

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

October 2017



**Popular postman takes first prize at Flower Show
snapped on his rounds by Nicky**

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The Seavingtons' News

For twenty-five years residents of our two villages have been able to take advantage of a bulk heating oil purchase scheme organised and managed by Peter Wyatt. The scheme made oil purchase so easy. Peter would 'phone you and, abracadabra, both he and a tanker would arrive and top up your tank at a discounted price.

Peter, as announced last month, has decided to hang up his hi-vis jacket and sit by the AGA. On behalf of everyone I would like to pass to Peter our gratitude for his perseverance with the scheme over such a long period and for the time he has spent serving his fellow villagers.

Now, the good news. The oil purchase scheme is not dead. Nigel Key has offered to take over from Peter with immediate effect—details on page 8.

On page 4 of this month's Seavingtons' News you will find some potentially life-saving information. Our Parish Council and Playing Field Association have, generously, arranged for a defibrillator to be permanently available for emergency use by residents. It has been fixed to the outside wall of the Community Shop so as to be readily accessible. Instructions on how to open the container are in the article and will be repeated from time to time in this magazine.

This is yet another example of our villages pulling together for mutual benefit, in this case potentially a real life-changing one.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

The Newspaper Skip!

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

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

is the 15th October

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 07905 215993 or hallbookings@theseavingtons.org*

1st October	11.30 am	Harvest Festival at St Michael's—p18
2nd October	7.15 pm	Arts Society talk at Frogmary Green Farm, "Basingstoke and its contribution to world culture"
4th October	7.30 pm	"Indian Night" in Village Café—p17
9th October	noon	Seniors' Lunch in Village Café—p23
12th October	6.30 pm	Gardening Club Guest Night—p7
17th October	7.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting—p15
19th October	7.30 pm	RSPB Group talk "Better Birding" by Mike Langman—p23
20th October	7.30 pm	Apple Harvest Supper—p24
9th November	10.00 am	RNLI Coffee Morning at Hunts House—p 5

Regular Activities

2 nd Monday	noon	Seniors' Lunch in Village Café
3 rd Tuesday	7.00 pm	Parish Council Meeting
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

1st October	11.30 am	Harvest Festival & Patronal Festival
8th October	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
8th October	9.30 am	Service in South Petherton—Safeguarding Sunday {Holy Communion (CW)}
15th October	11.30 am	Holy Communion (CW)
22nd October	11.30 am	Matins
29th October		No service—services in South Petherton
Rev Tom Handy telephone: 01460 240377; revdtomhandy@hotmail.com		

The Seavingtons' News Team

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Please do not hesitate to telephone David Froome on 01460 249445 if you have any questions.

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	Annual	Monthly
Full Page	£ 100	£ 12
½ Page	£ 50	£ 6
¼ Page	£ 28	£ 4

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The New Defibrillator

Ian Gibson (01460 249556; ig@tigtrain.co.uk)

Thanks to the generosity of the Parish Council and the Playing Fields Association we now have a fully functional defibrillator for the village. For those of you who may not know what a “defib” is used for then let me explain, and I apologise to those who may think I am trying to teach Grandma to suck eggs!

The AED or defibrillator, is literally an electric shock machine, but used to very good purpose when needed in an emergency. Should, and we hope it never happens, someone in the village suffers cardiac arrest, that is, their heart stops beating, then, use of the defib is a vital tool to saving their life. Let me explain what is needed for it to work.

In the case of a cardiac arrest the patient needs emergency treatment. The first thing to do, having identified their need, is to call the emergency services on 999 and report the incident. They will ask your location and ask also if there is a defib nearby, or you can offer that information. They will then give you the code to open the secure box.

Should you wish to use the defibrillator then get someone to go to the machine and get the portable machine from the case on the wall of the shop exterior.

In the meantime and to save any delay in attending the person, start giving CPR (chest compressions) until the defib arrives with you. THEN follow the simple instructions on opening the defib case. It is surprisingly easy and you cannot go wrong. Anyone can use a defib sensibly and it is foolproof.

