

THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

March 2021



Takeaways & Home Deliveries

available 7 days a week

Lunch & Evenings
12.00pm – 2.00pm
6.00pm – 8.00pm

We also have small pop up shop with
fresh fruit & veg, cleaning products,
soft drinks, dry goods, wine and beer

Large Fruit & Veg boxes
available to pre-order
£22.00

Fresh Meat available to
pre-order for next day



Daily Menu on our
 Facebook page
@newinnilminster

Call us to order

01460 52413

We would like to encourage our
contactless takeaways where ever
possible so home deliveries can be
made to those that need it
Thank you & stay safe!

New Inn, Dowlish Wake
TA19 0NZ
(01460 52413)

KEV'S CLEANING SERVICES LTD



**We clean
all windows
inside & outside
and
always include
window sills
and frames**

**Skylights / solar panels
conservatories & any type of roof**

We offer regular and one-off cleans

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

JJK GUTTERING SERVICES LTD

**We empty, unblock and
clean gutters, fascias,
soffits, downpipes,
conservatories and roofs**

**We can fix
and replace
any leaking
guttering**



*Friendly team of reliable
and trustworthy staff*

For a free quotation call 01823 272260 07885 451628
www.kevscleaningservices.co.uk
email: kevs cleaning@btinternet.com

The Seavingtons' News

This time last year the light at the end of the proverbial tunnel was not even partially obscured by the oncoming train of the pandemic.

Thus, the foreword to the Seavingtons' News was concerned with reopening of our village Youth Club, the inadequacies of local government and the threat of being subsumed in a vast County Council power grab to take over the district councils. I referred to our community as like an "irrelevant pimple on the backside" as far as local government officials, district and county councils were concerned.

Whilst none of these issues or sentiments has gone away, the pandemic has stalled progress on them all, whilst showing that, when it needs to, our community can spontaneously come together in a cohesive and caring way.

I refer, of course, to the way in which, at the personal level, neighbours have helped and protected each other by shopping, running errands, collecting prescriptions etc. At the organisational level our volunteer run and manned community shop has become a lifeline to all with its increased stock variety and delivery services.

Back in the Covid tunnel the light is beginning to reappear and we can anticipate some loosening of Covid restrictions alongside the snowdrops, daffodils and improving weather.

Therefore, this is a good time to express, on behalf of everyone, our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who have made our lives easier over the past year. When the pandemic is over perhaps we should consider making a voluntary contribution to our community by joining them.

David Froome

DON'T FORGET

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

is the 20th March

Editorial content and diary entries to:

David Froome, Middlefield Barn, Church Lane, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster,
TA19 0QP Tel: 01460 249445; e-mail: news@theseavingtons.org

St Michael's Church, Seavington

14th March	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday & Communion at St Mary's Church
21st March	10.30 am	All Age Communion
28th March	10.30 am	Palm Sunday Eucharist and blessing of palms

During lockdown these services will be recorded and a web-link will be available from Ian Gibson (see below); anyone is welcome to attend subject to the normal social distancing and use of a mask and the sanitiser provided. The Church will remain open at all times for private prayer. Ian Gibson remains available for all pastoral needs.

Honorary Rector for Seavington: Rev Canon Ian Gibson
07843 672803; igchichester@gmail.com
Church Office: 07831 982470; office@southpethertonchurch.org.uk

The Seavingtons' Weather in January 2021

This year—2021

Previous year—2020

Temperature

Average Minimum	1.15°C	4.27°C
Average Maximum	6.89°C	9.13°C
Mean	4.02°C	6.70°C

Rainfall

Monthly Total	94.1 mm (3.76")	80.2 mm (3.21")
Total for the year	94.1 mm (3.76)	80.2 mm (3.62")

Wettest January since 2016 but not as wet as further up country

Advertising Rates

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

Advertising enquiries to: adverts@theseavingtons.org

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 All,

As a Radio 4 and 'The Archers' fan my ears pricked up when the Archers' year began with Linda Snell receiving the MBE for services to the community, which of course includes working as a volunteer in Ambridge Village Shop.

Linda Snell (actually the actress Carole Boyd) came to open our very own community shop & café in 2010; I seem to remember she even did a stint at the till on the day!

Meanwhile the regular volunteers have been working hard keeping the shelves full, delivering to vulnerable customers, and keeping the shop open through two national lockdowns and all the intervening periods in some pretty difficult circumstances; and not forgetting Jane who has kept the café going too within the limits that are allowed.

I think they, like all those helping people to keep going in these strange times, deserve a big thank you every so often – an MBE for everyone might be unrealistic – but random thanks through the pages of The Seavingtons' News is at least possible, if not as glamorous!

So, thank you to everyone at the village shop & café – I really appreciate that we can get such a wide range of goods and services in the village and don't have to join the melee in the big shops every time we need some groceries.

Jo Mills,
Dark Lane, Seavington St Mary

THANKS - Face masks sold in the shop

Terry Gibson (terry@tigtrain.co.uk)

Our community shop has just sent £735 to each of Yeovil Hospital Covid appeal and Musgrove Park Hospital Covid appeal. These funds have come from the donations made by customers in exchange for the pandemic face masks on sale at our check-out.

Our thanks must go to Liz Harper for her continuous supply of these hand-made and attractive masks and also to all our customers for buying them.

They are still available at a £3 donation and further contributions to the hospital charities will be sent off as appropriate.

