



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 2013

DELIVERED FREE

Although the recent heavy snow has caused a lot of disruption in the area, Sherston residents made the most of the fun to be had - as can be seen in these pictures (more pics on page 16).

On behalf of the village, Cliffhanger would like to thank the Sidebottoms for generously allowing access to the 'Sherston Slopes' which provided days of excitement and thrills for sledgers young and old. If you have any interesting photos of the recent winter weather in Sherston please email them to editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk and we will publish them, if space allows, in the March issue.

Fifty years ago Sherston was in the grip of the terrible 1963 big freeze. The milk could not be delivered to individual houses so was dropped off outside the church to be collected by customers. The biting cold lasted for nearly two months. If you were in the village at the time the Cliffhanger would like to hear of any memorable events. Please send to editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk or leave hard copy at the Sherston Post Office Stores.

Sledging on Reeves Hill

Fun in the snow!

Igloo for two, Easton Square

Photos: Paul Ormiston

High Street improvements

It now seems likely that the improvement works to the High Street by Wiltshire Council will commence during March. The works have been slightly delayed due to difficulties over delivery of certain specific materials for the project.

Tetbury Art Society

Tetbury Art Society's Annual Lecture will take place on 14 March at 2.15pm. The title is 'Costume Design: a continuous journey from the past to the future' and the speaker is Ilaira Martello from The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London.

The lecture will be given in The Orchard Room at Highgrove House, Tetbury by kind permission of TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. Tickets £25 each to include refreshments and cakes. Contact Gill Ashley 840993 or for more details: www.tetburyartsociety.org.uk

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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Inserted leaflet drop £75

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Please remember the Cliffhanger is delivered free to every home and business in the parish – more than 950 copies. This and all previous editions are also available online at www.sherston.org.uk

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Thanksgiving Service for Liz Langley



A Thanksgiving Service to celebrate the life of Liz Langley will take place at Malmesbury Abbey on Wednesday 6 February, at 1pm. Liz lost her long battle against breast cancer on Tuesday 15 January.

Everyone is welcome, and the family asks people to wear bright colours, and in particular very little black.

A private family funeral will have already taken place.

No flowers please. Donations in lieu will go to Cancer Research UK and other cancer charities, c/o Matthews Funeral Directors, 7 Burnham Road, Malmesbury, SN16 0BQ

Richard, Tom and Charlotte would like to thank the local community for all the cards, flowers, messages and hugs of support, and offers of help. They are humbled and flattered that Liz was held in such high regard.

Meeting of the parish council

The Parish Council meets on Thursday 14 February 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, Mrs 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.

Clem's Club

Clem's Club will meet again every other Tuesday again. All friendly fellas welcome for simple chat and on 12 and 16 February at 2.30pm to 4.00pm (alternating with the Senior Club) in the British Schoolroom, Cliff Road.

Pancake competition

Sherston 1016 is again organising its annual Pancake Eating Competition on the evening of Shrove Tuesday - 12 February - from 7.30pm. As the competition alternates between the two village pubs, this year's venue will be the Carpenters Arms.

Entries will be welcome in advance or on the night, and the competition has senior and junior classes. The competition will take place in heats, with each competitor paying a mere £2 entry fee for the whole evening.

Each entrant will have four delicious freshly cooked pancakes to eat in the first heat. Entrants will have time to add lemon and sugar to their taste, then the clock will start, and the first heat will be under way.

The winner of each heat will be the first to finish eating all the pancakes on their plate. These winners will then go on to the next heat, again with four pancakes each, and so on until the championship round. The winner will have their name engraved on a 1016 commemorative frying pan. There will also be runners-up prizes.

Sherston 1016 strongly advises all entrants not to eat a meal before coming to the competition.

For further details, please contact Paul Ormiston on 840694.

Footpaths

The next meeting of the footpaths group will take place on Wednesday 13 February at 7.30pm in the village hall. All welcome.

1016 Rattlebone Raffle

A total of £530 was raised in the Rattlebone Inn's Christmas raffle in aid of senior citizens vouchers.

Tremendous thanks are due to all those who took part and who provided such wonderful prizes. Extra special thanks are due to Jason Read and all at the Rattlebone. The raffle has become a very important part of Sherston 1016's fundraising.

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Precept

The Parish Council has now set the precept for 2013/14 which will be included in residents' council tax bill from Wiltshire Council issued during March. The parish precept is essentially the annual amount the Parish Council requires to undertake its functions.

Setting the precept has been somewhat more complicated than usual due to recent changes in local government financing, including the reduction in council tax benefit. The basis next year for calculating Wiltshire parish councils' precept is about 15% lower than the previous year. Wiltshire Council has received a grant from central government to make up some of the shortfall for local councils, supplemented, where necessary, by Wiltshire Council's own funds. The impact on Sherston is fortunately nil. For 2013/4, the parish council originally budgeted for the same precept (£22,400) as the previous year. This has now changed to a precept of £20,920 and a grant of £1,480. The council tax for the parish remains unchanged at a Band D rate of £31.42. The future direction of local government financing will continue to be a contentious issue.

Sherston Senior Club

We started our new year programme on 8 January with our Annual General Meeting, followed by a quiz and bingo. The officers and committee remain unchanged – Joan Butler as our President, Helen Quirk as Secretary, Liz Bell as Treasurer and myself as Chairman.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday 5 February, when Mr R White will present a slide show on the magic of the Scillies. This will be followed on 19 February with a Woodland Trust slide show presented by Richard Slingsby.

On 5 March, Derek Tilney will lead a fun afternoon on the origin of the Union Flag and others. Our annual Spring Sale will be on 19 March.

by John Venning 840915

The Rattlebone Inn

01666 840871

Monday to Friday Lunchtimes

Soup & A Sandwich £7

Bowl of Pasta & A Glass of Pinot Grigio £9.95

Evenings

Mondays - Gourmet Burger & Quiz Night

Wednesdays - Steak Night £29.95
(2 Rump Steaks, Chips, salad & a Bottle of House Wine)

Sundays - Homemade Pizza Night



Rec

The parish council is now in the process of ordering two new pieces of play equipment for the Rec. This follows consultation with young people via Sherston Scouts - the idea being to provide equipment suitable for those aged 11 – 18.

The consultation revealed a very strong preference for an aerial zip wire with an aerial swing as a runner up. Accordingly these two pieces of equipment will be installed within the next couple of months in readiness for the summer.

The double zip wire will be placed running parallel to the wall adjoining Green Lane at the Scout Hut 'end' of the Rec with the aerial swing being near the existing equipment

The costs are in the region of £16,000 net and this being financed by a very generous donation of £10,000 from the Mark Doyle fund with the balance coming from a planning gain payment due to the parish council from a development in the village sometime ago.



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Christmas Party fun at Sherston Baby and Toddler group

Great fun was had at the Sherston Baby and Toddler group Christmas Party on 18 December. Kirstie from the Mad Academy came to entertain with music, tree decorating and her excellent reindeer hat. This was followed by a surprise visit from Father Christmas who came bearing Christmas books. Last but not least an early lunch which most creatively included reindeer cupcakes.

