



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

JANUARY 2014

DELIVERED FREE

Only 500 years late!



A market was established in Sherston in 1242 by a Matthew Bezill and continued until 1511 when it seemingly disappeared after the Great Fire of that year – that is until now.

November saw the village hall absolutely full of stalls and customers as the market was revived in its modern form. December saw an equally successful market with a Christmas theme throughout wonderfully topped off by Busy Hands Pre School's Santa's Grotto which saw the 'Man in Red' in constant demand throughout the morning. More than 20 stalls took part including Adeline's Farm with fantastic freshly picked vegetables, Malmesbury Brewery with free samples of their fine beers, superb cake stalls as well as offerings of wine, cheese and pickles plus plenty of craft producers with lots of gift ideas for the festive season.

The market is now to become a regular monthly event in the village calendar with the next market being on Saturday 18 January from 10.00am to 2.00pm. The proceeds from the market all go towards village hall funds and should over time make a substantial contribution to meeting the costs of future improvements.

The market has its own fledgling website <http://sherstonmarket.weebly.com/> together with a face book page. Those interested in taking a stall at future markets can get in touch via the website or by phoning 840348.

More pics from Prince Charles' visit *on page 16*



'Nice handbag your Highness'



Christmas tree recycling

If you have a real Christmas tree, you can put it alongside your garden waste bin for collection on your collection day from 7 January. Christmas trees will be collected throughout January only.

Alternatively, you can take your real Christmas tree to any of Wiltshire's 11 Household Recycling Centres for recycling.

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:
advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk
James Kutchera 841205

Advertising rates:
for 12 months:
1/4 page £220; 1/8 page £110; and 1/16 page £55
for one month:
1/4 page £88; 1/8 page £44; and 1/16 page £22

Inserted leaflet drop £85

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

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

PRINTED BY THE COMPLETE PRODUCT COMPANY, PINKNEY

Great War centenary

With the centenary of the 1914-18 war commencing this August, the time has now come to start deciding on some projects for the parish for at least later this year, if not over the next four years. An initial meeting in the autumn got together a small nucleus of residents to take matters forward but more help is required. A further meeting will now take place on Tuesday 7 January at 7.30pm in the village hall to which all are invited to attend.

Ideas to date include commissioning of a piece of public art recognising the conflict and all those who took part in it, a scanning service for residents' old photographs and ephemera so they can all be digitally preserved, a book specifically about life in the parish at the time and the changes that the war brought, together with a community play and a concert of music of the era.

The subject matter is vast so please let us have your own ideas and if you can't make the meeting please send them to the clerk to the parish council, Sarah Wood, via email clerk@sherston.org.uk or just phone them through on 840197.

As to funding, we are fortunate in that some £2,500 remains in the parish council's reserves, representing the profits from the book 'Heroes All' published in 2005. Grant finance is also available from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Christmas vouchers

Vouchers to the value of 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 Rattlebone Inn, Sherston Post Office Stores or Tucks Farm Shop. The vouchers, in the sum of £15 each, are available to any household in Sherston or Easton Grey parishes where a person who is 65 or over resides. Those widowed who are under 65 are also covered. Anyone who may be eligible but has not yet had a voucher and would like one should please contact Eric Thacker on 841344. All vouchers must be redeemed by 31 January.

Willesley defibrillator

The third defibrillator machine has now been installed in the parish. You can find it in Willesley near Byam's Farmhouse just past the Equine Clinic towards the Tetbury Road. With the final machine in place it is hoped to arrange another course in their use shortly.

Area Board

The next meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council takes place at Malmesbury Secondary School on Wednesday 15 January, 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.

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 8 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, 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.

Walk with Sue

Sue McKechnie's first walk of 2014 will be on Sunday 2 February. Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00 am 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. It's absolutely free and no need to book – just turn up.

Footpaths

The next meeting of the footpaths group takes place on Wednesday 22 January at 7.30pm in the village hall. All welcome.

This time of the year is very good for a bit of 'self help' in keeping our footpaths and bridleways clear of litter. With the hedges and verges having lost their leaves and with most undergrowth having died back until the spring, it's much easier to hoick out those discarded cans, bottles, sweet and crisp packets, etc that have been lurking for the past year or so. Just pop them into a handy plastic bag and then dispose of them at home in your bin.

Pancake competition

Sherston 1016 is again organising its annual Pancake Eating Competition. It will be held on the evening of Shrove Tuesday 4 March from 7.30pm. As the competition alternates between the two village pubs, this year's venue will be the Rattlebone Inn which is of course currently 'the only pub in the village' whilst the Carpenters Arms remains closed. More details next month.



SHERSTON W.I. INSPIRING WOMEN

We are very lucky to have Prue Leith CBE restaurateur, caterer, TV presenter, broadcaster, cookery writer, Great British Menu judge and writer of novels coming to speak on Thursday 17 April. Tickets will be on sale shortly priced at £6.50 to include light refreshments. For further information contact Jill Woodward on 840578.

December Report

Sherston W.I. met in the British School Room for our Christmas meeting.

Our speaker was Pat Downs who demonstrated three Christmas arrangements. She gave us handy tips and shortcuts for decorating the house during the festive season. This was followed by a splendid afternoon provided by the committee. Our recent table-top sale had been very successful and well supported. Gifts have been collected for the residents of Athelstan House and will be taken along nearer to Christmas. Several members have taken part in a county W.I. carol service at Edington Priory.

Our next meeting will be on 9 January for lunch at The Ship at Luckington. A willow-weaving course takes place on 16 January, quite a few members are taking part. February is our AGM, and there will be a cake competition for the Joyce Butler Cup.

By Ann Wilcox

Cribbs trip

The now traditional Christmas shopping expedition run by the parish council to Cribbs Causeway on the Cartmell community bus duly took place last month. Some 16 residents thoroughly enjoyed their day out. Many thanks are due to Tony Weedon for both organising the event and driving the bus.



Smile Out Loud

Or should that be laugh out loud? A packed village hall on the weekend of 29 and 30 November was very well entertained by Nick Burrige and Neil Forster at the launch of their Smile Out Loud book. The audience was also treated to special appearances from Kevin Smith performing some of the passages from the book.

