



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

JANUARY 2013

DELIVERED FREE

A happy and prosperous New Year to all our readers, advertisers, contributors and distributors. In fact, everyone!

Planted!



On a lovely sunny morning the Jubilee Diamond Tree was planted with much aplomb by Sherston Scouts on the Pennymead Recreation Ground, near the Golden Ash planted to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. It is an oak sapling about 10 feet high with lots of oak apples or galls produced by wasp larvae. Once planted, the Reverend Susan Harvey gave it a blessing and we all hope it will grow beautifully to be a joy to generations to come. The story of its planting will go onto The Tree Council website for anyone to look up. There will be a plaque made with a QR code for mobile smartphone users to go straight to its page.

Sue McKechnie, Deputy Tree Warden

Floods

Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP) set up a website just before Christmas focused upon preparing and responding to flooding, prompted by serious flooding in Malmesbury and the surrounding villages. The aim of the website is to collect together local knowledge and information about what to do, who to contact, and where to go for things such as pumps, sand bags, cleaning services etc. The website can be seen at malmesburyfloodinfo.weebly.com/. It has proved very popular especially as it provides details from the Environment Agency regarding local

flood warnings and river levels.

Following the setting up of the flood info site several people suggested that there should be a Facebook group to go alongside it specifically dedicated to flooding in the area which would allow up to date information to be made available as a particular situation develops. This has now been set up and can be found at www.facebook.com/groups/222243707910354/ Within days of going live the group's membership stood at over 200 people and it has already proved to be a very valuable tool in coordinating the local delivery of free sandbags.

THIS AND ALL PREVIOUS ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD AT WWW.SHERSTON.ORG.UK

Pothole warning

The recent bad weather has created a number of treacherous potholes in a handful of nearby roads. If you're returning to Sherston from Junction 18 of the M4, watch out for two or three very deep potholes on the road between Tormarton and Acton Turville. In the week after Christmas, three drivers were seen changing their tyres by the roadside, so it's worth taking it slowly and staying as close to the middle of the road as possible.

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 just around 12.00noon in time for a complimentary snack. As ever children and well behaved dogs on leads are very welcome.

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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Jade Thomson 840785 Beryl Clampton 841201

Advertising rates:

for 12 months:

1/4 page £200; 1/8 page £100; and 1/16 page £50

for one month:

1/4 page £80; 1/8 page £40; and 1/16 page £20

Inserted leaflet drop £75

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 950 copies. This and all previous editions are also available online at www.sherston.org.uk

PRINTED BY THE COMPLETE PRODUCT COMPANY, PINKNEY

Christmas vouchers

Vouchers to the value of just over £3,000 were delivered to senior citizens in Sherston and Easton Grey by members of Sherston 1016 just before the festivities began. The vouchers can be spent locally in the Carpenters Arms, the Rattlebone Inn, Sherston Post Office Stores or Tucks Farm Shop. The £15 vouchers are available to all residents of households in Sherston or Easton Grey parishes aged 65 or over.. Those widowed who are under 65 are also covered. Anyone who may be eligible but has not yet had a voucher should contact Eric Thacker on 841344. All vouchers must be redeemed by 31 January.

Save The Date -

SherstonFest 2013 Dates

Announced – 14/15 June

Never say never, as they say! As we washed the mud from our tired and harrowed faces last year the only sound was the crew muttering 'never again...like never....and I mean NEVER...'

Well, well, well, who'd have thought it? Only six short months later and they are all saying, 'it wasn't that bad' and 'this band would be great for SF2013' and, most telling of all, 'bet next year it won't rain' - ah, faith springs eternal.

So yes, once more into the breach dear friends, as SherstonFest 2013 will sally forth in glorious sunshine on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 June. Tickets will be on sale from 21 January and they will sell out - so buy them early - and if you thought last year was good '...y-you ain't seen nothing yet...' as Messrs Bachman, Turner and indeed Overdrive might have said. Also this year we are not going to make the schoolboy error of forgetting to take the 'early bird' tickets off sale (doh!) so it really will pay to get 'em early.

Who's playing? Closely guarded secret I'm afraid, but you won't be disappointed. I too thought it would be hard to improve on the holy trinity of Dub Mafia, The Rinkys and The Soul Destroyers, but y'know what..... we have!

Like all events in Sherston, it's the village that makes them. So if you want to get involved - before, during or after - then just send an email to help@sherstonfest.com or stop one of us in the pub - we really need your help - but unlike most things this is a blast to get involved in and your kids will think you are so cool). There is lots and lots more info at SherstonFest.com and it will be regularly updated as stuff happens. There is also a regular email bulletin, so just send an email to list@sherstonfest.com and we'll add you to the list.

So tell your friends, like us on Facebook and bulk order the suntan lotion etc because it's 'Game On', sports fans!

The Committee

Operation Christmas Child

Pupils carry their boxes out through the school gate on Friday 16 November and walk to the British Schoolroom.

After an assembly taken by Reverend Phil Daniels the entire primary school plus staff and parents then settled down to watch a three minute DVD of the toy-filled shoeboxes being joyfully opened in a variety of the 104 countries in which they are now annually received. By January 2013 'Operation Christmas Child' – now one of the largest Global Children's Charities – expects to have sent more than 100 Million shoebox gifts since it was founded in Wrexham in 1990.



Photos taken on Friday 16 November

Supplemented by deliveries from Luckington Playgroup, Westonbirt School and Rosehill School, plus many individuals, over 300 colourful boxes were eventually awaiting transportation from the British Schoolroom to Melksham Warehouse (via a checking/packing centre at Chippenham United Reform Church). More than 30,000 boxes went from Wiltshire to disadvantaged children in Eastern Europe last year. See www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk



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Sherston Arts Festival

The Festival will take place this year between October 11 and 20. For those new to the village we have ten days of arts events suitable for all ages including exhibitions, concerts, and scarecrow trail. The committee welcomes new members, and if anyone has an idea for an event please let us know. We will start to have planning meetings soon so please get in touch if you would like to be involved.