Join the mums, babies and toddlers for fun, play and craft activities each Tuesday, 10.00am to 11.30am at Sherston Scout Hut. For more information call Cathy 07779 564 716 or Kirsty on 07841 571 943 or alternative like us on facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers



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mike@sherstondriving.co.uk

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For more information or to come and visit give Paul a ring on 07887 486853 or email Paul@jarvis2.co.uk



Forest School outdoor fun & games



Children aged six to 13 from five different local primaries and three senior schools met at the Forest School site in the grounds of Sherston Primary School in the New Year to enjoy some fresh air outdoor fun and exercise.

The event was specifically planned to enhance teamwork skills through exciting games and challenges. The children were encouraged to consider what makes a successful team and what makes a good team player, to explore different roles, to appreciate their own strengths and weaknesses, improve their decision-making skills, develop communication,

problem solving, creativity and their management of risk and challenge.

No Forest School session would be complete without the thrill of the campfire either. After whittling

cooking sticks the older children prepared and cooked their own lunch of sausages, bacon, potato and onion parcels, and baked beans. For dessert they created fruit kebabs which they dipped in melted chocolate. Whilst the younger children, participating in the afternoon, toasted brioche which they enjoyed with a lovely warming, special recipe campfire hot chocolate, topped of course with marshmallows.

Ann, Andy and I would like to thank all the children who participated for their contribution to a very successful and enjoyable event.

by Niki Walden

Independent Advanced Forest School Leader,
nikiwalden-forestschool@hotmail.co.uk

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.

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Do you want to be the new Community Governor at Sherston School?

We are currently looking to recruit a (non-parent) Community Governor. As a Community Governor you will live or work within our local community and understand the value the school has within its neighbourhood. You will help balance the governance of the school from this wider view point.

The school has recently enjoyed a run of great achievements, we had a 'good, with outstanding features' Ofsted rating last July, and in September the Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools awarded us with a 'good' rating by the Church of England for displaying signs of a distinctive and Christian institution.

Governors play a central role in the strategic management of the school working with the schools Senior Management, the staff, the parents and the children. The work includes:

- Setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement.
- Monitoring progress towards meeting these targets.

- Working together to support and challenge the performance of the school as a whole.
- Deciding policy and future development plans.

The commitment is six full governing body evening meetings a year with further input on one of the various sub committees, such as PR, Finance, Curriculum and Staffing. In return you will receive training and support from Governor Services and the satisfaction of being a member of a team working to make a difference to the lives of young people within your community.

So, if you are interested and possess enthusiasm and skills that can help, or just want to find out more – please get in touch with Richard Hulme (Chair of Governors) by email to RHulme@savills.com or

Sherston W. I.

Advance notice - put the date in your diary - Thursday 18 April at 7.30pm in Sherston village hall.

You are invited to hear Penny Junor, the royal biographer and journalist who will be speaking at the WI open meeting.

A limited number of tickets will be available from committee members and the Post Office for £5 to include refreshments.

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A very special musical evening in Sherston Church - 7 February

On Thursday 7 February, 'The Gentlemen of Bristol Cathedral Choir' - the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars - will be coming to Sherston.

They will be singing a Cathedral-style Evensong at 7.30pm, and then there will be a short break before they begin a concert at 8.15pm, which will include a wide variety of musical styles, from traditional choral through to popular and perhaps even 'barbershop'. The title will be 'From Plainsong to Pop'.

All are very welcome to come along, whether to the Evensong and/or to the concert. There will not be tickets but there will be a retiring collection to be shared between the Parish Church and the Bristol Cathedral Choir. There will also be refreshments available.

A little more information about 'The Gentlemen of Bristol Cathedral Choir'. Prior to the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII an Augustinian priory had been in operation on College Green in Bristol since its foundation by Fitzhardinge of Berkeley. In 1542 the disused buildings were established as the Cathedral and six 'singing men' were set up to sing the new post Reformation services. The current Lay Clerks are the successors of those six and still carry out the same functions of singing the services during the week and at weekends. In recent years Choral Scholarships have been offered to young men who sing with the Cathedral Choir whilst they are pursuing academic studies in the City.

The Choir is very busy and in addition to its Cathedral commitments carries out many other duties, broadcasting on Radio 3, making recordings and carrying out tours, most recently to Florence and Venice where they sang Mass in St Mark's. *by Heather Martin*

Ring out the old, ring in the new

As tradition demands, the Sherston Band of Bell Ringers rang out the old and rang in the new at the turn of the year. 2012 was rung out half muffled, a year where the Band rang for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the start of the London Olympics. On solemn occasions the bells are rung half-muffled, a leather pad being strapped to one side of the clapper ball. The bells provide a distinctive effect sounding strident and soft alternately.

Shortly before midnight the muffles were removed and the hour was marked by the bells being 'fired' 12 times. Firing is when all the bells are rung at the same time creating a distinctive and loud noise. The bells were then rung normally with call changes.

The Sherston Band ring for services from 8.50am to 9.30am on Sundays and practise on Wednesday from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Learners (and experienced ringers) wishing to join the Band should contact Chris Pickthall on 841072. Happy New Year.



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The defibrillators are coming

It might sound like the title of a second rate sci-fi film, but it is an important life-saver for the parish. There are various potentially fatal heart rhythm problems that can occur, and which require prompt response if the patient is not to die or suffer problems from oxygen starvation to the brain. Automated External Defibrillators are now available, which can be used by someone with little or no training and can potentially save a life.

They are commonly placed in shops, offices, airports and stations, and more and more they are being placed in villages where medical support might take some time to arrive.

We have now acquired three from a charity called Community Heartbeat; they have been paid for by a mix of public donations and money from trusts. The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this important facility for the community.

One will be placed on the outside wall of the Rattlebone's skittle alley, one adjacent to the phone box in Pinkney, and one by the notice board in Willesley. Although they are designed to be used without training (the machine directs the user what to do), we will be running a couple of brief training courses. I would encourage everyone to come if possible - we will be arranging dates soon.

by Phil Cletcher

Walk with Sue

Sue McKechnie's next walk will be on Sunday 10 February. Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00am, with a return to the Rattlebone Inn around 12noon in time for a complimentary snack. As ever, children and well-behaved dogs on leads are very welcome.

A Thank You from Holy Cross Church

At the end of a year of hard work by many volunteers, we would like to thank everyone who has helped to keep Holy Cross church well-maintained and welcoming. Visitors always remark on how well-cared for the church is and how beautiful the flowers, especially for festivals such as Christmas and Easter. This would not be the case without the efforts of over a hundred local people and thanks are due to them for everything they do.

The church continues to attract quite a number of couples who want to marry there and the beautiful environment it offers, as well as the services of the volunteer flower arrangers, bell-ringers and choir, no doubt contributes to this. In fact, 2013 looks like being a record year for marriages at Holy Cross which will involve a lot of work for the volunteer team. We hope that people who turn to the church at this and other important times in their lives may meet God when they do so.

