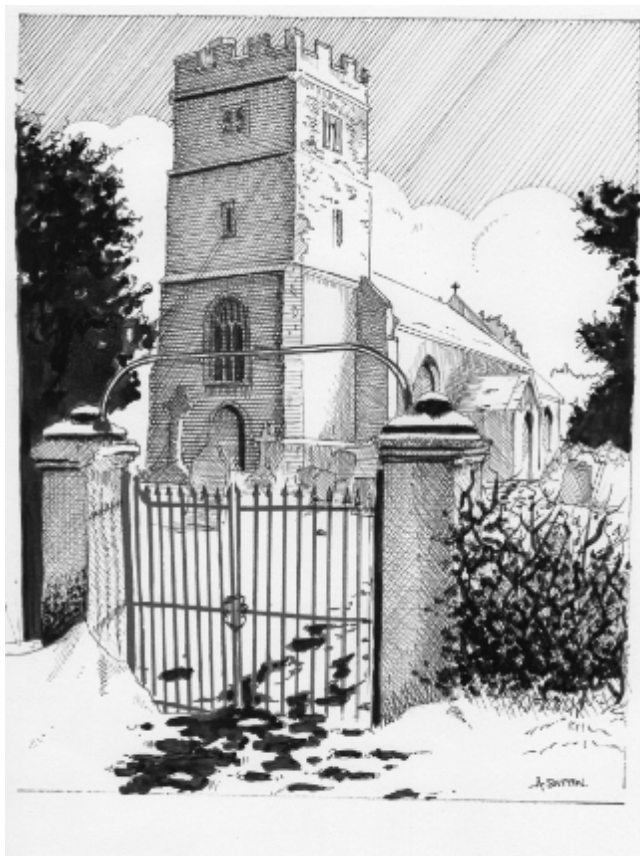


THE SEAVINGTONS' NEWS

February 2023



The Seavingtons' News

This edition of The Seavingtons' News is unfortunately slimmer than usual and it won't take readers long to notice fewer interesting feature articles. Some of the regular contributors are taking a well earned breather and doubtless others, like me, may be suffering writer's block! I believe the success of the magazine lies in a varied content which appeals to as wide a readership as possible. If there are any budding writers out there who have a story to tell, whether it is fiction, sharing a passion in a hobby, a tale of travel to interesting places or or an aspect of local history, please put 'pen to paper, so to speak, and send me your story. Just 450 words neatly fills a page.

In the January edition there were a number of appeals for volunteers to help local groups and organisations including the Parish Council, the Shop and a social events team. Whilst none were 'killed' in the rush I was delighted to learn that some new faces will be seen in the shop and a small group has come together to organise social events. Details are published elsewhere in this edition.

Many readers may not be aware that The Seavingtons' News is an independent service to the village. It used to be funded in part from the monthly waste paper and cardboard collection and partly from advertising revenue. Two or three years ago the bottom fell out of the waste paper market and it was no longer viable for Viridor to continue the service. Whilst the advertising revenue has covered production costs to date it will come as no surprise that the cost of consumables, particularly paper, is rocketing up. As a result it has been decided that there is no alternative but to increase our advertising rates by 15%. It is hoped that all advertisers will accept that their subscriptions not only promote their businesses but support a key community asset.

The Editor

DON'T FORGET
The Latest Copy Date: 20th Feb. for the next issue
Editorial content and diary entries to:
Stephen Morris, Chapel Court House, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster, TA19 0QN
Tel: 01460 242058 E-mail: news@theseavingtons.org

Large Garden
Hopefully sunny but feel free to bring cushions and blankets just in case!

Takeaways
Sunday Roasts
Daily Menu
Snacks

Please call us to hear our current opening times or book your takeaway or garden table

See our current Menu
On our website
www.newinn-ilminster.co.uk
Or our Facebook page
[@newinnilminster](https://www.facebook.com/newinnilminster)
Call us on
01460 52413
Booking advisable
We would love to see you soon
Thank you and stay safe!

New Inn
Dowlish Wake
TA19 0NZ



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

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

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

St Michael's Church Seavington

Sun 5 Feb	11.15 am	Café Church in Seavington Community Café
Sun 12 Feb	10.30 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Sun 19 Feb	10.30 am	Family Communion
Wed 22 Feb	7.00 pm	Ash Wednesday - Ashing Service
Sun 26 Feb	10.30 am	Family Holy Communion (BCP)

Every Monday during February St Michael's Church will be open at 8.00 am each day for Morning Prayer

First Sunday each month - Café Church. Please join us for an informal service in the Seavington Community Café preceded by coffee and croissants. **Everyone is very welcome.**