Heather Martin (840375 heather@geoffmartin.plus.com) or Pat Jones (840764 warwick.jones@btinternet.com)

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 17 January 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.

Area Board

The next meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council takes place at Malmesbury Town Hall on Wednesday 16 January with a 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. This is an opportunity for residents to see their area board in action and to participate in discussions. All welcome.

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Wiltshire

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Wiltshire Good Neighbours has grown!

The scheme has proved to be very successful over the last two years and from January 2013 everyone living in rural Wiltshire will have a Good Neighbour Co-ordinator to call on. This has meant a few changes and the Co-ordinators are now based around the Wiltshire Council Area Board areas. I now cover the whole of the Malmesbury Area (I have been working to the east of Malmesbury for 2 years) – hence the change of contact details (see below). Sadly, this means that Jenny Plummer will be leaving this area and covering her own home parish as part of the Chippenham area.

For the magazines, I try to do a topical theme and in spring was foolish enough to talk of how to keep cool in the summer – did I jinx the weather? In the hope of a similar effect now, I am thinking of winter weather with snow and ice. You never know, it may not happen, but if it does....are you prepared? It's good to keep a list of emergency contacts close, eg friends and family, local tradesmen, electricity, oil and gas suppliers and so on. It's also a good idea to have a 'kit' handy including some long life food, a torch, matches and candles. But most important is keeping warm. Make sure that you have easy access to blankets etc. If you are concerned about your safety in extreme weather conditions, call me for more information or to be part of the 'Winters Journey' scheme. My number is 07557 922020 or email me at malmesburygnc@communityfirst.org.uk.

by Ellen Blacker

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The Rattlebone boules league

Last summer over 150 people divided into 48 teams spread over three leagues battled it out for the prizes in this highly popular event. To most people the prizes are not important. They participate mainly for the camaraderie, to meet new people and generally to have fun. The weather was very unkind to us last year, and catch up games were still being played up to the end of September. The winning teams are:



LEAGUE 1

- 1st Tom Dryden and his team, Tommy's Tigers
- 2nd Dereck King and his team, Luckington Loafers
- 3rd Huw Bowles and his team, Les Oeufs

LEAGUE 2

- 1st Paul Bailey and his team, Bad Manors
- 2nd Lisa Neal and her team, Game for a Laugh
- 3rd Sharon Doyle and her team, The Doyle 3

LEAGUE 3

- 1st Chas Parkes and his team, Potato Chuckers
- 2nd Nic Corless and his team, Bouledogs
- 3rd Raef Johnson and his team, Itchy Boules

The prizegiving will take place at The Rattlebone Inn on Tuesday 15 January starting at 7.00pm. As usual it will be accompanied by a sumptuous buffet organised by Jason, and all paid for by your subscriptions. All who took part are welcome to attend.

This year Shaun Scott will be running the competition. There are likely to be some vacancies, so anyone interested in joining should contact him on shaunscott@aol.com.

by Tony Towle

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Busy Hands Pre-school nativity production

Christmas spirit was in abundance as parents and grandparents alike enjoyed this year's nativity production at Busy Hands Pre-school. This year's production boasted singing and dancing angels, a star, three wise men complete with camels, shepherds and their sheep, an inn keeper and of course Mary, Joseph, their donkey and baby Jesus. The music was once again kindly provided by Mary Clements and afterwards everyone enjoyed tea and cake.



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DYB DOB Corner



A big thank you to all the local businesses who donated prizes for a hugely successful raffle this year, and a thank you to all the cubs, scouts, brownies and explorers who braved some VERY cold conditions selling tickets.

The donations meant we were able to make a fantastic selection of hampers including a brilliant one for children, we also had a personal training session, a dressage lesson, meals at both of our local pubs, a Christmas door wreath and a range of lovely gifts.

As a change this year we held a family quiz evening that proved very popular indeed taking up just about every table in the Carpenters Arms, hopefully something we will repeat next year.

A good turn out to our Christmas mail sorting meant the letters were sorted and ready for delivery in record time.

The Scouts had a Christmas dinner with Secret Santa gifts which was very kindly cooked by Anne-Marie Pritchett & Georgina Evans. The menu was at the request of the Scouts and consisted of - popcorn and pizza for starters, roast chicken with peas, sweetcorn



and garlic bread all finished off with Cornettos for dessert and a mince pie on the way home

Our Cub pack managed to squeeze in another night hike before the end of term and held an entertainment evening for the parents which was thoroughly enjoyed by all and managed to get a few badges in for some of them.

The Explorers had a quiet month but by the time you read this they will be finalising their plans for a weekend surfing on the Gower in January.

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Sherston W.I. December meeting

Members were in a festive mood when they met on 6 December in the British Schoolroom for their meeting.

The President welcomed visitors and then introduced our speaker, Lynda Warren whose title was 'A Dickens of a Christmas.' She told us of her interest in Charles Dickens coupled with a fascination with Victorian customs especially at Christmas time. Dickens had a hard upbringing, starting work at the age of 10 years, and living in the poorer areas of London and Portsmouth. A turn of fortune led to a job in journalism at the age of 17. Short articles finally led to stories and books. 'A Christmas Carol' was a reflection of what life was like for the poor in Victorian times. Many more books followed and he was much admired by Victorian society. His marriage and large family did not curtail his love of the theatre and young actresses. He was finally laid to rest in Westminster Abbey.

Lynda kept us amused with tales of Victorian customs and recipes of those times. Vast quantities of food were eaten by the better off at Christmas. Large turkeys were often taken to the local baker to be cooked. Shops were open late even on Christmas Day.

Lynda was thanked for giving us an insight into life

at the time of Charles Dickens. We then enjoyed a Christmas tea. Tables were laid with bright cloths and festive flowers. Tea had been provided by members.

A few business items were dealt with. A New Year lunch is planned for 10 January at The Horse Guards, Brokenborough.

Our A.G.M. is in February. A Spring Sale will be on 9 March in the Village Hall. An Open evening is planned for 18 April with the speaker being journalist Penny Junor.