Country Walks

John Harris (john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Somerset www.walkinginengland.co.uk/somerset is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Somerset (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

More Lockdown Treats

Jo Mills

I noted there are a couple of local food creators that you might have liked to include in your take-away round up of local businesses that should, perhaps, be in your ready-to-eat round up.

Pips Railway Carriage at the Trading Post does treats and meals to finish at home on Fridays and Saturdays which can be ordered on line (<https://pip-at-home.square.site/>)

Also, the new person at the Café at The Meeting House in Ilminster does meals to finish at home on Thursdays and Fridays, billed as 'Kitchen Door Take-aways' the weekly menu and order details can be found on Facebook or Instagram. Search for sueforemanatthegallerycafe. Sue took over in October and has obviously had a tricky start to a new venture and like Pip at the Railway Carriage makes a variety of interesting and delicious foods, both cater for all diets and allergies, meat-eaters and veggies.

Small local businesses, like our village café, that deserve to be, nay – need to be, supported in these difficult times. Plug over! I have tried Sue's cooking before and it is smashing – give it a try! Last week it was Boeuf Bourguignon (£9)

Holy Week Church Services

Date	Time	Church	Service
1st April	7.00 pm	St Michael's	Maundy Thursday: Eucharist of the Last Supper
2nd April	12.00 noon	St Mary's	Good Friday: An hour before the Cross
3rd April	7.00 pm	St Mary's	Easter Eve: Lighting of the Easter Fire and renewal of baptism vows
4th April	10.30 am	St Michael's	Easter Day: Eucharist for the family

Ilminster and Crewkerne Schools

Janine Lewis (janineannlewis@talktalk.net)

Over the past few months Somerset County Council has proposed changes to the local three-tier school system in Ilminster and Crewkerne. The latest development is that the council intend to proceed to the next stage of the process of change by entering into a final consultation on the matter. However, public opinion from the last 'consultation' has shown a clear majority (ranging between 74 and 80% dependent on school and question) opposing this.

Despite saying that this proposal wasn't a 'done deal' in several of the consultation meetings, it appears very much that it is. It seems the council only have one idea (that most people have shown no appetite for) and that is what they are going to forge ahead with - flying in the face of public opinion and the majority.

If you believe in democracy and in local government, then I urge you to make some noise and get involved regardless of your opinion on the matter. These are your local schools. Please engage in the process of consultation as a parent or member of the public.

Change, in some shape or form may be inevitable, as the council's research through an independent review, has shown the current system is unsustainable. However this change is not what people want and not in the time-scale the council have suggested. Full details of the consultation and results of the questionnaire can be found at : <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/crewkerne-and-ilminster-strategic-school-review/> Information about what will happen next can also be found there.

Responses have to be with County Hall by 24th February so you need to move quickly.

As a product of the three-tier system; a teacher in the three-tier system and a parent of children in the three-tier system you will get no prizes for guessing what my opinion on the proposed changes are. I am happy to share if you have an hour or two to spare!

I have also contacted our local councillor (Adam Dance) and I am awaiting a reply with interest, as he is one of the six councillors who sit on the cabinet that have met at county hall to discuss and make decisions on this proposal.

St Mary's Church

Ian Gibson (01460 249566)

Everyone knows that St Mary's Church was declared redundant many years ago when the parishes of Seavington St Michael and Seavington St Mary were amalgamated and centred on St Michael's Church. St Mary's Church is now in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust which is responsible for its care and maintenance.

Although it is in the care of the Trust St Mary's remains consecrated and is regularly used for worship with details of these services published in the Seavingtons' News and on the village web-site. St Mary's bells are also rung regularly and the key to the Church is available from Georgina Fisher in Church Lane for anyone wishing to visit.

At the behest of the Churches Conservation Trust we have now created a "Friends of St Mary's Church" group and we will continue putting regular updates about services, events and especially bell ringing, on the village web-site and in the magazine. If anyone is interested in having involvement in the Friends could they contact either me or the Churchwardens.

The Friends are those who still value St Mary's as a place of quiet and peace and the expectations of the "Friends" is to foster a knowledge of the church, perhaps help in the cleaning and tidying - come along to a service or two, perhaps support the wardens and clergy when special events take place and look after the church when opening for visitors.

There will be no cost, no annual subscription - just time and care.

Village Mart

The Seavingtons' News is pleased to offer a free advertising service to village residents provided that the advertisement is of a non-commercial nature.

One computer table and one printer table. No charge but must collect.

For sale. IKEA pine chest of drawers: 4 drawers. £20. Must collect.

Ring: 01460241540

The Seavington Playing Field Association and the Parish Council—an update

Nick Loxton [Chair Seavington Parish Council]
parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org

Following the announcement in last Month's Newsletter we are pleased to say that things are progressing with regard to the Parish Council becoming Sole Trustees of the Seavington Playing Field Association. Parish Councillors are very grateful to the three remaining Trustees for all the help and co-operation that they are giving us to make this a smooth transfer.

As indicated before, the Parish Council will be paying for the maintenance of the field, including grass and hedges. This means that all residents will be paying for this through the village part of your annual Council Tax. By the Parish Council paying we will be saving the 20% VAT. The inspections of the play equipment will also be done by the Parish Council, but hopefully as most of the equipment has only recently been installed there will not be any significant costs incurred for a few years.

Parish Councillors are already in talks with a small group of residents who wish to join us with a view to a complete re-think of The Millennium Hall. Work has started on refreshing the fabric of the hall. However, there is a general feeling that the hall does need to revert back to a Village Hall.

