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SEA Annual Report 2022-23

SEA currently has 244 newsletter members and 1474 followers on Facebook, and is run by a Committee of eight. The past year has been highly successful with increased collaboration particularly with Town Council, and several projects started or taken forward.

SEA is proud to be one of the Mayor's chosen charities for the current year. Since Saltash Town Council set up its **Climate Change and Environment Working Group (CCE WG)**, SEA has tried to ensure it is represented on all CCE WG meetings seeing it as potentially the most productive of our partnerships. It has enabled us to use Isambard House for our public evening meetings. SEA also is pleased to have an excellent working relationship with through their new Manager and staff of **Services Delivery**. And we have been invited to collaborate with **Library Hub** on the Environmental months initiated by the Manager.

SEA has also established a valuable partnership with local **Coop store** staff who have been welcoming in store, involved in litter picks. SEA is a chosen **Local Community Fund** to improve wheelchair accessibility on the Community Allotment.

SEA has received donations this year from Burraton School, from Cornwall County Community Chest, and from Saltash Bakery, and from individuals via collecting boxes.

The main SEA project developments in 2022-23, the first six being part of our Cherishing Habitats programme:

- **Community Allotment** in Grenfell Avenue has its first productive year, and won a grant from Coop Local Community Fund (see above)
- **'Grow your Love of Nature'** which was SEA's 2022 contribution to Cornwall's Local Nature Recovery strategy. We made available 50 calendula (pot marigolds) to Saltash residents to encourage them to link with Nature. They were distributed through Burraton School, Brunel School and the Community Hub in Fore St
- Five **Saltash Town Tree Walks** were conducted by the Tree Wardens

- **Tree Saltash** year 1 of planting trees and hedges in suitable sites around Saltash, in partnership with CCE WG, and with valuable collaboration from Forest for Cornwall, and funded by both organisations
- **Wildflower Surveys** were organised in the wildflower areas that SEA runs in the cemetery (86 species) and in Pillmere Meadow (47 species)
- **Habitat Challenge** rolled out at Tincombe Tea Party and Coop store introduced children and their carers to the delights and fascination of discovering insects in their habitat
- A **Thermal Imaging Camera** was purchased for loan to members (with online instructions on use) who want to find where their expensive household energy is lost
- **Public evening meeting** topics included Future proofing your Home, Saltash Trees, and Vegetables for the New Climate

Long-term projects have continued: **Litter Rangers** continually attract new members adopting their local streets and able to hire equipment to keep them clear of litter; new equipment has been purchased. **Community Litterpicks** have recommenced after the pandemic. **Victoria Gardens** demonstration bed is maintained by SEA.

SEA has sought publicity through stalls at May Fair, the Regatta, Tincombe Tea Party and Coop store; through the website seasaltash.org.uk and Facebook pages (both for SEA and Litter Rangers group), and St Nicholas Christmas Tree Festival.

Looking to the future, we are already heavily committed to continue our current projects, and only lack of personnel resources prevent us from acting on various new projects such as an anti-idling campaign, campaigns to restore nature to low-maintenance gardens (in place of carbon-intensive concrete and plastic 'grass'), and the proposed Green Guide to Saltash.

Adrian White