President Sheila will be visiting Athelstan House before Christmas to take presents for the residents from our members.

We were saddened to hear of the recent deaths of two of our valued members, Doreen Smith and Margaret Elwell.

by Ann Wilcox

Cribbs trip

Some 16 residents greatly enjoyed the Christmas shopping expedition to Cribbs Causeway on the Cartmell community bus at the end of November. Many thanks are due to Tony Weedon for organising the trip and for driving the bus.



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Telling Tales 2 - Exhibition by Bath Textile Artists

The 11 members of the group have chosen 'Telling Tales' as their theme, and have interpreted it in as many different ways.

These range from looking at the symbols that our ancestors used to write down their own stories and using these as pattern and design shapes, to the inspiration derived from a found collection of old postcards. Two members have delved into children's stories and their rich imagery, another into stone circles and their mystical meanings. Another has taken the journey of fleece to fabric as a theme and others have been inspired by the City of Bristol itself – its rich history from Cabot's Matthew to today's vibrant cultural dockside. The patterns of footpaths crossing the landscape, the story of seeds and their distribution, the narratives which clothes hold within them – all of these themes have yielded surprising personal interpretations.

The members of this lively group work in colour and texture, fibre and fabric, exploring the vast field which is textile art today. Felt-making, hand and machine embroidery, weaving, painting on fabric, and work in two and three dimensions are all included. Anyone visiting this exhibition is sure to be entranced by its variety and quality – make sure not to miss it.

Dates 18 January to 23 February, open Monday to Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm and Sunday 2.00pm to 4.00pm at the Corinium Museum, Park Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2BX.

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Emergency planning

Following the recent floods thought is being given to how the parish can best cope should a local emergency situation occur. This wouldn't just cover flooding but could include heavy snow and very serious road accidents. To assist in this process Wiltshire Council has set up a special emergency planning exercise on Wednesday 30 January which covers the Malmesbury community area.

The exercise will begin at 7.30pm and end at 9.00pm. This will provide an opportunity for residents of the parish who would like to help out in a crisis situation to get together in the parish in a venue which has easy access to a telephone or good mobile coverage. The exercise is a paper one and will consist of a series of envelopes (which will be sent in advance) containing a developing scenario that the group will be asked to open at specified times. Response to the issues can then be phoned through to a member of the Wiltshire Council emergency planning team.

The whole purpose is to learn throughout the scenario and reflect at the end what we need to do in future. This could be the opportunity to help produce an emergency plan for the parish.

If you would like to get involved please contact the parish clerk Sarah Wood on 840197 or email clerk@sherston.org.uk The parish council will provide the venue, phone access and refreshments.

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Sherston School is Tickled Pink with Panto

Oh no they aren't, Oh YES THEY ARE

Shortly before Christmas, the school hall was transformed into a magical theatre space for a production of Peter Pan, with some of the children taking to the stage for the show.

The FSS (Friends of Sherston School) organised this impressive event and invited Tickled Pink Productions to come in one evening after school. They held a 45 minute workshop for 40 children who had signed up to participate. Working in groups of 10, dressed up in some great costumes, they were taught dances and songs by the professional actors from Tickled Pink.

Then the hall was packed out with more children and parents up to its 200-strong capacity, as the performance started. Everyone was led through the adventures of Peter Pan in Never Never Land meeting Captain Hook, Tinker Bell, the Lost Boys and Pirates on the way.



Full audience participation was encouraged and the upbeat songs and great dancing put a modern twist on the traditional pantomime.

What a fantastic start to the Christmas season!



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6th	£7	51	J Gleed
7th	£6	127	V Webb
8th	£5	278	F Shipsey

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

Subs time

January is an important month for the village hall as that's when all the 300+ club members are asked to renew their subscriptions for the coming year. The proceeds from the club are a vital part of the hall's finances whilst hire charges are set to meet the day to day running costs any improvements to the hall are dependent on fund raising.

For as little as £6 a year, with 50% of the proceeds being returned in prizes, it's a great way to help the hall. The club is marvellously organised by Mary Goulding, Joyce Gleed, Gwen Mason, Janet Platts, Margaret Yeend, Margaret Thacker and Ann Andrews.

Thank you one and all.



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www.perfectionhealthandbeauty.com (01666) 822811

Sherston Senior Club

On 13 November we enjoyed an interesting day in Worcester. This was followed on 22 November with a most enjoyable concert by the Sherston Primary School Choir. They were excellent – there seem to be more children each year – and a great credit to their teachers. We thank every one of you so much and look forward to your next visit to us.

We are now planning our programme for 2013 which will start on Tuesday 8 January with our Annual General Meeting, followed by a quiz and bingo. And then on 22 January, John Johnston will be talking to us on 'Poetry and Music'.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and help over the past year – particularly our Secretary, Helen Quirk, for organising everything; our Treasurer, Liz Bell, aided by Eileen Hoskin, Pearl Dyer for running the raffles each time; all those who work so hard in the kitchen and produce the teas and refreshments; and our President Joan Butler for keeping her friendly and observant eye on everything we do. But none of this would happen without the support of everyone who comes to each of our activities. Without your support we would be nothing.

On behalf of the club, I wish everyone a happy New Year.

by John Venning 840915

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Christmas lunch at Sherston Primary School

35 lbs turkey
28 lbs carrots
10 swedes
10 parsnips
2 sacks sprouts (locally grown at Nigel Freeth's, and kindly donated by Alison Muchmore)
500 roast potatoes
200 pigs in blankets
200 stuffing balls
3 gallons gravy

Chocolate yule logs, jelly and ice cream, Christmas puddings and custard and sherry trifle for the teachers.

200 Christmas crackers, squash, music and lights all contributed to a wonderful Christmas lunch on 20 December for all the children and staff at school.

Many thanks go to Pam, Cilla and Roger with help with the serving from school staff and Stephanie from ABM catering.

by Cilla Liddington



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Whoops-a-Daisy Angel

Sherston school infant production this year took place in the packed school hall, watched by some very proud parents.