Over the last few years very few village events have been held utilising either the hall or the field. We can all think of reasons as to why this is the case but it probably comes down to not having a group who has the time to organise such events as in the past. The SPFA Committee, for a number of years has been too small to do such things and in fact have had no need to as monies have been obtained through grants meaning that village fund raising was not as important as in the past.

Perhaps it is now the time to ask does the village actually need a group of people who would be willing to organise such things as – the annual village fete, quizzes in the hall on a regular basis, harvest suppers, Christmas markets etc etc. Any feedback you would like to give would be greatly appreciated. Using the Parish Council e-mail – parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org for this would be appreciated.

It is with some regret that we have to announce that for the coming year The Lottery will not take place. Covid restrictions have made it impossible for door to door collections. A new team of collectors need to be put in place. From the experience last year when only 100 tickets

were sold it does seem that villagers appreciate someone calling and explaining about the lottery. Hopefully in April 2022 we will be in a position to re-launch the Lottery which was a major fund raiser for the Playing Field for many years.

Seavington Villages Oil Run

Nigel Key (01460 241540) oil@theseavingtons.org

Our last order was very popular, with a record number of people requesting oil. It was all delivered by 19 February, so if you are still waiting please contact me. Also, if you did not receive a telephone call informing you of day of your delivery please tell me as the arrangement is that our supplier tells you all individually.

I know I have explained how the system works several times previously but feel it is best to explain again to avoid any misunderstanding.

People requiring oil will contact me throughout the month to make their requests. I acknowledge email requests by reply, but telephone messages are not replied to unless specifically requested. On the publicised date, I send the completed order off to our suppliers. They then provide me with a date when our order will be completed and provide each of our participants with 24 hours notice of their delivery.

Oil is delivered and you settle your individual bills with the supplier.

Sometimes I am asked whether the delivery has taken place. This is difficult to answer because there is not just one tanker which fulfils our order. So you may see your neighbours getting deliveries of oil and you are not visited. Do not worry you will not be left out – if you are I will sort it out for you.

For future deliveries I will change my answerphone message to provide the only delivery date that I know – I hope this helps.

Our next order (post Easter) will be sent off on Friday 9 April.

We then go to orders every 3 months for summer, meaning the following order will be sent off on Friday 2 July.

Over the Counter

Marion Bennett (01460 249522)

As I write this article we are awaiting Boris Johnson's announcement on 22nd February about the possible easing of restrictions in March. After a long, locked down winter with icy temperatures and lots of rain let's hope for some good news. However we know we will be in a far from normal situation for some time to come. For up to date information on shop opening times find us on Facebook and see our website:

www.theseavingtons.org/community/village-store-and-café

You can also ring the Shop - 01460 249730 and our till volunteers will be happy to help you. Our Easter opening times will be available during the month and will be posted in the Shop and on the website.

In the meantime if you need a foodie boost on Fridays we are very pleased to say that Jane continues to offer delicious, great value take-away meals.

MEAL DEAL ON FRIDAYS
£9 FOR MAIN COURSE AND DESSERT
Please order by 11.30 on Thursday. (01460 249730)

5th March Beef lasagne, salad leaves, garlic bread. Sicilian cannoli.

12th March Balti chicken curry, pilau rice, poppadoms. Cherry and almond slice.

19th March Beef Bourguignon and creamy mash. Lemon drizzle slice.

26th March Chicken and chorizo stew with orzo (pasta) and roasted vegetables. Chocolate brownie. All desserts are served with clotted cream.

You can also order paninis and sandwiches. Bon appétit!

To accompany your meal why not treat yourself to a bottle of wine, beer or cider from our excellent selection?

Spot the difference! Many of you have been very observant and commented on our smart new chillers in the Shop. We also have a new

chest freezer in the store room. These replace equipment which was acquired when the Shop opened in 2010 - some of it already destined for disposal. It is now much easier to see our dairy products, deli and fruit and vegetables and of course we will save considerably on energy. We are very grateful to the Seavington Community Land Trust for their generous donation to fund these items.

Crafts for you to buy in March.

Ged Meager is a wood turner from South Petherton. He will be displaying his beautiful wares - ideal if you are looking for a locally made gift. Also, back by popular demand, Janine Lewis will be selling her hand felted novelties. Many of you enjoyed her tree decorations at Christmas. Janine lives in Seavington - you can't get more local than that!

In the coming weeks enjoy the many signs of Spring - have you seen the daffodils along the wall at St Michael's Church? Stay safe and well.

SPFA Lottery

Jackie Priddle (07706 092578)

The winners in the February draw are:

Place	Prize	February 2021
1st	£40	Adam Gough
2nd	£30	Margaret Wood
3rd	£20	Ken Dewsbury
4th	£10	Karen Ogden

Write for your Magazine

The Seavingtons' News is your village magazine, delivered free of charge to every home and business in our two villages and slightly beyond.

It depends on its readership for articles and reports on village activities. Please consider making a contribution to its pages. You can contact the editor at news@theseavingtons.org or by telephoning 01460 249445.

Many thanks.



SEAVINGTON SHOP AND CAFE

BY POPULAR DEMAND!

JANE'S FRIDAY TAKE AWAY MEAL DEAL

Treat yourself to a delicious main course and dessert.

See the Over the Counter for menus and details of how to book.

