



Rattlebone Fire



In the early hours of Tuesday 18 March a major fire took place at the village's Rattlebone Inn. Manager, Gavin Hunt, who was sleeping in the pub at the time, escaped on being woken by smoke alarms.

Over 10 fire engines attended the scene with crews from three counties including Malmesbury, Chippenham (2), Corsham (2), Stratton, Tetbury, Nailsworth and Yate (2). Fortunately they were able to contain the fire but not before considerable damage had been caused to the roof and upper floors.

The Rattlebone has been closed since the fire resulting in no pub being open in Sherston at all following the closure of the Carpenters Arms late last year whilst a new tenant is being sought.

Thankfully it seems that the Rattlebone will soon be open for business with the ground floor being rapidly refurbished and ready to trade again as early as the Easter weekend. Major repair works to the rest of the building especially the roof are however likely to take many months.

In a valiant effort to bring beer back to the village without delay landlord Jason Read, manager Gavin Hunt and all the staff have constructed a Pop up Pub by the name of 'The Charred Stump' in the skittle alley which will be open on Friday evening 4 April and all day Saturday 5 April. Why not pop along and raise a glass or two by way of thanks to our Fire Service which undoubtedly saved the Rattlebone from almost certain complete destruction on 18 March?

Coast to countryside

Miranda Krestovnikoff, television presenter on Coast, Celebrity Masterchef contestant, a regular on The One Show, President of the RSPB and an avid scuba diver is coming to Wild Sherston.

Miranda was born in Buckinghamshire and for as long as she can remember, she has always loved the outdoors. Her passion for wildlife started early on by observing animals in the wild and keeping a veritable menagerie at home in the laundry room.

She was educated at school in Reading and later went on to study Zoology at Bristol University. From here, she caught the wildlife filmmaking bug and even before graduating, secured work at the BBC Natural History Unit. Miranda is also one of the highest-profile wreck divers in Britain, and has released two books 'Best British Beaches' and a Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Companion guide to Scuba Diving.

Miranda will be attending on Saturday 17 May and will be available for photographs and autographs.

The full schedule of Wild Sherston's activities is available at www.wildsherston.com, plus leaflets and tickets for the various talks will be available from Sherston Post Office from April. SEE PAGE 14.

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 10 April in the village hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend and there are opportunities to raise questions and pass comments. If you cannot make the meeting but have something to raise, please contact the clerk, Sarah Wood, on 840197 or email clerk@sherston.org.uk.

You can also contact the council via the response form on www.sherston.org.uk where minutes of meetings can be read.

Bridges – latest

As of end-March, the re-opening date of 18 April for both the Fosse Bridge and Badminton Overbridge is, according to Network Rail, still on track.

Copy deadline: 10th of the previous month.

Send to editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk or hard copy to Sherston Post Office Stores.

What's On: contact Caroline Moore on 841405 or info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk

The size and content of the Cliffhanger depends entirely on the amount of copy we receive from individuals and groups. So, if you feel you have something of interest, please don't hesitate to tell us. Around 400 words would be a maximum but the shorter the better and less editing would be needed.

Top tip: if you're telling us of an event coming up, write a short piece about it rather than just supply basic details or a poster. You will then get a short article published to help boost interest as well as a mention in our What's On section. Don't forget to tell us how your event went, with a photo if possible.

To advertise, contact:
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James Kutchera 841205

Advertising rates:

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1/4 page £220; 1/8 page £110; and 1/16 page £55

for one month:

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Inserted leaflet drop £85 max size A5

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of advertisements contained in this publication, Cliffhanger cannot accept any liability for errors and omissions. Inclusion of an advert should not be taken as an endorsement by Sherston Parish Council.

Please remember the Cliffhanger is delivered free to every home and business in the parish – more than 1000 copies. This and all previous editions are also available online at www.sherston.org.uk

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CBeebies film at Sherston school



In March a small group of children from Oak class had the opportunity to learn how children's TV programmes are made. They were involved in the filming of a pre-production pilot for a programme that could eventually be seen on CBeebies. It involved scenes in the Cliff area and at the school pond.

Linda Tate is the Development Producer of the BBC's Natural History unit, Children's Department and is responsible for coming up with new programme ideas. 'We filmed a taster tape of a programme to show to the CBeebies commissioner, if she likes it and can give us money to make it, it could go to a series. It's based on different habitats so we used rivers and ponds for the pilot.'

Seven reception children were involved in the filming and Polly Gould (Year 2) did a voice-over for an animation sketch. The footage is now being edited and should be available to show in school soon.



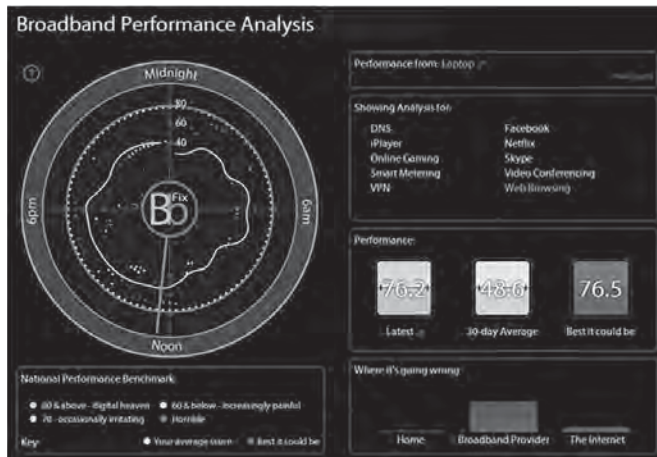
Jumble success

The Badminton Club jumble sale held on the 8 March raised £364.64 in aid of Sherston village hall. Many thanks to all those who helped at or attended the sale.

How well is your broadband working?

Actual Experience – a local company based in Bath – has been working with home broadband users across the UK in a bid to understand how well Digital Britain is working.

People at home who use their software can see how well their broadband supports popular services, like web-browsing, iPlayer and Skype and the results from a user in Sherston are shown below.



This is showing that web-browsing is pretty poor and that the provider is causing the problem. So what can people do to make things better?

In a community like Sherston, there are several things that can be done. If lots of people have the software installed, everyone can compare their results to see which provider is delivering the best performance. It's not meaningful to look at national 'league tables' for providers – it really can be a postcode lottery, but in a small community, you really can see what's good and what's not.

When there are problems, the Actual Experience software shows where they are. If you see things in the 'Home' section above, it might be your WiFi that's causing the problem, not your provider. But if the problems are in the 'Broadband Provider' section, like our user above, then you can compare your

results with other local users to see if there's a better option for you.

Also, if there are lots of results from enough people showing that the Internet experience is poor, Actual Experience can help get you the information you'd need to go to BT (or other providers) to help them justify investment in your area.

The company is working with providers and Ofcom – the UK communications regulator – to help them understand why and where things are going wrong. The information from hundreds of people, all across the UK, helps those providers make better decisions about how they manage their networks, improving the Internet experience for everyone.

How does it work?

The BBFix software never looks at anything you do with your computer or Internet connection. Instead, some measurements are taken over your broadband to show how well popular services would be supported, if you used them.

Your results, like the ones above, can be seen in any web browser and tell you how good your broadband would be if it all worked perfectly; how well it's actually doing; and where things are going wrong.

You can find out more and download the software at www.actual-experience.com/bbfix

Honey bee swarms

Local beekeeper happy to collect reasonably accessible honey bee swarms. Please call

Catharine on 837308 or mobile 07760 298911.

Parish councillors getting younger!

Fourteen-year-old Finn Wood attended the March parish council meeting and intends to attend future meetings to represent the views and opinions of Sherston's young people. If you do have any concerns, please mention them to Finn or contact the parish clerk, Sarah Wood, by either email clerk@sherston.org.uk or by phone on 840197.

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(As he would have wished) Clem's club will start again

Clem's Club will be back in the British School Room in May. All friendly fellas welcome for simple char and chat, 2.30pm-4.00pm on 6 and 20 May, and fortnightly after that (alternating with the Senior Club).

Walk with Sue

Sue McKechnie's next walk will be on Sunday 13 April. Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00am with a return to the Rattlebone Inn just around 12.00noon but it's doubtful that the pub will be open by then following the recent fire although hopefully it will be by the Easter weekend. As ever children and well behaved dogs, the latter on leads, are very welcome. The walk is entirely free and there is no need to book a place – just turn up on the day.

20 mph speed limits – Thanks

Many thanks to residents who provided suggestions for areas in the village that would benefit from a 20 mph speed limit. The parish council discussed the many proposals and will follow up with the Malmesbury Area Board and Wiltshire Council to determine the exact criteria and regulations before proceeding with proposals. Wiltshire Council are only prepared to support two new 20 mph schemes in the entire Malmesbury area and the parish council needs to ensure that it presents a strong case for a new 20 mph limit for a road or roads in Sherston. The parish council always welcomes input on issues in the village and if there is something that matters to you please contact the parish clerk, Sarah Wood, by either email clerk@sherston.org.uk or by phone on 840197.

Rubbish

Complaints have been received by the parish council about the amount of litter that is being left strewn about the skate park. There is a bin at the park, which is empty, but which is not being used. If you use the skate park, please can you ensure that any rubbish is placed in the bin.

Foul dogs

The parish council are still receiving complaints about dog fouling, with a report of a child standing in poo beside the stepping stones at the rec. Dogs are not allowed on the rec to prevent this very occurrence. Councillors are hoping to actively tackle this problem in the coming months and would welcome information if any dog and/or owner are seen using the rec.

Village hall 300+ club

March 2014 Draw

1st	325	Jonathan Gould	£13
2nd	281	Frank Hatt	£12
3rd	81	Joyce Wilkins	£11
4th	174	Mrs Harris	£10
5th	3	Bob Platts	£9
6th	89	Adrienne Jackson	£8
7th	149	Geoff Martin	£7
8th	147	Richard McNicol	£6

Collectors: A Andrews, G Mason, M Goulding, A Lyall, P Moody, R Moody, J Platts, L Prior, and M Thacker.

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Gambian Link

During February half-term, two teachers from Sherston Primary School, Lara Farahar and Tessa Leatherland went on a study trip to The Gambia. It was Lara's second visit and Tessa's third visit to Gunjur, a very traditional village on the coast. The visit never fails to have an impact – both personally and professionally – and develops awareness of global issues, consequently developing understanding of the relevance of the global dimension in school.

Tessa and Lara were two of 10 teachers from Wiltshire, each staying with a family and experiencing village life firsthand. They helped with jobs around the compound, including preparing food and collecting water from the well. They were both welcomed into the homes of the families that they stayed with and were overwhelmed with the generosity and friendliness of the Gambian people.