Whoops-a-Daisy Angel is the delightful story of a disorganised but lovable angel who is chosen to show the way to Bethlehem.

The story featured Reception class 'angelic angels' and 'whoops-a-daisy angels'. Year 1 took to the stage as snowflakes, shepherds and sheep. Topping it off were the Year 2 class who were members of the nativity, Santa style narrators and not forgetting the lead role of 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'.

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Walk on the wild side

by Geoff Carrs

Wild side resolutions

With 2013 just starting, it's a great time to think about New Year resolutions. While it's easy to think of many resolutions for yourself (must get fit, go on a diet, grow more hair etc.) how about one or two to help local wildlife, and may help you get a bit fitter, such as:

- Taking your children/grandchildren out walking (or even just watching your bird feeders) and have a little competition as to how many different birds they can identify. There are lots of easy to use guides from the RSPB and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust - some simple identification cards or guides you can download.
- Ask your local school if they would be interested in Wiltshire Wildlife Trust visiting to run a workshop.
- For adults, how about getting a copy of the Sherston Walks Guide (available from the Post Office) and walk some of the footpaths? Take your time, ideally with some binoculars, and it's amazing what you can see - deer, foxes, hares, kestrels, little egrets, lapwings, badgers (maybe not at this time of year), kingfishers etc.
- Visit some of the great local wildlife reserves - easy to find on the web. Maybe even help out as a volunteer at the Cotswold Water Park.
- Keep your bird feeders topped up and, when it's freezing, make sure there is water available for the birds.

2012 was a very mixed year for local wildlife primarily due to the very wet late spring, summer and autumn. This resulted in some quite odd sightings such as a young hedgehog being found wandering around the village in late November. Luckily it was taken in, fed and given to a local wildlife rescue centre to keep over the winter and build its strength. On a personal note both writing this column together with my blog (sherstonwildlife.wordpress.com) has made me take time to better understand the fantastic wildlife we have almost literally on our doorstep.

Looking forward to 2013 is really exciting. Hopefully the spring and summer will be warmer and drier to encourage all the birds and insects which didn't thrive in 2012. A number of scarce birds and animals were seen in or around the village including red kites and otters and, with good weather many of the butterflies and insect-eating birds will make a great recovery.

If you do see anything of interest please do let me know at geoff_carrs@hotmail.com or 840995.

Costume Design

Tetbury Art Society presents the Roy Baker Memorial Lecture at which Ilaria Martello will explain how costume design has evolved, by balancing tradition and craft with innovation and technology. The talk will be illustrated with a power point display a continuous journey from the past to the future at the Orchard Room, Highgrove House, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, by kind permission TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall on Thursday 14 March at 2.15pm

Tickets are £25 each, non-refundable, to include refreshments and cakes. Please contact Gill Ashley 840993.

All proceeds will be given to The Prince of Wales's Charitable Foundation. For further information visit www.tetburyartsociety.org.uk or www.highgroveshop.com

by Gill Ashley

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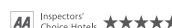
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Neighbourhood Plan

Sherston Parish Council has decided to develop a Neighbourhood Plan which will provide a legal basis for residents to determine the future of our community over the next twenty to thirty years. The project is led by Sherston Parish Council which oversees a steering group which includes local councillors, residents, and other local community interest groups. The Sherston Neighbourhood Plan will cover the whole administrative area of Sherston Parish Council (see Map).

The Steering Group has been working on the plan since about February 2012.

A Neighbourhood Plan Workshop was held on 17th July 2012, to which all of the village was invited, the purpose of which was to give local residents the opportunity to comment on and set out their views, concerns and establish their own aspirations for the village and to suggest how these hopes and issues can be met. A copy of the Workshop Report is available for you to have a look should you wish to do so at on the Parish Council's web site - www.sherston.org.uk

Following on from that Workshop, the Steering Group has now produced a list of aspirations and a series of objectives that it is hoped the Neighbourhood Plan will tackle in due course. These are:



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Objective 1:

The Plan will support the provision of facilities considered important for a vibrant community by:

- Protecting those facilities already in place;
- Supporting the provision of a new enhanced GP surgery;
- Facilitating the provision of additional facilities for the elderly, pre-school, and young people living within the village.

Objective 2:

The Plan will ensure that all future development in the village:

- Respects the high quality of the local environment by employing the use of building materials in sympathy with the Cotswold AONB;
- Is of the highest quality of design, utilising wherever possible traditional styles and proportions;
- Safeguards those parts of the settlement that have been identified as being worthy of protection from development because of their landscape quality, ecological importance or local significance.

Objective 3:

The Plan will facilitate opportunities for new and existing businesses and social enterprise that benefit the community and support the delivery of advanced

fibre connectivity to all parts of the village by:

- Supporting the creation of new business premises in appropriate locations;
- Resisting the change of use of existing business premises to alternative uses (except where there is a clear benefit to the community from allowing such);
- Encouraging the approved provider of high speed broadband to install advanced connections to the network throughout the village.

Objective 4:

The Plan will provide for a limited amount of housing to meet an identified local need. It will do this through:

- Allowing small scale development in selected locations, to include houses for sale on the open market, affordable social rented and shared equity housing, and sheltered elderly persons accommodation;
- Ensuring that all such development includes a mix of house types capable of meeting the identified local need;
- Considering the redevelopment of existing brown field development opportunities first;
- Supporting the provision of a replacement dwelling for the local vicar in an appropriate location.

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SAT 1ST: LAUNCH OF NEW MONTHLY SEASONAL MENU

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CHRISTMAS PARTY MENU: 3 COURSES INC. COFFEE FOR £18.95

SUNDAY LUNCH: ROAST - £10.95, 2 COURSES - £13.95

STEAK NIGHT THURSDAY: £25 FOR 2 PEOPLE INC. BOTTLE OF WINE

THROUGHOUT DECEMBER: THE KNOCKDOWN "KNOCKDOWN"
- SKITTLES - CASH - TOURNAMENT - ASK AT BAR FOR DETAILS -
SUN 30TH - GRAND FINAL - WINNER TAKES ALL !!