SEE OUR SELECTION OF DAIRY, DELI, FRUIT AND VEG

Cheddars, red and blue cheeses and Brie

A selection of butters and spreads

Quality cold meats, pate and bacon

A wider than ever selection of fruit and veg



CRAFTS FOR MARCH

Wood products by turner Ged Meagre from South Petherton

Hand felted novelties by Janine Lewis from Seavington

Please help us to follow government guidelines for keeping our staff, volunteers and customers safe from Corona virus. Thank you!

On Facebook & on our website: www.theseavingtons.org/community/village-store-and-cafe

Seavington Village Shop & Cafe, Water St, Seavington TA19 0QH. 01460 249730

Opening hours: Shop Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.00pm, Sat 8.30am - 2.30pm

N.Reyland & Son Sunnyside Farm, Seavington MARFONA POTATOES FOR SALE

25kg Bags.

12.5kg Bags.

12.5kg Bags Bakers.

5kg Bags Roasties.



FREE DELIVERY IN SEAVINGTON

TEL. Chris 07860 142799. Sheila 01460 241238.

Looking for something to stop the boredom and give you the pleasure of creativity?

A kit to make this Chakra necklace featuring amethyst, lapis lazuli, blue lace agate, aventurine, citrine, carnelian and garnet will cost £12 (free delivery) instead of the £21 finished price and will be with you in just a couple of days

Other kits available



e-mail Barbara at harveymembury@tiscali.co.uk to order



All wrapped in tissue paper, with a printed note from you, boxed and posted for just £14.95 plus £2 p&p.

e-mail: sarahharmer2005@yahoo.co.uk
Or visit: www.sarahharmertextileart.com

Do you know someone that would like to receive a 'pick me up' box?

Each box contains a beautiful handmade, fully lined drawstring bag, along with a turbie towel or bath mit, chocolate, tea, a face peel, lip balm, tea lights and a small handmade bag containing bath salts.



St Margaret's Support Groups Taunton and Yeovil

St Margaret's Support Groups are open to anyone affected by a life-limiting illness – patients, their families and friends. As well as providing an opportunity to meet others in similar situations, our trained volunteers can offer visitors:

a listening ear ◊ provide free information ◊ help signpost to other services
 The groups are run on a drop-in basis – there is no need to book or to be referred
Or perhaps you would like to become a volunteer to help run these groups?

St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton TA1 5HA Thursdays 2pm-4pm
Octagon Theatre, Yeovil BA20 1UX 10.30am – 12.30

For further information please contact Lesley Burgess
 E-mail: lesley.burgess@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk; Tel: 0845 070 8910

C.B. POTTS

ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

**Rose Cottage, Watgore,
 South Petherton,
 Somerset TA13 5JQ**

Telephone: 01460 242021

Mobile: 07808 049034

E-mail: ben.potts@zen.co.uk

National Inspection Council For
 Electrical Installation Contracting



APPROVED CONTRACTOR

VAT Reg No: 529 7932 02

***Portable Appliance Testing (PAT); Electrical Power Quality Analyser
 Periodic Inspection Reports (Domestic and Commercial)
 Fire Alarm and Emergency Light Testing; Wireless Inspection Camera***

Domestic & Commercial Work Undertaken:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Rewires | • Additional sockets |
| • Extensions | • Listed building work |
| • Computer/Telephone points | • Whole House sound systems |
| • Security and Access Lighting | • CCTV Camera Installation |
| • Fire Alarms; Nurse Call Systems | • Control Panel design & build |
| • Electrical accessories | • Engraving of labels |
| • Cable laying and ducting | • Outside Events |
| • Electrical Door/ Gate Systems | • Intercom and Entry Systems |



All types of Electrical work undertaken at very competitive prices including:

New Circuits
Emergency Lighting Systems
Bathrooms
Fire Alarms

Electric Heating Systems
Maintenance
Energy Saving Lighting
Smoke Detection Systems

Security Lighting Systems
Appliance Testing
CCTV Systems
Thermographic Surveys

Control Systems
Kitchens
Ventilation Systems

Free, No obligation Quotes

01460 240099

info@dcesystems.co.uk

www.dcesystems.co.uk



A Reminder: County Council Complaint 'phone Number

The Somerset County Council has a single telephone number through which you may report problems such as potholes, drainage issues etc:

0300 123 2224

Introducing your "all year round"
Garden Maintenance Programme

AYR GARDENING SERVICES

Andrew Hall will bring over 30 years experience to your garden

- ♦ Pruning
- ♦ Clipping
- ♦ Vegetable Gardens
- ♦ Planning and Planting
- ♦ Lawn Care

All Year Round Garden Maintenance to suit all household budgets!

Why not give me a call for a free (no obligation) consultation

Tel: 01460 241374
Mob: 07824 996930



Richard A Hunt: Garden and Equestrian

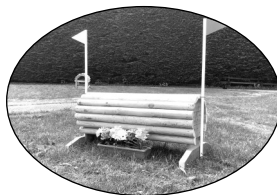
Bringing your ideas to reality

- ◇ Fencing
- ◇ Vegetable Trugs
- ◇ Raised Beds
- ◇ Flower Planters
- ◇ Mowing/Hedge Trimming
- ◇ Potting Stations



Also

- ◇ Bespoke XC and WH Fences
- ◇ Stable Renovations
- ◇ Equine Fencing



Find us on Facebook



@ Richard A Hunt Garden and Equestrian

Seavington St Michael : 07841 595007

A Reminder: County Council Complaints 'phone Number

The Somerset County Council has a single telephone number through which you may report problems such as potholes, drainage issues etc:

0300 123 2224



Mitchams
Chartered
Accountants



ICAEW
CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS

Qualified
Chartered
Accountants
providing a personal,
professional service in
accountancy and taxation
matters for over 60 years...
Find out how we can help.