Sherston Primary School has a strong link with Siffoe Lower Basic School, the link is primarily for both the schools to learn about each other's cultures and to develop an awareness of global issues. Both schools regularly share projects and Tessa is currently doing a comparison of the River Gambia and the River Avon with her Year 3 class. Sherston schoolchildren raised some money to buy maths resources and a parachute for the children at their link school, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the parachute games that Tessa and Lara played with them and the teachers were very grateful for the maths games.

Busy Hands Pre-School has a link that was started last year with Tarud pre-school in Gunjur. Lara and Tessa visited the school and took out a number line and photos



of the children from Busy Hands with their favourite toy. The children at Tarud pre-school chose toys from their classroom to show the children at Busy Hands. Lara then took her Year 4 class up to Busy Hands to share the photos she had taken at Tarud pre-school. Her Year 4 class then taught the pre-schoolers a song from Gambia and read a multicultural story to them.

Few people return from the study trip untouched by it and it takes some time to assimilate the experience. Both Tessa and Lara are keen to return but, more importantly, they are applying to the British Council to get funding for the link teacher in Gambia to come to Sherston and experience life here.



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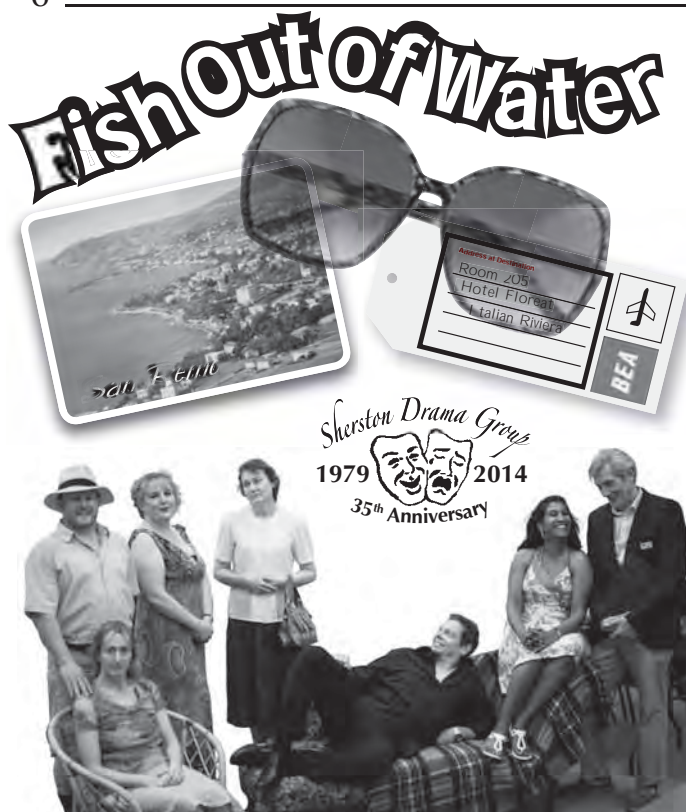
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Time to get your tickets for Sherston Drama Group's Spring Play! *Fish out of Water* by Derek Benfield is set in the romantic atmosphere of a sun-drenched hotel on the Italian Riviera. At least it's romantic for some, but the atmosphere is shattered by the arrival of Agatha, an outspoken widow and her timid spinster sister. Agatha's unflagging energy starts to affect the other characters' lives as the hapless guests and hotel staff try to avoid being drawn in. Various skeletons emerge from closets in this classic comedy – and people discover things about their nearest and dearest, and even themselves, that they knew nothing about. As the Daily Mail said 'The plot chortles along at a swift pace. You could happily take along the whole family'. And now being performed in Sherston village hall the week before Easter (Wednesday 9 to Saturday 12 April). Tickets from Sherston Post Office Stores, or via the Box Office – email sherstondramagroup@gmail.com. Prices unchanged from 2010 at £6.50/£5.50, including refreshments.

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Malmesbury area board

The Sherston Young Craft Group presented their funding proposals for an inter-generational project as part of Wild Sherston at the March area board meeting. The group will sketch and photograph local wildlife, which will form the basis for stitching a permanent wall hanging for Sherston village hall. Both Wild Sherston and the Sherston Young Craft Group were awarded a grant by the area board.

The next Malmesbury area board meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 May at 7.00pm in Crudwell village hall.

Sherston Tea Rooms opens this month

The Angel will at last be opening its doors as the Sherston Tea Rooms from 8 April. There's been a lot of clearing, cleaning and painting to get the place up and running and, following extensive renovation, it is just about ready to welcome the village.

The Tea Rooms will offer locally sourced, hand-baked cakes, the perfect cup of Illy coffee and fine teas all day. Weekend breakfasts will include fantastic sausages, bacon and eggs from the smallholding on Luckington Road. What could be better on a Sunday morning than a proper cup of coffee, a hearty breakfast and a relax with the papers?

The Tea Rooms will open from 7.30am to 5.30pm on weekdays (and from 8.30am at weekends) so you can call in for that all-important takeaway coffee and freshly baked croissant or sausage roll on your way into work!

Paul and Caroline would like to thank everyone for their support through the long process to opening and look forward to serving you soon.

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James Qualifies for British School's Biathlon

Sherston Primary School's sporting reputation continues to gain momentum with a raft of sports successes.

James Hulme (Y5) has qualified for the 2014 British Schools' Modern Biathlon Championships, due to be held on the weekend of 5/6 April. The biathlon consists of a 50m swim at the London Olympic Aquatics Centre and an 800m run on the Olympic Concourse.

The British Schools' Biathlon Championships is the first event to be held at the Olympic park since the 2012 Olympics.

To be selected James had to attend a number of regional qualifying competitions and is one of 145 boys in his age group due to compete in April.

James took time out of his training schedule to tell us more about it:

How does it feel to represent Sherston school at this national event?

It is a great experience and I feel really proud because I am also representing my village. Everyone is always really excited for me when they hear I am running – especially when it is for GB. Once someone asked me for my autograph – it was epic!

How often do you have to train?

I swim twice a week and I run whenever someone will take me. My dad cannot keep up with me so he asks others to help.

Have you always enjoyed running or is it a relatively new hobby?

I started running last February at a school's cross country. I had never run competitively before but I have loved it ever since.

How many qualifying competitions were there and what were they like?

I qualified at Millfield and got through to the Individual British Championships which were in Solihull. I stayed in a hotel and the whole experience was amazing but very nerve-racking. From that I then qualified for the School's Championship at the Olympic Park which was a massive surprise as I did not know that there was even one.



How will you prepare yourself on the Big Day?

I will go to bed very early at the Olympic hotel. I want to be asleep by 8.00pm. I will put all my running clothes out ready and make sure my shoes are also ready. I will then pack my kit bag with lots of drinks and energy snacks. When I wake up I will get dressed and have three Weetabix and some fruit for breakfast. I have to register by 8.00am and my race is at 9.10am.

Who is your sporting hero?

Well actually I have two: Mo Farah and Owen Farrell. I cannot believe that I am going to run where Mo Farah has run and last year I got to play on the same Saracens pitch with Owen Farrell. These were both my ambitions – so I am very lucky to have achieved these already.

Why is sport a good thing for young people of your age?

Sport keeps you fit and healthy. It also makes you realise how bad things like smoking are. I hold breath even if I see a cigarette as it could take four seconds off my time just by breathing it in. So sport makes you think about being healthy.

What kind of sport would you like to see more of in Sherston?

I would like to see more running and athletics at school.

Do you have to eat something special before you do a big run? What about afterwards – what's on your mind? What's the first thing you do when you've reached the finish line?

I always have a pasta meal and a hot chocolate the night before. When I am running I always sing a song in my head and always hope to get a new PB. I run against myself and not the other people. I know that sounds strange, but it is about improving my technique and the only person I want to beat is me.

The first thing I do after finishing is look for my mum and then I drink a bottle of Lucozade.

Good luck James!! We'll catch up with you again after the race....if we can keep up!



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Clutter, Gardens and Repairs!



There always seem to be jobs to do in and around the house, whether it's tidying the garden, house maintenance or de-cluttering. Are you dreading the arrival of spring and all it entails with tidying up the garden?

Finding a trustworthy and reliable tradesperson to help with these tasks isn't always easy. Where do you look? There are hundreds of tradespeople listed in the phone directory, but who are they? Are they reliable? Are they trustworthy?

Some answers may be:

1. Use someone who comes recommended by family, friends or a local group.
2. Age UK and Wiltshire Council have trusted traders lists (I can give you details).
3. Ask for references or evidence of previous jobs they have completed.
4. Make sure they provide a business or home address and phone number to contact them, not just a mobile phone number.
5. Don't respond to people who casually offer services at your doorstep – they may not be genuine.

If you're de-cluttering your home or replacing large items of furniture etc, disposal can be a problem. It won't necessarily fit into your recycle bins!

1. 'Freecycle' is a free online service where you can advertise and give away your unwanted items and the items are collected by the recipient.
2. There are a number of independent agencies that can carry out repairs to the home inside and out. They will remove large items of furniture from your home for a small charge.
3. Wiltshire Council will remove large furniture items from your doorstep for a fee, reduced if you are on means-tested benefits.
4. 'Waste Not Want Not' will collect large items of furniture that can be resold in their Chippenham shop. They don't charge for collection.
5. Dorothy House and British Heart Foundation have a free collection service for most furniture and electrical goods, which they will sell in their high-street shops.

If you need further information on any of the above, or information on any other matter, give me a call on 07557 922020 or email malmesburygnc@communityfirst.org.uk

Ellen Blacker
Good Neighbour Co-ordinator

Café Mozart

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society (MAMS) is very much looking forward to welcoming Café Mozart to Malmesbury Abbey for the first time on Saturday 3 May at 7.30pm.

Café Mozart is a small group of instrumentalists and vocalists performing late 18th century music on period instruments. The café 'proprietor' is Derek McCulloch and the performers will be Christopher Bowen (tenor), Jenny Thomas and Jonathan Morgan (flutes), Ilana Cravitz (violin), Ian Gammie (bass viola and guitar).

They will delight us with songs and instrumental music by Haydn, JC Bach, Bornhardt, the Earl of Abingdon and Mozart to name a few, and it promises to be an entertaining evening.

Tickets for the concert are priced at £12, or £5 for students, and can be obtained from the Abbey bookshop or, in Sherston, from Joy Smith on 840865. There will also be tickets available on the door.