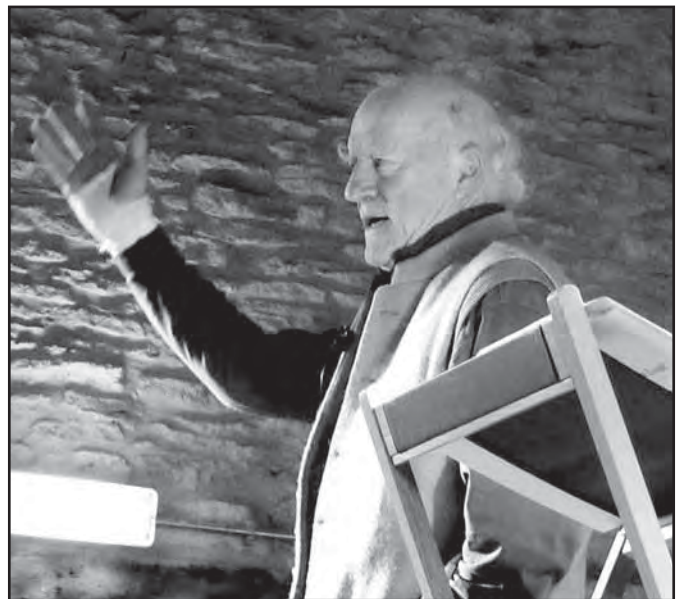
Smile Out Loud is a book of poems and prose by Nick Burrige looking at aspects of modern life from a humorous angle. Nick poem's take the reader on a journey which starts with a smile and usually ends in laughter. The 98-page book also contains beautiful illustrations by Neil Forster.

After the launch, the remaining books were offered for sale at the second Sherston Market on Saturday 14 December. The colour book (£14) is close to being sold out but a black and white version is now on sale at the post office (£9). CDs (£2) and DVDs (£4) of the live performance – including the unforgettable performance of Dame Kevin Smith are available on www.smileoutloud.info or by contacting sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk.



The show on both nights included readings from a number of Nick's poems, with an explanation of the inspiration by Nick himself. The evenings started with Nick reading his poem Dell Boy, penned after his experience when calling a computer helpline after his new computer died! This was followed by his amusing poem to D.O.R.I.S. (Digitally Operated Route Information System or SatNav) and other stories about modern life. The captivated audience was taken on an amusing tour alighting on a diverse range of subjects from the Taj Mahal to the London Olympics, Royal Ascot and our very own Sherston! The audience finished in the same place though – with a smile on their face.

Neil Forster kept the crowd enthralled with stories of his life as a foremost portrait artist. He explained the approach he takes to capture not only the familiar physical appearance, but the personality of his subjects. He also included a moving story about his visit to see the gorillas of Rwanda in 1986.



Traditionally finished **COTSWOLD STONE**
of the very finest quality
direct from our quarry



Walling Stone •
Building Stone •
Roofing Tiles •
Garden Stone •

Tel: **01666 840443**
Fax: **01666 840191**

www.knockdownstone.co.uk
Knockdown Stone,
Halfway Bush Farm, Knockdown,
Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QY

PYKE BOARDING KENNELS

SHERSTON, MALMESBURY, WILTS SN16 0NJ

Established over 45 years • Small family run business
Day care welcome • Full CCTV Security
Fully heated kennels • Beautiful countryside walks
• Competitive rates £11 per day

Angela 01666 840236
or 07748971465

www.pykeboardingkennels.co.uk
Facebook: Pyke Boarding Kennels
angela@pykeboardingkennels.co.uk



There was always going to be an appearance by 'Dame' Kevin Smith and what an appearance it was! But prior to a very personal reading of Nick's poem dedicated to his 'Dame', Kevin also performed as Arthur Shakespeare (William's lesser-known and very brummie brother), a Welsh outdoor-clothing salesman who Ernest Shackleton would have been very wise to meet before his ill-fated Antarctic expedition, Guy Fawkes and Sherston's lesser-known 1016 hero Douglas Gee!



To add to the funds for the cricket practice facility, three paintings by Neil, two fantastic commemorative collages of the London Olympics by Nick and a hand-crafted coffee table by Andrew Tremellen were donated to a silent auction which over the two nights raised over £1,500.

The Saturday evening included the draw for the Christmas Raffle with a first prize of a £500 hamper crammed with Christmas goodies.

All in all, the two evenings raised over £5,000 towards Sherston Magna's new practice facilities. Many thanks to Nick Burrridge, Neil Forster and Kevin Smith for the fantastic show they put on and for the remarkable funds raised.

Reading evenings are a little out of fashion now, but if Smile Out Loud is anything to go by then they may be making a comeback.



Percy the penguin – Smile Out Loud mascot

How it started?

Dear friends and supporters of Smile Out Loud and Sherston Magna Cricket Club. I thought you all might like to know how a chance remark made to Nick Burrridge to record his poems that he had written and used whilst he was Chairman of Sherston Probus Club to close our monthly meetings. These embryo remarks also resulted in Neil Foster offering his artistic skills to illustrate the book. Members of Sherston Magna Cricket Club (SMCC) got to know Nick when he starting taking many photographs of players in action which were displayed as part of the Sherston Arts Festival. It was suggested that members formed a committee to work towards using the photographs and the book to assist fund raising for new practice and training facilities in Pinkney Park. The results are now history with two great evenings of entertainment. The performances of Kevin Smith will remind many people of the evenings. Many thanks must go to Nick and Neil amply guided by the administration skills of James Kutchera, Tony Towle, John Burgess and of course the lady members of SMCC. Very well done everybody.

John Weeks

Thinking of selling your house?

Family just moved into rented in the area are seeking a 4+ bedroomed family home less than 5 miles of sherston.

Big garden required
£1M cash for right property.

Please call to discuss; discretion guaranteed.
Sarah - 07765 236 026

Firewood

*Dry seasoned,
hardwood logs
Barn stored*

any size available

Also kindling sold in nets

Delivered to your door

For more details call Steve on

01454 232941 or

07974194012

Do you want to know

YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Skeletons in the cupboard,
convicts, statesmen, rich
man, poor man,
beggar man, thief?

We all have them and they
are hiding there waiting to
be found.

Let me find them for you.

Beryl Clampton

Call anytime: 01666 841201

or 07850 623517

e-mail: beryl@clampton.com

Help and support for people who care

According to the last census, there are 47,608 people in Wiltshire providing care and support to a relative, child, partner or friend who would not be able to manage on their own.

There are many reasons why someone may not be able to cope unaided, including physical or mental disability, old age, long-term illness, special educational need, eating disorder or a problem with drugs or alcohol.

It is estimated that three in five people will become a carer at some point in their lives. The problem is that most people will not identify themselves as such – people simply consider themselves as a spouse, sibling, parent, grandparent or friend doing what they would be doing anyway. Many also mistake the word 'carer' with those providing paid care work in a residential home or domiciliary agency capacity.