Sue Robinson 841263

Pam Pickthall 841072

Churchwardens




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**WHAT'S ON
AT THE VINE TREE**

HURRY - A few spaces remain for our Scrumptious Candle Lit Valentine's Night

REMEMBER - THE most Important Date of the Year is 10th March - Mothering Sunday

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Church News

This year, Ash Wednesday comes early, on 13 February. There will be services in Sherston at 7.30pm in the evening. The following week our Lent Courses start – these are a great opportunity to share and discuss faith with one another. As our Lent Groups are ecumenical, we welcome fellow Christians from different backgrounds and traditions. This year the groups will be on Wednesday evening, 7.30pm to 9.00pm, at 55 The Tarters (please contact Susan on 840696 or Phil on 01249 248219) and Thursday evening, 7.30pm to 9.00pm, at Bridges Court, Luckington (please contact Christopher on 837522).

The course will be 'Words from Calvary' – a thoughtful, spiritual but also practically applied course reflecting on the words Jesus spoke from the cross. We also have plans for some new Holy Week services, more about this in next month's Cliffhanger.

On Thursday 7 February, the Lay Clerks from the Bristol Cathedral Choir will be coming to Sherston. Please see page 7 for more information. Every Blessing for 2013.

Christopher Bryan, Priest-in-charge of the Gauzebrook Group.

Rural Treats - an Art and Ceramics Exhibition at Westonbirt Arboretum

Saturday 9 - Saturday 16 February 2013 10.00am - 5.00pm daily excluding Saturday 16 10.00am - 2.00pm

A return visit by the Eeles family of potters from Dorset - David, Patricia, Benjamin and Simon - with their beautiful ceramics including wood-fired stoneware, porcelain and raku.

For this exhibition, we are delighted that the Eeles family will be joined by talented local artist Gill Ashley, who will be displaying a wonderful collection of new paintings inspired by animals, birds, trees and leaves.



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Painting classes at the Carpenters Arms, Sherston

Painting classes in oil, acrylic and watercolour by experienced local artist/tutor - Nicki Heenan resume again at the Carpenters Arms Sherston on Wednesday 20 February from 10.30am to 12.45pm. If you have always wanted to paint but need advice on materials and getting started, this is the class for you. All aspects of painting are covered including colour, composition and technique. A subject is provided every week with a short demonstration or you may wish to work from your own source pictures. Materials for the first few sessions are provided until you find what works best for you. Also available - Thursday advanced painters group (by interview), private lessons, portfolio preparation, workshops. For further information contact Nicki Heenan Art Educator/Artist on 840883 or nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

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Village hall 300+ club

December Draw

1st	£12	275	Fred Harrison
2nd	£11	227	Kirsty Blair
3rd	£10	296	Alan Dickenson
4th	£9	323	Sharon Bailey
5th	£8	33	Joe Beaman
6th	£7	32	Phil Thompson
7th	£6	303	Kate Hills
8th	£5	43	David Wellander

Bonus of £5 to Non-winners

118	Avile Kress	48	Bill Mason
6	Barbara Dickenson	202	Richard Langdon
109	B Farahar	25	David Wallender
187	Margaret Smith		

Collectors: G Mason, M Goulding, J Gleed, M Thacker, J Platts, M Yeend and A Andrews.

300+ Club

Some of those who have helped so successfully run the Club over many years are taking a step back this year. Joyce Gleed is retiring whilst Mary Goulding and Gwen Mason will be taking things a little easier although remaining part of the team.

An enormous amount of thanks is due to all three ladies for their hard work which has helped fund the hall for so long.

Lin Prior has kindly agreed to be the coordinator

for the Club and joins the team of Ann Andrews, Mary Goulding, Gwen Mason, Janet Platt, Margaret Thacker and Margaret Yeend.

If your subs are due for 2013 you can leave them at Sherston Post Office Stores in an envelope marked '300+ Club'. Please pay by the middle of February to ensure you are in the first draw for the year. New members are most welcome. For details please contact Lin Prior on 840846.

Moviola

Grittleton village hall presents Argo [15]. Oscar and Golden Globe nominations Best Film, Best Supporting Actor, Best Director.

Tehran, 1979. Students demanding the extradition from the US of the former Shah to face trial have laid siege to the US Embassy, taking 90 people hostage. However, six American Diplomats have managed to escape to the Canadian Embassy, and are in hiding, hoping for a miracle. Ex-filtration expert Tony Mendez (Ben Affleck) devises a daring ruse: posing as the Producer of a fake Canadian 'Star Wars' type movie project filming in the Iranian desert, he plans to smuggle the six out as production crew.

Wednesday 27 February, doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets £5 in advance, £6 on the door available from Lesley on 01249 783157, l_palmer@btinternet.com, www.moviola.org

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Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 17 May



Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat fish and chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 17 May to raise awareness of spinal cord injury and support the Spinal Injuries Association's (SIA's) information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. If you invite seven friends and ask them each to donate £5, you will raise at least £35 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Since 2009 we have raised over £20,000 and it has become our flagship community fundraising event. We want to raise £10,000 from this event in 2013 so we can provide more support to spinal cord injured people. The money raised from the suppers will help

the SIA offer support both to individuals who become paralysed and to their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications that enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury. There are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

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

Dementia information

Dementia is a term used to describe a range of symptoms when the brain becomes damaged through disease. This damage changes the way the brain functions and how a person responds to and copes with their daily lives. There are many different types of dementia and the two most common types are Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia.

There is a 24 hour helpline available for anyone who wants any information about dementia 0845 1204048. This is a free service called 'dementia web' run by the Guideposts Trust. Information can also be found on their website www.dementiawebgloucestershire.org.uk and they can be also be contacted via email: info@dementiaweb.org.uk

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Cricket

The fast and the furious!

It may be getting dark outside around 4.00pm, but a hardy group of Sherston cricketers have been continuing the battle between willow and leather (well plastic) in the Chippenham Indoor League. The format consists of a game of 10 overs per side and is completed in approximately an hour. The league consists of eight teams playing 10 games with everyone playing each other once before the league splits (top 4 and bottom 4) for another 3 games.

Sherston Magna Cricket Club (SMCC) joined the league last winter and proceeded to win division 2 and promotion to the top division. This year we have been competing against large established clubs like Chippenham, Bradford-on-Avon and Biddestone. After five games we have won 3 and lost 2 and sit in 4th place (joint second on points but having an inferior run rate).

DIVISION 1

	Played	Won	Run Rate	Points
Chippenham	5	4	1.94	8
Bradford	5	3	1.92	6
Winsley A	5	3	1.92	6
Sherston	5	3	1.66	6
Biddestone A	5	2	1.68	4
Winsley B	5	2	1.66	4
Box	5	2	1.62	4
Spye Park A	5	1	1.77	2

Game 4 - SMCC won by 1 wicket, Winsley B 101-2 (60 balls), SMCC 102-5 (57 balls)

Winsley batted first and scored a slightly under par score without losing wickets. A solid bowling performance which kept the runs down towards the end of the innings.

SMCC started the chase with purpose with Stevens (22), Lovell (23) and Harmer (24) all losing their wicket before being given the chance to retire. Gould (18) continued the fight supported by Pegg and House

but wickets kept falling and when Gould fell with 4 balls remaining, House was left as last man standing with five runs still required. House, although being an Aussie, didn't crumble under pressure from the English and saw us home with three balls remaining, although he was denied the winning runs by a wide.