Did you know that Sherston has its own Coffee Shop?

It has been open for 12 years. Three mornings a week, Sherston church is transformed into a coffee shop where everyone is welcomed. There is a children's play area too.

A busy happy meeting place selling Fair Trade filter coffee, tea and hot chocolate, and lovely home-made cakes and cookies – all at very reasonable prices.

The Coffee Shop is run by volunteers and is an important fundraiser for the church. Since 2002 it has raised £11,000 to help keep this lovely building safe.

It is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30am until 12.00noon. Come and see.

Charming House to rent in historic Southern France

16 Rue Montmorency is a charming three-bedroom town house located in the heart of Pezenas, a beautiful medieval market town. The house can accommodate 6 people comfortably and was built in the 18th Century. Constructed from ancient stone (probably from the neighbouring castle ruins!) it comes complete with authentic touches such as decorative wrought iron railings and sky blue wooden shutters which are a decorative theme running through Pezenas.

Light and airy with stunning views

Number 16 is situated on the apex of a row of town houses, and so has light on three sides as well as a roof terrace with stunning views over the old town and Languedoc countryside. Rue Montmorency is a stone's throw from the bars and bistros of the vibrant old town.

Please see the website for more details www.realsouthoffrance.co.uk

Or call Jennie Lamont on 07985443863

Quote Cliffhanger on any enquiry

Can you help Sherston School find funding for IT?

The school's computer suite is coming to the end of its life and needs replacing in the next couple of years.

There will be no additional government funding for this project.

Initial estimates suggest the cost of replacing the equipment will be £20,000 to £30,000.

The school is setting up a new group called 'Sherston School Fund IT!' with the aim of seeking grants, lottery funding, and donations from private companies. We'd like to get started as soon as possible.

We're looking for people to form this group. Whether you're a parent with children at the school, or part of the wider village community, we'd really appreciate your help. If you're interested, please contact parent governor Fi Picton via fi.parsons@which.net.

Anyone who's already got experience of obtaining funding would be particularly welcome.

We envisage having as few meetings as possible, but keeping in touch in between times via email.

What Matters to You in the Malmesbury Community area?

The 'What Matters to You in the Malmesbury Community area?' event will take place on Wednesday 2 April, at 6.30pm, at Malmesbury School. It will facilitate discussions on local priorities for the area board in order to agree appropriate projects in and around Malmesbury to be delivered over the next two years. If you haven't yet applied for a ticket but would like to attend please visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-matters-to-you-in-the-malmesburycommunity-area-tickets-10291039777





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Sherston Senior Club

Our meeting on 18 February was an afternoon of laughs created by Mrs Susan Marshfield who was telling us yarns on the theme of 'Oh yes I remember it well', the things that she remembers are endless. She kept us all laughing for well over an hour. I think all members present enjoyed the afternoon, we would all like to say thank you very much to Mrs Marshfield and also many thanks to the ladies who served us all with tea and biscuits which was appreciated by all.

Our next meeting was on 4 March, this was presented by Mr Derek Tilney, the chairman of Malmesbury Royal British Legion. His subject was the history of war memorials of 1914 to 1918 and the early part of 1939 to 1945 war. One might think not a very interesting subject but Mr Tilney certainly knew how to put the subject over to keep us all interested. I think a lot of club members went home with more knowledge on the subject than they thought possible. All members who attended the meeting were presented with a poppy badge to remember the afternoon. We would all like to say thank you to Mr Tilney for the afternoon and, again, also thank the ladies who served the tea and biscuits which was much appreciated by all.

From your chairman Malcolm Hillier, 840737.

St George's Day Parade 2014

The village of Sherston will be hosting the annual St George's Day Parade for North Wiltshire Scout District on the afternoon of Sunday 27 April. We are expecting young people from each of the 10 scout groups in North Wiltshire to march from Sherston school to the parish church for a special church service.

The parade will leave the school at 2.30pm and we ask residents to keep Court Street, Cliff Road, Silver Street, High Street and Church Street as clear as possible for the short time that the parade will pass. If possible, would residents avoid parking at the north end of the High Street (that is opposite the Old School)?

We have asked that visitors to the village use the recreation ground for car parking for the afternoon. We hope that these arrangements will minimise disruption. Thank you.

by Anthony Price

Spring Clean-Up at Sherston School: Saturday 26 April

This is an annual opportunity for parents to give something back to the school and the teachers who do such an amazing job educating our children!

By this time of the year, the playground and front approach to the school need some TLC, so from 10.00am to 1.00pm, we'll be sweeping up the leaves, and scraping off the moss, in return for homemade cakes, tea and coffee. Anyone in the village is welcome to come along and give us a hand, just bring a broom or a spade! We look forward to seeing you, we're grateful for any time that you can spare. Thank you.

Five loaves and two fishes project

On behalf of the Five Loaves and Two Fishes Project in St Paul's in Bristol, I would like to thank you so much for your generosity at Christmas.

A fantastic total of £643.70 was raised to buy food and to contribute to the family holiday food fund which the Sisters of the Church provide, with the Mothers Union, for needy families. I would also like to thank Paul and Gail Mather from Sherston Post Office Stores for their support in organising the shopping list of tins and packets of food that are requested by the Sisters.

On Thursday 8 May at 10.30am in Sherston Church, Sister Hildamary and Rosina will be visiting us to talk about the work in St Paul's. Please do take the time to come and meet them and hear firsthand about their work and how much your contributions and support are valued by many vulnerable and homeless people. For further information about this or anything else in connection with the project, please contact Reverend Susan Harvey on 840696.

SmallAds

You can now advertise items for sale or wanted in the Cliffhanger including services required such as gardening or cleaning. Cost is £2 for up to 20 words. Copy should be in paper form and put through the letterbox at 37 High Street by the 15th of the month together with £2 in cash. All monies raised will be donated to charity. Private advertisers only please – no businesses.

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A workshop with Jeremy Jackman

Jeremy Jackman was for 10 years first counter-tenor with The King's Singers and is an experienced professional musician whose work in the field of vocal/choral music is of the highest international standard and he enjoys an enviable reputation as a choral director and choir trainer. He was also the singer in the theme music for the series of 'Blackadder'.

We are very lucky to have Jeremy for a workshop in Sherston on Wednesday 25 June at 6.45pm in the British School Room. If you sing in a choir, have done or would like to, this is an ideal opportunity for an interesting and fun evening. Tickets are limited and may be purchased at £12 from Lucy Lawrance lucy@sherston.plus.com or in evenings on 840778 or from any member of SHOCC.

Recycle and raise funds for Sherston School: Friday 9 May

Sherston primary School's next recycling collection through the company Bag2School is a couple of weeks after the Easter holidays so there is plenty of time to sort out your old winter wardrobe and bag up anything you no longer want.

This recycling opportunity is open to anyone in the village. If you aren't going up to school but would like to donate, you don't need a special bag, black refuse sacks are fine. If you contact Sophie Cheetham (sophiecheetham@gmail.com or 07786 990045) or put a message on our Facebook page, (search for 'Friends of Sherston School') we can come and collect from you.



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Brownies step back in time

This year is a big one for the Brownies, they are celebrating 100 years! In 1914, as a result of little girls wanting to be like their big sisters who were in Guides, Lady Baden Powell set up 'Rosebuds' with a navy uniform. Quickly the name was changed to Brownies and the uniform changed to brown with a sailor collar. This was found to be very impractical so the brown tunic dress was born. This lasted (with variations in neck wear and hats) until 1990 when at last Brownies were allowed to wear trousers and warmer sweatshirts.

As part of The Big Brownie Birthday, 1st Sherston Brownies have been working towards their Traditions Badge and learning about what it was like to be a Brownie in the past (who can remember what Brownies carried in their pockets?). As part of the birthday celebrations, we had two visitors from Girl Guiding Swindon who came to show us the uniforms from the last 100 years. The Brownies had great fun dressing up and thinking about what it must have been like for Brownies in the past. 1st Sherston Brownies are looking forward to a variety of fun events this year to celebrate being a Brownie, including a large birthday party in the summer at Wincanton race course with hundreds of other Brownies from all over the South West.



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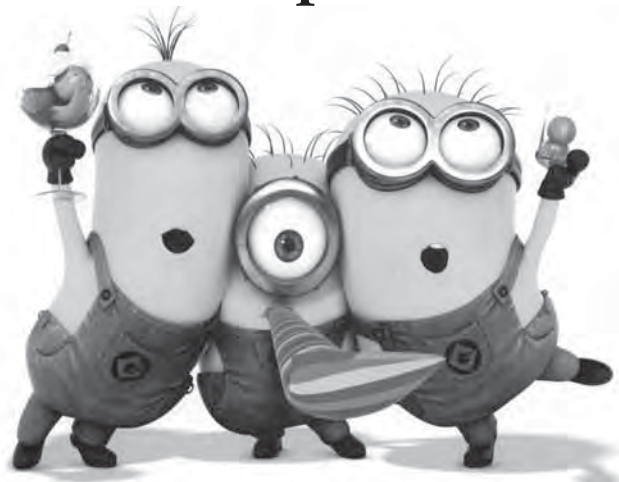
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Movie Night at Sherston School Friday 25 April, 3.15-5.15pm



Children at Sherston School have voted for the movie 'Despicable Me 2' from a shortlist of films, to be shown in the school hall on Friday 25 April at 3.15pm. This means that parents have a bit of extra free time that day, as they won't need to pick up until 5.15pm!

Tickets are available from school for £4, including a vegetarian or ordinary sausage in a roll and a drink, which will be served after the movie. All proceeds to the Friends of Sherston School (FSS) which is raising funds to subsidise school trips next year.

Please be aware that this is a PG certificate, so it's up to parents to be happy with the film their child(ren) will watch, they are welcome to stay if they wish. FSS committee members will be supervising the event. The FSS will show a U movie next time so that all ages are catered for.

Village Hall donation

Thank you to everyone who bought any of my marmalade, jam or chutney at the Sherston market in March. This has enabled me to make a donation of £85 to our village hall, towards the proposed renovations. *Lin Prior*

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New support groups for unpaid carers in Wiltshire

A new group and training programme to help support unpaid carers across the whole of Wiltshire is to be launched this month.

Carer Support Wiltshire, which supports over 8,000 carers, has updated and extended its support group programme with informative groups, café drop-ins, specialist meetings and helpful training to try to reach as many of Wiltshire's 47,500 carers as possible.

In our consultations, carers told us that they would like better quality advice and information at the groups they attend; they would like groups to run monthly, and that they would like the opportunity to socialise with other carers and share experiences and advice.