Rector for Seavington: Rev Tracey Hallett

M: 07854 489753 E: tracey.hallett@southpethertonbenefice.org

Church Office: 07831 982470: office@southpethertonchurch.org.uk

Deanery Lent Course

There will be a 5 week Lent Course based on the film "The King's Speech" 7.00 - 8.30 pm on Tuesday evenings at St Peter and St Paul's Church, South Petherton. The course starts 28th February. Please contact the churchwardens or Parish Office for more information

The Seavingtons' Weather in December

	2022	2021
Temperature		
Average Minimum	2.04°C	5.65°C
Average Maximum	7.38°C	10.17°C
Mean	4.71°C	7.91°C
Rainfall		
Monthly Total	114.1mm (4.50")	73.6mm (2.94")
Total for Year	805.6mm (32.22")	869.4mm (34.78")

Despite a wet November and December the rainfall for the year was only in line with long term averages. See page 13 for further analysis.

Village Diary - Forthcoming Events

All events, unless otherwise shown, are held in the Millennium Hall. For bookings call 01460 247183 or e-mail: hallbookings@theseavingtons.org

Sun 5 Feb	11.15 am	Café Church in the village café
Thurs 9 Feb	7.00 pm	Gardening Club - Talk on 'Composting' by Mike Burkes. Members and guests welcome. See page 11
Wed 15 Feb	10.30 am	Village Get2gether - all welcome. Café Contact Gill Beveridge T:01460 242828
Fri 17 Feb	7.30 pm	RSPB Meeting. An illustrated talk by Mike Langman on "Seabirds and other Wildlife of Lyme Bay". Contact Denise Chamings T: 01460 240740 See page 13
Tues 21 Feb	6.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting - café
Sat 25 Feb	9.00 am	Just a Brisk Walk - start Hall car park. Duration: about an hour returning to the car park. Contact: Matthew Towill E: towill916@btinternet.com

To keep up to date, check out the village web site (www.theseavingtons.org) which is updated regularly with information on events and other village matters. Pass the address on to your friends so that they can keep in touch as well.

Forthcoming Events Nearby

Fri 10 Feb	7.30 pm-11.30 pm	Valentines Barn Dance at St Peter and St Paul's, South Petherton. All ages welcome. Tickets £12 (£6 under 16 yrs) Including ploughmans supper. BYOB. Tickets from Seavington Shop. See page 7 for more details.
Fri 10 Feb	7.30 pm	"Apples Galore" an illustrated talk on the history of N. Perrott Fruit Farm by Jonathan Hoskyns. Venue: N Perrott Hoskyns Memorial Hall. Tickets £8 (incl refreshments) from Georgina Hoskyns T:01460 72883
Sat 10 Feb	10.00 am-2.00 pm	Table Top Sale. Shepton Beauchamp Village Hall. All tables £10. £5 non refundable booking deposit. Contact Michelle Hutchinson 07870 670344

Village Diary - Regular Events

Evolve Fitness

One hour sessions daily, except Tuesdays
All sessions to be pre-booked with Kierhan Ellis
Contact E: kierhan@evofitnesstraining.com

Balance Pilates and Wellbeing

Every Monday
Pilates Intermediate at 9.15am - 10am
Pilates Matwork One All levels 10.10am - 10.55am
Contact E: lisarock70@gmail.com for booking form

DMV Sequence Dance Club

Every Wednesday at 7.15pm
Contact Marj Vincent E: m9dmv@hotmail.com

Wessex Women's Choir

Every second Saturday 10.30am - 12.30am
Contact Gail Clarke E: 2gailbclarke@gmail.com

Yoga and Mindfulness Classes

Every Tuesday
9.30am Gentle Hatha Yoga
6.30pm Strong Body and Mind
Contact Lissa Milton E: hello@lissamiltonyoga.co.uk (see page 25)

HEC (Home Education)

Fridays 10.45-15.30 HEC Contact: Jenn Hodge 01460 510042

Tai Chi - 10.15am -11.15am every Thursday. Call Age UK 01823 345626 for more information and to book a place.

Advertising Rates

	Annual	Monthly
Full Page	£ 115	£15
Half page	£ 60	£ 8
Quarter Page	£ 33	£ 5

For all queries regarding advertisements please contact:
Ray Thorogood. E-mail: adverts@theseavingtons.org

Village Voice - letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

Thank you for December's 'Seavingtons' News' and your letter of 28th November.

It so happens that we have only recently reviewed all our subscriptions and the like, and although 'The Seavingtons' News' was not paid for it fell into this bracket.

However, we had decided that after so many years not knowing most of the current subscribers and not knowing what is going on in Seavington now we wish to discontinue receiving it.

We thank you for sending it to us for so long and should anyone wish to know anything from history please do not hesitate to ask.