Carer Support Wiltshire is a charity with a team of support workers who can provide information and support to carers living in Wiltshire, at the other end of the telephone, or face to face, along with accessing to counselling and advice relating to your role. All of our services are free and confidential for anyone aged 18 and over and we can offer you the chance to have

a break through social cafés, days out, activities, craft groups and complementary therapies.

We will shortly be running a monthly carers café in Malmesbury where you can come along to chat with other carers over a hot drink or two.

To find out more about us, or to register for some support, please visit our website www.carersinwiltshire.co.uk, email info@carersinwiltshire.co.uk or freephone 0800 181 4118 (01380 871690 from a mobile).

By Fiona Hunter

Christmas Dinner at Sherston School



400 roast potatoes, 30lb carrots, 1 sack of sprouts, 5 swedes, 5 parsnips, 200 pigs in blankets, 200 stuffing balls, 36 lbs turkey, 2 gallons gravy, 200 iced cakes, Christmas pudding and custard, 200 crackers.

And two very happy teachers, Colin McCloud and Colin Stewart enjoying a glass of finest house Ribena!

Well done to Sian and her team for providing the children and staff with a lovely dinner.

Martin Ward & Andy Walden

Estate & Garden

Maintenance Incl:

Clearance work

Hedge & Grass Cutting

Any types of Fencing

Any Job Considered

Fully Insured

Competitive Rates

Mobile 07810136778



SPANISH LESSONS

Any level,
beginners to advanced.

Coaching for exams.

Will come to your house if
required.

Fiona Melville

BA Hons (Oxon) Spanish

Please telephone

01666 840215 / 07711816839

email: fionamelville2003@yahoo.co.uk



Freelance

**Tetbury Bookkeeper
Philippa Lark**

* Local References *

Keep accountancy costs down with
excellent quality bookkeeping records

www.tetburybookkeeper.co.uk

01666 505824

07771 914512

Boules at the Rattlebone

Apart from one or two exceptions, the weather this year was far kinder to us. As a result, we managed to complete many more games than last year. Apart from the main boules leagues, there is also a competition held in memory of one of the team captains who was tragically killed at the now infamous railway bridge between Luckington and Acton Turville

The Mark Doyle Trophy

Mark's memory is perpetuated by an annual competition between last year's winners and runners up from each of the three leagues. This year the round robin competition was scheduled for the Saturday before the main tournament commenced in mid April. Unfortunately, shortly after the start we were inundated by the most torrential of April showers, the competition had to be abandoned. It was eventually completed later in the year, and after a splendid final between Sharon Doyle's team and that of Tommy Dryden. Tommy's Tigers were the eventual winners.

Rattlebone Boules League

The prizegiving for last year's event will take place at The Rattlebone Inn on Tuesday 14 January at 7.00pm. All those who took part are welcome. The prizes are for the first three teams in each league and are accompanied by one of Roger's magnificent buffets. It is an ideal opportunity to meet again your opponents from last year, and to find out who your competition will be next year.

The Rattlebone Boules League consists of three leagues of 16 teams. There is the best part of 150 people playing boules each week in the summer. If you would like to join them or to find out more, please contact Tony Towle on either 840574 or atowle@btinternet.com. The Boules League is an excellent way to meet new people and to get involved in the life of this go-ahead village.



David Strong

On Saturday 30 November at 2.30pm the Sherston band rang the church bells in memory of David Strong whose funeral was taking place at the same time in Lockerley Hampshire. The band rang call changes known as 'St Winnows', 'Twenty All Over on Queens' and 'Twenty All Over' and for half an hour or so the sweet but sad sounds of the half-muffled bells drifted over Sherston.

David, Anne and their family lived in the village for 18 years. Their four children, all ringers, attended the old village school and one of their boys, Rob, became a successful manager of the Rattlebone Inn. David taught Chemistry at Westonbirt School and was a very accomplished pianist and organist and could bring the church alive with his playing. He was a Lay Reader for Sherston Parish.

In bell-ringing circles, David was one of the national experts, serving for many years on the Central Council

of Church Bell Ringers. Under his captaincy, the Sherston Tower was the pre-eminent band in the locality, many times winning the district ringing competition. Despite his expertise he was always very approachable and helpful to those less gifted than he. His tuition and guidance were always appreciated and valued by all who he came into contact with. As a measure of that respect, peals (a continuous ring lasting three hours) and many quarter peals have been accomplished in the Chippenham area, in Guernsey, Isle of Wight and throughout Hampshire dedicated to his memory. David himself rang 1,000 quarter peals and 159 full peals.

We are grateful to David for his contribution to the Sherston band and send Anne and all the family our thanks and best wishes.



Uni-Sex Hair Salon and Beauty Salon
Sherston 01666 840840

Tuesdays - Saturdays
Late Opening and Reduced Rates for
Senior Citizens on Thursdays

For all your Hair & Beauty
Treatments

Appointments not always necessary
please call in

MATRIX

BIOLAGE

Lumley Garden & Pet Supplies

Stainsbridge Mill, Gloucester Road, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 0AJ

Tel: 01666 822325 E-mail: etlumley@googlemail.com

www.lumleypetsupplies.com



✱ Top Leading Brands of Food & Treats ✱

✱ Our Own Label Premium Dog Food ✱

✱ Bowls, Toys & Accessories ✱

✱ Beds & Cushions ✱

✱ Wild Bird Food & Products inc. Live Food ✱

" for you and your pet's every need. "

Delivery Service Available

New Sherston School playground games are on!

It was only a few weeks ago that the Friends of Sherston School (FSS) team, parents and pupils were busy setting up the annual Christmas Fair.

On Friday 6 December, Sherston Primary School was buzzing, and the money was rolling in – thanks to a huge team effort. As always, the Wii room, tombola, refreshments and face-painting stalls were a huge success, the queue to see Father Christmas was unending and some Y4/5/6 pupils ran their own stalls, including a treasure hunt, chess game, name the teddy, honeycomb, reindeer olympics and cuddly toys. And the outcome? A massive £900! Thank you everyone for your support.



The aim of the fair was to raise money to replace the markings in the playground. The current markings are eight years old and fading fast. There are supposed to be numbers and colours on many of them so that the children can use them to play games. If you take a look on Google earth, you can see them as they used to be when the school was built!

FSS Chair Fi Picton explained that a team of parents tried to re-paint the playground with tough emulsion last summer, but the paint vanished within weeks! She added: 'We are looking into the option of thermoplastic markings which will last at least ten years. The site is very weather-exposed which means



that any new playground markings or equipment has to be tough to withstand the wind and rain!'

Thanks to money raised through the POP weekend, the games shed has already been built and will soon be filled with playground games and sports equipment.