There will be structured groups that will run once a month in six areas which will provide bite-sized training, high-quality advice and information regarding the caring role.

Carers Cafés will run in 12 towns across the county and will be a place where carers can come together to share information and advice, and socialise.

Carer Support Wiltshire will also be running bi-monthly specialist groups for carers of people with mental health problems and parent carers.

One carer who recently attended a group for the first time said: 'It was a nice friendly group. You don't have to talk about the serious side of being a carer, but for me it has been a lifeline to have regular contact and advice.'

Alongside the groups, carers can access a wide range of free training opportunities to help them in their caring role, including first aid, dementia care, manual handling and money management.

To find out where your nearest group or training session will be taking place, visit www.carersinwiltshire.co.uk where you can also register for support online. Alternatively, you can call 0800 181 4118 for more information.



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Go Greased Lightning!



For one night only Sherston Village Hall was turned into Rydell High School back in the 1950s.

There were a good number of Pink Ladies, and leather clad T-Birds present. However, the star of the show was a fantastic Greased Lightning Car Bar



(thanks to Pat Starke for this!). Laura Gould aka 'Marsha Mallow' and Gemma Waldron 'dream beauty schoolgirl' get special mention for best costumes on the night.

As well as all the great music from the film, we were treated to a variety of Summer Night duets (special mention to the McLeishes and Pettits here), impressive splits by Juliet Blows, some very fine dancing and even a spot of floor surfing!

Thanks to a fantastic Sherston School 'Friends' committee for organising a fun night out – Caroline, Pat and Jo especially. We also raised valuable funds for Sherston School, which will go towards toys for outdoor play and playground markings.

Moviola @ Grittleton Village Hall

Gravity [12A]



On Wednesday 30 April Moviola at Grittleton village hall is showing Gravity (12A), the winner of seven Oscars, including Best Director.

Dr Ryan Stone (Sandra Bullock) is a brilliant medical engineer on her first shuttle mission, with veteran astronaut Matt Kowalski (George Clooney) in command of his last flight before retiring. But on a seemingly routine spacewalk, disaster strikes. The shuttle is destroyed, leaving Stone and Kowalsky completely alone - tethered to nothing but each other and spiralling out into the blackness.

Doors open from 7.00pm. Tickets £5 in advance, £6 on door available from Lesley 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com [underscore between the l and the p]. www.moviola.org

Future dates for Grittleton Moviola: 28 May and 25 June. Film choices in next month's Sherston Cliffhanger.



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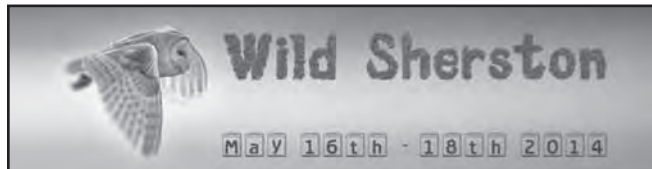
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Walk on the wild side

Take a walk on the wild side here on our doorstep... Wild Sherston will be a fun-filled event with something for all the family.

Friday 16 May begins at 7.30pm with Radio 4 broadcaster and BBC Radio 4's 'Shared Planet' presenter Kelvin Boot talking about 'The trials and travails of a naturalist'.

Over the Saturday and Sunday there will be a variety of walks, including a dawn chorus walk at 5.00am (for you early birds!), a wild flower walk, a butterfly walk, a river walk and a bat walk.



Friday 16 May

The event opens with a very special guest speaker in the village hall at 7.30pm.

Kelvin Boot is a freelance science writer who specialises in environmental issues, is former director of Plymouth's National Marine Aquarium and was a key contributor to the BBC Radio 4 series 'Saving Species' which ran for 90 programmes. He followed this with a further 30x30minute programme in the 'Shared Planet' series as science correspondent – a further 30-programme series has just been commissioned.

He passionately believes in the need to demystify science for public engagement to succeed, and sees young scientists as having an obligation to share their discoveries with the widest possible stakeholder community. Buried beneath all of this, he is an out and out naturalist, especially interested in those creatures that most people love to hate – sharks to spiders, worms to wasps. He has just returned from a trip to the spectacular Galapagos Islands.

He will be giving a talk about his very wide experiences as a professional naturalist.

Saturday 17 May

There are lots of activities in the village hall and the church for both children and adults.

For adults and older children there are a series of talks:

10.00am: Butterfly Conservation, Wiltshire Branch –

Butterflies and moths of the area.

11.00am: To be confirmed.

12.00noon: Ben Williams – Our local mammals (badgers, foxes, hedgehogs etc).

1.00pm: Paul Anderson – All about bees.

2.00pm: Wiltshire Ornithological Society – Learning about the birds of North Wiltshire

3.00pm: Bristol Avon River Trust. Wildlife in our local rivers

4.00pm: Avon Bat Society – Bats. Talking about the types of bats we get locally followed by a bat walk at 8.00pm.

For younger children there is a range of activities from 10.00am to 4.00pm, including:

Forest School: Drop-in session on the field, open fire and activities.

Wild Trail: Family trail; explore Grove wood, 8 activity boxes to find. Maps available over weekend from hall and download from web.

Sherston I Spy: Info, displays, hands on and quizzes about wildlife/nature in Sherston.

Clay Corner: Get creative with clay, foot prints, making animals, leaf prints.

Snail Racing: At 11.00am, 1.00pm and 3.00pm there will be a snail race – bring your own snail (local snails only). 30p to enter.

Children's Photographic Exhibition: Display of the children's photographs in the church (from 10.00am on Saturday to 3.00pm on Sunday)

We have organised a range of talks covering butterflies and moths, birds, bees, mammals, rivers and bats.

There will be lots of children's activities too, such as a bouncy castle, face painting, a clay corner, snail racing, trails and quizzes, as well as a Forest School.

On both the Saturday and Sunday there will be live animals to meet, including bats, hedgehogs, owls and butterflies. There will be an adult and children's photographic exhibition. Children's photographic entry forms can be requested by emailing Wildsherston@outlook.com and a copy will be given to every child at Sherston School before Easter so you will have time to get out and about.

Saturday the following activities will be taking place in the village hall:

Live barn owls and hawks • Bee observation hide

Live bats and hedgehogs • Live butterflies and moths

Bouncy castle • Face painting • Wildlife Photographic Exhibition

Bats and bugs • River animals

Over both days there will be a range of stands from wildlife-related organisations, including:

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust • Sherston Craft Club • Grove Wood

Sherston Wildlife Photographic Exhibition • Willow Sculptures

Oak and Furrow Animal Rescue • Plants for your garden

Butterfly Conservation • Seeds - Meadow in my garden

Wiltshire Ornithological Society • Hedgehog Friendly Village

Sherston School (including a live video stream from the schools nest boxes)

Bugseye View (nest boxes, bird food etc) • Cotswold Wardens

Bristol and Avon River Trust • Valerie Duggan - Wildlife artist

Westonbirt Ice creams • Gemini Outdoor (Nordic Walking)

Westonbirt Arboretum • Nature Cards and Photo's • RSPB

Sunday 18 May

There will be a special service in the church for pets, followed by a guest appearance by Darcy the barn owl (who you may remember was in the press for falling asleep in the village church at a wedding).

The following walks are planned and are each due to last one hour:

5.00am: Dawn Chorus walk. May is a great time to hear the dawn chorus.

10.00am: Identifying local birds ending at the Vineyard to visiting the bird ringing exhibition.

11.00am: Understanding more about our local wild flowers and trees.

12.00noon: Our local rivers – what lives in them.

1.00pm: Identifying our local butterflies and moths. If there is enough interest we can run some of these walks a number of times.

There will be an exhibition of bird ringing at the Vineyard on the back road to Brook End from 10am to 2pm. One of the bird ringers was recently on BBC Countryfile!

There are a number of activities for younger children from 11.00am to 3.00pm, including:

Munchy Munchkins (11.00am to 12.00noon only): An opportunity for 1-5 year olds to explore and investigate nature through messy play activities that are inspired by using materials found in the wild. Sherston I Spy: Info, displays, hands on and quizzes about wildlife/nature in Sherston.

Young Craft Group (12.00noon to 3.00pm): Lasting legacy, creating banners for village hall.

Children's Photographic Exhibition: Display of the children's photographs in the church.

BBC Wiltshire Radio presenter Marie Lennon will be broadcasting live on the Wild About Wiltshire radio programme.

Please note that timings etc may change before the event!

Prices (All tickets are available from the Post Office very soon or via email – wildsherston@outlook.com)

Kelvin Boot talk on Friday night: £5

Talks on Saturday: £2 per talk per adult

Bat walk on Saturday evening: £3

Sunday walks: £2 per walk per adult, £1 per child

Any queries please email us at wildsherston@outlook.com or call me on 840995. *by Geoff Cars*

SherstonFest 2014 - Family Fun!

SherstonFest (13 and 14 June) is not only about bringing 'the best in contemporary British music, and traditional English cider' to the area, it's also an event for all the family to enjoy.

So this year, like last, there will be a packed kids programme on Saturday, including face painting, hair braiding, junk modelling, cake decorating, samba drumming, a juggling stall, build a pizza and general merriment for all.

A great line-up for the little darlings but this year we have gone one step further as many of the kids in the village will also be on stage! No we aren't expecting a mass stage invasion by the under 11s - but we have asked our own arena-filling 'Sherston Young Voices Choir' to open the show on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs Berry and the choir, fresh from their sell-out gig @ the NEC arena, will be performing their greatest hits set on the main stage to kick off proceedings - obviously this is a bit of a comedown from their normal stadium-filling shows, but now they are mega stars they are taking this opportunity to give something back to the little people who have helped put them where they are today ...

At the other end of the scale, the festival is also running the 'Seniors Preview' again on Saturday morning, with all senior citizens from the village invited to come along for free and to have a cuppa and a nice bit of cake, provided by those lovely people at the Malmesbury Cake Society.

Of course, this being a music festival, the Seniors Preview will also have some bangin' choons to help wash down the Battenberg and 'End of the Track' (Feat. Roger Whitehouse) will be providing some close vocal harmony numbers



on the Malmesbury Acoustic Session stage to go with the PG Tips.

Oh, and while we are at it, the full music line-up for 2014 has also been announced (details at www.sherstonfest.com/lineup/) – and it's a belter!

Just like it says on the tin 'the best in contemporary British music' will definitely be on show with pretty much all styles catered for, from rock to rap, jazz to hip hop, folk to funk and everywhere in between.