Game 5 SMCC won by 5 runs, Sherston Magna 113-5 (60 balls), Spye Park A 108 ao (57 balls)

Spye Park won the toss and chose to bowl, a steady start from Cartwright and Goodwin (retired 25 not out) before losing a few wickets in the middle. Harmer was run out in strange circumstances when an instinctive hook saw him caught off a no ball, and in the confusion was run out when Gould attempted a single. Gould (retired 25 not out) stayed in and continued to run well between the wickets supported by the tail. Goodwin returned to the fray to boost his score to 41 before he and the returning Gould (26) fell in the last over.

House, Gould and Pegg bowled well with pace and guile starting off but some lusty hitting left Spye Park needing only 36 off 4 overs with 5 wickets remaining. An incredible over from Gould then occurred with a wicket and conceding just three. This was followed by two more tight overs and a couple of wickets and Spye Park needed 11 off last over bowled by Pegg with one wicket left. A run out ended the game with six runs needed.

Upcoming indoor fixtures against Box on 3 February at 5.30pm and Chippenham on 10 February at 6.35pm. Further fixtures in February and March to be confirmed.

Have you wintered well?

It's that time of year again where those that play cricket need to locate where their significant other asked you to store your cricket stuff, dust off your box and squeeze on your whites.

SMCC indoor nets will be starting at Tetbury Leisure Centre on the 3 February from 4.30pm until 6.30pm and then every Sunday at the same time and

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place until Easter. We will then hope to move outside after Easter (weather permitting).

The indoor nets are open to junior and senior players but due to only having two practise nets we propose the following sessions for February.

3 February Seniors and U17s 4.30pm – 5.30pm,
Juniors (U15s and U13s) 5.30pm – 6.30pm

10 February Seniors and U17s 4.30pm - 6.30pm

17 February Seniors and U17s 4.30pm – 5.30pm,
Juniors (U15s and U13s) 5.30pm – 6.30pm

24 February Seniors and U17s 4.30pm -6.30pm.

24 February Seniors and U17s 4.30pm -6.30pm.

This will be reviewed after the first few sessions in February. Cost to be confirmed but is likely to be £3 for a one hour session and £5 for a two hour session.

Sunday 17 February

The Holfords of Westonbirt Trust at Westonbirt School are happy to announce that Mary Keen, gardening writer with regular columns in The Telegraph and The Garden and internationally known designer as Mary Keen and Pip Morrison Designed Landscapes, is giving a talk entitled 'Loosening up in the Garden', about a more relaxed sort of management in the garden and how to cut corners without losing the fun of plants. Her own garden The Old Rectory at Duntisbourne Rouse is regularly open to the public and remains her favourite project. The talk, which will begin at 3.00pm, will be held in the Orangery, originally the Palm House for Lady Holford at the turn of the 20th Century. Tours of the house will run from 11.00am to 4.00pm, and the gardens behind the house, planted by Robert Holford, will be open to the public until 5.00pm.

Westonbirt House is classified English Heritage Grade 1 Listed. The House is seldom open to the public (11 days in 2013) and this is a fantastic opportunity to discover the history of the house and to learn about the family who had the vision to plant and plan the now internationally renowned Westonbirt Arboretum.

Booking is not essential, but larger parties might like to arrange specific tour times in advance. HHA members free, Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum receive a 10% discount on individual ticket price (15% on group bookings) for tour of the House and entry to the talk of £8.00.

For all queries and advance booking, please call Arabella Parr on 881 373 or email aparr@westonbirt.org.

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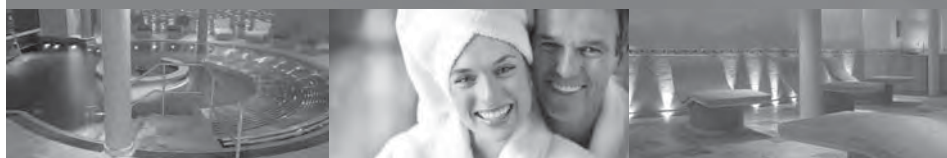
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Would you love a spot of pampering but find it hard to fit in to your day, juggling children, chores and pets? Are you elderly or find it hard to get about easily? Or you just can't face the hassle of finding a free parking space, then beauty@home is for you. Kerry Outlaw is a freelance beauty therapist from Sherston who provides high-quality, professional beauty treatments in the comfort of your own home.

With 20 years' experience in the beauty industry, working in and managing different salons and spas. Kerry offers treatments such as Eve Taylor aromatherapy facials, manicures and pedicures, CND Shellac, waxing, eye care, massage and make-up for all occasions, including bridal make-up. Kerry will arrive at your house with everything to help you relax, unwind and de-stress: relaxation music, freshly laundered towels, cosy blankets and, of course, a treatment couch. The aim of beauty@home is to provide a salon-like experience in your own home.

Top-quality products are used in all treatments, Eve Taylor facials were used on all the X-Factor finalists before each of the live shows in the last series. These products are amazing, they contain high-quality aromatherapy oils with plant extracts and give fantastic results. CND Shellac is another quality product that gives 14+ days' wear to manicure or pedicures. A power polish that dries instantly, so no more smudging or chipping and an amazing mirror-finish shine.

Kerry works within a 10 mile radius of Sherston, travelling to a lot of the other villages in the area, as well as Malmesbury and Tetbury. She can travel further afield with an extra charge for travel expenses.

Recently added to the treatment list are Pamper packages for small groups of friends to get together on an evening or weekend and have a catch-up, the odd glass of wine and be pampered at the same time. In addition, Princess Pamper parties are available for little girls' birthday parties; what every little girl delights in, painted fingers and toes, sparkly make-up and a special goody bag.

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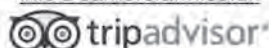




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A walk on the wild side

Spring is on its way already

Our wildlife is incredibly resilient to the seasons and all that can happen, if given enough time to recover. This winter, so far, has given us a good covering of snow and even more rain but, in spite of this, some local residents already have spring on their mind.

Our local common frog and common toad will be spawning soon, with lots going on in February. Other local residents getting ready are our local grey herons which can be regularly seen along the Cliff. Herons breed in groups (called heronries) and egg-laying can start during February, although March is more common. Given that there are about 13,000 breeding pairs of herons in this country, heronries aren't very common but one you can visit nearby, with an observatory, is at Lower Moor Farm, near Oaksey. It's run by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and I have heard that you can sometimes see otters in the

lake between the observatory and the heronry.

With spring on the way, it's time to get those nest boxes built and out in the garden so here are a few tips:

- place them in sheltered locations out of prevailing wind, rain and direct sun,
- don't put them near bird feeders,
- ensure, if possible, that predators can't get access, especially cats,
- mix open-fronted nest boxes and ones with holes to attract different birds, but don't put them too close together, and
- try and get them up by mid- to late February when birds start to inspect possible nesting sites.