Wishing you all the Very Best for the New Year and the continued success of Seavington, especially The Hall.

Yours sincerely

Carol and Peter Ashley

Editor. It is always sad to lose a reader. If anyone has lost touch with Carol and Peter and would like to reconnect just get in touch with me. E: news@theseavingtons.org

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.

Seavingtons' News Distribution

Around 330 copies of The Seavingtons News are printed each month. A copy is delivered to each household in the two parishes free of charge and additional copies are available to pick up in the Millennium Hall, Shop, The Volunteer and Shepton Beauchamp Shop.

The current month's edition and archive copies can be found on-line through the village website: www.the-seavingtons.org, then click on "Village Organisations", "The Seavingtons News" and download a copy onto your device.

If all of that sounds a bit complicated a pdf copy can be e-mailed direct to your e-mail address. Free of charge to villagers or £5 per year for family, friends and former residents living elsewhere.

Alternatively, a hard copy can be posted each month for £15 a year.

Send requests + addresses to the Editor: news@theseavingtons.org

One Year On

Rev Tracey Hallett

It's almost February already and as I write I can hear the birdsong, a sign of hope and brighter days ahead, a wonderful sound that brings us assurance that Spring is on its way. With the start of the New Year I wonder if you have yet experienced a light bulb moment, a new revelation, or a sense of fresh hope - an Epiphany moment?

For the Church, January is the season of Epiphany and we remember the journey of the the wise men, 'the Magi' from the east, who leave home and travel to Jerusalem. They departed from all that was familiar and comfortable to follow the arisen star that beckoned them to arrive at a stable and to fix their gaze on a humble babe. The Magi are culturally different and are a good example to us, because their path wasn't easy or simple, they travelled difficult and disorientating terrain, heading for an unknown destination, no map, no satnav, just the guidance of that star - all to worship Jesus! Their example is clear. Christ is not just for one particular group of people. He has come to journey with us all. That is what the Church in this community is all about. We want to be a Church without walls reaching all people and being part of a community that cares about and involves everyone.

I have just celebrated my first year in the Benefice of South Petherton with the Seavingtons and the Lambrooks. What a marvellous year it has been! We have had lots of fun connecting with the Community in so many ways and it's wonderful to see how each of the Churches in this Benefice serve their communities. There are many highlights and some fabulous memories made in this first year. My epiphany moment came when recognizing that in all walks of life being a newcomer is not always easy. The wise men this year have helped me reflect that it's not easy in any Church when you are called together with a group of people who are all so different from each other. Each Church and Community has its own diversity of people. But we can follow as normal or we can choose a radical new way: to welcome all people, we can consciously take a new path this year, the path of loving people who differ from us, the path that leads to building kinder communities.

It was an absolute delight to meet many of you at Christmas services across the Benefice and I hope that with the changes to our service patterns and the launch of our regular monthly Café Church at St Peter and St Paul's, as well as Seavington's community store, you might come along and enjoy trying something new.

We have introduced Café Church to help create connections locally with all people to build an even kinder community and to take a step on a radical new path. Café Church is informal, welcoming and helps

everyone to get to know each other and to build positive relationships. It include a mixture of hymns, modern contemporary worship, prayers and a bible story or reflection that is relevant to everyday life. Discussion, squestions and activities are placed on tables. If you wish to engage you can or not as you prefer. It is also fine to absorb what is going on. All of this takes place around tables whilst we share refreshments, tea / coffee, fruit juice and croissants together.

We are also holding family Holy Communion services once a month in both St Peter and St Paul's and St Michael's. These services will have all the elements of a familiar and traditional Holy Communion. However, the sermon might consist of something less formal, a meditation, sharing a piece of art and theologically reflecting on it, a Bible study or something that requires an interaction. We also offer a variety of hymns that will appeal to all ages.

We will also include traditional Book of Common Prayer services at St Peter and St Paul's each week, St Michael's once a month and St James's weekly.

When a month has five Sundays, we will be holding a Benefice service in one of our three Churches. We would like everyone from the Benefice to join together at these services, which will be more informal with a seasonal theme (Candlemas, Climate Sunday, Pet Service, Bible Sunday, Left Over Sunday). These services will be advertised in the weekly connected news sheet, in the Parish Magazine and The Seavingtons' News. Our website is currently under construction and we hope to re-launch it in the Spring.

And so, if you haven't been to Church for a while or fancy popping in to see what is happening - everyone is welcome. If you are new to the area or to exploring the community and the Church, we would love to meet you. Café Church is an ideal time to visit us on the first Sunday of each month at 11.15 am in the Seavington Village Store.

