today, something far less than sixty percent of the field will be palatable because of the manure dropped by the cattle during the grazing season.

The coming winter months will help deal with this problem, cold winter winds, frosts, and rain will see it absorbed back into the soil. Another down side to this quick growth, is it lacks energy because of the diminishing hours of sunshine.

My mind's eye can picture our dairy cows making for the homestead with their heads lowered down against the rain early in the afternoon, then just standing in a huddle waiting for the milking parlour doors to open so that they can step inside for shelter and some blended concentrated feed.

The Crane Flies (*Daddy Longlegs*) that were so prevalent during September have laid their eggs out in the pastures and have crawled away to die having completed their seasons work. During the winter months their eggs will lie dormant until spring approaches then their larva will appear in the form of the Leather Jacket, these large grey grubs develop a huge appetite and often on heavy land can do a lot of damage to very young growth.

During my introduction to running our family farm I can recall sowing grass seed early in the spring and watching it germinate with glee, only to see it disappear overnight.

In those days farmers were blessed with a very good free service the Agricultural Divisional Advisory Service, better known as ADAS, it was sponsored by the Ministry of Food, undoubtedly a hang over from the Second World War.

I was about to have my eyes opened—an advisor came and looked at the barren looking field, other than a few remaining blades of grass around the outside under the hedges, this area farming folk call the headland, it gets most of the traffic from the tractors and machinery during tillage so the ground is more compacted.

The advisor knew his stuff and explained that he thought the field was infected with Leather Jackets. The reason some new grass was still showing on the headland was because the ground was more compacted and the hungry grubs could not move around under the surface so freely.

He advised that I purchased some bran and then mix it with an insecticide, I can remember spreading the bran across a swept dry area of concrete, then with a watering can fitted with a rose lightly dampening the surface with the diluted insecticide and shovelling like mad to mix it all. Once that was complete, the contents were loaded into a fertilizer spinner, trailed behind a tractor, then with the feed outlet almost closed I spread the contents across the four acre field. Leather Jackets come to the surface at night. The following morning for every square foot of that field there was at least six dead Leather Jackets. Of course a fresh lot of seed had to be sown but that soon flourished without the pests.

Message from your Parish Council

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Many of you may have noticed that there are two new large litter bins by the Shop and Millennium Hall. The Parish Council wish to thank Bradfords (Building Merchants) for donating one of these bins and the residents, who wish to remain anonymous, for the other.

If you have not seen them yet – one is close to the shop by the lower gate and the second is by the Jubilee play area, in the corner as you leave either the play area or the Hall car park.

Now the Autumn is with us and leaves are falling from the trees the Lengthsman is doing his best to keep drains clear of vegetation. However, if you have a drain close to your property and could keep it clear this would be greatly appreciated. The Parish Council are still in contact with County Highways regarding several of the issues that were raised earlier in the year. Hopefully, these will be dealt with in the not too distant future, but the usual answer is that there are not sufficient monies in the 'pot'.

The Autumn Wind

Annie (01460 241762)

The Robin sings his Autumn song
Upon the crab-tree overhead,
The clouds of smoke they sail alone,
Leaves rustle from their mossy bed.
There's nothing suits my musing mind
Like to the pleasant Autumn wind.

John Clare
1793—1864)

In September I went with our local RSPB Group on a field trip to Ham Wall RSPB Reserve and Shapwick Heath NNR. We began the morning walk on Ham Wall with one of the volunteer wardens, John Crispin. There is a five-year plan to improve the Reserve for people to observe the sighting of birds and encourage visiting birds to stay and breed. Phase I has begun with the cutting and draining of some of the reed-beds. Time is limited on being allowed to do this-commenced 15th August and will finish 30th November. Phase II begins next year with more cutting and drainage of reed-beds, a car park to take 180 cars; a visitor centre with refreshments and loos! and the siting of 2 hides. Certainly an improved place to visit and see progress and birds during the next 5 years.

The walk began with seeing fresh Otter 'Pooh' very fishy smell! We saw Little Egret, Great White Egret, Grey Heron—5 of them had nested in the reed-beds and not in trees. Bittern had raised 35 young this year. Little Bittern are now residents and this year produced 2 young. Amongst the reed-beds were Cetti's Warbler, very secretive but has a distinctive song—'pwit-pity-chewit-chewit' and bearded Tit now to seen in the dense reed but again has distinctive call, sometimes called 'Reedling' or 'Ree Pheasant: Water Rail was skulking amongst the reeds, we could hear a variety of 'grunts and squeals'. Marsh Harrier was flying around with long, rather broad wings and long tail. It nested for the first time, amongst the reed-beds and quite close to the Great White Egret, both of whom its chief food is small birds! John didn't know if they had eaten each others young!