And please keep feeding the birds. We have seen an influx of birds from northern Europe as natural food supplies there are low. Waxwings are around in reasonable numbers (although I haven't heard of any

in the village) and this year we do have blackcaps. These birds migrate to southern Europe in the autumn but this winter we have blackcaps arriving from further north. The photo is a male blackcap (the females have a mid brown 'cap') that arrived last spring. If you do see any on your feeders, please let me know on 840995 or geoff_carss@hotmail.com.

And finally for those with an interest in birds: there is one, possibly two, green sandpipers overwintering on the Sherston branch of the Avon, upstream of the Cliff.

by Geoff Carss



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Photos: Beryl Clampton



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Can you help to look after your village church?

People in Sherston are very proud of their church and wish the building to be well-kept, as was shown by the enormous support given to the recent campaign for a new roof. Many of you come to the church on special occasions such as Easter or Christmas, to have children baptised, to get married or for the funeral of family or friends.

The church is kept running by a group of people who clean, arrange flowers, polish the brass and carry out maintenance so that it is welcoming and beautiful for the local community and for the many visitors who come to the village. We now need some more volunteers who might be willing to carry out any of these tasks. People are usually only asked to do this once or twice a year, so it is not a big commitment. Perhaps you could take on one of the jobs with a friend and enjoy some company while you work.

If you think you could help with the upkeep of the church, so that it continues to be ready at the heart of our village community to the glory of God and at the service of local people, please get in touch with one of the churchwardens Sue Robinson 841263 or Pam Pickthall 841072.

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Sherston Living Churchyard

After a break of a year I hope to re-start work in the churchyard this spring, with the twin aims of continuing to keep it a fit resting place for the dead while also making it a haven for wildlife.

The first session of the year will be on Saturday 9 February from 2.00pm to 4.00pm, weather permitting. The work planned is to clear some of the undergrowth which has invaded the wooded area over the past year. This area has been planted with spring flowers and by February the snowdrops and primroses should be flowering, but unless some clearance is carried out the wood anemones and bluebells will be choked and will not be able to follow on.

The snowdrop is often linked to Candlemas on 2 February. This day, when the flowers were said to first come into bloom, is 40 days after Christmas and is the day on which the infant Christ was presented in the Temple in Jerusalem. On 2 February churches traditionally blessed the candles which were to be used there over the coming year and thought of the symbolism of light in their faith – Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

A medieval legend tells that snowdrops were given to Adam and Eve as a symbol of hope after



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their expulsion from the Garden of Eden. After the delights of the Garden they were in despair at their first experience of winter, fearing that it might never end. An angel appeared and transformed some snowflakes into snowdrops as a sign that the end of winter was near.

The sight of the first flowers of spring will soon have a similar encouraging effect on us. Dress warmly and come to the churchyard to see the snowdrops and join in with the work and you will definitely feel better! I hope to see you there.

Sue Robinson 841263

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Sherston Occasional Community Choir

The choir, under the direction of Nicki Heenan, will commence their new term singing pieces by Haydn, Stanier, Fauré and Mendelssohn on Wednesday 20 February. We meet in the British Schoolroom, Cliff Road at 7.00pm each Wednesday for two hours and will work towards giving a concert locally on 1 June. Do give us a try - we are a friendly bunch and have time for socialising over a cup of coffee during the evening. More details from Nicki Heenan on 840883 or nickiheenan@btinternet.com

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Doctor's Bag

The Tolsey Surgery by Judy Sharp



Care Quality Commission

You may have heard about the need for GP Practices to be registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) from April 2013. This is to ensure that people can expect services to meet essential standards of quality and safety that respect their dignity and protect their rights.

The Tolsey Surgery took part in a pilot study to test the compliance methodology CQC will use to monitor these services. As a volunteer, we were one of the first surgeries to be inspected by the CQC. This involved an inspector spending the day at the surgery speaking to the practice manager, a GP, reception staff and patients. The inspector also spoke to John Buckley, the Chairman of our Patient Participation Group, FOTS. We are pleased to report that we were found to be fully compliant in all areas inspected. The report is available to view at the surgery or online through our website.

Tolsey Surgery Patient Survey 2012 Results

Our Patient Survey was completed by patients at the surgery, online and at various other places in and around Sherston to gain the opinions of as many patients as possible. 180 Surveys were completed, 11 less than the previous year.

The high degree of satisfaction was maintained and we are pleased that over 90% of our patients will still recommend us to new residents. All the other results were very similar to those of last year.

Carers: A new section for carers was introduced as we are working hard to improve our service in this area. Only 43.2% of those who answered this question said they were aware of our Carers Register. However, 92.3% said their needs were understood by the doctor or nurse.

Booking Ahead: Last year 41.6% said it was very easy to book ahead, this has now gone up to 48.6%. However, we obviously still have some work to do to inform patients of the facility to book up to 8 weeks ahead as over 60% said they did not know.

Booking Methods: In the 2011 survey, we asked how you prefer to book appointments. Although the majority book by phone, 22.2% said they would like to book online. We have now introduced an online booking system and nearly 8% of patients are now routinely using this method of booking. As online booking becomes more popular, it will reduce demand on the telephone making it easier for those who are not able to book online.

We will be discussing these findings with FOTS and the results will be available to look at either at the surgery or online through our website www.tolseysurgery.co.uk

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Sherston Doctor Takes Jungle Challenge



In just a few months, Dr Pip Pettit is undertaking an eight-week sabbatical as an expedition medic to support the volunteers on the Raleigh International Expedition to Borneo.

We caught up with her to find out what it's all about, and started with the obvious question ... why is she doing it? Dr Pettit told us, 'I have an opportunity for a sabbatical from general practice this year, and have always wanted to use my medical skills to help those less fortunate than myself.'

Since 1984, Raleigh expeditions have inspired 30,000 young people from all walks of life and nationalities to be all they can be, helping them develop new skills and friendships and make a difference to communities and environments across the world. The 'venturers' (volunteer teams) are aged between 17 and 24 and Raleigh particularly encourages disadvantaged young people from the UK to take part.

Dr Pettit explained, 'I will be there as a volunteer, using my medical skills to support the venturers in remote areas of Borneo jungle from base camp, as well as acting as a project lead on the expedition sites. It will be a challenge both medically and physically. I have to hone up my skills in fracture and wound care, jungle medicine and emergency evacuations. All venturers and volunteers are expected to make a donation to Raleigh International in order to take part – it's all part of the challenge. The money I raise is donated to charity, and personally I fork out for my own costs, flights and of course, all the vaccinations.'

Why Borneo?

Despite its vast wealth of natural resources, Sabah, in North Borneo, is currently the poorest of Malaysia's states. Many people there live below the poverty line, and 21% of Sabah children have never attended school.

Raleigh has been working in Sabah on a mix of community and environmental projects, to raise the quality of life of indigenous communities, and assist with marine conservation and sustainable forestry. Dr Pettit said, 'By volunteering in Borneo I'm going to be living and working among rural communities on projects to improve health and educational services, helping to make a genuine difference. If any Cliffhanger readers feel that they'd like to support me, any donation will be gratefully accepted. If you can gift aid it, it will be worth even more.'