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Christmas Fair, and all the local businesses who donated produce and services for the raffle. So, on our Christmas Fair 'thank you' list are:

- Tinline Products
- The Rattlebone
- beauty@home
- Debenhams (Bristol)
- Bath Bridge Barber (Tetbury)
- Jesse Smith Butchers (Tetbury)
- Wentworth Jigsaws
- McTimoney Chiropractic, Tolsey Surgery
- Sherston Sausage Company
- @ Bristol
- Apples & Pairs

Looking for a 2014 diary ?

You can't do much better than the Wiltshire Air Ambulance diary - only £3 and for a fantastic cause. On sale in the post office now.



CARRIERS FARM
BED & BREAKFAST

Nestled in pastureland on the outskirts of Sherston.
Three lovely double, en-suite rooms.
Separate from main house.



enjoyEngland.com

Luckington Road, Sherston.
01666 841445
www.carriersfarm.co.uk
info@carriersfarm.co.uk



VisitEngland



Computer Problems?

Home or Business Support

We Come To You !

Fast Service, PC & Laptop Repairs, Virus Removal, Data Recovery
Wireless Networks, Broadband & Email Setup, Security and Parental Control,
Hardware and Software Sales. Microsoft Qualified, Local & Friendly.

Silverchart Systems Ltd

www.silverchart.co.uk

CALL US NOW !

01666 840531

office@silverchart.co.uk

Get your spray-on trousers and cardi ready: the FSS Grease Night is coming!



Is 'Grease' the word? The word that you heard?
Does it have a groove, or a meaning? (Come on, the lyrics are embedded in there somewhere folks ...)
Is Grease the time? (YES, 8.00pm, 8 March.)
And the place? (Erm, the village hall, of course.)
And the motion? (Entirely up to you!)
Is Grease the way you're feeling? (We'll see what transpires – bar staffed entirely by Friends of Sherston School (FSS))

Boules News!

The 2014 Sherston Boules Day will take place on Saturday 12 July. Registration for the Boules competition will open in early February and we aim to have the draw made and competitors notified by Easter, in time for everybody to finalise their summer holiday plans. More details on how to register a team will be given in the next issue of Cliffhanger.



City of Bath Bach Choir

Calling all singers for a chance to sing Handel's Messiah.

Do you sing with a choir, or want to experience it for a day? Why not come to the City of Bath Bach Choir's annual singers workshop on Saturday 25 January, 9.30am to 5.00pm, St Michael's Without, Bath. This is a great and very sociable day out and an opportunity to work with the inspirational choral conductor Nigel Perrin. Katie Taylor from Sherston is a regular singer with the City of Bath Bach choir and would be happy to lift share/look after anyone not wanting to go alone. In this year's workshop you would be studying Handel's Messiah – probably one of the best-known works in the choral repertoire. The day's workshop will finish with a cameo performance.

Tickets £20 plus score hire £2. For more information contact Katie Taylor on 840087 or email workshops@bathbachchoir.org.uk

Handel's Messiah - concert in Bath Abbey

The City of Bath Bach Choir will give a full performance of Handel's Messiah, with top-class soloists and orchestra, on Saturday 22 March in Bath Abbey. Tickets from £8, available through Katie Taylor on 840087, Bath Box Office 01225 463 362 or bathboxoffice.org.uk

5★ holiday cottage
Lantern House -
Sherston



*family & friends
visiting?*

flexible week & short break
rentals

For more details & bookings

tel: 01666 505807

mob: 07900 656498

email: lanternhouse@cotswolds.plus.com

website: www.cotswolds.plus.com



R&B

VEHICLE SERVICES

Est. 10 years




01454 238700

REPAIRS, SERVICING
DIAGNOSTICS, BATTERIES
TYRES, EXHAUSTS
FOR CAR, 4 X 4 & LIGHT VANS

FREE LOAN CARS AVAILABLE
YOU CAN NOW BOOK YOUR MOT
ONLINE AT
www.mottetbury.co.uk

COST EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE AT A FRACTION OF DEALER PRICES
CALL RICHARD OR BEN FOR FRIENDLY, RELIABLE SERVICE



BAY 4 KNOCKDOWN
1 MILE FROM WESTONBIRT ARBORETUM

Walk on the wild side

Of mumurations, amnesties and joiners

We are now in deep winter, with many birds spending the winter here or changing their behaviour. Our native goldcrest is the smallest bird that is here all year round (see photo taken on a copse on the Cliff) and weighs half the weight of one-pound coin. (A pound coin weighs about 9 grams while a goldcrest weighs about 5g - just pick up a coin ...) What's even more amazing is that the goldcrest is joined by a close relative - the firecrest - which migrates here, although some do breed here. Can you imagine a bird weighing half the weight of a pound coin flying hundreds of miles?!

Our local population of starlings are joined by others migrating from parts of northern Europe. In mid-December, a couple of people made me aware that we had our very own mumuration of starlings. As you may have seen on wildlife programmes, starlings can gather together to form huge flocks that whoosh around the sky just before they roost at dark and form fantastic patterns. Sherston has (or had - as they may have moved since mid-December) our very own near the vineyard on the back road to Brook End.

The amnesty in the title is about what's in my garage. A couple of years ago, I bought a number of nest boxes, many of which have been installed. I do, however, have two sitting in the garage which I will be putting up in Grove Wood. If anyone has unwanted nest boxes, would you let us put them up in the wood?

This brings me to the final point. Barn owls are under significant pressure because of limited food supply at certain times of the year but also due to a lack of nesting sites. Is there anyone willing, with reasonable joinery skills, to build a nest box for barn owls? I have some of the material and can supply the design - and I am sure any other material can be



scrounged from around the village. The nest box is a bit bigger than a tea chest (for those who remember this endangered species!) and would need to be ready by the end of January to be installed in the wood. It could make a great project for these long winter evenings! Please let me know on 840995 or geoff_carss@hotmail.com.

Geoff Carrs

For the Widest Range of Bedding,

Hanging Basket & Patio Plants in the Area

FOXLEY ROAD NURSERIES

Herbaceous Perennials & Alpines

Vegetable and Herb Plants



Foxley Road, Malmesbury

Tel: 822171 www.foxleyroadnurseries.co.uk



The Baraka Catering Company Ltd.
www.barakacatering.co.uk



Catering for ALL events large & small
Delicious Homemade Canapés
Supper Parties
Gourmet Barbeques
Weddings, Birthdays & Christenings

Please don't hesitate to call Camilla on 07734 251 075
Or email camilla@barakacatering.co.uk
with any orders, questions etc.

精氣神

Acupuncturist

Julia Tully

BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), Lic.Ac, MBAC.