After a quick, late lunch we strolled on to Shapwick Heath. We saw Ruff, a member of the Sand-piper family, black-tailed Godwits, Green Sand-piper, Snipe, Swan, flocks of Widgeon and Lapwing. The latter rose in the air as 'one' when disturbed by an over-head Sparrow hawk. The special sighting of the afternoon was a 'Glossy Ibis' a member of the Spoonbill family., Purplish-brown, with rounded wings and darker tail glossed with green, curved, dark-greyish-brown bill and greenish-brown legs. Wow! What a sighting to end a fabulous day.

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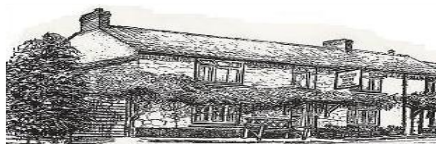
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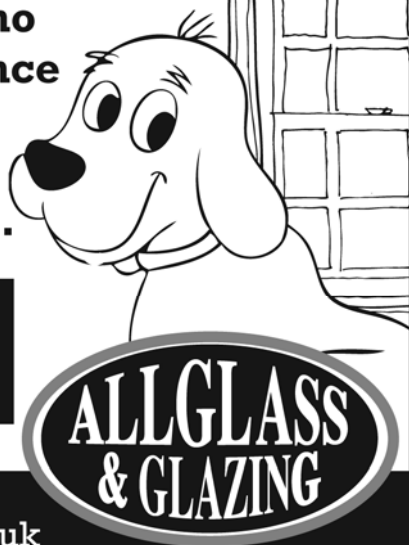
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Date: Thursday 7th November

Time: 10.30 a.m.

Venue: Hunts House, Seavington St. Michael, TA19 0QF

Christmas Cards * Diaries * Calendars
Stocking Fillers * Raffle

Entrance: £1.50 (covers as much coffee or tea as you wish)

South Meade Garden Opening for NGS 2013

Robin & Charo Ritchie (01460 249690)

Another Spring and another Summer for us to remember, this one will be remembered as the hottest one! (hot enough for me to swim with my fishes and yes it is a large pond for those that have not been at my opening).

Robin and I would like to thank all who came and supported the NGS in June and July; our thanks also to Liz Tope for opening her garden in June with a combined admission with mine.

We wish to thank to all the volunteers at the Cafe for kindly giving their time and making sure all visitors left Seavington with a few extra pounds.

We had visitors from all walks of life with one thing in common, the love and passion for plants. Visitors came from all over UK, a mini coach from Germany, also from Sweden. From Australia, New Zealand and Canada came visitors to friends or relatives in Somerset, Avon & Devon, but they knew all about the yellow book! They often say they wish they could grow what we have here but their weather was either too hot or too cold like in Canada.

Here in England we have a different concern as to how plants are going to perform. We can give them all the care, food, the right soil etc. but the wind, the rain and the frost at the wrong time can have the last say.

Which brings up the conversation or debate of the why certain plants didn't do as well as in previous years or in some cases they did very well. Never two years are the same so the waiting to unveil each season is exciting and just seeing what unfolds each day is what gardening is all about .

Thank you once again, We made a total amount of £888 which has gone to NGS to be shared with Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Alzheimer's Society, Perennial, Help the Hospices, Carers Trust, Queen's Nursing Institute, NT Gardening Careerships, Elspeth Thomson Bursary and Garden Museum, and for more info you can visit their web at www.ngs.org.uk.

Wishing you lots of Love this Christmas and lots of very nice Surprises for 2014.

Seavington Gardening Club

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

Grandma's Garden - Yvonne Bell

Living in an Edwardian House started Yvonne on a journey into research into the Edwardian lifestyle in the period 1902 - 1918. After the formal style of the Victorians, the Edwardians yearned for romance and naturalism.

The large wealthy middle class had spare money to spend. Edward Lutyens, an ambitious young architect, met the older Gertrude Jekyll and formed a partnership and together they changed the formal look of houses and gardens large and small. Lutyens designed in the Arts and Craft movement style - houses with a 'country' look while Gertrude Jekyll created sunken gardens, pergola colonnades, water features, and her innovation, the creation of the herbaceous border – a designed but natural-looking deep border containing a carefully chosen palette of colours, a feature which now appears in almost every significant garden.