Do not be afraid of giving a shock to a needy person, but remember only shock if there is no heartbeat—don’t worry, the machine, when connected, will only allow you to shock in this instance. If there is a heartbeat then it will prevent you from administering any shock. The difference between a cardiac arrest and heart attack is that with the arrest the heart stops beating, but with an attack the heart may beat erratically but not stop beating altogether.

All this may sound drastic and something which may worry certain people. However, the increased use of defibs nationally has prevented many early deaths and have become almost a norm within communities like ours.

Now, we are running a training course, lasting no more than a couple of hours, in the very near future. This will be held in the Millennium Hall and, directly we know, I will make sure you are all aware of the date, should you

wish to attend. In the meantime, should you want to learn more about important first aid techniques, including use of the AED, then there is a small pocket sized leaflet published by St John Ambulance that is available at the Community Shop, just ask the volunteers on duty if you cannot find one.

Let us all hope that the machine is there just like an insurance policy – we may never have to use it!!

Our Cover Picture

This month's cover picture shows our ever cheerful postman, Ian, on his rounds and was the winning picture in the "Village Life" section at this year's Seavington Flower Show. We offer our congratulations to both Ian and the photographer Nicky Wotton whom we also thank for permission to reproduce the picture. Sadly, our reprographic process does not do proper justice to the quality of the colour original.

SPFA Lottery Draw Results

Jackie Priddle (01460 240734)

Here are the draw results for September 2017:

First	£35	Mike & Jack Beiby
Second	£20	Sue Sprague
Third	£15	Jeffery Booker
Fourth	£10	Rhona Ash
Fifth	£10	Judith Bonning

**RNLI Coffee Morning
for your Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diaries and
Stocking Fillers**



Lifeboats

Hunts House, Seavington St Michael

Thursday 9th November at 10.00 am

Entrance fee £1.50

Seavington Gardening Club

Kate Mulligan (01460 242023)

Thursday 14th September 2017

“Roses for the Garden and Show” a talk by Roy Halsey

The first of our meetings back in the Millennium Hall was well attended and with such a knowledgeable speaker we were able to pick up plenty of tips for successful rose growing and showing.

Roy has spent a lifetime involved in all aspects of horticulture from being a competitor in shows to judging for the Royal Horticultural Society and the Royal National Rose Society. The latter was once the largest organisation in the country, bigger even than the RHS, but recent decline in membership forced it to close in May of this year. However, from the ashes it is hoped to grow The Rose Society UK.

Roy started showing roses in 1974 and like many of us found little success initially but eventually, after winning first prize for one of his roses, he was hooked. He knew the best way to succeed was to concentrate on one section of a show and for him this had to be roses.

He recommends buying from local rose growers so the plants establish much more quickly in fairly familiar soil. He also talked about dead heading by cutting down the stem rather than just pulling off the flower itself and the importance of watering and feeding.

Problems such as black spot can be controlled by some rather unusual methods involving Jeyes Fluid, but you might want to ask someone from the Gardening Club about that! Advice he gave on the depth of planting for new roses went against generally accepted guidance but it has proved successful for him.

There was so much information in his talk it would be impossible to pass all of it on but if you want to know more then he did provide a leaflet on Tips for Growing Healthy Roses which can be obtained from the Gardening Club.

His final advice was not to prune before the start of March and only then if the weather is suitable. Roses are tough plants so it takes a lot to kill them off completely and they can survive even the harshest of pruning.

So you will find out next Summer who attended this fascinating talk as no doubt the roses in Seavington gardens will be perfectly pruned, wonderfully healthy and producing fantastic blooms!

Many thanks to Roy for his enthusiasm and experience.

Flower of the Month Competition:

1st - Karen Day - Dahlia

2nd - Kate Mulligan - Dahlia

3rd - Gill Keene - Lobelia

Forthcoming Events:

Thursday 12th October in the Millennium Hall - Guest Night Buffet - members only.

A light hearted Gardening Quiz hosted by Mike Short.

Ploughman's style supper included with soft drinks and wine.

Flower of the Month Competition and presentation of the Irene Williams Memorial Plate

Please note earlier starting time of 6.30pm

For further information please contact Karen Day tel. 01460 249728

A view from the field...