In the meantime, if you enjoy a social there is a Valentines Barn Dance Fundraiser with Hobsons Choice on Friday 10th Feb 7.30-11pm at St Peter and St Pauls, South Petherton. Tickets £12 (£6 under 16) including ploughmans. BYOB. All money raised in the raffle will be shared between St Peter and St Paul's and Petherton Folk Fest. Tickets are available at the Seavington Village Store.

If you would like to receive a weekly news sheet or for more information about services contact office@southpethertonbenefice.org

Thank you all for a fabulous first year. I look forward and pray for many more years with you all. With my very best wishes and prayers.

Every Blessing, Rev Tracey



Over the Counter

Vicky Rahilly (vickyrhilly30@gmail.com)

Jane, Jan and the team have been doing a wonderful job of keeping the community supplied with delicious hot food and top-notch coffee. We are so lucky to have a brilliant local cafe, especially in the dark cold months. They look forward to seeing you.


You may have noticed that all our bird food is now sold in paper packaging as we make a conscious effort to reduce our consumption of single-use plastics. Great for the birds and the environment they live in!

Arts and Crafts update:

We are very pleased to welcome Alison Stewart back to the shop after a successful visit last year. Alison creates beautiful crochet items including hats and head; perfect for keeping warm in the last throws of winter. Rachel Moffett continues to display her work for sale in the cafe during February. Rachel is a photographer whose work mainly involves animals and floral arrangements and are stunningly detailed. Her pieces are displayed in various beautiful frames.

Volunteers:

We are delighted to have been contacted by some members of the community who would like to volunteer with us. Please look out for some new faces joining soon. As always, if you are interested in providing some of your time to support the shop and cafe, please come and talk to us to find out more. You would be very welcome.



Scouts
2nd South Petherton

2nd South Petherton Scout Group
Big Breakfast
Blake Hall, South Petherton
Sunday 5 March, 9.00 - Noon
(Last orders 11.30)

Adult tickets £6.00 in advance or £7.00 on the door
Children £4.00 in advance or £5.00 on the door
Tickets available from the Seavington Community Shop

Seavington Shop and Café

Delicious warming homecooked food and freshly baked cakes.

**Cafe opening times Monday - Friday 8.30am - 2.30pm,
Saturday 8.30am - 2:00pm (last orders 1.30pm).**

ARTS & CRAFTS

Beautiful cosy crochet hats and headbands on sale by local crafter Alison Stewart. Perfect for keeping warm. Rachel Moffett will have her floral and animal photographs on display for sale in the café.

FRESH PRODUCE

We sell extensive lines of fresh fruit and vegetables as well as local potatoes. An excellent selection of cheese and yogurts is available.

**Shop opening times Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm,
Saturday 8.30am - 2.30pm**

We are agents for Evri parcel service
We look forward to seeing you!

WEB: www.theseavingtons.org/community/village-store-and-cafe

FIND US AT: Water Street, Seavington St Mary TA19 0QH

T: 01460 249730

FACEBOOK: seavington store



Seavington Villages Oil Scheme

By ordering in bulk the Seavington Villages Oil Scheme provides participants with heating oil at very competitive prices. Orders are placed with our supplier on a regular basis and participants' orders are collected together by the organiser, Nigel Key.

You are notified of the delivery 24 hours in advance and deliveries are made directly to your storage tank. You pay the supplier after delivery.

The closing date for the next two orders are:

**Friday 3rd February
Thursday 6th April**

To take advantage of the scheme and to place an order contact Nigel Key T:01460 241540 E: oil@theseavingtons.org

Your Village Needs You!

Elaine Morris

In last month's edition of the Seavingtons' News, an appeal was made for anyone interested in helping with social/sporting events in the village to come along and discuss their ideas. A small group met in the cafe recently to see what we could come up with. What a great evening we had! It was very sociable and positive with an extensive range of ideas brought forward for discussion.

During the evening we came up with numerous ideas for events and activities to run in and around the village that will make use of numerous assets that we have. We decided to put our focus and attention into two events to start with and see how it goes.

CORONATION COCKTAILS

**CORONATION DAY, SATURDAY 6 MAY,
AT THE MILLENIUM HALL FROM 5.00 TO 7.30.**

Cocktails specially created for the occasion, music, snacks and a great get-together. Come along and celebrate the Coronation in style with family, friends and neighbours. Dress up, let your hair down and have fun. More details to follow later.

VILLAGE QUIZZES

Seavington residents love quizzes so we will be organising a regular quarterly quiz in the Hall WITH THE FIRST QUIZ HELD ON FRIDAY, 31 MARCH AT 7.00PM.

BYOB and your friends! There will be tables for teams up to a maximum of 6 for which a charge of £10 per table will be made. Come along all you quizzers. We know you are out there!

Smile!