Now has a clinic
in Sherston.
For further information
or for a consultation,
please call

07811 437633

www.juliatully.co.uk

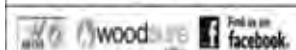
Guaranteed seasoned
logs and more...

Friendly and reliable local supplier

01453 808330

or buy online at www.elcombefirewood.co.uk

**Elcombe
Firewood**



Precept 2014/5

Setting the precept for the next financial year has proved a difficult task not only for Sherston parish council but also for many other parish and town councils throughout the county and indeed the country as a whole.

Following an earlier decision by the Coalition Government which affected the calculation of council tax grants to local authorities the amount raised in April 2013 by the parish council through the precept for 2013/4 was reduced by £1,480. Fortunately Wiltshire Council made up the shortfall with a grant which ensured that no increase in the total precept figure had to be made for payment by parish council taxpayers. For 2014/5 however this grant has been reduced to £962 and the likelihood is that future grants will be reduced in line with the anticipated fall in receipts to Wiltshire Council from central government. Clearly this has implications for the future precept level of the parish.

Sherston's current financial position is sound but we do need to increase the precept to ensure that we can not only meet the reduced grant situation but also continue to provide a good level of services whilst at the same time maintaining a prudent level of reserves. In recent years Sherston's precept has been quite stable; it increased to £21,400 in 2008/9 and then to £22,400 in 2009/10 with no further rises until now.

Taking all these factors into account the council is therefore proposing a precept of £25,747 for 2014/5, which is an increase in the Band D council tax charge from £31.42 to £36.46. Council does not expect any more increases in the foreseeable future and considers that the increased annual amount per Band D household of about £5 for the year is acceptable.

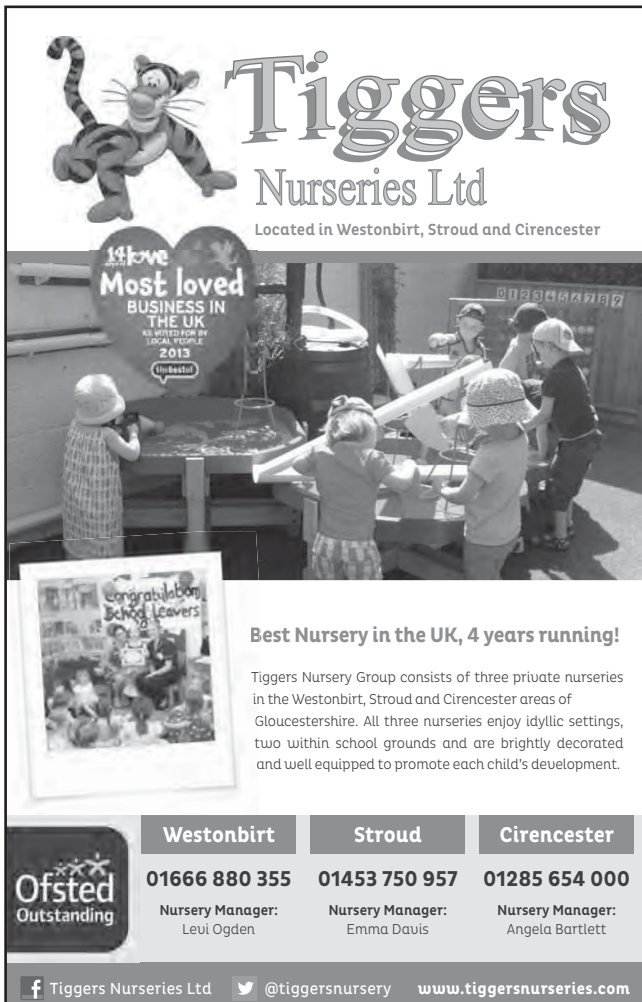
The precept for the next financial year has to be agreed and submitted to Wiltshire Council by 21 January. The precept will be discussed and finalised at the next parish council meeting on 9 January.

Sherston 1016 Fireworks

Well the skies cleared in time for last year's display at Lower Easton Farm which was very well attended indeed. The rain did return towards the end but couldn't dampen everyone's enthusiasm.

Sherston 1016 are very grateful to all those who make this such a great event in so many ways – providing the venue, electricity and water, skip, horse box to keep the pyrotechnics dry, music system, ticket sales, stewards, first aiders ...the list goes on and on!

Our other by now very regular displays at Didmarton and Westonbirt were also very successful. We really look forward to getting around these venues. We always receive such a warm welcomes and thoroughly enjoy meeting up with friends old and new. See you all again in November!



Tiggers Nurseries Ltd
Located in Westonbirt, Stroud and Cirencester

Most loved BUSINESS IN THE UK
AS VOTED FOR BY LOCAL PEOPLE
2013

Best Nursery in the UK, 4 years running!

Tiggers Nursery Group consists of three private nurseries in the Westonbirt, Stroud and Cirencester areas of Gloucestershire. All three nurseries enjoy idyllic settings, two within school grounds and are brightly decorated and well equipped to promote each child's development.

Westonbirt	Stroud	Cirencester
01666 880 355	01453 750 957	01285 654 000
Nursery Manager: Levi Ogden	Nursery Manager: Emma Davis	Nursery Manager: Angela Bartlett

Ofsted Outstanding

f Tiggers Nurseries Ltd @tiggersnursery www.tiggersnurseries.com



Allington Bar Farm,
Chippenham, SN14 6LJ
Tel: 01249 658112

Open 7 days 9am – 6pm
Mon – Sat
& 10am – 5pm on Sundays.

Quality Local Produce

Home produced Pork, Lamb, Beef & Goat
Home Made Sausages & Burgers
Local Free Range Poultry
All available daily from our Butchery

Locally made Preserves, Chutneys & Pickles

Somerset Jersey Organic Milk & Cream
Local Cheeses & Home Cooked Meats
Extensive range of local Ice Cream
Locally Grown Fresh Fruit & Vegetables
Homemade Cakes & Pies
and many more local ingredients

A year in the life of Busy Hands



As many of you know, our village hall houses our local pre-school - Busy Hands. It is a vital part of our local community but unless you have a little one there you probably don't get to see how four walls can be transformed. Each day at Busy Hands is different and if you walked in you would see, among other things, messy play stations, our role play area, craft tables, the computer area, water play – and that's just inside! We thought it might be fun to share a few photos and stories from the past year to give everyone a glimpse of what we love to do...

The start of 2013 brought snow and a lot of it! Whatever the weather we go outside, so we made toboggans from cardboard boxes, created snow angels and snowmen, tracked animal footprints in the snow and made them food. The children took great care to check back every day to make sure it was eaten.