Chris Gough (spfa@theseavingtons.org)

Now that the children have gone back to school, Hall bookings have increased and we have something going on several times a week until Christmas. In addition, our sports block and field are also getting well used with two local league football teams sharing our facilities.

Now that we have regular football on the field please try to keep dogs off the pitch as much as possible. It is really good that the Hall and field are being used by such a wide variety of groups, supporting a range of activities, with something for everyone.

The way in which we are able to continue to provide and maintain the field and Hall for all of our benefit is through the good work undertaken by our local volunteers. At the moment, we need one or more additional volunteers to keep a watching brief over the field and play areas and possibly liaise with contractors/inspectors when things need to be done.

It is certainly not an onerous task and could easily be divided into say the play areas and the field. The watching part could even be incorporated into your daily dog walking routine. Do please drop me a line if you feel that you would like to help, or would like to know more about what is involved.

As always, please contact me by email via SPFA to report any issues with the Hall or Playing Field.

Village Heating Oil Syndicate

Nigel Key (01460 241540)

In last month's Seavingtons' News Peter Wyatt announced he was hanging up his boiler suit after 25 years of organising the Village Heating Oil Syndicate. I guess this must now be one of the oldest in the county. Many thanks Peter.

I have volunteered to take on this role and am currently going through all the training material. Shortly I will finish the handover from Peter. So all you will need to do is ring my number and not Peter's in future. If you have any problems with the organisation or the delivery please let me know and I will aim to improve it for you.

A Big Thank-you

I wish to publicly show my gratitude, and I am sure that I am not alone in this, by thanking Peter Wyatt for acting as the village co-ordinator for joint purchase and deliveries of heating oil for what seems a good many years.

Thanks Peter, for a job well done!!

Robin Gilbert

Report on Building Work from Seavington CLT

Peter Ash (01460

20 weeks have passed since works started at the old Lift West site and they are certainly making a show. The main problems of old petrol tanks and contaminated soil have now been successfully addressed. The main structures of houses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 are up, with the roofs and chimneys complete on 5, 6, 7 & 8. The ground works for 11, 12 & 13 are complete and the frames will be erected during the first week of October.

The first fixings are being carried out in 5 & 6 (the show houses) which will be ready for viewing after the Christmas holiday. Works are underway to the elaborate drainage system which will control the flow of the surface water from the site. Most of the building and drainage works will have to be complete before houses 1, 2, 3 & 4 are started as this area is needed to gain access to the site. At the moment the project is on target - lets hope we have a kind Autumn and Winter

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A Reminder:

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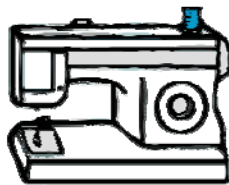
Seating for 150 people, fully licensed bar, coffee area, disabled access and T-loop hearing system.

Details of future productions can be found in the local press or on our website: www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk (plus audition nights, IES Membership, Box Office and more) or call **07943 779880** 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?*

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News from Your Parish Council

Pauline Parsons (01460 240193)

Although the Parish Council did not meet in August several matters have been receiving attention.

1. Notification was received from South Somerset District Council that the Developer of the Lift West Site had suggested that the development should have the postal address of 'Falcon Close'. This had been already been agreed by Royal Mail and the District Council. Some of you will remember that when investigations were made with regard to the carving of the village entrance signs it was discovered *"that the manor of Seavington St Michael was held by Siward the Falconer from some 20 years after the Norman Conquest. Following the Conquest land was taken by the invaders and distributed by William I to his barons, however in this, very rare exception, a Saxon, Siward, was allowed to keep his lands, because he was a recognised specialist at hunting with hawks. His lands lay between the rivers Parrett and Ile at Seavington and Dinnington."* Consequently the Parish Council felt that this was a very apt name.

2. A meeting has been requested with County Highways so that further discussions can take place regarding some lines and signs that hopefully will lead to a reduction of speed through the villages. Recent SID [Speed Indicator Devices] readings have shown that speeds are in fact again on the increase, particularly from the Lopen Head direction. It has already been suggested that the 30mph and village entrance signs to the west of the new housing development should be moved further to the west. At the time of writing no date for a meeting has yet been agreed.