As an Authorised Firm we are also able to
provide Non-Contentious Probate Services

1 Cornhill, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0AD
www.mitchams.co.uk
info@mitchams.co.uk
Tel: 01460 52202

Bird watching

Jo Mills (01460 241886)

I expect many people have had more time to sit and stare out of the window these days. I call that birdwatching! At the beginning of each year I do it more often in readiness for the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch which I have been taking part in for well over a decade. The nationwide record is tracking the demise of several species but also logging the change in our garden visitors. I can certainly recall more sparrows and greenfinches 10 or 20 years ago, but I rarely saw a goldfinch – now the goldfinch is the most numerous visitor to our bird table. Last spring I counted 14 in one feeding frenzy!

Of course each year when the last weekend of January comes along the birds tend to go on holiday and there seems to be fewer of nearly every species in evidence for the vital two days of the Big Count! It was the same this year – the weekend was cold and wet and the birds just didn't want to come out and eat. But I did see one bird of interest – a female blackbird with a splodge of white feathers on the back of her neck. There has been the odd blackbird round here with one or more white feathers most years, but I haven't seen one for a while now and was delighted to see what seems to be a local blackbird gene has emerged again.

Because this particular bird is so easy to spot I wondered if anyone else has seen it and if we could figure out how big a blackbird territory or feeding range actually is. I would love to know if Mrs Blackbird-with-the-white neck has visited your garden. If so do tell the News by email or 'phone me on 241886.

Many thanks.

HALL'S MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

Formerly Beaminster Handyman Services

Reliable, Honest Professional Service

Property Maintenance and Repairs Handyman now based in Over Stratton covering—Plumbing, Assembling furniture, Putting up Blinds/Curtain Poles, Replacing Electrical Fittings, Guttering Work and much more.....

Andrew K Hall

beeches66@btinternet.co



Shepton Beauchamp Church School News

Charlie Pattisson (01460 2423960)



We are delighted that even in these different times we were able to carry on with the traditional Egg Shackling. Our keyworker children and staff were joined remotely by our home school children and parents. Mr Rumbelow became the 'Shackler' this

year while our resident Shackler - Father Geoff - watched from home. Children had decorated eggs and delivered them to the school porch in advance ready for the day.

The winners (the last eggs to break) were Jackson and Lowenna in Coles Class, Rose and Arabella in Seymour Class and Miss Middleton and Mr Rumbelow in the teacher's event. Eggs-cellent fun and good to see the whole school 'together'.

The outdoor terrain Rugged Robots programmable vehicles, bought with a grant from the National Grid have been in use in the Rectory garden and are brilliant – super fun and excellent for developing computer programming skills. The bird boxes are also ready and waiting for new occupants this spring.



It has been more than a little chilly in school during the recent arctic weather and with the need to keep the school ventilated this has led to teachers and children wearing woolly hats and scarves inside. On that

note, we are looking forward to the metal windows in the school being replaced (subject to planning). The school website has passed its sell by date and is at the start of a revamp and should be ready to go in the summer term.

The school governors have been working hard behind the scenes and meeting remotely each month, their focus at the moment is to recruit a new headteacher for the federation as Mr Rumbelow retires at the end of the school year. Not an easy task but we hope to have the permanent Headteacher in post for September.

We are delighted to welcome Christina Britton to the staff team as a lunchtime supervisor.

We are all hopeful that by the next edition we will have children returning to school in some capacity. Children, parents and teachers have been amazing and we look forward to meeting again soon.

FOSS (*Friends of Shepton School*).

If you do any **online shopping** please do consider registering with **easyfundraising.org.uk** as every time you shop with retailers such as Sainsburys, Amazon, Next, John Lewis they make a donation to Friends of Shepton Beauchamp Primary School (FOSS).

For more information please call: 01460 240793,

E-mail: office@threesaints.bwmat.org

Web: www.sheptonbeauchamp.somerset.sch.uk

Egg Shackling

Egg tapping, also known as egg fight, egg knocking, egg pacqueing, egg boxing, egg picking, egg chucking, or egg jarping is a traditional Easter game. In English folk traditions, the game has variously been known as "shackling", "jarping" or "dumping".

The rule of the game is simple. One holds a hard-boiled egg and taps the egg of another participant with one's own egg intending to break the other's, without breaking one's own. In many ways similar to "conkers" as with any other game, it has been a subject of cheating; eggs with cement, alabaster and even marble cores have been reported.

In its Somerset version the hard-boiled eggs are shaken in a sieve and the cracked ones removed until the winning egg is isolated, unbroken.

Some Easter Recipes

With Holy Week starting at the end on March and Easter Sunday falling on April 4th it is time to plan ahead with some Easter treats. These recipes are taken from the Seavington Swing Park 2000 Four Seasons Cookbook.

Hot Cross Buns

Essential for Easter and really easy to make. You can of course use dried instead of fresh yeast—just follow the instructions on the tin or packet.