In February, we welcomed Dave Shepherd with his trumpet and the children formed their very own band – The Little Village People! Our role-play area changes every week so at the end of the month we built an African mud hut using our climbing frame. African instruments and clothes came in as well, helping us to connect to our link school in the Gambia – a really interactive way of learning about other cultures. During the course of the year we stay in touch with them with photos and stories and they send the same over to us. It is a great achievement for a small village pre-school

like ours to be able to reach out internationally. Thanks must go to Lara Farahar and her mum.

March was St David's Day, with daffodil making, colour and number walks. World Book Day brought one of our parents in to read to the children in French and there were bug hunts, junk modelling and sewing to name just a few things!



Spring arrived in April, when warmer weather saw the start of PE Lessons. The role-play area on road safety was also very popular, especially after our visit from the road safety officer. The children transformed the play area into road routes and zebra crossings for cars and trikes.

In May, we had an animated talk by equestrienne vet Peter Ravenhill. He brought in a horse skeleton, which fascinated the children who all enjoyed counting the horse's teeth. During the month we also looked at measurement, starting with weights and experiments about floating and sinking. A lot of splashy fun!

With the arrival of a glorious summer, June was action-packed, kicking off with a healthy eating lunchbox competition. Then the camping season opened in our wonderful new outside area, including

MARY DERRICK SWIMMING LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

AT WESTONBIRT SPORTS CENTRE

NOW OFFERING LESSONS MON, TUES, WED & THURSDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

We have classes for all abilities:-

Pre-school classes (3-5years) have the teacher in the water, parents do not have to get in unless necessary!

Beginners classes have the teacher in the water. Two levels of improver classes & also lane swimming for advanced improvers.

All teachers are fully qualified & crb checked. We follow the asa award scheme & have termly "badge nights" for distance awards. We also run personal survival classes, bronze, silver & gold challenge awards & also rookie lifeguard courses. Holiday courses also available.

All lessons run half termly & are ongoing so no need to keep booking in every term!

TEL. 01666 841133 or 077 144 252 01

WE HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE MALMESBURY AREA FOR 20 YEARS
ASA SWIM SCHOOL MEMBER

www.maryderrickswimming.com

Foot Health Care

www.foot-health-care.co.uk

**Corns - Nail Trimming - Verrucae - Hard Skin
Athlete's Foot - Ingrown Toenails - Nail Infections
Cracked Heels (Fissures)**

Sina Ohms MCP/HP MAFHP

Foot Health Practitioner

Home Visits

Tel: 01666 838683

Mob: 07593 324 128

Clinics available at:

**Corsham Chiropractic
Clinic**
(87 Pickwick Road)

**The Oxford Practice
Malmesbury**
(5 Oxford Street)

**The Chippenham Natural
Therapy Centre**
(above the Lodge Surgery)

Tel: 01249 716 683

Tel: 01666 824 560

Tel: 01249 443 390



With the sun still shining it was time for Sports Day in July on the green grass of Baker Thompson's field. Egg and spoon, relay, trike and the walking backwards race were all great fun. Our strong links with Sherston Primary School also meant the children visited the reception classroom in the school and Miss Willoughby very kindly popped by several times to say hello to the new starters.

The new term began in September, with messy play the order of the day – covering everything from jelly to gloop both inside and out. We then had a fun week baking with our very own baker's shop and a visit to Tuck's Farm Shop to buy bread. We set up our own café and visited the church café for a yummy snack.

Foxley Plumbing & Heating

Oil Boiler Installation, Servicing and Repairs
Oil Tank Replacement
Heating Installation and Repairs
Bathroom Installations
Unvented Cylinder Systems
No Job Too Small

Tim Hibbard

Malmesbury (01666) 822863

Mobile 07966 462202

Email foxleyph@btinternet.com



The children also got involved in the POP-UP village event and made a fabulous window display for the post office (thanks Paul and Gail!).

Through October and November we played builders, went on an environmental sound walk, enjoyed a hibernation week, celebrated Diwali, dressed up in our PJ's for Children In Need and made firework paintings. As the year came to its end we created a shoe shop role-play and visited a real one down at Apples and Pairs. The Emergency Services and our local Policeman came to visit and let us loose in a real police car with a blast of the sirens.

We wrapped everything up with our wonderful end of year nativity with all the children putting on an amazing show for their proud parents. Another great year and it's a huge thank you to our wonderful team for all their hard work and care in making it happen.

That's just a little taster of an action-packed year at Busy Hands. For parents who are just starting to think about their child's pre school we would love to show you around. Or if you live in Sherston and have a special skill that you would like to share with the children (perhaps you play an instrument or can read a story in another language?), it would be lovely to have you to visit. We are rated outstanding by Ofsted but first and foremost we are a friendly local village pre-school that loves our parents and local community to be involved.

DJ. HICKS ANTIQU FURNITURE

SALES, RESTORATION & UPHOLSTERY
Unit 1a Warren Business Park, Knockdown
Nr Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QY

Tel: 01454 238004

Mobile: 07889 655152

Email: djhicksantiques@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.djhicksantiquefurniture.co.uk

THE
VINE TREE



Tel: 01666 837654

www.thevinetree.co.uk

Happy and Prosperous New Year!

**JANUARY BLUES? BLOW THEM AWAY
WITH OUR TEMPTING OFFERS!**

By Popular Demand our KILO of Fresh Cornish

MOULES & FRITES - only £9.95!

Continues EVERY TUESDAY

BOEUF BOURGUIGNONNE &

A GLASS OF RED - also only £9.95
available every lunchtime!

People encouraged to keep warm this winter

Vulnerable and elderly residents in Wiltshire can access financial support and practical advice on how to keep warm this winter. Wiltshire Council is supporting a charity which gives out grants of up to £200 to residents who spend significant amounts on heating their homes. The council is also funding a free advice service which reminds people of practical things they can do to keep heat in their homes.

The Surviving Winter Fund is administered by the Community Foundation and provides grants for older people who spend on average 10 percent of their income on fuel during the cold winter months. Wiltshire Council's contribution to the fund will go to Wiltshire residents who can apply for up to £200 to heat their homes in the cold weather.

This winter, as in previous years, Wiltshire Council is also one of nine local authorities funding Severn Wye Energy to provide free, impartial and local energy advice on the Warm and Well advice line on:

- Simple changes in the home to reduce energy consumption or cut bills
- Grants, loans or other forms of funding available for energy improvements

Beautiful two bedroom holiday cottage for rent in Cornwall

The Boathouse is an idyllic cottage on the spectacular Fowey River Estuary, just two miles from Fowey and a step away from the water's edge.