Christmas is probably only a distant memory for many. If you had crackers on the table I bet you can't remember any of those corny jokes so here's a couple more of the best to make you smile:

What do you get if you eat the Christmas decorations? (Tinselitis!)

What did Santa do when he went speed dating? (He pulled a cracker)



**Seavington Gardening
Club**

Jo Culham (01460 241555)



Flower Show

Saturday 12th August 2023

The Annual Flower Show is organised and run by the Gardening Club. We want to encourage people who live in the village to enter. The rules of the Flower Show allow anyone who lives within the Seavingtons to enter exhibits in any section – **you do not need to be a member** of the Gardening Club. The Flower Show Schedule will be circulated with the March edition of the Seavingtons' News. Please don't just recycle it without looking at the schedule; see if you could join in (photography, craft, flowers & baking sections) and make this year's event even better than the last Show.

Next meeting - Thursday 9th February

A talk on 'Composting' by Mike Burks from the Garden Group Gold Club. Doors open 7.00pm – refreshments served. 7.30pm start.

This talk promises to be informative and instructive, without being boring! It does not matter whether you are a novice or an expert. You will come away with new ideas and tips on how to create a good compost heap and why composting is so important.

Reminder: Subs are due now. £10 for the year.

Visitors welcome £2 payable at the door.

Flower of the Month Competition continues.

For further information contact Jo Culham – tel. 01460 241555

A REMINDER County Council Complaints

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

Call: 0300 123 2224

Yoga & Mindfulness
with Lissa Milton

Tuesdays
Seavington Millennium Hall
Water Street, Seavington
Beginners Welcome

9.30 - 10.30am Gentle Hatha Yoga
Gentle and meditative practice with held postures. We'll create strength and mobility with variations of movements that include support such as chairs, the wall and yoga props provided.

6.30 - 7.30pm Strong Mind & Body Yoga
We'll create strength slowly and steadily with flowing movements, linked with a calming breath.

www.lissamiltonyoga.co.uk

£10 for one class, £8 per class with 5 class pass
£7 per class with 10 class pass

Surprising Rainfall Data

The Editor

Given what seemed like never ending rain and gloom through November, December and into January it would be easy to assume that this was an abnormally wet period. After all, many of the local fields are flooded and anyone who walks the local footpaths will have been slipping and sliding through the mud. Dogs have needed washing after every walk. However, data supplied by Mark Doble, The Seavingtons' News own weather man, shows some interesting rainfall data:

Period	Measured Rainfall	2022 comparison with longer term averages
Year 2022	805.6 mm (32.22")	
10 yr average	842.5 mm (33.70")	95.6%
20 yr average	818.7 mm (32.75")	98.4%
30 yr average	846.2 mm (33.85")	95.2%
40 yr average	816.1 mm (32.64")	98.7%
50 yr average	812.6 mm (32.50")	99.10%

So 2022 was not an abnormally wet year, if anything it was slightly drier than the long term average. The other surprising observation is how consistent our rainfall has been over an extended period, with 32" - 33" annually.



Swan Thatch Care

Help and Personal Care
13 Years' Experience

DBS Checked

First Aider, Administering Medication and Manual Handling Certified

Enquiries: Fiona. Mobile: 07454 818936
Email: feepearce@gmail.com

A Caring Hand When in Need

SOUTH SOMERSET RSPB GROUP

'Norway & Finland - Lands of the Northern Lights'

An illustrated talk presented by Mary Braddock, whose talk will take us from deepest winter through the 24 hrs of summer sunlight, looking at the different species of wildlife. Winter sunshine on snow and ice, the amazing phenomena that is the Aurora Borealis - magic!

Friday 17th February - 7.30pm The Millennium Hall, Seavington St Mary
Entry: Group members £4, non-group members £5, under 18's £1
Tea/coffee & biscuits included - Wheelchair access

NON-MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

For further details contact: Denise Chamings on 01460240740
www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset www.facebook.com/groups/RSPBSouthSomersetGroup

Bug of the Month - Cholera

Anne Crowther

Cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae* strongly associated with ingesting contaminated food or water. It is often thought of as historically effecting impoverished countries troubled by drought, famine, and war. However, we are currently in the (seventh) global pandemic which began in 1961. The disease is now endemic in many countries.

Since antiquity there have been descriptions of a cholera like illness in the fertile plains of the Ganges delta. Most of what is now known about cholera has come from the modern era. A Portuguese historian gave one of the first detailed accounts of the symptoms of cholera during an epidemic in India 1543: 'The very worst of poison seemed there to take effect, as proved by vomiting, with drought of water accompanying it, as if the stomach were parched up, and cramps that fixed in the sinews of the joints.'