Ingredients:

1 - 1 lb 2 oz (450-500g) strong, plain flour	
1 oz (30g) fresh yeast	4 oz (125g) currants
1 level tsp salt	Scant ½ pint (250ml) milk
2 oz (60g) soft light-brown sugar	2 oz (60g) butter
2 tsp mixed sweet spice	2 eggs

For glazing the buns:

2 tbsp milk (from the ½ pint in the main recipe) 2tbsp caster sugar

Method:

Warm the milk to blood heat and use a little for creaming the yeast. Warm the flour in a big bowl. Add the salt, sugar and spices. Make a well in the centre, pour in the creamed yeast, then add the softened butter, the eggs (one at a time), and the rest of the milk, or as much of it as can be absorbed by the dough, but make sure that the dough is not too slack. Stir or mix by hand until all the ingredients are well amalgamated. Finally add the currants and mix them in carefully, so that they are well and evenly distributed throughout the dough.

Cover the bowl and leave the dough to rise for about 2 hours, or until it is at least double in volume, light and puffy.

Break down the dough, knead it briefly and shape into small buns. Place onto greased baking tray. Cover with a sheet of waxed paper or polythene and leave them in a warm place until the dough has recovered

and doubled in volume. They should feel soft and light to the touch.

Either place pastry crosses on top of the buns or cut crosses into them using the back of a knife. Once buns have recovered bake in the centre of a fairly hot oven, 357° - 400°F, 190° - 205°C, gas mark 5 or 6, for 15 – 20 minutes.

Just before they are ready to come out of the oven, boil the milk and sugar glaze until it is bubbly and syrupy. Brush the buns with this glaze while they are still hot, giving them two successive coatings. Provided that the dough was well matured and baked at the right moment, the crust will be fine and soft and the glaze will not turn tacky or sticky but will form a fine shining mirror-like finish on the buns.

Easter Biscuits

This recipe came from Mrs Kathleen Jeffery from Atherstone Farm. The quantities are huge, but can easily be quartered or halved. Add cinnamon and currants to taste..

Ingredients:

2 lbs (900g) flour	1 lb (450g) butter
1 lb (450g) caster sugar	4 eggs, beaten
Cinnamon	currants

Method:

Into flour rub half the butter. Add the sugar and cinnamon. Melt the other half of the butter and beat with the eggs. Mix in with the dry ingredients. Roll out the dough on a floured surface. Cut into circles. Put into a quick oven.

The temperature usually given for this type of biscuit is 325°F (170°C) or Gas 3. Cook for about 15—20 minutes. Cool the cooked biscuits on a wire rack.

If you wish your biscuits to have a sugary top, take the biscuits from the oven after about 10 minutes, brush with egg white and sprinkle with caster sugar. Return to the oven for 5-10 minutes.

Parish Council News

Pauline Parsons [parishcouncil@theseavingtons.org]

Parish Council meetings, like most meetings, will be via ZOOM for the foreseeable future. Planned dates for 2021 will follow the usual pattern of being the third Tuesday of every month apart from August when a meeting will only be called if deemed necessary. The next one planned is Tuesday 16th March 2021. Details for joining any meeting will be put on the village website.

SID – We are in the process of drawing up a plan for the regular movements of both SIDs. Areas to be covered will be - C5021 west of Falcon Close, C5021 adjacent to Seavington House, C5021 opposite The Jays, Water Street adjacent to Beech Cottage, adjacent to the Playing Field, opposite Rowdells Orchard, Scotts Hill.

PLANNING -

20/03598/FUL – Construction of vehicular access [west of Falcon Close] for agricultural purposes – Fully supported by Parish Council

20/03447/S73 – Amendment to approved plans for dwelling opposite Seavington House – Parish Council not supporting this as we do not feel the new design is in keeping with the area.

20/03134/HOU, 20/03135/LBC Installation of 8 no windows to front and 1 no to side of Swan Thatch, Seavington St Michael. Decision awaited. Correspondence indicates that the Conservation Officer is not in favour of the windows as submitted

18/02609/FUL – Erection of units to aid the construction and storage of Carnival Carts. Still no information as to when this application is likely to be dealt with by SSDC Planners. Phosphates on The Somerset Levels are still holding up many planning applications. However, concerns have been raised regarding the condition of the highway once again following an incident that happened during the diversions that were put in place because of works by the Water Board at the bottom of Whitelackington Hill. According to Traffic Management the official diversion was not

through Kingstone and The Seavingtons. However, much signage appeared indicating this and an increase in traffic was observed particularly in Seavington St Mary.

FALCON CLOSE – Frontage – Still no up-date on this. We have been advised that the Enforcement Officer of SSDC Planning has been in touch with the developer who has stated “that he is of a mind to complete the footway”, and is in communication with County regarding completion of the necessary form 278. Our County Councillor has reported that he has had a conversation with the developer who has indicated that County are holding up the process. We are waiting for details of the Officer dealing with it in County Hall in order to move this forward.

CAR PARK [Opposite the Volunteer Inn] – Following the note in last month’s News, and the fact that only three observations were received, the Parish Council has decided not to progress any further with either the sale of the car park or renting out spaces. We will, however, continue to issue Enforcement Notices on any vehicle not following the rules that are clearly posted. It is also hoped that those using the area, and who own more than one vehicle, could revert to using the rear spaces thus avoiding issues in other areas.

FOOTPATHS - Can we please reiterate that if you are using one of the many footpaths in the villages that your dog should always be under control and that you should pick up, bag and take home any dog poo. We have received reports of a noticeable increase in the amount of poo on the footpaths and there have been cases of the plastic bags being left abandoned in trees or the hedgerows.

Also please be aware that your dog should not be running free. There are other residents out for a walk who do not necessarily want to be rushed at by a dog. You may know it is friendly – others don’t. Also just as a warning as we approach the Spring if your dog does stray onto land that has been cultivated you will not be aware of any chemicals/fertilizers that may have been put on the land.