You can make a donation at www.justgiving.com/pip-pettit

Alternatively, you could donate with cash in the collection tins in the surgery, or using a cheque, payable to 'Raleigh International Trust', and leave it at reception.

Thank you for your support.

Dr Pip Pettit (Raleigh number 800152042, more information at www.raleighinternational.org)

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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Last year's main Hurl was a non starter due to a shortage of mangolds and although a Hurl on a much smaller scale was possible, so as to keep the tradition alive, members are desperately trying to ensure a good crop for this year's event.

Whilst suppliers are being sought nationwide it would be best if we could have our own local supply. We need around 500 plants for a decent Hurl which would take up a space equivalent to a full size allotment. Is there anyone with a suitable piece of land who could help with our endeavours? Seed is neither problem nor caring for the

crop. Planting is best done in March or April so if you can help please call 840348 as soon as you can.

Yarp!

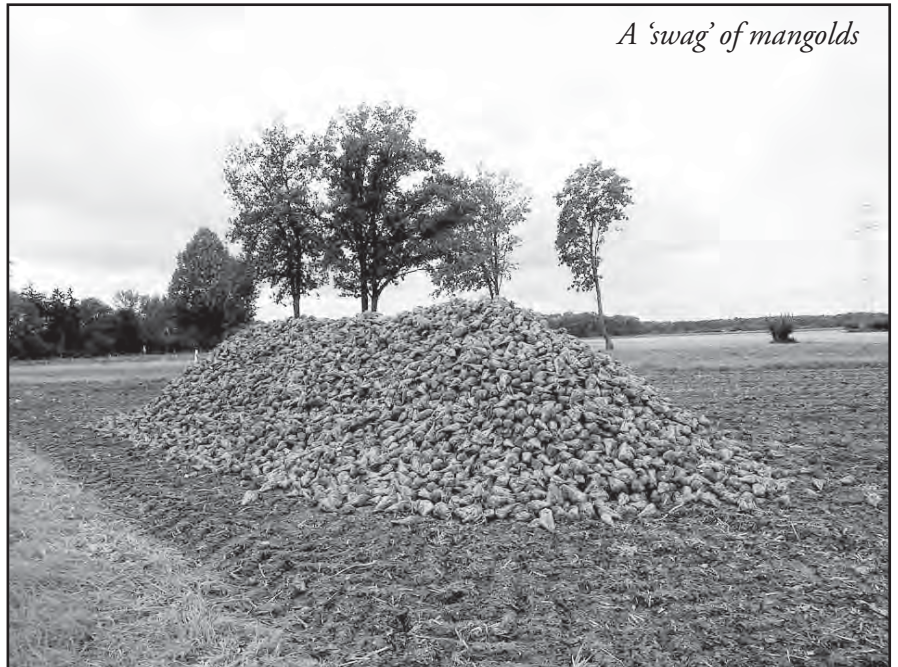
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A 'swag' of mangolds



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11.0am – Feb 3rd Rev M. Hartwell – Communion Service.

11.0am – Feb 10th Praise Service

11.0 am – Feb 17th – Fellowship Service

4.0pm – Feb 24th – FEB. FAMILY FEST!

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Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

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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

Little Lights is fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons at 1.30 for all preschool children and their parents. **Mustard Seeds** is a Saturday morning club for children aged 4 and over, from 10am – 12noon once a month.

Party Praise is a very short service at 3pm on the second Sunday of each month. Young children and their families are invited to worship which is interactive and fun. For more information see the posters in the church porch or contact Becky Fisher (07974 030212) or email Becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk

Congregational Church - in The British Schoolroom
 Services first three Sundays of month at 11am – 12 noon followed by coffee/chat 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 Ness Whiffin 840185.

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.

Boules at The Bull Meet every Thursday at 7.15pm April till Sept at The Red Bull Inn, Malmesbury Rd. £2 per session, with winners getting half the pot. The annual subscription is £10 for adults and £5 for under 18s but the first 3 visits are free. We can lend boules for absolute beginners and we have a local supplier if you wish to purchase. Transport from Sherston is available. Further details from Sue McKechnie 840601 or susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk

Busy Hands Pre-school

Meets 9.10am - 12.10pm everyday in the village hall for 2 1/2 - 5 year olds. Now with Lunch Club Mon to Fri until 1pm and exciting new outdoor free flow area. All childcare vouchers welcomed. For further details call 07766 714544 any morning or 840232 all day.

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 Clem invites 'cheerful chaps for a char and a chat' in the British School Rooms every other Tuesday 2.30 – 4pm, alternating with the Seniors. Donations to BSR expenses collected each week.

Drawing Classes in Sherston

The Autumn Term starts on Wed 26 Sept in the British Schoolroom. There are two classes: 10am to 12 noon and 1.30 to 3.30pm. The classes are suitable for any level of experience, from those who have attended art courses for years to interested beginners. 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@harrispartnership.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

Ingleburn Trefoil Guild The Trefoil Guild is part of Girlguiding UK but anyone over 18 is welcome - 3rd Monday of the month, usually at St. Mary's Hall, Malmesbury. Members come from Tetbury, Malmesbury and the surrounding area and we are usually able to offer lifts to people without transport. Further details contact Margaret Palmer (01666 826390, margaretpalmer65@yahoo.co.uk) or Helen Price (01666 503187, retreatcottage17@btinternet.com)

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

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

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. For further information please phone Heather Martin 840375.

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.

Malmesbury Netball Club We welcome new players of any ability as we would like to promote the sport and provide an opportunity for people to get fitter and meet new people. We have a Level 2 coach and endless support from the Wiltshire Netball Development Officer, Sophie Warner. Every Thursday at 7pm, £3 per session, payable at the front desk at the Activity Zone, Malmesbury. For further details contact Tahiti tahitivanrooyen@gmail.com

Malmesbury Villages Community Partnership

For details contact Sue Webb 824620 dennis.webb01@virgin.net

Malmesbury Rangers Girls over 14 years meet every 2nd Thursday in the month. Further details from Gill Shaw on 825647 or email sgshaw@orchardshaws.co.uk

Malmesbury Guides - Ingleburn Trefoil Guild

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month, usually at St. Mary's Hall, Malmesbury at 7.30 p.m. 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

Patchwork & Quilting Classes

1st Thursday of each month from 10am - 1pm in The British Schoolroom. Further details from Anne Chapman on 01249 782842.

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. New season starts 4 Sep. For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592.

Sherston Brownies Meet every Wed during term time 6.15-7.30pm in the Scout Hut. All girls are welcome to join after their 7th birthday, but there is a waiting list. If you're interested, please contact Snowy Owl (Liz Walker) on 840216 for more details

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 Mark Sparrow on 840983 or e-mail mark@scorranstone.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 Magna Cricket Club

Indoor practise nets will start at Tetbury Sports Centre in Lowfield Road on Sunday 3 February at 4.30pm until 6.30pm and will continue every Sunday at the same times until Easter. Look out for further details at www.sherstonmagna.play-cricket.com.

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 Annabel 840592.