The first pandemic of Cholera began in 1817 in India, rapidly spreading through Indonesia, Asia and the middle east, following the trade routes as far as Africa and the Mediterranean coast, reaching the threshold of Europe in 1821. As an example of how deadly this wave was 100,000 people succumbed in Java alone. Cholera reached the UK in Sunderland during the second pandemic in 1831.

The third pandemic is thought to have been the most deadly. Believed to have begun in 1852 in India, it travelled through Persia (Iran) to Europe, the United States and the rest of the world. The worst single year of cholera was 1854 when 23,000 died in the United Kingdom. The latter pandemics were less lethal than the third, but still managed to cause many thousands of deaths. Mecca became regarded as a 'relay station' for cholera in its progress from East to West. The beginning of successful treatments started at the end of the 1800's with rudimentary intravenous infusions of water.

Incidence of cholera has decreased significantly in developed countries since the late 1990's. The persistence of the disease in Africa has been attributed to poor water quality, poor hygiene, poor sanitation, and lack of access to health care.

Cholera is a notifiable disease. Most of those infected will have no, or mild symptoms and can be successfully treated with oral hydrating solution. However, in severe cases it can kill in a few hours if left untreated. Severe cases need rapid treatment of intravenous fluids and antibiotics. It is rare in the UK but may be acquired when travelling in remote areas with poor access to clean food, water, and adequate health care. Oral vaccines are recommended for those travellers.

Continued opposite

Continuation

Cholera has been mentioned in the news during 2022/23 in Afghanistan, Haiti, Malawi, Nigeria, Somalia, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, the Philippines, and Syria.

There is cause for hope, however. A global strategy on cholera control was launched in 2017. "Ending Cholera: a global roadmap to 2030" has a target to reduce cholera deaths by 90%.

Notes from the Parish Council

clerk@seavingtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Happy New Year from the Parish Council (PC). January is always a quiet month. However we can provide you with the following updates.

The controversial Carnival Park planning application is not on the agenda for SSDC's Area West meeting in January. CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) which brought the successful High Court action to quash the original application, is in touch with the Monitoring Officer. Following these discussions, the issue will then be included on the agenda of a subsequent Area West meeting.

The Parish Council had no concerns regarding planning application, Ref 22/03382/REM, relating to the construction of eight new three bedroom homes on land in Water Street opposite the childrens' playground.

Discussions are taking place with South Somerset District Council (SSDC) regarding the Community Orchard behind St Mary's Close. It transpires the land belongs to SSDC but the Council have no intention of maintaining the area. The Parish Council are liaising with SSDC regarding the ownership and future much needed maintenance of the orchard.

The PC is pushing for a site visit by a representative of the highways authority to review both the maintenance of existing signs and road markings, plus possible additional measures to better control speeding traffic in Scotts Hill, Water Street between Dark Lane and Ile Bridge, and David's Lane.

There are still vacancies if you wish to join the Parish Council. Why not come along to the next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 21st February at 6.30 in the Village Café to see what we do.

Anyone for Tennis?

secretary1.sptc@gmail.com

Rain has quite often stopped play for us up at the South Petherton Tennis Club in recent months along with high winds and even snow. There has still been plenty of action on the courts with coaching by Nat and Rachel, friendly daytime sessions, pay and play public bookings and a number of Mixed Winter League matches.

If your New Year's resolution is to be more active then try a pay and play session with a friend, you can book courts making use of the PAY & PLAY system, which gives easy access to non-members to play tennis. Simply scan the QR Code displayed at the courts or visit southpethertontennisclub.co.uk to register with the Lawn Tennis Association's Clubspark and available courts may be booked and paid for securely online up to seven days in advance for £6.

Alternatively our Stepping Stones events on the first Saturday of each month are free to non-members and members and are the ideal way to improve your game or ease back into tennis in a friendly and fun environment - just pop up to the courts and we'll get a game going. Sessions coming up on;

Saturday 4th February 1-2pm

Saturday 4th March 1-2pm

Saturday 1st April 1-2pm

The Club's teams are enjoying the Mixed Winter League and we've had some good wins and, of course, some poor defeats. Our 'A' team had an outstanding win against Chard 10-0 recently after Chard hadn't lost a set all season till then. All in all, things are going well for our teams and they are giving a good account of themselves on and off court.

Scams involving dog and cat owners

Elaine Morris

As many of you will know our cat, Rosie, decided to go on a gap year at the beginning of November and has been seen (so far) in Lopen, South Petherton and just last week staged a midnight raid through a cat flap in Ilminster picking a fight with the resident cat and waking up the owner of the house. She is much missed by many people but we remain hopeful that she will run out of money and turn up like the prodigal cat pretty soon.