PLUS...

FRI 7TH - LIVE MUSIC - THE KNOCKDOWN BOYS - 8PM
- BLUE GRASS, FOLK & COUNTRY BAND: PICKING SESSION -

FRI 14TH - LIVE MUSIC - STAPLE HILL - 8PM
- GUITAR, DRUMS & VOCALS - 3 PIECE BAND: COOL, EASY LISTENING -

FRI 21ST - LIVE MUSIC - THE KNOCKDOWN BOYS - 8PM
- PICKING SESSION WITH GUEST 'STAR' GUITARIST -

SAT 22ND - CHRISTMAS PARTY - ALL WELCOME
- MUSIC & FESTIVE FUN !! -

WED 26TH - BOXING DAY - CHARITY 'RACE' NIGHT -
- HORSE RACING, BETTING, BIG SCREEN & CURRY -

NEW YEAR'S EVE - PARTY - 7PM TILL LATE

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Objective 5:

The Plan will seek to provide for the existing and future leisure, recreational, sporting, community and social needs of the village by:

- Ensuring that certain existing important open land and other green spaces within and adjoining the village are retained and/or enhanced, or that suitable replacement facilities are provided as part of any agreed redevelopment proposals;
- Ensuring that sufficient additional areas of open space are created within all new developments;
- Identifying and securing a site for the provision of additional burials within the village;
- Ensuring that existing sports and leisure facilities are retained and wherever possible enhanced.
- Supporting the provision of new build sports, leisure and recreational facilities in and around the village in appropriate locations.

Objective 6:

The Plan will facilitate measures for managing traffic in and around the village by:

- Ensuring that sufficient on site parking is provided in all new developments sufficient to meet current and likely future car ownership and use;
- Encouraging measures which lead to a reduction in traffic volumes, movement and speed throughout the village and provide safer journeys for both pedestrians and motorists alike.
- Encouraging greater use of public transport, cycling and walking.

Objective 7:

The Plan will encourage the sympathetic management of the countryside surrounding the village so as to retain and/or enhance it's high quality, improve biodiversity and provide other longer term benefits to the local community by:

- Considering the creation of a community garden and/or orchard;
- Identifying and safeguarding any sites identified in the locality that are considered to be of significant ecological or landscape quality.

Objective 8:

The Plan will encourage a move towards a low carbon economy which includes local food production and the generation of renewable energy by:

- Identifying and allocating additional land within the plan area for allotments;
- Encouraging the introduction of appropriate alternative energy sources (specifically solar, wood fuel, ground and air source heat systems) for use within existing and all new development within and around the village.

What next?

The next step in the plan making process is to consider how, where and what forms of development would be appropriate within the Neighbourhood Plan area (in an attempt to meet some or all of these defined objectives), or indeed to identify those parts of the plan area which it is considered necessary to protect from development.

This is what Sherston village looks like now 

What will it look like in 30 years time?

The steering group is beginning to discuss the geography of a future Sherston taking into account these aspirations and objectives. But we need your help to achieve this.

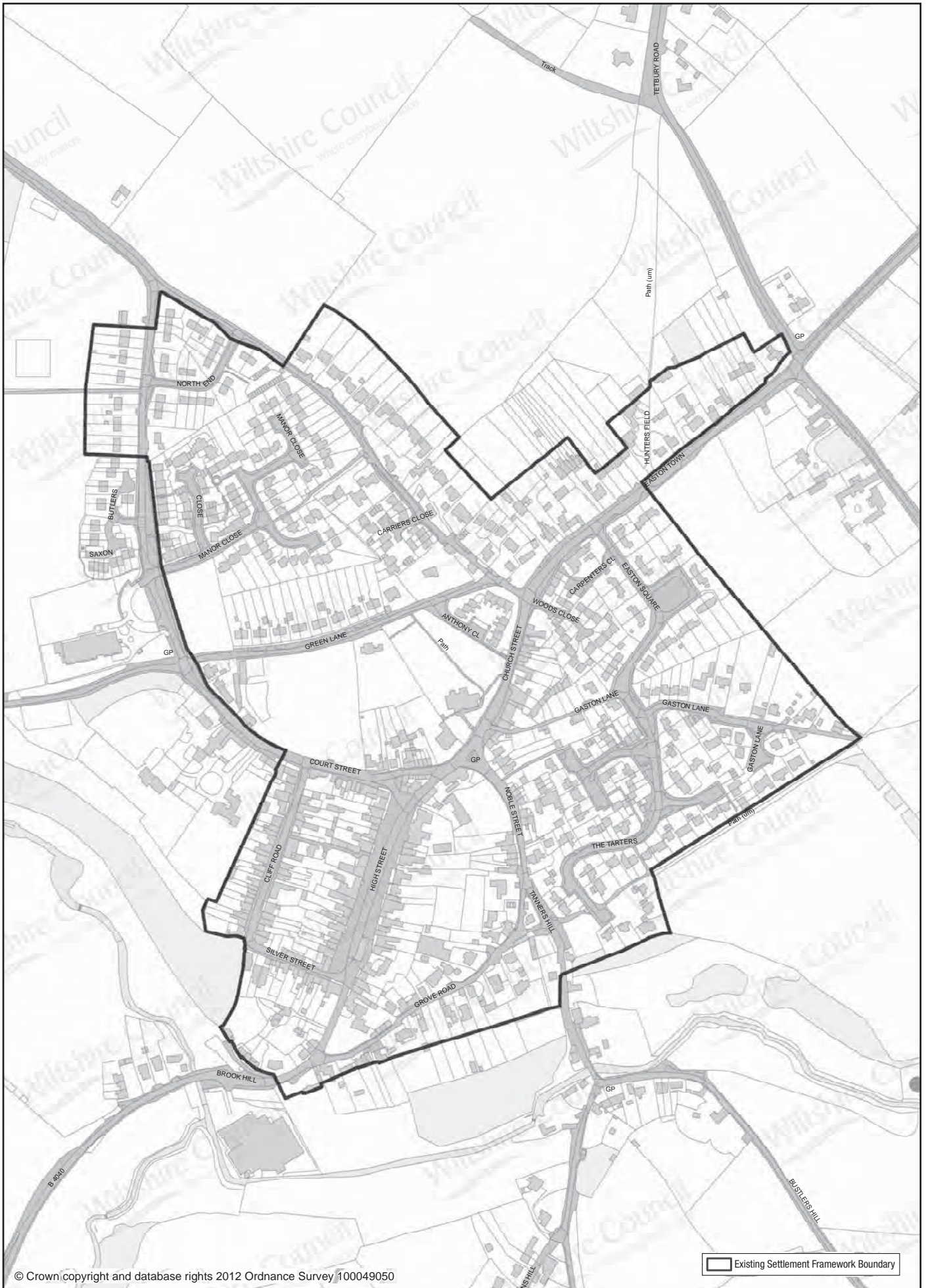
The steering group needs to hear the views of local residents and other interested parties to ensure that whatever decisions are made take into account the views of the entire community.