Sherston's Living Churchyard

Please help maintain the living churchyard on the second Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon or 2pm till 4pm, weather permitting. Please check with Sue for timings each month. Church of the Holy Cross Further details contact Sue Robinson on 841263

Sherston Martial Arts Club

Bujinkan Budo Taijutsu. Traditional Samurai Jujutsu and Ninjutsu. Ages 13 and up, every Thursday night in the Scout Hut 7pm. For further information contact Gary Liddington 07779349115 or Gary@budotaijutsu.co.uk

Sherston Tennis Club

The tennis courts are located on Knockdown Road, next to the football pitch. Membership fees again unchanged (family £80, adult £45). Club night is Thursdays from 6:30 pm - contact Belinda, and Men's Match tennis on Wednesdays - contact Kim or Nic. Your committee this year is: Nic Riley - membership, men's matches – 840682; Kim Stuckey - men's matches - 07710 981568; Gemma Bird - children's coaching - 840557; Belinda Robinson - club nights - 07944 782785

Sherston Theatre Club

Excursions with a Sherston High Street-to-venue return coach service. Annual fee £20. Listings under www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/ or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or Hjquirk@aol.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 SherstonToddlers@gmail.com or Kirsty on 07841 571 943 or Cathy on 07779 546 716

Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events, parties etc. For details contact the bookings officer Martin Rea on 840348 or martdrea@aol.com

Sherston W.I.

Usually meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall but Feb meeting will be in the British Schoolroom at 2.30pm. Visitors most welcome £3. Further details contact Maureen Jolliffe on 840867.

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 Cathy Garton on 841309 or email cathy@jd-racing.co.uk

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

Tots of Fun

Soft play sessions every Friday during term time starting end of Feb in the scout hut. Book a place with Emma Liddington on 841525 or 07896 085338 or email emma@totsoffun.co.uk or www.totsoffun.co.uk

Village Hall 300+ Club

Monthly draw with eight prizes ranging from £12 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake, plus a quarterly £5 bonus for seven non-winners. If any new members of the village would like to join, contact either Mary Goulding on 840794 or Gwen Mason 840660.

Wiltshire Walks

The Get Wiltshire Walking project has recently launched a new health walk in Malmesbury. Meet at 11.45 every Monday outside Malmesbury Town Hall, Cross Hayes for this free walk, all ages welcome. The walk last approximately forty-five 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.

Yoga in Sherston

Mon 5.45pm Pregnancy Yoga, 7pm for beginners and at 8.15pm more advanced. £45. All classes must be pre-booked due to limited spaces. Scout Hut. For further details call Kathryn 07903 802985 yoga_in_sherston@hotmail.com or www.facebook.com/Yoga.with.Kathryn

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 in 2013 Dates for your diary

February

2 2013 Busy Hands Quiz

April

3-6 Spider's Web by Agatha Christie -
Sherston Drama Group Spring Play

June

14-15 2013 SherstonFest

July

6-14 Sherston Boules & Carnival

13 Boules Day

October

11-20 2013 Arts Festival

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.

WHAT'S ON Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

New weekly quiz every Sunday night 7.30 for 8pm start free entry, prizes

Check boards for details For further details call 840665 or visit <https://en-gb.facebook.com/CarpenterArmsSherston?ref=stream>

The Rattlebone Inn

Monday Quiz Nights Every Monday at 7:30pm

Free entry and prizes for the winning team

Three Course Valentines Menu Thur 14 Feb 29.95

Live Music from Keisha Sat 23 Feb

Check boards for more details of events

Further details contact 840871 or

www.therattlebone.co.uk

Busy Hands Pre School Annual Quiz Night Quiz , raffle and auction. Sat 2 Feb Bar opens 7.30pm Quiz starts at 8pm £20 for a team of up to 4 All proceeds to Busy Hands Pre-school in Sherston Village Hall For further details or see if any tickets left call Joey Ross (07768 947693)

Musical evening in the church of the Holy Cross

Evensong sung by The Gentlemen of Bristol

Cathedral Choir Sun 7 Feb 7.30pm

Followed by The Gentlemen of Bristol Cathedral Choir in Concert : from Plainsong to Pop

Come along for both musical events or just for the concert at 8.15pm No tickets required, retiring collection in aid of the Church of the Holy Cross and the Bristol Cathedral Choir

Sue's Strolls

Sun 10 Feb starting from the village hall at 10am returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 12 noon

For further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk

Pancake Eating Competition in aid of Sherston 1016

Shrove Tues 12 Feb from 7.30pm £2 entry

The Carpenters Arms

Sherston Photography Forum

A monthly group has formed in Sherston for anyone with an interest in photography

Second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

For further details contact Nick Holland on 841019 or nholland63@btinternet.com

Painting classes with Nicki Heenan

Painting Workshops - Beginners and Intermediates Wednesday

10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm - £25

full day / £15 half day Bring your own paints, brushes and supports The Carpenter's Arms.

Advanced painters meet on Thursdays for En Plein Air painting at local sites, please contact me for details of location

For further details contact Nicki Heenan 840883 or nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

SHOCC

Sherston Occasional Community Choir

The choir will commence their new term

singing pieces by Haydn, Stanier, Fauré and

Mendelssohn on Wed 20 Feb and will work towards giving a concert in June.

7-9pm each Wed in the British School Rooms

For further details call Nicki Heenan 840883 or nicki-heenan@btinternet.com or Jill Woodward 840578 or jillwoodward222@btinternet.com

SherstonFest2013

"the South Cotswolds Cider, Music and Fine Food Festival" Fri 14, Sat 15 Sun 16 Jun
Early Bird Tickets for the 2013 festival as now sold out Normal tickets will be on sale on the web site and at the Rattlebone and Post Office in Sherston from Mon 4 Feb. Village Hall Field
For further details email info@sherstonfest.com or visit www.sherstonfest.com or www.facebook.com/SherstonFest

WI Annual Open Lecture

Talk by Penny Junior, the Royal Biographer and Journalist Thurs 18 Apr 7.30pm Village Hall
Visitors very welcome Tickets £5 to include refreshments - available from the Post Office Sherston Village Hall

Knockdown

The Holford Arms

Sunday Pie & Quiz Night Every Sunday from 7pm food service and quiz begins at 8.30pm Big prizes, teams and individuals welcome. Free house and restaurant. *Further details call 01454 238669*

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

Wed 27 Feb - ARGO [15] starring Ben Affleck 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*

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Yoga in the Great Oak Hall Every Monday morning with Louisa Gaskell for beginners/general 8.30 - 9.30am 9.45-10.45am Complimentary admission, non-members and members welcome. Course booking is essential, £10 per session To book and for further details contact 07738 534923 or 07738 534923 or l.gaskell@virgin.net

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Saturday and Sunday every month 10am-1pm in aid of FOWA

Exhibition: Rural Reflections Sat 9 - Sat 16 Feb 10am - 5pm daily Free after admission. The Eeles family of potters from Dorset joined by local artist Gill Ashley, who will be displaying a wonderful collection of new paintings inspired by animals, birds, trees and leaves

Family Event : Whatever the weather! Crafts will include: Willow wind streamers, Snowflake printing, Touch and feel woodland collage Tues 12, Wed 13 & Thurs 14 Feb 11am - 3pm ages 3+, free after admission