It is difficult to imagine how some sick individuals might wish to capitalise on this situation but such people do exist. I was unlucky enough to be contacted by one of them. I share this story to warn all pet-owners what might happen if a pet goes missing.

It begins with a phone call from a man with a Northern accent who tells you he has your pet and even includes some details (which he has gleaned from pictures on Facebook). He swears on his two year old son's life that he is genuine but if you contact the police you will never see your pet again. This is repeated for a while before he sets out his terms and conditions. The price to be paid is £500 for a cat and, I subsequently learnt, £1000 or more for a dog. He asks you to stay on the line whilst he takes your pet to a vet to check the microchip and he will then meet you close to your house to hand over your pet. In my case he mentioned Dark Lane which made the whole thing seem very plausible. I was alone in the house at the time and pretty upset. I put the phone down and phoned the police.

To cut a long story short and following a number of phone calls from the police I learnt that this is a country-wide scam and police from many areas are currently working on a number of leads.

A recent article in The Times highlighted the issue of this particular fraud and mentioned that a gang of criminals from Barrow-in-Furness has been apprehended. The proceeds of their crimes resulted in a haul in excess of hundreds of thousands of pounds leaving many very sad pet-owners considerably poorer and still no nearer being re-united with their lost pets.

Somerset Waste Partnership News

New rules for upholstered items

Fire retardant legislation now in force means that all upholstered items including sofas, sofabeds; chairs (arm, kitchen, dining, home office); stools, foot stools; futons, bean bags, cushions - must go in a separate signposted skip at recycle sites, as must all materials - filling and cover - removed from furniture that has been reupholstered. If you need any help, ask the site staff.

Fix it for 2023!

The Fixy reuse van is out and about supporting a New Year of repair cafés. Visit Fixy to learn more about the growing efforts to help everyone repair electrical gadgets and other items.

Fixy accepts donations of unwanted or broken smart tech. Donations are data-wiped and repaired as necessary by Somerset specialists DonateIT, and passed onto schools, community groups and families who need them. See: somersetwaste.gov.uk/fixy.

Time to get walking again!

John Harris

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Somerset <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/somerset> has loads of walks to download and print, free. It also has books of walks, details of 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 Harris (who maintains the website) 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 website) 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!