So, before taking this discussion any further, we plan to arrange an event to which everybody will be invited in early February to give them the opportunity to see the work completed so far and to help determine the range of options to be considered.

Separate discussions will in the meantime be held with various interest groups and, more specifically, with the young (primarily via the Scout Group), the elderly (primarily via the Seniors Club and Probus) and other specific interest groups (e.g. the W.I.) with a view to canvassing the opinion of as many interested parties as possible.

Further meetings and exhibitions will be held over the coming months as the plan progresses. The current intention is to try to get a draft plan ready for submission to Wiltshire Council in the spring. Once submitted to Wiltshire Council it has to be the subject of a six week formal consultation period after which it has to be considered by an independent inspector who will be tasked with determining whether the plan as submitted is in conformity with national and local planning policy and meets all of the necessary environmental criteria. Only then, if considered acceptable, will the plan be put to a community referendum, it being the residents of Sherston that will have to decide whether to accept and adopt the plan for the purpose of determining future planning applications etc throughout the neighbourhood plan area.

by Mike Johnson



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Quiz night Sunday evening, free entry from 8.00pm

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Live music once a month – keep an eye on our facebook page, or outside boards for details

Theme nights with appropriate food (example Chinese, Mexican, Indian) once a month.

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Sherston Busy Hands Pre-School Quiz and Auction Night

Who would believe it's that time again? This year's Busy Hands Pre-School quiz takes place at the village hall on Saturday 2 February which will give you plenty of time to brush away the festive cobwebs and get your brains whirring. The Busy Hands team has been busily contacting all our generous local businesses in search of some more fantastic prizes for this year's auction and raffle, which so far include:

A signed rugby ball by Austin Healey and Will Greenwood

One night accommodation and breakfast at the stunning Old Bell in Malmesbury

A two hour photography shoot by local family photographer Joey Ross

One hour private lesson with Clare Richardson, a stott pilates specialist

A car valet by Tom's Carwash

Dinner for two at the Carpenters Arms

Bed and breakfast at Carriers Farm

A large joint of pork from Sherston Rare Breeds

A stone and sports massage with AV Sports Massage Therapy

A manicure treatment from Beauty at Home

A child's membership for Malmesbury Tennis Club

A Dyson vacuum

One hour tutoring for both Key Stage 1 & 2

Colour consultancy with Louisa Taylor Bowen,

Vouchers for Emma Newby McTimony, The Vine Tree, Clobber Clothing, Westonbirt Physiotherapy, Cutting Edge Gardening Company of Sherston, Tetbury Professional Golf Services, Coco Bay, Perfection Health & Beauty, Eco Marketplace Design, Clive Wallace Oven Valeting and a Health & Dental Check from B&W Equine Group

Doors open at 7.30pm and the quiz starts at 8.00pm. There are still a few tickets left so get in touch with Joey Ross on 07768 947693 to secure you place at the most competitive village event of the year. £20 per team of four. *by Joey Ross*

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Expectations were high after the hugely popular 2010 Summer Ball, and the pressure on the Pinkney Party People was palpable. 250 tickets had sold out a full eight months in advance, and there was a buzz about the village all week. Glad rags were lovingly adorned, many themed to match that of the event, and pre-Ball parties abounded. And they were not to be disappointed!

As guests took in the rather tardy fire-eating duo outside, those ahead were transported through the dark forest of Narnia under a starlit sky on their route through the unrecognisable village hall. Tingling with excitement they emerged into the surprisingly warm marquee (those gas burners really did the trick!), its walls patterned with dancing fiery and icy light. And light and sound were again a big part of the experience, thanks to the tireless work of 'Lampie' John Grinham and Dave 'Sheps' Sheppard. A late burner failure (the gas froze!) meant that the mulled cider was less than hot for some, but soon all were sat and tucking into the fabulous meal, served up by Philip Gilder and his crew, of Manor Events. The organisers could be seen visibly relaxing, and Sam, our compère for the evening, began to guide everyone through the events.



wardrobe fake fur coats, modelled by the evocative Pip Pettit and Heather Knibb, and the be-panted Riaan van Rooyen and Kev Noble. As if this wasn't enough, after a somewhat confused game of heads and tails, the auction of a kindly donated Kindle and the winning of a big bottle of champers by the lucky fella with a star under his chair, the dancing girls came on! The 128 men in the tent all played meerkat as the Flaming Feathers danced to Copa Cobana in, well, next to nothing. Daisy Chapman, whose ivory tickling had soothed us through the meal, played some of her own songs between the ensuing four dances, and soon the gathered throng were unable to contain their dancing feet. Time for the cracking Ten Pound Suit Band to notch things up with their original and ever so slightly mad take on a string of well-known tunes. My, how they danced! The floor was packed, big grins lit by Lampie's flying colours, the sounds reaching the ears of two groups of young local chancers who snuck in to join in the fun. They were politely escorted through the fir tree avenue of shame – 'worth a try' they muttered. Last but not least, Huw Bowles overcame his uncharacteristic flappy nerves to crank up his Wheels of Steel and take us to disco heaven.