A converted boathouse and lime kiln, the cottage is one of the oldest buildings in the picturesque village of Golant.

Comfortable and welcoming with magnificent views across the river, there is a log fire for cosy winter holidays and a private terrace ideal for spring and summer barbecues.

Sleeps Four + Cot

Please see the website for full details:
www.theboathousecornwall.co.uk/

or alternatively call / email

+44 (0)7980 014 471

info@theboathousecornwall.co.uk

- Understanding energy bills or help with changing suppliers
- Signposting to other organisations which can offer advice

Information about grants can be found at Age UK and Citizens Advice Bureau offices or on the Surviving Winter website. Warm and Well can be contacted by phone on 0800 500 30 76, by texting WARM to 83010 or visiting the warm and well website

Tips for keeping warm over the winter:

- Keep internal doors closed to stop draughts
- Have at least one hot meal and hot drinks throughout the day
- Layer up - many layers of clothing are best
- Close curtains at dusk
- Ensure your heating is 21°C in your home
- Keep your heating on overnight

RUPERTBARKER
Creative family photography



01666 824143

07787 135977

rupert@rupertbarker.com

www.rupertbarker.com

PEOPLE PHOTOGRAPHER

Gauzebrook Advent choir attracts special interest

A choir of enthusiastic, if (in some cases) somewhat inexperienced, singers came together from all over the Gauzebrook group to sing at the Advent Service of Light in Sherston church. With much warmth and encouragement from their director, Katherine Bennett, organist at Luckington church, they learnt three unaccompanied pieces which were performed during the service, as well as joining with the congregation to sing several well-known Advent hymns. A series of readings prepared people for the beginning of Advent, a time when Christians await the birth of Christ at Christmas time. Mulled wine and mince pies after the service completed the occasion.

Michael Graves, who lives in Hullavington, produces the newsletter of the Peter Warlock Society. He was interested to hear that the choir was to sing a piece by Warlock, a 20th century English composer. He came to the service and has written an article for the next edition of the Society's newsletter, part of which is included here with his permission:

NEWSLETTER No 94 – SPRING 2014

Amateur church choirs and Warlock's choral music

Michael Graves takes his hat off to all those choirs around the country who are brave enough to take on Warlock's choral music.

St Mary Magdalene church in my village of Hullavington, Wiltshire, is one of nine in the Gauzebrook Group of Churches. Some months back an appeal was issued for singers across the nine churches to come forward in order to form an 'Advent choir' specifically to sing at a joint Advent service to be held in the Church of the Holy Cross in Sherston on the first Sunday in December 2013. The resulting choir had a few singers with experience, but most were not very experienced, indeed some choir members did not even read music. Nevertheless, the director of the choir, Katherine Bennett,

made the courageous decision to include Warlock's Adam Lay Y Bounden in the service.

I had heard that some choir members were, understandably, finding the piece difficult, but I was pleasantly surprised when I heard their performance. Yes, it was slightly rough round the edges in places, but it was essentially there and it sounded joyful. The choir certainly succeeded in that most important aspect of any performance – it sounded musical!

We all know that there are many amateur choirs around the country that achieve remarkably high standards of performance. There are also small choirs, often church choirs, where the members sing for the sheer joy of singing. It is so encouraging to think that up and down the country there are choirs, like the Gauzebrook choir, that are pushing themselves and rising to the challenge of performing difficult, but manageable works.



Choir director Katherine Bennett (far left) with the Gauzebrook Group of Churches' Advent Choir in the Church of the Holy Cross, Sherston, Wiltshire.

Sue Robinson

Churchwarden, Holy Cross Church, Sherston

Ofsted
Outstanding
2010/2011


Sherston
Busy Hands
 Pre-School

9.10am-12.10pm everyday in the Village Hall...
Now with Lunch Club until 1pm Monday to Friday

Age 2 3/4 - 5 years
New outdoor free flow play area
Come along for a taster session!

call us on 07841 571943 or 01666 841062
email us on chair@sherstonbusyhands.org.uk
visit us at www.sherstonbusyhands.org.uk

Registered charity no. 296903

BRIDGES COURT BED AND BREAKFAST LUCKINGTON

Ensuite double rooms
with TVs and tea/coffee making facilities
English breakfast

Beautiful walled garden
Croquet lawn Swimming pool

Tel: 01666 840215 / 07711816839
www.bridgescourt.co.uk

More pics from Prince Charles' visit

Photographs by Nick Holland





Sherston Village Hall 300+ Club

Have you renewed your subscription?

If not, and you would like to, please complete the form that your collector has left, and return it to the post office before the end of January.

If you are unsure as to whether you have paid, or need another form, please call me on 840846.

If you are not a member and would like to join, application forms are available at the post office.

Thank you for your support.

Village hall 300+ club

November 2013 Draw

1st	327	Lynda Robbins	£12
2nd	210	Jenny Verard	£11
3rd	276	Judy Mackison	£10
4th	168	Charles Price	£9
5th	17	Carol Gray	£8
6th	205	Pat Crombie	£7
7th	138	Sheila James	£6
8th	316	Stan Bunce	£5

Christmas Bonuses

300	Ann Lyall	£10
121	Marion Outlaw	£10
165	Viv Hibbard	£10
299	Harry Lyall	£10

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

Lin Prior, Coordinator
Sherston Village Hall 300+ Club

GILLIAN NOBLE

THE CURTAIN WORKROOM

CURTAINS AND SOFT FURNISHINGS
TRADITIONALLY MADE AND FITTED

Holly House 24 Easton Town Sherston Wiltshire SN16 0LS
T: 01666 840364 M: 07760 142 666
gillynoble@btinternet.com

Sherston Occasional Community Choir (SHOCC)

SHOCC will be starting the new term of ten sessions on 22 January. Do come along to the British School Room on a Wednesday evening at 7.00pm to sing a variety of music. The fee per session is £3, payable as a sum of £30.

A short AGM will be held at the start of the meeting on 29 January to which everyone is invited. For further information contact Lucy Lawrance on 840778 or Jill Woodward 840578.

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

PROFESSIONAL DOG WALKING AND MINDING SERVICE

- Bespoke service for you & your dog
- Knowledgeable in canine first aid, training and obedience
- Experience in handling both large & small dogs
- Group or individual walks available
- Fully insured in all aspects of dog care
- Established & recommended for 6 years

Animal Minding Service also available for cats & domestic pets. Animals are happier & more secure in their own environment. Daily visits provided to include feeding, grooming, tlc & medication if required

Please call Sophie Francis on 01666 840538 or 07531 057016

References available on request

Andrew James

QUALITY TRAVEL



CABOT CIRCUS

SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 2014

Adult: £8.00 Senior: £7.00 Child: £6.00

Join us for the January sales. Bristol's Cabot Circus offers the ultimate shopping experience, bringing together a host of high-street and designer brands. With more than 120 stores stocking the latest trends, Cabot Circus has something for every taste including a four-storey flagship House of Fraser.