Summer Concerts Announced: Blondie Fri 21 Jun; **Paloma Faith** Sat 22 Jun; **TBA** Sun 23 Jun; **TBA** Fri 19 Jul **Paul Weller** Sat 20 Jul - SOLD OUT; **TBA** Sun 21 Jul tickets from the shop or box office on 03000 680400 or www.forestry.gov.uk/music £39 plus booking fee

Winter admission till end of Feb: Adults £5 / Conc £4 Chd £2 *For further details call 880220 or visit www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt*

Westonbirt School

FOW Quiz Night with Geoff Fitch Fri 1 Feb 7pm for 7.30pm start

Spring Term Lecture with Professor Tom James MBE: Black Death Reflections Fri 22 Feb 7:30pm, Free admission Optional Post-Lecture Supper £15 per head which must be booked in advance by Fri 15 Feb, call 880333 or email twarner@westonbirt.org

Rosehill Open Day Thur 7 Mar 09:30-12:30 For further details call 881375 or email aslark@westonbirt.org or visit www.rhwestonbirt.co.uk

FOW Fashion Show and Supper Fri 1 Mar 7pm £20 / £15 for under 18s - Drinks reception, 2 course dinner and fashion show by staff and pupils from local boutiques

Open Door Day Thur 7 Mar 09.30am - 12.30pm Meet the new headmistress and see the school in full swing

Annie Fri 15 and Sat 16 Mar 7.30pm in the Orangery Theatre

For further details call Laura Reid on 880333 or lreid@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk and Arabella for the open house and garden aparr@westonbirt.org or visit www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

Malmesbury

MP's Surgery

Local MP surgery with James Gray MP Sat 2 Mar 12 noon - 1pm Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall
For further details visit www.jamesgray.org or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk for online surgeries

Didmarton

Duke of Beaufort's Hunt Point to Point at Didmarton

First Sat in March - 2 Mar First race starts at 12.30.

Countrywear tradestands, refreshments. Wrap up warm against the wind as course very exposed. £10 entry to the racecourse. Parking on site (chargeable).

Highgrove House

Tetbury Art Society Roy Baker Memorial Lecture

Costume Design: a continuous journey from the past to the future' by Ilaria Martello, Royal Opera House Production Costume Thur 14 Mar 2.15pm £25 includes tea & cake. All proceeds to the Prince's Charities Foundation. Advance booking only. The Orchard Room, Highgrove House *For further details call Gill Ashley 840993 or visit www.tetburyartsociety.org.uk*

Charlton

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust - Malmesbury Local Supporters Group

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust - Winter Talks Programme 2012-13
The Bats of Woodchester Mansion by Roger Ransome Thurs 7 Feb 7.30pm Admission £2.50, children free. Non-members very welcome. Charlton Village Hall
Birding in Brazil Talk by Alan Jordan 07-Mar
Dragonflies and Damselflies Talk by Steve Covey 41368

Charlton Park

WOMAD - World Music Festival

Thurs 25 - Sun 28 July 2013 WOMAD Early Bird tickets are on sale *More information at womad.co.uk/tickets or visit www.womad.org/festivals/charlton-park*

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: The Hobbit, Les Misérables, Quartet, Tinkerbell and the Secret of the Wings 2D; Andrea Bocelli: Love in Portofino LIVE; Life of Pi 3D (2012) check website for details
The Electric Picture House For further details call 01453 844601 or visit www.wottoneph.co.uk

Old Sodbury

Camers Snowdrop Open Day - Macmillan Cancer

Camers Snowdrop Day - in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support Sun 17 Feb Camers is a listed Elizabethan farmhouse (not open) set in a west sloping site on the limestone of the Cotswold escarpment, with outstanding views over the Severn estuary. The garden only opens for the National Trust Garden scheme and special events. 11am - 4 pm suggested donation £2.50 per adult. Cakes and teas available. All proceeds to MacMillan Cancer Support
For further details visit www.camers.org

Cirencester

Sundial Theatre at Cirencester College

Comedy: Josh Wiidicombe Sat 2 Feb 8pm £12 /£10
Music: Gypsy Fire Sat 9 Feb 8pm £14 13
Stalag Happy Thurs 24 Nov 8pm £13
For further details call 01285 654228 or visit www.cirencester.ac.uk/sundial

Exhibition by Bath Textile Artists

Telling Tales 2 The 11 members of the group have taken the theme – ‘Telling Tales’ and have interpreted it in as many different ways 18 Jan- 23 Feb Mon to Sat 10am- 4pm Sunday 2-4pm. The Corinium Museum, Park street, Cirencester *For further details call Heather Martin 840375 / heather@geoffmartin.plus.com*

Bath

Theatre Royal

Maurice's Jubilee 4- 9 Feb 7.30pm / 8pm £15-£33.50
Surprises by Alan Ayckbourn 11-16 Feb
Fences 20 Feb - 1 Mar
Theatre Royal For further details call 01225 448844 or visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk

The Independent Bath Literary Festival

1- 10 Mar Various events throughout Bath city centre by many authors and actors including J.K. Rowling, Hilary Mantel, P.D. James, Kate Mosse, Pat Barker, Harriet Walter, Darcey Bussell, Sandi Toksvig, Robert Fisk, Gavin Esler, A.N. Wilson, Allan Little, Ben Goldac Tickets vary from £4-£17 *For further details call 01225 463362 or visit www.bathlitfest.org.uk*

Cotswold Rural Skills Courses

Stone Masonry Taster Day 4 Feb , 5 Mar Filkins, Oxfordshire 1 day £119
Woodland Coppicing 20 Feb Coberley Glocs, 23 Feb Limpley Stoke 1 day £49
Hedgelaying for beginners (Midlands Style) 16-17

Feb Coberley, Glos £99 (Somerset Style) 2-3 Mar Luckington £99

Blacksmithing taster Day 24 Feb £99 Tetbury

Dry Stone Walling for beginners 13-14 April £99 Landsdown Bath

For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaoib.org.uk or visit www.cotswoldsaoib.org.uk. Book ahead to avoid disappointment

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Sat 2 Feb 3pm v. Wrexham; Tues 12 Feb 7.45pm v Braintree Town ; Sat 16 Feb 3pm v Dartford; Tues 19 Feb 7.45pm v Kidderminster Harriers Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2 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

Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet @ the cinema

Live and pre recorded screenings of opera and ballet from the ROH Covent Garden
Eugene Onegin LIVE 20-Feb
Stroud Apollo, Odeon Bath and other Cinema
For further details call 0871 220 6000 or visit www.roh.org.uk/cinema

Dursley & Cardiff

The Soul Destroyers in concert

Listers, Dursley Sat 23 Feb
The Globe, Cardiff Fri 22 Mar
For further details call Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or email ds@oldbellhouse.com or visit www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

Useful Numbers

BT fault line	0800 800151
CLARENCE (Highway complaints)	0800 232323
Cllr John Thomson	01666 840785
Malmesbury Activity Zone	01666 822533
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 840633
Tolsey Surgery	01666 840270
Wiltshire Council	0300 4560100