We had a touching presentation from Richard Hulme about the SOSCIC and its successes, including an introduction to Neil Forster's painting of the High Street, donated to the cause and soon to be auctioned. The evening hotted up with the sale of the Narnia

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Throughout, June from the Sherston Wine Company kept refreshments flowing, her diminutive luge-master peddling innumerable vodka shots, most adorning the revellers' faces and upper garments as it exited the slippery pipe.

Thank you Sherstonites, for shelling out for such a good cause, and being such enthusiastic guests. And thanks to those who stayed at home - for tolerating the undoubted racket that reverberated around the village that night.

With your help, we have raised well over £1,000 for the Sherston Old School Community Interest Company.

And now Christmas - time for a rest!

John and Pip Pettit, Caroline and Pat Starke, Heather and Dick Knibb - The Pinkney Party People.



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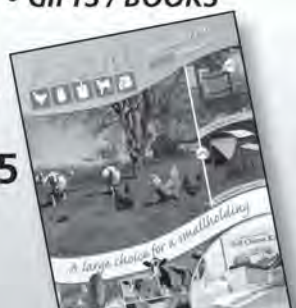
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About MVCAP

Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership is a voluntary group working to take community aspirations and turn them into reality, and to support the voluntary and community sector. Membership is open to everybody living and working in the Malmesbury Community Area. If you want to make a difference to your local community why not join us? We have opportunities available for those who want to volunteer regularly or just occasionally. The MVCAP Times is our quarterly newsletter advertising our work and that of our partners. It is distributed to more than 700 individuals and groups in the Malmesbury Community Area. If you need to promote the work of your voluntary or community organisation why not get in touch to see if we can help. www.mvcap.org.uk/index.php/about-mvcap or phone 390110.

Community Safety

We meet regularly with the Police and other community safety bodies to discuss ongoing priorities and upcoming initiatives. The public are welcome to attend and there are usually some refreshments available. If you can't attend in person, you can contact us and we will pass on any issues to the appropriate body. The next meeting is on Wednesday 9 January from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at United Reform Church Hall, West Street, Malmesbury. www.mvcap.org.uk/index.php/community-safety

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Wiltshire Online

This is a Wiltshire Council project to provide free basic computer support for all. It aims to help anybody in our community with the basics so they can benefit from being online. The training is delivered by volunteer Digital Champions and is friendly and informal, so that people can learn what they want at their own pace.

To kickstart the project in Malmesbury the Wiltshire Online team is looking to recruit volunteers to be Volunteer Coordinators who will help them recruit, train and support a small team of Digital Champions. This will be an exciting and varied voluntary role that is crucial to the success of the project. To find out more contact Jenny Wilcockson, Digital Literacy Co-ordinator (jenny.wilcockson@wiltshire.gov.uk - 01225 793349) or visit www.wiltshireonline.org

Missing picture

Have you mislaid a picture? Someone has left a picture at Gray's Garage and they are keen to return it to its owner. If you think it is yours, please drop in during opening hours.



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Patchwork and Quilting Classes

Brighten up the English winter by making a lovely, colourful patchwork quilt. If you would like to try patchwork but don't know how to start, then come and join your local group in Sherston.

The classes are held in the British Schoolroom in Cliff Road on the first Thursday of the month from 10.00am to 1.00pm. It doesn't matter if you are a complete beginner or have some experience; everyone is welcome to this very friendly group.

The class tutor is Anne Chapman who has been teaching quilt-making for the past 18 years. Please phone 01249 782842 for details. Thank you.

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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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by Judy Sharp



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If you have one of many medical conditions (including being overweight, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, depression or stress, osteoporosis or a heart or lung condition) and want to get fitter to improve your health, then ask us about 'Active Health'.

This is a subsidised 12 week exercise programme, run in coordination with either the Activity Zone in Malmesbury or the Olympiad Leisure Centre in Chippenham. Each programme is individually tailored and can include gym sessions, walking, swimming or attendance at a specialist class.

If you are aged 40-74 and have not had your

blood pressure checked in the last 5 years, you are eligible for an NHS Health Check. This 20 minute 'MOT' looks at how your body is handling your lifestyle, in particular at reducing your chances of developing heart disease, diabetes and kidney disease. We are inviting patients on a 5-year rolling programme. When you receive your invitation, ask our receptionists to make you an appointment.

Finally we also run well man/woman checks. If you are feeling fit & well but would like advice on specific male/female issues or just a general health check and are not eligible for the NHS health check mentioned above then this is for you.

We would like to wish all our patients a healthy 2013.

Welcome Lisa

We are pleased to welcome a new member of staff, Lisa Fleming. She recently joined our reception team to help out during the very busy periods in the morning and afternoon, so that we have increased capacity to deal simultaneously both with personal callers to the surgery and telephone calls.

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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

The 15th International Rutabaga Curling Championship took place on 22 December 2012 and in the light of the close connections between Mangold Hurlers and Rutabaga Curlers I am pleased to bring you all some photos from the event.

Rutabagas are known to us as swedes and curling them takes place annually at Ithaca Farmers Market in New York State on the last day of the market season. The weather for 2012 was good – plenty of snow although bitterly cold.



A Rutabaga Curl
by Monika Roth

There are plenty of similarities between the two sports and not only by the projection of root vegetables – but also in ceremonies, songs and poetry such as this example –

*Twas the Last Day of Market and friends gathered round
To celebrate 30 long years in this town
The wind it is wicked and sales are quite slow
and still there are vendors who brave the deep snow
The booths are half empty, the crowd it is thin,
There's a buzz in the air, a contest to win!*

*Then all of a sudden there rose such a clatter
As round little objects were hurled in a scatter
And vendors competed and customers watched
A little root vegetable that made quite a splotch*

*Some use them for soups, some use them for stews
but here at the Market, we've found something new
The rutabagas not widely known in this land
Make great hurling objects and that is just grand*

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next
some will grow parsnips
and turnips and kale
but some will grow
rutabagas just for the
hurl!