This year there are over 20 acts on two stages – and, by our reckoning, that means if you buy a weekend ticket you are paying about a quid a band to see some of the best acts we have seen on the live music and festival scene throughout the UK in the last year... and all in your backyard (almost literally in the case of the Cliftons!).

So, all in all, a great mix to invite friends and family to for one of those 'only in Sherston' weekends!

But remember, like all previous years, it will sell out, and it will be an all-ticket event, so don't miss out – get them from the Post Office or the festival's website (www.SherstonFest.com). More info www.sherstonfest.com www.facebook.com/SherstonFest info@sherstonfest.com or call Dave Shephard on 07860 448438



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TREEtalk

April 2014

by Irene Johnston



Spring has well and truly arrived. There may still be a nip in the air but the blossom and new leaves are looking stunning and (apparently) we can look forward to a hot summer. Anyone who has walked through Grove Wood will have seen masses of emerging bluebells and wood anemones, promising another stellar performance this month and hopefully into May. Last year's delayed spring produced a stunning and simultaneous riot of blue, white and fresh green so let's hope the display lasts until Wild Sherston in a few weeks' time.

Sharp eyes will also have noted that several new trees have appeared, thanks to grant funding and to the welcome efforts of Noel Banks and his Cotswold wardens. We have added numbers of English oak and hawthorn, wild cherry, wild crab apple, wild pear, field maple and native hawthorn to the existing mix. Expect some pretty spring flowers in years to come. Meanwhile Martin Rea and Heather Tallis spent one Sunday morning planting several contrasting shrubs, including viburnum, dog rose and wild honeysuckle. They will just get better with time and will brighten up path edges.

The Parish Council has funded the purchase of an additional six trees, all around six feet in height, namely a pear, small-leaved lime, crab apple, hazel, glaberrima and dawn redwood. (Full Latin names available on request!). Noel and his team have already planted these on the Recreation Ground on our behalf – thanks, you guys are brilliant!

If anyone has ideas about other suitable planting sites around the village, just let Sue or me know. It's always good to hear about new ways of enhancing our lovely village environment.

For more information about Grove Wood or anything tree-related, then please contact:

Irene Johnston on 841273, email: Ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk or Sue McKechnie on 840601, email: susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk

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Organ Recital and Concert: Saturday 10 May

We are delighted to announce details of this very special event, taking place in Sherston Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 10 May. This is part of the Royal College of Organists' 150th Anniversary Year when 150 recitals are taking place across the UK and internationally. Christopher Kent, a member of the RCO, will be joined by Rachel Gilliam (soprano), Victoria Clarke (violin) and Lorna Davies (violin), performing music by J.S. Bach and C.P.E. Bach and Joseph Rheinberger and others.

Tickets, to include a glass of wine, are £10 and will be available from the Post Office from the middle of April.

The organ in Sherston Church was installed in 1902 by Wordsworth and Company of Leeds, rebuilt by Percy Daniel and Company of Clevedon in 1974 and restored by Meakin Organs of Malmesbury in 2000. It is an excellent instrument for the accompaniment of singing and the performance of organ music and if you haven't heard it played in a concert don't miss this opportunity - you may well be very surprised.

For details of the other concerts in the series look at www.rco.org.uk

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A new initiative at Busy Hands Pre-School

March saw the launch of an exciting new initiative at Busy Hands – the 'Learning Library'. We have developed over 20 learning bags for the children to choose from, enabling them to bring a bit of Busy Hands home each day. Each bag contains a range of activities, books and toys that children can share with their families at home.

At Busy Hands we understand that working closely with parents is crucial to igniting children's curiosity for learning. Each bag has been carefully developed to address the key learning areas that are set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, helping children develop everything from their communication to their understanding of the world. So, while parents and children are playing, they are also learning.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Boules and Carnival Committee as their kind donation has enabled us to develop this fantastic addition to Busy Hands. Thank you also to the team at Busy Hands for all their hard work putting this project together, particularly Heather MacLeod who sourced some wonderful games and toys.



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Hulm-iliated!



The Rattlebone was packed on the evening of Shrove Tuesday for the annual Sherston 1016 Pancake Eating Competition.

Twenty-seven contestants of all ages took part, with the aim of swallowing down their pancakes in the shortest possible time. A total of 79 pancakes were prepared expertly by the chef, with the high-quality ingredients having been donated by generous local businesses: flour by John Lister of Shipton Mill at Long Newnton, free range eggs by Gail and Bruce at Sherston Eggs, and lemons by Andrew at Tucks Farm Shop.

A strong turn-out for the children's competition meant several heats and a final. The winner was Thomas Hulme. The ladies competition saw Minnie Hulme defeated for the first time in many years, the new champion being Immy Cambridge in a time of

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two minutes and two seconds. The men's final didn't see any records broken but it was a close contest, with Tom Langley coming first, Mike Tarrant second and Richard Langley third.



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The organisers from Sherston 1016 thank all participants for taking part, all the spectators for adding so much to the atmosphere, Jason and the staff at the 'Bone for all their help, and of course, the aforementioned businesses for their donations.

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News from Holy Cross Church

A highlight of the early part of the year has been the Alpha course run at Court House in Hullavington. Around 20 people (including leaders) from across the benefice attended, some of whom were well-established church members, others were exploring the Christian faith. We enjoyed a good meal, a stimulating video, excellent discussion and a series of very bad jokes! The Holy Spirit Away Day, led by Lee Barnes, was deeply moving and God touched many people's lives in a very special way. Alpha's great strength is the way it encourages a personal engagement, and I am keen to continue offering the course in years to come.

Our youth group, TOAST, has continued to grow, with a regular attendance of around 20 young people. Due to the increasing numbers, the session has split into two halves of age-appropriate activity, with a shared time for hot chocolate and toast in the middle.

Our Holy Week plans feature Compline at 8.00pm on Tuesday 15 April. This is a beautiful reflective service, with music and a homily or meditation, and a great way to follow in Christ's footsteps at the beginning of Holy Week.

For Maundy Thursday we are doing something different this year. We are holding a Christian interpretation of the Passover in Sherston school on

Thursday 17 April at 7.00pm. We will enjoy a meal together, structured around the traditional Jewish Passover that Jesus would have celebrated with his disciples, but viewed with the benefit of hindsight. We shall discover together how Jesus reinterpreted the Passover, and end with a celebration of the Eucharist. Suitable for all ages. Afterwards those who wish may travel to Holy Cross Church for the stripping of the altars and vigil at around 9.00pm. As the capacity is limited, we are selling tickets at £2 per person, please contact Marjorie Morgan on 837670.

There will be a Good Friday workshop in Sherston followed by the outdoors service in Luckington, while the reflective service will be at Hullavington at 2.00pm. Easter services will follow the usual pattern: 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.00pm. On the Sunday after Easter, 27 April, there will be one service across our Group of churches, and this will be a 10.30 Family Communion at Hullavington.

Finally, do put Saturday 28 June in your diary as the date of Ness Whiffin's ordination at 10.30am in Bristol cathedral. She will be serving in the Marshfield benefice, and I am sure that many of us would want to support her at this life-changing event.

Christopher Bryan

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Children's tennis coaching at Sherston Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club is once again offering Saturday morning tennis lessons for school-age children.

Starting on Saturday 26 April, lessons are due to run for eight consecutive weeks (finishing on Saturday 14 June). Times are likely to be 9.00am-10.00am, 10.00am-11.00am and 11.00am-12.00noon., depending on take-up. Children will be grouped according to age/ability.

The cost is £36, plus junior membership to Sherston Tennis Club (only £10 for those signing up before the end of April).

For further information or to enrol your child(ren), please contact Sophie Cheetham on sophcheetham@gmail.com or 07786 990045.

Open Gardens Weekend: 21-22 June

We are hoping to add some new gardens to our Trail this year so do consider it if you are a keen gardener. Gardens of any size and type can be included.

Please get in touch with Heather Martin 840375 or Pat Whitehouse 840640 for more information. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the church.

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SH.O.C.C's Spring Term

The next term will commence on Wednesday 30 April at the slightly later time of 7.30pm. The venue is the same - the British School Room in Cliff Road.

We sing a variety of music - it helps to be able to read music but is not essential. Give us a try ... £3 a session.

More details: Lucy Lawrance lucy@sherston.plus.com or 840778 in evenings.

Messy Church (Formerly 'Family Fest') at

The British School Room
Sunday 27th April at 4 - 5.30pm

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Info from becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk
rebecca.simpkins@btinternet.com
clementsmary@btinternet.com

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The full report can be seen on our website – www.tolseysurgery.co.uk – or at the surgery.

Dispensary Survey

We have also recently conducted a survey in the Dispensary, and the results are similarly positive. These results can also be viewed on the website or in the surgery.

Pneumococcal Vaccine

Pneumococcal infections, at their worst, can cause permanent severe brain damage, or even kill. They tend to be most serious in children, older people and people with certain long-term health conditions.

That's why these groups are offered a pneumococcal vaccination on the NHS. It's a simple and safe vaccine that can prevent pneumococcal infections.

Pneumococcal infections are caused by the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and can lead to pneumonia, septicaemia (a kind of blood poisoning) and meningitis.

Who should have the pneumococcal vaccine?

A pneumococcal infection can affect anyone. However, some people need the pneumococcal vaccination because they are at higher risk of complications. These include:

- all children under the age of two;
- adults aged 65 or over; and
- children and adults with certain long-term health conditions, such as a serious heart or kidney conditions.

People over 65 only need a single pneumococcal vaccination which will protect for life. It is not given annually like the flu jab. If you are in this age group or in either of the other groups and have not had your vaccine, please enquire at the surgery and book an appointment.

Welcome Fiona

We are pleased to welcome Fiona to our reception team. She recently joined to complete our staff changes and provides reception cover every afternoon, while Lisa now works every morning.

Research Study – Nutrition Trial

The surgery is taking part in a new study about nutritional supplements and dietary advice in older people living in the community.

Eligible individuals will be invited to take part and provided with the participant information sheet. As with all research studies conducted through this surgery, participation is entirely voluntary, and your decision whether to take part or not has no impact whatsoever on the care provided to you.

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Sherston School Olympic Family Funday: Sunday 6 July

This year's Sherston School Olympic Family Funday on the Rec will take place on Sunday 6 July. The starting pistol will go off at 11.00am. There will be a fantastic range of sports for children to have a go at and, of course, a chance to get competitive, with Gold, Silver and Bronze medals up for grabs – not to mention the chance to be on top of the podium!