UP-DATING VILLAGE WEB SITE – This is now almost ready to be launched. The Parish Council will be meeting with those organisations that use the existing web-site and more up-to-date photos will be taken.

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-school News

Natalie Nolan (natalie_nolan@hotmail.com)

We are still playing outside in the village hall garden quite often partly to lower the risk of transferring the virus, but also because there are many benefits to being outside in early childhood, such as learning about and caring for, the natural environment and stimulating imagination. The children have found the ice interesting to explore in the very cold weather, but we are welcoming the recent change in climate.

We made pancakes with the children the week before half term, which they found very exciting and tasty! We have been doing lots of other activities around food, such as Teddy bears picnics, and plenty of role play in the toy kitchen.

We are still focusing on making our story reading interactive and have been enjoying 'We're going on a bear hunt' recently, in various forms. The children love to join in with the sounds and actions (over, under, through).

We also made playdough recently. The children helped to add the ingredients and mix it up. They then learnt to knead it and used rolling pins and cutters to make different shapes. This was great for focussing their attention and gave them sensory enjoyment.

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey. We hope the results of this can be used to improve our service and encourage us to offer more hours in the future.

We currently have some spaces available for more children.

We have slightly reduced hours at the moment but hope to increase them again soon. We are open Tues/wed/fri 9am - 2pm (during lockdown/school closures)

For more information please call Roxene or Kath 07765437301 or email info@Sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or visit www.sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk or follow us on Facebook

We are sorry to say, our Toddler group has not reopened yet due to government guidelines.

Gates and Railings

Balustrading

Historic and antique
restoration

Unit 26,
Moolham Farm Units,
Moolham Lane,
Ilminster, TA19 0PD



BDE fabrications

info@bdefabs.co.uk 07818 033040

www.bdefabrications.co.

Architectural Metalwork Specialist

General Engineering

Welding & Fabrication

Staircases

Window restoration

& furniture

Structural steels

Dog Grooming by Helen

**Friendly Home Environment
Will Collect and Deliver**

Available Weekdays, Evenings and Weekends

Please 'phone Helen

Mobile: 07867 988109 or 01460 241053

The Warehouse Theatre Ilminster



Run by Ilminster Entertainment Society (IES), this little gem represents one of the best equipped, professional standard amateur theatres in the county. Offering high quality entertainment throughout the year to audiences of all ages, as well as running a thriving Youth Theatre and being a venue for local groups and clubs to hire.

Details of future productions, auditions & membership can be found at www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk or call 07943 779880. Tickets can be purchased through the website or in Harrimans Menswear, Silver St, Ilminster.

The Warehouse Theatre is temporarily closed as a part of the precautions to reduce the spread of Coronavirus Covid-19. Once the Government has reduced or removed the restrictions on places of entertainment we will be publishing our new programme.

In the meantime, we thank you for your past support and look forward to entertaining you in the future.

Did you know...

South Somerset Council

fund a loan scheme for homeowners and landlords, for essential home repairs and improvements?

For more information, visit **www.wrcic.org.uk** or call **01823 461099**,

Your local, not for profit lender working in partnership with South Somerset Council

Wessex Resolutions CIC

Heatherton Park Studios,
Bradford on Tone, Taunton,
TA4 1EU

Oven Spa

Oven Cleaning

South Somerset's independent, environmentally friendly, oven cleaning service

No fumes, no fuss, just a super shiny oven that looks as good as new

£55 for a single oven, £65 for a double
Hobs and extractors from £10

See: **ovenspa.com** for more details
or call Mick George on:

07843 99 88 96



STOKES PARTNERS

SOLICITORS

Specialist legal advisers

Providing a professional personal service

www.stokespartners.co.uk

Crewkerne, Somerset

01460 279 279

- > Buying & selling your home
- > Commercial property
- > Divorce, cohabitation & separation
- > Agricultural law expertise
- > Wills, tax & probate
- > Contract disputes
- > Employment advice
- > Business litigation
- > Equestrian related issues
- > Corporation transactions
- > Dispute resolution
- > Business restructuring
- > Issues concerning children
- > Landlord & tenant

I am glad I have you guys on my side

★★★★★
A HAPPY CLIENT

E & S COMPUTERS

24A DITTON STREET,
ILMINSTER, TA19 0BQ
(OPPOSITE TESCO GARAGE).

COMPUTER REPAIRS, UPGRADES & CUSTOM PCs.

WE ALSO STOCK COMPUTER PERIPHERALS,
INK CARTRIDGES, PHOTO PAPER AND MUCH MORE!

01460 259 999

WWW.ENSComputers.CO.UK

WWW.ENSComputers.COM

ENQUIRIES@ENSComputers.CO.UK



GRINTERS

Professional Building,
Carpentry and Plumbing

01460 258949

enquiries@grinters.co.uk

www.grinters.co.uk

NICK RUTTER — CHIMNEY SWEEP



Experienced, Approved, Established 10 Years
All types of fires and appliances cleaned with brush and vacuum
Full insurance valid certificate issued with every visit

Tel: 01460 52951; www.guildofmasterchimneysweeps.co.uk

Ash Bros

Builders, Decorators, Plumbing and Heating Engineers

The Builders Yard, Upton Lane, Seavington, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0QQ

Tel: 01460 240434 Fax: 01460 242479 Mob: 07872 122118

Email: office@ashbros.co.uk Web: www.ashbros.co.uk



PUGSON CONSTRUCTION

General building, Re-pointing, Landscaping, Chimneys and roofing
Stoves installed by Hetas approved engineer,
Oftec certified oil tank installations, removal and replacements
Call Nigel in Seavington St Mary for a quote on 01460 391595
Mobile 07731323005. nigelpugson@tiscali.co.uk



For Home & Business

Friendly, professional advice in plain English

www.monkeypuzzlecomputers.com

**01460
200000**

**10 West Street
Ilminster**

Looking forward to seeing you all soon...
Stay Well—Stay Safe
Love from all the Team: 01460 52476

Shepton Beauchamp Pre-school

"A fabulous environment for your child to make friends, learn and have fun"

Open Mon, Tues, Weds
and Fri 9-3pm

"Welly walk Wednesday!"