The results of the 2012 Curl were not yet to hand to meet the Cliffhanger's exacting copy deadline but I do know that the winner, or at least one of them, was a Dave Townsend. The fate of a team from the Kanto region of Japan remains unknown. Rumour has it that this team also takes part in Tuna Tossing in Australia.

Tuna Tossing has been a sport at Port Lincoln South Australia for over 50 years with the 52nd taking place between 25 and 28 January. For full details of the Tunarama and how you can enter go to www.tunarama.net/. Somehow I don't think this sport will take off in Sherston – I don't think we can afford the whole tuna. There again we could use tinned.....

Yarp!

Keeper of the Quill 

Photos: Aaron Terkel

TREEtalk

January 2013



Coppicing and clearing still goes ahead in Grove Wood with John Lloyd working hard with his chain saw. Burning and slashing is done by a small band of volunteers. More help would be welcome on Sunday mornings. We are there 10.00am until 1.00pm but help for a short time would be appreciated. A good way to work off those mince pies.

Happy New Year

Sue McKechnie, Deputy Tree Warden

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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. Open Thursday mornings till Spring 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

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@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

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, margaretapalmer65@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 Cricket

Cricket practise has now finished for the winter. Indoor practise nets will resume again in the new year. Look out for details in the Sherston Cliffhanger or 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 Sunday 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 Julia Nichols on 840633 or julia.nichols@btinternet.com

Sherston W.I.

Usually meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall but Dec and Feb meetings will be in the British Schoolroom at 2.30pm, Jan the members meet for a lunch. 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

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, Joyce Gleed 840744 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

June

14-15 2013 Sherston MusicFest

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

very 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 Every Monday at 7:30pm Free entry and prizes for the winning team

Boules league prize giving Tues 15 Jan 7pm

Live music from Leon Daye Sat 26 Jan

Check boards for more details of events

Further details contact 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

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

Busy Hands Pre School

Annual Quiz Night 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 Sherston Village Hall
For further details contact Tickets are available from Mon 10 Dec onwards from Joey Ross (07768 947693) and from the Post Office - but be quick, they sell like hot cakes!

Church events

Sung Evensong followed by a concert in Sherston Church on Thurs 7 Feb. Beautiful and varied music by a choir from Bristol Cathedral.
Church of the Holy Cross

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

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, Sherston

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

Sherston Arts Festival

11-20 Oct Ten days of arts events suitable for all ages including exhibitions, concerts and a scarecrow trail. The committee welcomes new members or if anyone has an idea for an event please let us know. We will start to have planning meetings soon so please get in touch if you would like to be involved.

For further details call Heather Martin 840375 heather@geoffmartin.plus.com or Pat Jones 840764 warwick.jones@btinternet.com or visit www.sherston.net

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

GAMBIT [12A] starring Colin Firth Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start £5 in advance £6 on the door
Wed 30 Jan Grittleton Village Hall
 For further details call Lesley 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Saturday and Sunday every month 10am-1pm in aid of FOWA
Summer Concerts Announced: Blondie Fri 21 Jun; Paul Weller Sat 20 Jul - tickets on sale 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 Burns' Night Sat 26 Jan 7.30pm Traditional Burns' Night Three-Course Dinner with Scottish dancing Tickets are priced at £30 for adults and £15 for young adults 16 - 21. To order tickets please contact School Reception on 01666 880333 or email twarner@westonbirt.org
 For further details call Laura Reid on 880333 or ltreid@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 26 Jan Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall
 For further details visit www.jamesgray.org or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk for online surgeries

Charlton

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Malmesbury Local Supporters Group

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Winter Talks Programme 2012-13 The Re-introduction of the Large Blue to Gloucestershire by Maurice Avent
 Thur 10 Jan 7.30pm Admission £2.50, children free. Non-members very welcome. Charlton Village Hall
The Bats of Woodchester Mansion by Roger Ransome Thurs 7 Feb

Charlton Park

WOMAD - World Music Festival

Thurs 25 - Sun 28 July 2013 WOMAD Early Bird tickets are on sale 23 Nov 2012 - 4 Jan 2013
 More information at womad.co.uk/tickets.

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: Great Expectations, Beasts of the Southern Wild, Les Misérables, Quartet, Nostalgia for the Light

check website for details

The Electric Picture House For further details call 01453 844601 or visit www.wottoneph.co.uk

Cotswold Rural Skills

Stone Masonry Taster Day 06-Jan Filkins, Oxfordshire Book ahead to avoid disappointment
Woodland Coppicing 6 Jan 2013 Coberley Glocs
Hedgelaying for beginners 12-13 Jan Westonbirt
Blacksmithing taster Day Sun 13 Jan Tetbury
 1 day £49 2 day course £99
 For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or visit www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk.



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IN THIS NEW YEAR 2013
 WHO IS IMPORTANT TO A
 CHURCH NEAR YOU?

Cirencester

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*

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston. Home matches:
15 Jan 7.45pm v Gateshead; Tues 22 Jan 7.45pm v Hereford Utd 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
Opera - La Boheme (live) Tues 15 Jan 19:15

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Stroud Apollo, Odeon Bath and other Cinema
*For further details call 0871 220 6000 or visit
www.roh.org.uk/cinema*

Bath

Theatre Royal

Quartermaine's Terms starring Rowan Atkinson
Mon 14 - Sat 19 Jan
The Mousetrap 21-27 Jan
Blood Brothers BalletBoyz 28 Jan -3 Feb
*For further details call 01225 448844 or visit
www.theatreroyal.org.uk*

Downend

The Soul Destroyers in concert

Sat 23 Feb Listers, Dursley
*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

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Saturdays 10a.m. - 8p.m. and Sundays from 9a.m. - 3p.m.

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orders of 12 bottles or £100 during the month of July.*