As well as a BBQ and refreshments for all the family, there will be some fantastic sporting displays. There may even be a special guest... if The Archers can get Wiggo, who knows who might come to Sherston!

Congratulations to Sherston Shooters coach

Sherston Netball Club are pleased to announce that coach Lauren Kiddell has achieved her UKCC Level 2 coaching qualification, meaning that the club can now enter a league as well as competitions. Congratulations to Lauren, and thank you for your hard work!

Don't forget training takes place every Monday at 7.30pm at Westonbirt Leisure Centre. All ages and abilities welcome. £3 per session. For more info, please contact Ailsa (07971 845206), Lauren (07885 597429), Saara (07739 552336) or Kate (07792 064438).

Castle Combe bike ride

Sherston School's annual Castle Combe bike ride is set for Monday 2 June. Starting at 5.30pm, parents are invited to join in the fun and bring a picnic. It's a great opportunity to cycle around the race track and raise funds for school. If you'd like to take part but are wondering how you'll get your bikes there, don't worry; the Friends of Sherston School will be able to help people transport their bikes. More details next month ...

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Cricket

Well the torrential rain of this winter seems at last to have given way to some more normal weather and even the odd ray of sunshine, which means the hardy folk of Sherston Magna Cricket Club will again be asking the same questions as in previous Aprils: 'Where is my cricket kit and will it still fit?'

First things first, there is a 'groundforce' day on Saturday 5 April followed by friendly games on 12 and 19 April.

The first league game takes place at Pinkney Park on Saturday 3 May at 2.15pm against Oakridge. This is preceded by pre-season drinks at Pinkney Park on Saturday 26 April.

If you would like to play or just come along to help on the groundforce day please contact sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk.

Junior Cricket coaching will commence, weather permitting, on Monday 7 April at the cricket ground at Pinkney Park from 6.15pm to 7.30pm and following Mondays. We would like to encourage new members to this first session. Sessions will be led by Paul and Andy Jarvis. Paul is an ex England cricketer and ECB level 4 coach, Andy is an ECB level 2 coach with experience of running a junior club. The subscription for this year will be £30 for KS2 children and £50 for KS3 children for the season and will include any match fees. We are restricting new members to be over 7 years old by the 7 April 2013, we do have more spaces in each age group so do invite friends to come along on the 7 April to give Sherston cricket a try. We are keen to encourage more girls to be involved too, cricket is one of the fastest growing female sports.

Volunteers to help with Junior coaching are very welcome, Paul and Andy would be very happy to hold training sessions for anyone who is interested. Please contact paul@jarvis2.co.uk.

Robbie Grant



Friday 7 March saw a fantastic turnout at the Holy Cross church for a thanksgiving service for Robbie Grant who sadly passed on 24 February, aged 96. Robbie will be remembered by many in the village and spent much of his life at West Lodge, Pinkney Park. Robbie was a keen and able cricketer and when he had stopped playing cricket for Sherston would often be seen supporting the Sherston cricketers, up to and including last season.

The cricket club will remember Robbie fondly and are very grateful for all his support over the years.



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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

As readers can well imagine the Order's members were horrified to learn of the serious fire last month at their spiritual home for centuries past – the Rattlebone Inn. Many a member was witnessed to be in tears as they looked on in the early hours at what seemed likely the end of their beloved 'Bone'.

There can be no doubt that but for the raising of the alarm by local residents and the superb response by over 60 members of the fire service little would remain of the Rattlebone today. The vital importance of smoke alarms was once again proved by warning manager Gavin Hunt of the fire and enabling him to exit the building safely but sadly losing all his personal possessions.

Members feel that they must recognise the bravery and determination of our fire fighters in saving the Rattlebone on 18 March and accordingly will be collecting donations in support of the Fire Fighters Charity www.firefighterscharity.org.uk at the Pop up Pub 'The Charred Stump' which will be open in the Bone's skittle alley on the evening of Friday 4 April and all day Saturday 5 April. In addition all fundraising at this year's Hurl on Sunday 5 October will be donated to this same charity. *Yarp! The Keeper the Quill* 

Sherston Market

The next market is on Saturday 19 April in the village hall from 10.00am to 2.00pm. This is over the Easter weekend and so there will be plenty of seasonal offerings including wonderful simnel cakes from Faithfull's Quality Bakery - see www.faithfullsqualitybaking.co.uk

The market is run by Martin Rea and Jane Henderson who have set up an active Sherston market face book page with lots of information about the stallholders and their products - see www.facebook.com/pages/Sherston-Market/195319400641324. All dates for the 2014 can be found at www.sherstonmarket.weebly.com where there is also a contact form should any prospective stallholder wish to get in touch. Telephone enquiries are also welcome on 840348 / 07887 814843.

Every month a free stall in the lobby is made available to local charity or voluntary group to raise funds. The village hall itself has used this recently to great advantage. To book one of these stalls please use the above contact details.

Wiltshire Business Expo 2014 – Wiltshire's free business to business exhibition and networking event

Wiltshire Business Expo 2014 is being held on Thursday 19 June at Monkton Park, Chippenham 10.00am to 4.00pm, providing a free business to business exhibition and networking event. The Wiltshire Business Expo 2014 provides a fantastic opportunity for businesses to network with other local businesses, promote products and services, build new relationships, raise business profile, attend

inspiring speeches/seminars and access support from business specialists.

If you are interested in attending the Wiltshire Business Expo 2014, please contact Matthew Croston matthew.croston@wiltshire.gov.uk. This event is open to the public and is free to attend. You can find more information on the Wiltshire Business Expo website www.wiltshirebusiness-expo.co.uk.

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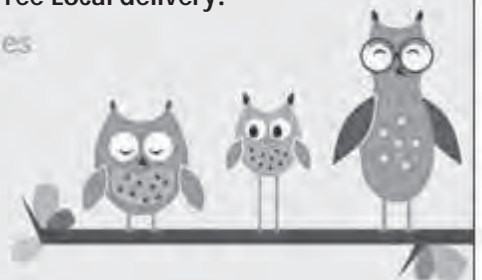
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Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop - Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade biscuits and brownies - open of Tues, Weds and Thurs mornings from 1 Apr 9.30 am – 12 noon
Sunday services 8.00am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (3rd Sunday 9.30am Family Service); 6pm Evensong (3rd Sunday Evening Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer)
 See the Parish Life for more details
Mustard Seeds is a Saturday morning club for children aged 4 and over, from 10am – 12noon once a month.

Congregational Church - in The British

Schoolroom 2nd Sunday of month: Service at 11am – 12 noon followed by coffee/chat. **3rd Sunday Service** at 3pm. **4th Sunday Service** at 4pm. **5th Sunday** (occasionally) members visit Castle Combe Congregational Church Service 10.30am For further details see parish Life or phone 07778 934742.

Methodist Church Services every Sunday at 10.30am apart from 3rd Sunday in the month when service is held at Luckington. For further details see the Parish Life

Gauzebrook Church for Children

Children are welcome at all the services which are held in the Gauzebrook Group churches but there are some occasions which are particularly for them:

Junior Church is held at Court House, Hullavington now on the first Sunday of each month, except for August. This is for children from 3 to 11+. Any children under 3 need to be accompanied by an adult. Contact Becky Fisher 07974 030212 or becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk

Little Lights

The first date of the Autumn term will be Thurs 12 Sept 12, 10.30 am in Hullavington church and weekly thereafter. Children aged 0-5 and their parents/carers come from across the Group, including Sherston, for songs, crafts, activities, Bible stories and snack time. Any questions, contact Chantal on 837522

Easton Grey Parish Church

See Parish Life for details of services

Sunday Newspapers On sale 8am - 11am every Sunday in Sherston village hall. Eggs, milk and sweets available too.

Link provides a voluntary car service for residents living in the Malmesbury area, taking those in need to hospital, the chiropodist, GPs' surgeries and to visit sick relatives. For further information please call 840861 between 9am and 1pm Monday to Friday.

Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

Why not join us and discover the joys of mangold hurling and all its traditions? For further information email ebeplaced@aol.com.

Busy Hands Pre-school

Meets 9.10am - 12.10pm everyday in the village hall for 2 3/4 - 5 year olds. Lunch Club Mon to Fri until 1pm and exciting new outdoor free flow area. All childcare vouchers welcomed. For further details call Kirsty Strachan on 07841 571943. www.sherstonbusyhands.org.uk or email us on chair@sherstonbusyhands.org.uk

Charity Bingo In aid of a different local charity each month on the 3rd Friday at 7.30 for 8pm start in the village hall. 50p entry and 30p a book. Light refreshments available.

Church bell ringing Practices are every Wednesday 7.30 - 9.00pm. Call Geoff Martin 840375 or come along.

Clem's Club Will start again 6 and 20 May (as he would have wished) All friendly fellas welcome for simple char and chat Every other Wed 2.30 – 4 pm (Alternating with the Senior Club.) in the British Schoolroom

Drawing Classes in Sherston

There are two classes: 10am to 12 noon and 1.30 to 3.30pm in the British Schoolroom. The classes are suitable for any level of experience. Individual tuition is given in a variety of media and subject matter is provided for observational drawing each week. For further information please contact Heather Martin (840375) or heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

Eudo Tae Kwon Do

Thursdays 7-9pm in Sherston primary school hall.
 For details contact Simon Penfold 824773.

Footpaths group

The group has published the booklet 'Sherston Walks - a new guide to local rights of way', featuring 9 local walks and is now on sale at the post office. If you would like to learn more about the footpath group and perhaps take part in some of its activities please come along to a meeting. For further information contact Maggie McKenna on 841047 or maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

Forest School Club Weekly outdoor activities during term time at both Sherston and Luckington School and further fun extended sessions during school holidays. For further information please contact nikiwalden-forestschool@hotmail.co.uk

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

For details see www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

Malmesbury Community Choir

The Malmesbury Community Choir is a non-audition performing choir that meets for rehearsals in the Old School Room at the Town Hall every Monday evening from 7.30-9.30pm. The waiting list is currently full for ladies, but we would always welcome adult men and young people between 14-21 years old. Membership is £50 per quarter, but membership for U18s is free and U21s is half price. For further information please email info@malmesburycommunitychoir.org, visit the website at www.malmesburycommunitychoir.org or www.facebook.com/MalmesburyCommunityChoir.