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

john@walkinginengland.co.uk

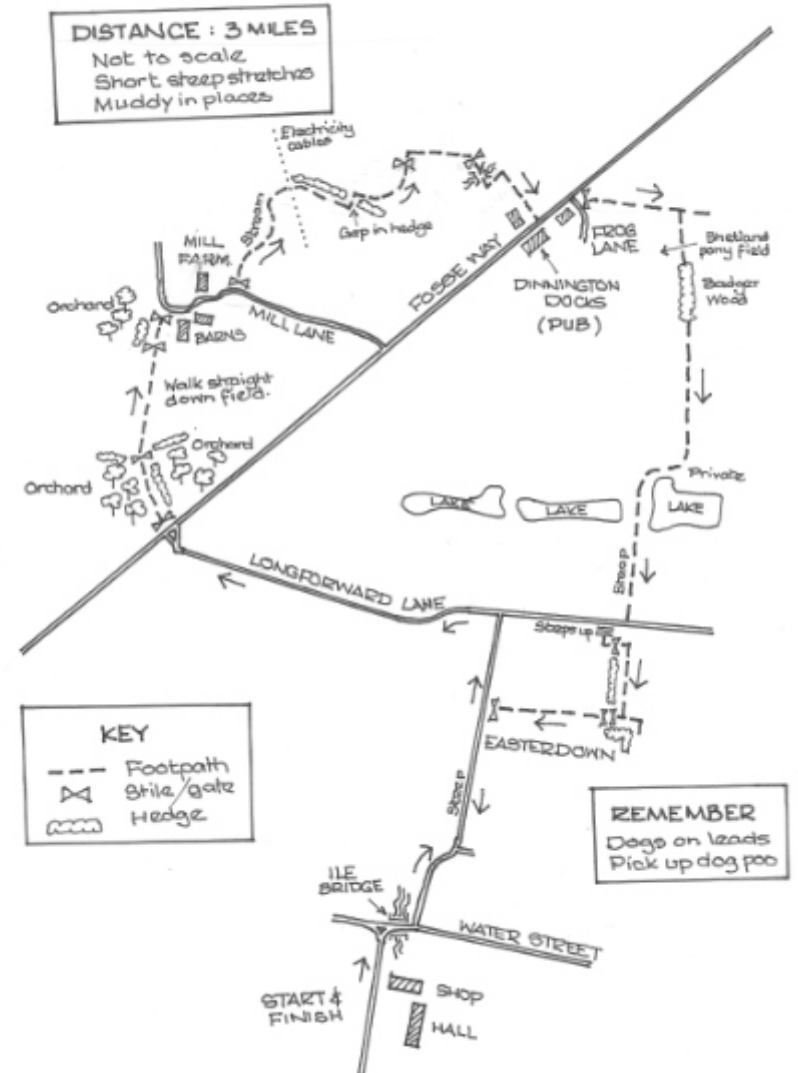
'EASY WALKS' Around the Seavingtons

The Editor

The walks in Somerset featured on the Walking in England website, detailed in John Harris's article above, provide lots of options for anyone who wishes to explore further afield. There are walks around South Petherton but nothing south of the A303. So for residents and visitors to The Seavingtons I drew a series of easy to read maps which were published in the 'News' during 2022. These four maps plus relevant articles of interest have been collected into a single 8 page booklet which is now available in the village Shop price £1, all of which goes to support the Shop.

A fifth map is published opposite. This map plus a couple more will be added to an expanded Second Edition 'EASY WALKS' later this year.

Walk No. 5 : Dinnington Dawdle



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



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



C.B. POTTS

ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Rose Cottage, Watergore,
 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



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



Mitchams
 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

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



CURIOUS HOW MUCH YOUR HOME IS WORTH?

If you're thinking about moving or interested in an up to date valuation of your home, start your journey by scanning the QR code below for an instant online valuation or contact me personally, I look forward to hearing from you.



RACHEL JONES 07717 574 168

Instagram @nest.associates_rachel

Facebook Nest Associates - Rachel Jones

Email rachel.jones@nestassociates.co.uk

Website www.nestassociates.co.uk



*If you have already instructed another agent, you should consider the terms of any agency agreement you have signed to ensure that you avoid any liability for more than one estate agency commission.

This leaflet is printed on FSC materials from sustainable sources. FSC

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

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.

Stewart Baldwin
Your Local
OvenGleamer

BBQing this year? We clean those too :-)

Need your Dirty Oven, AGA Or Range Gleaming Again?

A Professional Deep Cleaning Service Which Will Have Your Cooker Looking 'Like New'
We Don't Just Clean Ovens...We GLEAM Them!

COVID-19 SAFE CLEANING AT ALL TIMES

Super Special Offer
FREE Oven Liner* (SAVE £12)
*With all cleans this month

"Hi I just wanted to say a big thanks for doing such a great job on my Range Cooker - I never thought it would look as good as new ever again! Thanks again" Judith Young

Call and Book Today On 01460 455101

Check out our 3100+ reviews at www.ovengleamers.com
Ovens | Ranges | AGAs | Hobs | Extractors | Microwaves | BBQs

Residential Care Home

built by the community

Located in Ilminster, Vaughan Lee House is a cherished home to all its residents. It opened as a not for profit charity over fifty years ago and we are proud that it remains so to this day. Our staff live locally and pride themselves on their kind and compassionate approach to the care of our residents.



Please contact the home to request a brochure, arrange a visit to our home or for more information about our services.

Vaughan Lee House,
Orchard Vale,
Ilminster
TA19 0EX
01460 52077
www.vaughanleehouse.co.uk
karen@vaughanleehouse.co.uk



HK

HUMPHRIES KIRK

FREE LEGAL POP-UP

WHEN: Third Thursday of every month,
9:30am to 5:00pm
(next event is 16th February 2023)

WHERE: Great Bow Wharf, Bow Street, Langport

Drop in and meet local legal experts for
Family Law and Estate & Lifetime Planning

Laura Staples
Partner & Head
of Private Client

Hayley Coyne
Chartered Legal
Executive

To make a booking call
01460 279100

Initial 30 minutes will be free of charge...

...that's refreshing | www.hklaw.uk



Poole House, 17 Market Street,
Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 7JU
☎ **01460 279100**
✉ crewkerne@hklaw.uk
www.hklaw.uk



GRINTERS

Property & garden
maintenance.
01460 258949
enquiries@grinters.co.uk
www.grinters.co.uk

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



MARK HEBRON HAIRDRESSING

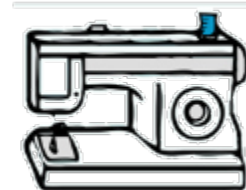
'Hairdressing for all the Family'

Tel: 01460 52476
Churchill House, 23-25 East Street, Ilminster




Curtain making, dressmaking & alterations

Phone Jennifer, South
Petherton
01460 242766



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



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



The Seavingtons' News Team

Editorial: Stephen Morris
Advertising: Ray Thorogood
Production: Brian & Elaine Edwards

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 Stephen Morris on 01460 242058 if you have any questions.

Editorial address: Chapel Court House, Seavington St Mary,
Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0QN. E: 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