3. The Parish Council has recently signed the Licence that Somerset County Council need in order that several planters can be placed around the village. We are grateful for the work done by Seavington Gardening Club to drive this forward and to Mr & Mrs Nick Bragg for sponsoring the scheme. County Highways will have to be present and agree all the positions of the planters when work starts. We are hopeful that the work may commence in the Autumn.

4. Last, but not least, the Parish Council has been informed that, because of changing circumstances, Jamie Gillard will not be able to continue with the grass cutting that he has done for several years around the villages. We are sure that you will agree that the areas that have been maintained by Jamie has kept many areas of the village looking very neat and tidy and will join with us in thanking Jamie for all his hard work. At the moment the Parish Council are in negotiations with Somerset Landscapes [who cut the main part of the playing field] and Somerset District Council [Rangers] so that the areas can continue to be maintained.

The next scheduled meetings for the Parish Council are:-

17th October, 21st November and 19th December.

Should you need to contact the Parish Council please e-mail parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org or speak to any Parish Councillor.

Seavington Playing Field Association

Registered Charity No: 268986

Advance notice of Christmas Market On Saturday 25th November At Seavington Millennium Hall 10.00 am until Mid-day

Tables available at £5; Set-up from 8.00 am onwards

To book a table call Annie
01460 241763 (Answerphone)

HOLIDAY IN SPAIN

Beautiful 3 bedroom modern duplex apartment with communal pool, under 10 minutes from beach by car - wonderful views from terraces, walking distance to local village of Palau Saverdera.

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Apartment available for holiday rentals between June and September 2018; early booking recommended. For more details contact Sarah Lawton at sarahlawton22@gmail.com or call 07901716819

The Red-legged Partridge

Alectoris Rufa 13 ½"

Annie (01460 241762)

What wondrous is this I lead?
Ripe apples drop above my head
The luscious cluster of the vine
Upon my mouth do crush their wine,
The nectarin and curious peach,
Into my hands themselves do each;
Stumbling on melons as I pass,
Ensnared with flowers, I gall on grass.

A. Marvell (1621-1678)

The Red-legged Partridge was introduced to Britain from the Continent around 1790, as a game-bird. Compact and ground-dwelling it has a distinctive pattern of black and white on the head running through the eye and continuing to form a band on the throat. The breast is streaked black with pink and the underparts are orange-yellow. Legs, feet and bill are coral red. Strongly barred wings in rich chestnut are most noticeable in flight, the two sexes look alike. In courtship, the cock holds his head up and slightly to one side, erecting the feathers of its white cheek and throat. The barred feathers on the wing are also fluffed-up making a very handsome display.

This bird is unique among British birds in that the hen may lay two clutches of eggs close together, brooding one herself while the male broods the clutch in the other nest. The nests being "scrapes" in the ground lined with dried grass. These may be found in a covert, hedgerow or amongst growing crops. The hen may lay up to 28 eggs between the two "scrapes".

They are buffish in colour, spotted with reddish-brown. These are laid from late April to early May. There is a high rate of loss if left unattended whilst the parents feed. Many are destroyed by predators such as stoats and rats. After about 25 days the chicks hatch and leave the nest to run around. They will fly at about two weeks.

They are "running birds". The hind toe on each foot has been reduced to little more than a stub, which reduces the area of the foot touching the ground. The same result is obtained by a sprinter running on the balls of their feet.

Many thanks to all who attended the AGM and listened to the reports. As you are aware now we have had a difficult trading year with lots of expenditure and some effect of the road closures. We are now back on track and look forward to seeing many of you in the store during the next months and anticipating Christmas when we shall have some special Christmas offers for the coming season. It is never too early to start stocking up! Do come along and see.

The artists of the next two months have already placed their displays in store and we welcome Chris Hart and his ceramics range and Ange Hart with her range of evocative prints. All ideal for those special presents.