Malmesbury Embroiderer's Guild

The local branch holds monthly meetings at Little Somerford Village Hall. On alternate months there are Saturday workshops on a wide range of topics, and on the intervening dates there is a Tuesday evening talk at 7.30pm. We always welcome newcomers and occasional visitors, although prebooking is essential for the workshops. Just turn up for the talks – non members £5. For further information please phone Heather Martin 840375 or www.malmesburyembroiderers.blogspot.com

Malmesbury Luncheon Club Over 60s meet every Wednesday at midday in the Wesleyan Room of Malmesbury Town Hall for a chat and a 2 course lunch followed by tea or coffee. £3.50. Please call Helen Churchill on 840080 if you'd like to attend. New members most welcome. Volunteers also needed to prepare and serve lunch, no washing up.

Malmesbury Villages Community Partnership

For details contact Woody Allen 390110 mark.allen@allenclan.co.uk

Malmesbury Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

For details contact Liz Fleming, the Division Commissioner on 575229 or liz@jacfleming.plus.com

Ingleburn Trefoil Guild

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month, usually at St. Mary's School Tetbury at 7.30 p.m. Lifts are available for non-drivers in the Sherston/Malmesbury area. Details from Helen Price, 503187 or retreatcottage17@btinternet.com

Parish Council Meeting Takes place on the 2nd Thursday each month at 7.30pm in the village hall. Minutes of meetings can be read online at www.sherston.org.uk. Further details contact Sarah Wood on 840197 or clerk@sherston.org.uk

The Rattlebone Boules League

Consists of 48 teams playing in 3 Leagues.
For more information contact Tony Towle on 840574.

Senior Club Meets at 2.30pm in the British School Room every other Tuesday alternating with Clem's Club.

Sherston 1016

Fundraising for local good causes and charities. For further details, contact Eric Thacker on 841344 or eric.thacker@yahoo.co.uk

Sherston Badminton Club

We play every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the Village Hall from September to May. For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592. New season starts on 3rd September 2013 – new members welcome

Sherston Brownies Meet every Wednesday during term time 5.45 – 7pm in the Scout Hut. All girls are welcome to join after their 7th birthday, but there is a waiting list. Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the parents link to register your interest, for all other queries contact Tawny Owl (Nicky) at nicky.gray@btinternet.com

1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

Membership of the Cub Pack is open to those between 8 and 10 ½ years old. The Pack has regular meetings on Friday nights in term times from 6.30pm to 8.00pm. There is a waiting list for Cubs, and those interested should contact Ray Sneddon-Jenkins to obtain an application form – raysneddonj@gmail.com

1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

Is open to young people from the village and surrounding parish from the ages of 10 ½ to 13 ½. We meet at the Scout hut on Tuesday nights from 7.00pm to 9.00pm during school term times. To join contact Riaan van Rooyen riaan@pulse-software.co.uk There is currently a small waiting list to join.

Sherston Whitewall Explorers

You don't need to have previously been a member of scouts or guides to join us, just be aged between 13 ½ and 18 and free between 8.30 and 10pm on a Friday night during term time; for further information please contact Darren Walsh - 841043 or Ewan Blair –840096 – whitewallexplorers@googlemail.com

Westonbirt Guides

Meet in Querns Hall, Rosehill School, Westonbirt 5pm – 7pm every Wednesday. Sherston Brownies tend to come along if they don't join Scouts. Details from Ann Bye, 01454 218152, ann.bye@virgin.net

Sherston Drama Group The Drama group puts on plays and pantomimes in the Village Hall. If you are interested in taking part or helping out contact Richard Skeffington (Chairman) richard.skeffington@virgin.net Tel. 840092 or Graham Instrell (Vice Chairman) ginstrell@hotmail.co.uk Tel. 840978

Sherston FC

The club play in the Stroud league at Knockdown Park on Saturday afternoons - spectators and new players welcome. For more details contact Pete Brock on 07912 777647 or peter.brock666@btinternet.com

Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

Starts back after the Christmas break on 9 Jan. Any ladies from the area can join, just swim at your own pace (there is a lane for fast swimmers) every Wednesday evening at Westonbirt Leisure Pool from 8 to 9pm. For details phone Heather 840375 or Maggie (840969).

Sherston's Living Churchyard

Please help maintain the living churchyard on the second Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm, weather permitting. Please check with Sue for timings each month. Church of the Holy Cross
Further details contact Sue Robinson on 841263

Sherston Netball Club

Training every Monday 7.30pm at Westonbirt Leisure Centre. All ages and abilities welcome. £3 per session. For more info, please contact Ailsa (07971 845206), Lauren (07885 597429), Saara (07739 552336) or Kate (07792 064438).

SH.O.C.C. Sherston Occasional Community Choir meets each Wednesday in British Schoolroom at 7.30pm Wed 30 Apr – 25 Jun £3. A variety of music - all very welcome. Further information: Lucy Lawrance 840778 or Lucy@sherston.plus.com

Sherston Photography Forum

A monthly group has formed in Sherston for anyone with an interest in photography 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. For details call Nick Holland on 841019 or nholland63@btinternet.com

Sherston Pilates

Beginners and intermediate classes on Thursday evenings at the village hall, with daytime classes coming soon. Run by Saara Sharman, Chartered Physiotherapist. All ages and abilities welcome. For more details contact Saara on 07739552336 or sherstonpilates@gmail.com

Sherston Tennis Club

The tennis courts are located on Knockdown Road, open to all over the winter. Children's Sat am coaching will start after Easter. If you would like to be emailed with details nearer the time, please contact Sophie Cheetham on 07786 990045 or sophcheetham@gmail.com. If you're interested in joining the club or using the courts, please contact Nic Riley on 840682 or nic50riley@gmail.com.

Sherston Theatre Club

Excursions with a Sherston High Street-to-venue return coach service. Annual fee £20. Listings under www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/ or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or helenandjim@thequirks.plus.com

Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The group is a fun way for babies, toddlers and their parents to meet and play. We meet at 10 -11.30am each Tuesday in the Scout Hut with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music and snacks for all, not to mention a much-needed cup of tea/coffee for the deserving parent. Further details contact Sophie Cheetham, sophcheetham@gmail.com 07786 990045 or alternative like us on Facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers

Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events, parties etc. For details Chris and Tony Weedon 841377 or email dogleg3@gmail.com

Sherston W.I.

Meetings in the Village Hall March - October (1st Thurs) at 7.30pm. Visitors always welcome £3. Further information: Jill Woodward 840578

Sherston Young Craft Group

Every Monday 6.45 – 8.15pm in the village hall (children 9 years and over). £3 (incl all materials) per evening paid in advance of each half term. To join, please contact Victoria Parish on 840071 or email vparish@btinternet.com

Splash Dance Dance classes for 2 to 12 year olds including ballet, modern and tap. Every Wednesday afternoon in the village hall. Prices are £35 per term with the first lesson free. For details contact Charlotte on 01453 886632 or charlotte@splashdance.co.uk

Tetbury Chess Club Meet every Wednesday at the Ormond Hotel from 10am. If anyone is interested please contact Colin Francis on 505835 or email colval08@btinternet.com

Village Hall 300+ Club

Monthly draw with eight prizes ranging from £12 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake (or pro rata if joining during the year). If you would like to join, or need more information, contact the coordinator, Lin Prior on 840846.

Wiltshire Walks

The walk lasts approximately 45 minutes and often ends with a cup of tea or coffee. Further information contact Sarah Sims on sarah.sims@wiltshire.gov.uk or 07846100233. For a full list of walking groups in Wiltshire please visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/getwiltshirewalking.

Wild Yoga

Mon evenings during term time – 6.45-8pm and 8.15-9.30pm in the village hall. Drop in rate £9 reducing to £7.50 if you take up the course. More details contact Theo 07818 401110 or theo@wildyoga.co.uk

If you run a club, society or organisation in Sherston that holds regular events such as the above and wishes to be listed, please supply your details and we will add them to the Regular events list. If you have a particular event then please write a short piece about it and we can include it as an article and put the details in the What's On list for that month.

WHAT'S ON

What's on in 2014 Dates for your diary

May

7-11 Badminton Horse Trials

10 Sherston Market

16/17/18 Wild Sherston

June

7 Sherston Market

13/14 SherstonFest

July

5 Sherston Market

12 Boules Day

October

5 Mangold Hurl

29-1 Nov Pantomime

November

8 1016 Fireworks

If you're planning a community event in the parish why not let the Cliffhanger have the basic details as soon as possible? Email info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk to add the event to this list. Everyone will then know what's occurring in good time and it will help prevent events clashing.

Sherston

The Rattlebone Inn

Hoping to be open again by Easter after the fire

Check boards and social media news

For further details call 840871 or follow on Twitter

#GavinHunt@Therattlebone or visit www.therattlebone.co.uk/

Sherston Market

Local crafts and produce, cake stalls, Sherston Rare Breed pork, bacon and eggs, Aunt Addie's Farm Project fresh local vegetables and cheeses from Brinkworth Dairy

Sat 19 Apr 10am - 2pm Sat 10 May Sat 7 Jun

Village hall For further details call 840348 or visit

<http://sherstonmarket.weebly.com>

Art Exhibition at Shear Class Salon

For the months of April and May the display at Shear Class will show the work of Julia Leyden, who has produced a series of 'Little Sherston Pictures' capturing aspects of the village.

Cards of the pictures are also on sale in the Post Office.

Shear Class, High St

St George's Day Parade

North Wiltshire Scout District Parade Sun 27 Apr 2.30pm from the school. We are expecting young people from each of the 10 Scout Groups in North Wiltshire to march from Sherston School to the Parish Church for a special church service Visitor parking on the recreation ground

Events at Sherston School

Movie Night - Despicable Me 2 (PG) Fri 25 Apr 3.15-5.15pm Tickets are available from school for £4 including a vegetarian or ordinary sausage in a roll, and a drink which will be served after the movie. All proceeds to the Friends of Sherston School which is raising funds to subsidise school trips next year

Spring Clean-Up Sat 26 Apr From 10am to 1pm we'll be sweeping up the leaves, and scraping off the moss, in return for homemade cakes, tea and coffee. Anyone in the village is welcome to come along and give us a hand, just bring a

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www.luckingtonpreschool.org.uk



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Bag To School - Recycle and raise funds for your school
 Fri 9 May This recycling opportunity is open to anyone in the village. If you aren't going up to school but would like to donate, you don't need a special bag, black refuse sacks are fine. If you contact Sophie Cheetham sophcheetham@gmail.com or put a message on our Facebook page, (search for 'Friends of Sherston School') we can come and collect from you.