Favourite Edwardian plants were rambling roses, delphiniums, honeysuckles, lilies and agapanthus. Fragrance was important. In turn cottage gardens were planted up with the plants that were thrown out from the main garden along with their vegetable plants. Lutyens also designed Welwyn Garden City where a whole new town was built in the Arts and Crafts style, including houses with front and back gardens. Along with the acquisition of gardens, the Edwardians became enthusiasts for 'open air' and there was an enthusiasm for sleeping and eating out of doors and thus the creation of garden furniture. There was a craze for rockeries, conservatories, verandas,

French doors, even revolving garden shelters which could be turned to be out of the wind! These developments were often the butt of jokes in 'Punch'. Inevitably we can see many of these influences today in our own gardens.

Flower of The Month

- 1 – Marlene Tolman – Gladioli
- 2 - Gill Beveridge – Kaffir Lily
- 3 - Jane White – Toad Lily

The Flower of the Month Competition 2013 was won by Marlene Tolman. Sarah Day, Chair of the Seavington Gardening Club, presented her with the Irene Williams Memorial Plate.

Forthcoming events:

Social Evening 7.30pm Thursday 14 November Open to Non-Members!

This year we are showing two films, one commemorating life in Seavington in the year 2000 made by Seavington's own Brian Lawrence and Ken Wensley! Thirteen years on it is interesting to see what was going on in 2000! The second film which was made by a group, including Brian Lawrence, from the Chard U3A tells 'The Story of the Chard Canal'. The canal ran from Chard to Creech St Michael near Taunton and opened in 1842. 25 years later it had been abandoned with the arrival of railways in Somerset. Information was gleaned from historians at Chard Museum, Chard History Group, Somerset Historic Environment Records, Google Earth and Streetview. Both films are a credit to the amazing local film makers in our community. We will provide refreshments including mulled wine – members are asked to bring along some mince pies!

Christmas Dinner will be at 7pm 12 December at The Volunteer

Charo Ritchie is circulating menus – could people return their choices to her by 30th November.

Seavington Gardening Club Guest Night welcomed guests from Barrington, Long Sutton, Over Stratton and Barrington Gardening Clubs. Huge thanks need to go again to Seavington Club members who produced such a superb buffet.



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CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 16th November 2013
2pm – 4pm - in Church

Cakes Toys Books Tools Bric-a-brac Jigsaws Raffle Tombola

Children's Activities

Nail painting Face painting Mocktails Games

And join us for a lovely cup of tea too!

Seavington Playing Field Association

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS PARTY

SEAVINGTON PLAYING FIELD

Tuesday 5th November

Starting at 5.30pm

Bonfire lit at 6.00pm - Fireworks at 6.30pm

Burgers - Hot Dogs - Soft Drinks

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Any material for the Bonfire may be taken to the Playing Field from

Saturday 2nd November



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Our café is a perfect place to meet friends and have a delicious coffee and a snack, cooked breakfast or a light lunch including the daily special.

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We are always looking for volunteers, both shop and café, as well as over 25 behind the scenes jobs. So, if you have a few hours to spare and would like to join our team do give us a call (01460 249730) or pop in to see us.



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Details of future productions can be found in the local press or on our website: **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**

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?

Seavington Millennium Hall

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 30th November

Seavington Millennium Hall 10.00 am to mid-day

Raffle, cakes, toys, bric-a-brac, jewellery

Other stalls include Our own Youth Club, Get2Gether, RSPB and Homemade Chutneys and Jams

Tables still available at £5; Set-up from 8.00 am
to book one call Annie: 01460 241762 (Answerphone)

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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 Villagers

Chairman's Award for Service to the Community

It is with great pleasure and delight that I have been nominated to receive the above award given by the Chairman of Somerset County Council. The presentation will be made in Taunton on the 24th October.

This I consider to be on behalf of all the Seavington residents and it has been a pleasure to be one of you for the last 20 odd years and to have been so involved with our Hall and the Parish Council.

With sincere thanks to all concerned, Peter J Ashley

Advance Notice

As our Parish now officially includes St James, East Lambrook as well as SS Peter and Paul, South Petherton and ourselves, St Michael's, there will be one joint Parish Communion Service to celebrate Christ's birth at 10.30am on Christmas Day at St Peter and St Paul's church, South Petherton. If you know of anyone who will need a lift, please contact Carol (241478) or Manda (240554).

The Seavingtons' Weather in September 2013

	<i>This year—2013</i>	<i>Previous year—2012</i>
<i>Temperature</i>		
Average Minimum	10.61°C	9.49°C
Average Maximum	19.73°C	18.36°C
Mean	15.17°C	13.93°C
<i>Rainfall</i>		
Monthly Total	47.5mm (1.90")	72.9mm (2.92")
Total for the year	440.7mm (17.63")	727.2mm (29.09")



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