Outdoor play in our lovely
enclosed garden



We offer 15 hour and new
30 hour funded places

Baby & toddler group
1st Thurs of the month

Contact Roxy or Kath for more information 07765 437301

info@sheptonbeauchamppre-school.co.uk

NEWCHESTER FARMHOUSE B&B

Broadway, Merriott TA16 5QH

Moved from the Beeches, Seavington, the new B&B is now open

3 en-suite rooms, comfy beds, full breakfasts, cake on arrival
www.southsomersetbandb.co.uk

contact Abby t: 01460 73917 m: 07779 606620

Brook House Boutique Bed & Breakfast, Dowlish Wake

Country house comfort with a very warm welcome

*King size room and super King/twin room • ensuite bathrooms exceptional
quality • guest sitting room • off road parking • tea and cake on arrival*

COVID 19 : to ensure guest safety we will be operating in accordance with Government guidance and 'Sawdays' Clean and Safe Charter' as well as implementing additional measures including self service hamper breakfasts and suppers, for alfresco or fireside private dining.

www.brookhousesomerset.com or call Becky Jam 07841 594342

PIANO LESSONS

ALL AGES, ABILITIES, GRADES AND THEORY

ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY?

COME AND GIVE IT A TRY—FIRST TWO LESSONS FREE

Judith Church Dip ABRSM

Mobile: 07979 104906 Home: 01460 249795

Dennis Evans Building Services ***Property Refurbishment Services***

Painting & Decoration ◇ Wallpaper Hanging ◇ Wall & Floor Tiling
Plumbing ◇ Bathroom & Kitchen Installations ◇ Plastering

Fully Insured. Estimates and advice without obligation

01460 76139 or 07831 765262

www.evansbuild.co.uk



**J | JASON
WHITEHEAD**
Decorator

Interior Painting ◇ Exterior Painting
Wood-rot removal and repair
Paper Hanging

Serving Ilminster, Crewkerne Chard, South Petherton,
and surrounding areas



Mobile: 07857 519038 or E-mail:
contact@jasonwhiteheadpainter.co.uk
www.jasonwhiteheadpainter.co.uk
Seavington St Michael, Ilminster

Lorraine's Cleaning Services 64, Herne Rise, Ilminster

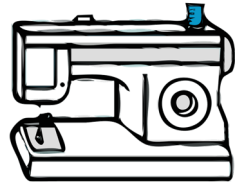
I am a trustworthy and reliable domestic cleaner with six years experience; I am also happy to help with ironing.

Please give me a call.

E-mail: ristelorraine4@gmail.com; Tel: 07939 086305

Curtain making, dressmaking & alterations

'phone Jennifer, South
Petherton
01460 242766



R A Wicks Ltd Fireplaces, Stoves & Flues



**Fireplace Showroom, Chimneys Relined & New Build
HETAS registered installers**

**Tel: 01460 74612; www.wicksheating.co.uk
Fireplace Showroom, Tail Mill Lane, Merriott, TA16 5PF**



RICHARD CLIFTON

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Interior and exterior work
Free written estimates or quotations
Good preparation; Attention to detail

Tel: Ilminster (01460) 52544; 07773 373882

David Gudgeon

Plumbing & Heating Services

- ◇ Oil Installations, Servicing, Repairs & Breakdowns
- ◇ Bathroom Installations
- ◇ All aspects of Plumbing & Heating Maintenance

Mobile: 07731929716

Email: David.Gudgeon@outlook.com

The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial:

Advertising:

Production:

Technical & web-site support:

David Froome

Tony Beresford

Brian & Elaine Edwards

Eugene Mulligan

Village web-site: www.theseavingtons.org

Any views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial team. Contributions are welcomed and may be submitted electronically or in 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.

Editorial address: Middlefield Barn, Church Lane, Seavington St Mary,
Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0QP; news@theseavingtons.org



PLUMBING & HEATING

OIL, GAS & LPG SERVICING, REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS

FATHER & SON REGISTERED BUSINESS

RELIABLE, PROFESSIONAL & FRIENDLY SERVICE

OUR CUSTOMER PEACE OF MIND IS OUR SATISFACTION

Tel: 01458 259453 / 01460 200707

Mob: 07956 345878

E-mail: info@crheating.co.uk

www.crheating.co.uk



WILLCLEAN

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Based locally in Martock

Top Quality Specialised Cleaning & Value
for Money Services

Carpet Cleaning

Upholstery Cleaning

Leather Restoration

Stain Protection/Odour Control

End of tenancy or moving in cleans

Call 01935 592701 or 07771 884699

For your Free Quotation

Fully insured and industry trained

more details and services may be found at:

www.yeovil-carpet-cleaning.co.uk