Events at the Church of the Holy Cross

Holy Cross Church Spring Clean Sat 5 Apr 9.30pm Work will be carried out inside and outdoors, Refreshments provided Helpers needed for the weekly cleaning rota if you could volunteer

Organ Recital and Concert Sat 10 May **Christopher Kent**, a member of the RCO, will be joined by Rachel Gilliam (soprano), Victoria Clarke (violin) and Lorna Davies (violoncello), performing music by J.S. Bach and C.P.E. Bach and Joseph Rheinberger and others. Tickets, to include a glass of wine, are £10 and will be available from the Post Office from the middle of April

For further details call Rev'd Christopher Bryan 837522 christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com

Sherston Drama Group

Spring Play 2013- Fish out of Water Wed 9 to Sat 12 Apr 7.30pm Doors open 7pm Tickets £6.50/£5.50 concessions, including interval refreshments - on sale at the Post Office or via sherstondramagroup@gmail.com

Village Hall For further details call Richard Skeffington 840092 sherstondramagroup@gmail.com

Sherston WI

Talk: High Fashion in Coronation Year Apr 3

Talk: Adventures of a Pig Farmer May 1

Both 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors very welcome £3

Talk by Prue Leith Thurs 17 Apr - Fully booked

British School Room For further details call Jill Woodward 840578 or jillwoodward222@btinternet.com

Sue's Strolls

Sun 13 Apr Please assemble at the village hall for 10am with a return Rattlebone Inn just around 12noon but it's doubtful that the pub will be open by then following the recent fire although hopefully it will be by the Easter weekend. As ever children and well be This is a PHEW ! event see www.legacymalmesbury.org.uk

For further details call Sue McKechnie 840601 or susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.legacymalmesbury.org.uk

Hold a Fish and Chip Supper in aid of Spinal Injuries Association

Great British Fish and Chip Supper - Friday 16th May
 SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 8 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £40.00 from your supper but we will also give you

For further details call For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk

Wild Sherston

Weekend of talks and activities Fri 16 May - speaker in the evening on a wildlife topic of general interest

Sat 17 May - lots of activity in the Village Hall and Church with 6 - 7 talks on subjects such as identifying local birds, bats, butterflies, flowers and what to do if you find an injured animal or bird. A There will be a programme of activities for children and maybe some wild animals to see. A number of local and national societies will have stands and lots of experts including Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Avon Valley River Trust, a wildlife refuge, British Trust for Ornithology, Forest School, RSPB etc.

Sun 18 May - a number of walks around the village some focused on particular topics such as wild flowers, butterflies or birds as well as a nature trail for children

For further details call Geoff Carss on 840995 or geoff_carss@hotmail.com



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SherstonFest2014

"the best of contemporary British music and traditional English ciders in a beautiful Cotswold setting" Fri 13, Sat 14 Jun - but tickets sell out fast.

Packed kids programme on Saturday starting with the Sherston Young Voices Choir including face painting, hair braiding, junk modelling, cake decorating, samba drumming, a juggling stall, build a pizza and general merriment for all.

Seniors invited for a free cuppa and a cake! Seniors Preview" again on Saturday morning and all the senior citizens from the village are invited to come along for free and have a cuppa and a nice bit of cake, provided by those lovely people at the Malmesbury Cake Society. Places are strictly limited so go and get a free ticket from the Post Office soon. **Music line up on website** See website for full details of all events Village Hall Field

For further details call email info@sherstonfest.com or visit www.sherstonfest.com or facebook www.facebook.com/SherstonFest

Open Gardens Trail in aid of Sherston Church

Calling all gardeners Open Gardens Trail in aid of Sherston Church will take place 21-22 June, so if you feel that you would like to open your garden please get in touch with Heather Martin 840375

SHoCC Workshop

A workshop with Jeremy Jackman

Jeremy Jackman was for ten years first counter-tenor with The King's Singers and is an experienced professional musician whose work in the field of vocal/choral music is of the highest international standard and he enjoys an enviable reputation as a chora Wed 25 Jun at 6.45pm tickets are limited and may be purchased at £12 from Lucy Lawrance lucy@sherston.plus.com or evenings 840778 or from any member of SHOCC British School Room

Knockdown

The Holford Arms Live Music every weekend.

Check boards for more details of events

For further details call 01454 238669

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Guided walks every Wed at 11 and Sat, Sun and BH at 2pm Mar- 29 Oct Free after admission. Meet at the Great Oak Hall, Sorry no dogs Mar - Aug admission prices Adults £8 Concs £7 Children £3

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Saturday and Sunday every month 10am-1pm in aid of FOWA Crack the egg nature puzzle - RSPB family event Sat 19 - Sun 20 Apr 10-4 Free after admission Sorry no dogs

Walkies - dog walk with Maisie Sun 6, Sat 19 and Wed 30 Mar 11am meet at the Skilling gate, free after admission, no need to book

Family Event - Awakening Woods 8-10 and 14-18 Apr Sun 30 Mar 10.30-4pm at the Education centre Free after admission Gruffalo 15th birthday trails weekly from 11 Apr till Sep

Summer concerts announced: June: Fri 20 Little Mix Sat 21 Suede Sun 22 TBC; July Fri 18 Boyzone; Sat 19 Deacon Blue Sun 20 Katherine Jenkins Tickets £39.60 - £43 Box Office 03000 680400 or online For further details call 880220 or visit www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School

Westonbirt Schools Open Door Day

(Prep Boys & Girls 3-11, Senior Girls 11-18) Thurs 8 May 9.30am-12.30pm

For further information or to pre register, please contact Mrs P Stevenson 01666 881301 or pstevenson@westonbirt.org

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Cotswold Rural Skills

Dry Stone Walling Beginners 12-13 Apr Landsdown £99 0

26 -27 Apr Sherbourne

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david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or visit

www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk. Book ahead to avoid disappointment

Easton Grey

Whatley Manor

Fondue Plausch - Swiss Cheese Fondue Evenings Tues 8 and 29 Apr £29pp incl fondue main course dessert and a glass of white wine Prebooking essential

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner

Lincoln Sun 27 Apr £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner

For further details call 834026 or visit www.whatleymanor.com

Malmesbury

MP's Surgery

Local MP surgery with James Gray MP Sat 19 Apr 12 noon - 1pm Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall

For further details call www.jamesgray.org or

email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk for online surgeries

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

Cafe Mozart Cafe Mozart is a small group of instrumentalists and vocalists performing late 18th century music on period instruments and will perform songs and instrumental music by Haydn, JC Bach, Bornhardt, the Earl of Abingdon and Mozart, to name a few and it promi Sat 3 May 7.30pm

Tickets from the Abbey Bookshop, on the door or Joy Smith on 840865. £12/ £10 members/ £5 student or chd. Season tickets are also available for only £55

For further details call David Barton 824924

d.barton763@btinternet.com or visit www.malmesbury.com/mams

Charlton

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Malmesbury Local Supporters Group

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Winter Talks Programme 2013-14 7.30pm Admission £2.50, children free. Non-members very welcome. Charlton Village Hall

Mull. One Foot in Paradise Bob Rogers 03-Apr

Didmarton

Flicks in the Sticks

Saving Mr Banks Fri 11 Apr Doors open 6:30pm for 7.30pm start. Cash bar £3 in advance £3.50 on the door



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Didmarton Village Hall For further details call Jenny Body 01454 238358 or jenny.body@virgin.net

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Farahar on 07782 504128 or email us at info@creativecarousel.co.uk

co.uk or visit www.creativecarousel.co.uk

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

Wed 30 Apr Gravity (12A) - Sandra Bullock and George

Clooney. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start £5 in advance

£6 on the door Grittleton Village Hall For further details call

Lesley 01249 783157 or email L_palmer@btinternet.com

Hawkesbury Upton

Book Ramble with Tamsin Warner

Challenging book discussions Weekly sessions in term time to discuss a different text each week in Hawkesbury Upton. It might be a 20th century novel or some 18th century poetry, but always something interesting. Tuesdays, 7-9pm 22 Apr – 20 May or Thursdays, 10-12noon 24 Apr – 22 May. If you would like to come along please email Tamsin for notes about the texts you will be covering and details of how to find her. Come along and try the first session before deciding if it is for you. For further details call bookramble@tamsinandandrew.co.uk

Castle Combe

Rural Arts Wiltshire

Emily Wright and the Royals swinging sounds of the 40s and 50s Sat 12 Apr Castle Combe Village Hall

For further details call TEL: 01249 782821 or email info@ruralartstouring.org.uk or visit www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk



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Wotton-Under-Edge The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: **The Lego Movie**; **The Grand Hotel Budapest**; **NT Live Encore Warhorse**; **Muppets Most Wanted**; **Captain America: The Winter Soldier (2014)**; **Private Peaceful**; **NT Live: King Lear 1 May** check website for details *For further details call 01453 844601 or visit www.wottoneph.co.uk*

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston.
Home matches: Tues 8 Apr 7.45pm v. Kidderminster Harriers; Sat 19 Apr 3pm v. Woking; Sat 26 Apr 5.30pm v Wrexham

Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2

The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth *For further details call 01453 834860 or visit www.forestgreenroversfc.com*

Bath, Stroud, Bristol, Wotton Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet @ the cinema

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The Winter's Tale 28 Apr

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References available on request



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National Theatre Live

Live and pre recorded screenings

Encore screening of **War Horse** at the National Theatre

Live Screening: **King Lear** 1-May

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time Encore screenings from 22 May

For further details visit www.ntlive.com

Bath

Bath Comedy Festival

27 Mar - 6 Apr Various events throughout Bath city centre
Tickets vary from £1-£17

Bath Festivals Box Office, *For further details call 01225*

463362 or www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

or visit www.bathcomedyfestival.co.uk/whats-on

Theatre Royal

Moon on a Rainbow Shawl 1-5 Apr £15-£33.50

The Witches of Eastwick 8-12 Apr

The Things we do for Love 16-26 Apr

HMS Pinafore 28Apr -3 May **Under Milk Wood** 5-10 May

Book ahead for: **The Life of Galileo**; **Pygmalion**; **Moon on a Rainbow Shawl**; **The Witches of Eastwick**

For further details call 01225 448844 or

visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Useful Numbers

BT fault line	0800 800151
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Malmesbury Library	01666 823611
Malmesbury Police 101	(emergency 999)
Malmesbury Primary Care Centre	01666 825825
Malmesbury Secondary School	01666 829700
Malmesbury Youth Centre	0799 0908550
MP James Gray	01249 652851
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Sherston Parish Council	01666 840197
Sherston Post Office	01666 840456
Sherston School	01666 840237
Sherston Village Hall (bookings)	01666 841377
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