Our range of goods has been revised to try and cater for all tastes and needs; we still have the basic necessities of life in the store alongside some goodies for a treat or two.

The range of wines and spirits has been added to for the run up to Christmas, not forgetting that we are still at the end of the summer and autumn period as well. But, some forward news that we will have our “usual” special box of 6 mixed wines for £40 – come along and see the extended range – something to suit all tastes and favourites. Do you need something special in terms of seasonal drinks, then let Ian or a volunteer know.

The café continues to go from strength to strength and Jane is offering some special daily fare for you to sample. There will be a special Supper Club on October 4th when Jane is offering an “Indian Night” – sample the delights of Indian cuisine in the atmosphere of our café, why not buy some wine in the shop the day before and enjoy with your meal! Book early to avoid disappointment. Timing is 7.30 pm and cost only £15 per head.

Winter approaches, so firewood, coal and firelighters are available in store at very competitive prices. Cards and calendars already available for next year – ugh what a thought only a few weeks until Christmas.

Thanks for your support as always and we look forward to seeing you soon.

News From Shepton Beauchamp Pre-school

Charlie Pattison (01460 241396)

The children have all come bouncing back to Pre-School – most of them seem to have grown taller and chattier during the Summer! Our leavers have settled into life at big school without a backward glance, they all looked so smart in their new uniforms. The children are enjoying the garden when the sun shines (and when it doesn't!) and the older ones are loving story time with Father Geoff and their Welly Walks around the village. This term we are learning about autumn, colours and animals – lots to bring in for Show and Tell.

If you are having a clear out of your wardrobes our **Bag2School** Charity Clothing Collection is on 20th October – if you have any clothes, bags, shoes or soft toys we would be delighted to receive them at any time either at the Village Hall or at Stoke Villa, Robins Lane or phone us and we will happily collect.

Recycling – we are collecting used computer ink cartridges, trigger sprays from cleaning products and empty biscuit wrappers – see our website for more details.

TODDLER GROUP. Our next meeting will be Thursday 5th October. All ages from babies to Pre-School aged children are very welcome. Friendly group – lots of chatter and coffee for grown-ups and fun for children too! Come anytime from 9-11.15am.

For more information please call Natalie or Kath 07765 437301 or email info@sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or www.sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or follow us on Facebook – or just pop in and meet us – we'd love to see you!

St Michael's Church

Harvest Festival Service and Patronal Festival for St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 1st October at 11.30 am



Girls and Boys, Mums and Dads, please bring your harvest gifts and join us to celebrate the harvest

All harvest gifts are given to Barnabas House, Yeovil—supporting homeless people

Jimmy James

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'Better Birding – How to Improve your Birdwatching'

A fun evening with Mike Langman, one of our most popular speakers. There will be tips to help you identify trickier confusing species – both common and unusual. Why are some birds easier to remember than others? How good are you at remembering a bird call from one year to the next? We should all have improved our birdwatching by the end of the evening!

Thursday 19th October - 7.30pm The Millennium Hall, Seavington St Mary
Entry: Group members £2.50, non-group members £3.50, under 18's free
(tea/coffee & biscuits included) – wheelchair access

NON-MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

For further details contact: Denise Chamings (group leader) on 01460240740
www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset

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Cafe Mon-Fri 10.00am-4.00pm, Sat 10.00am-2.00pm

Seavington Playing Field Association

(Registered Charity No: 268986)

Apple Harvest Supper

Friday 20th October, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm
at the Seavington Millennium Hall

Entertainment by Kentucky Moon

Please bring your own drink
(and apple peeler!)

Tickets £ 7; under 16 £4; Family Ticket £20

Available from Seavington Village Store and
Annie Prichard (01460 241762 + Answer-phone)

(On sale from Monday 18th September)

The Seavingtons' Weather in August 2017

This year—2017

Previous year—2016

Temperature

Average Minimum	11.67°C	12.25°C
Average Maximum	20.82°C	23.31°C
Mean	16.24°C	17.78°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	78.9 mm (3.16")	25.2 mm (1.01")
Total for the year	530.8 mm (21.23")	488.6mm (19.54")



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