Whether your passion is shopping or architecture, eating out or just meeting friends, this day out will cater for all.

Tetbury 09:00 Malmesbury 09:20 Sherston 09:40

Return 16:00

FOR INFORMATION ON FAMILY DISCOUNTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.

Telephone: 01666 825655
Email: ajcoaches@andrew-james.co.uk Website: andrew-james.co.uk

THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Our 'Merry Mangold Christmas!' card certainly seems to have met with the approval of many who received it including no less than the Mayor of Malmesbury who held it proudly aloft for all to see at the full December meeting of the Town Council. Fame indeed. Perhaps



the Town Council could provide funding facilities to allow the revival of the once legendary Ancient Order of Malmesbury Mangold Hurlers? A team could then be despatched post haste to October's Hurl in an attempt to retrieve some much needed kudos for the recently defrocked 'Oldest Borough in England'. From a recent article in that most illustrious, and very well worth the £1 cover price, organ 'The Jackdaw' it now seems that Sherston's own borough status is older

and certainly more genuine than that of Malmesbury.

The recent visit of HRH the Prince of Wales to Sherston was without doubt a most magnificent and splendid affair much enjoyed by many a hurler who were present in great numbers amongst the assembled High Street throng. The chants of 'Ee' beplaced! brought a wry if somewhat perplexed smile to the face of His Highness. Whilst the Order's members themselves were not deemed to be sufficiently 'great and good' to be part of the official welcoming party a packet of 'Yellow Eckendorf' mangold seeds had been carefully secreted away under the very noses of the Royal Protection Squad in the hamper presented to the Prince to mark his visit. Within a matter of days the Order was contacted by an official from Highgrove requesting full planting and growing instructions. It seems that with good luck and a good growing season ahead we may well be hurling Royal Mangolds this coming October...

Yarp!

The Keeper the Quill



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



Optimum Mobility

of Malmesbury



Also walking aids, bathing & household aids

The Old Dairy, Pinkney Park, Near Sherston

01666 840060

www.optimummobility.co.uk

Aquarias Spa at Whatley Manor introduces
'beyond organic' ila facials – New Year Spa Day Offer



£110 (usually £148) includes a sixty minute ila Ananda facial. This deeply relaxing and nurturing face treatment restores the skins lustrous natural radiance using 'beyond organic' pure Damascena rose products suitable for all skin types.

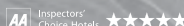
Full use of the spa and gym facilities are also included. A luxury robe, towels and slippers are provided for your comfort and a light lunch will be served in the spa lounge.

The ila spa day offer is available Monday to Thursday from 9.00am to 5.00pm and from January 7th to January 30th 2014. The offer cannot be exchanged for any other treatments and is subject to availability.

Call Aquarias on 01666 827 070 or email aquarias@whatleymanor.com quoting 'Sherston Cliffhanger'



Whatley Manor Hotel & Spa Easton Grey Malmesbury Wiltshire SN16 0RB
www.whatleymanor.com



BALCONY HOUSE CELLARS

The Old School, High Street, Sherston SN16 6LL

The UK's largest selection of wines from South West France from £4.99.

Over 200 vintage wines from Bordeaux, Rioja and Port from the 1930's to 2000. We specialise in stocking and sourcing wines for presents and special occasions including large formats.

Range of regional foods from France, Italy and the UK.

Open evenings, weekends and bank holidays.

Tuesday to Friday	5pm-8pm
Saturday	10am-8pm
Sunday	12am-4pm

Free

- Local delivery for 6 bottles and over.
- Menu advice.
- Wine search and sourcing.
- Valuations and purchase, or commission based sale of good quality vintage wines.

We also hold private or corporate wine and food tastings for 4-40 people. Why not have a private tasting dinner party at your house?

For telephone orders and specialist advice please call Neil on 07976 776359.

www.balconyhousecellars.com

News from Holy Cross church

The Advent Service of Light was a great success, capturing beautifully the expectant atmosphere of the season as the choir sang the antiphons in the porch and then processed in to 'O come, O come Emmanuel'. A truly Gauzebrook choir, representing several of our parishes, they sang well several pieces, including 'Adam lay ybounden', which resulted in a write-up in the journal of the Peter Warlock Society (see page 15). Thank you to Katherine Bennett who rehearsed the choir and shared the organ playing with Richard Creed, who was thereby able to be a soloist alongside John Morgan.

By the time you read this, we should have held all our Christmas services, and I'd like to thank all those who play a part in making them possible, particularly the behind-the-scenes work that goes on cleaning, preparing and beautifying the church.

For a large number of people Christmas isn't really Christmas without a carol service. Many of us though, while we enjoy the festivities and the symbolism, may still have a lot of questions: did it really happen just like the story? Does it make a difference today? If Jesus came to bring peace on earth, why is there so much suffering?

This is why the Gauzebrook churches have decided to run the Alpha course in the New Year. The Alpha Course - 'explore the meaning of life' - has given millions of people worldwide the opportunity to explore, question and discuss what the Christian faith is really all about and whether or not they believe it.

We will be running daytime and evening courses during January and February. The evening course will be on Wednesdays from 7.30pm starting on 8 January and ending on 28 February. Please contact the Vicar, Rev'd Christopher Bryan on 837522 or christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com or Henny Metters on 837778 for more information.

Finally, congratulations to the TOAST youth group who raised about £200 for the DEC Philippines appeal by rowing 20km in two hours - on a rowing machine. Thanks to all who sponsored them!

C.J.GOUGH

PAINTER &
DECORATOR

41 The Tarters,
Sherston,
Malmesbury,
Wiltshire
SN16 0NT

Telephone:
01666 841003

MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

WILL UNDERTAKE
ALL HOUSE/GARDEN
MAINTENANCE
NO JOB TOO SMALL

From
CUTTING HEDGES,
WEEDING THE GARDEN
& CUTTING DOWN TREES
To
PAINTING & SMALL JOBS
IN THE HOUSE

ALL MACHINERY PROVIDED
- LOG SPLITTER AVAILABLE

01666 825463

What do they actually do at Holy Cross Church?

You may have heard that Holy Cross Church members had an away day on 2 November, to think about what we do now and the vision we have for the future of the church in Sherston. You may also have heard that we went to Whatley Manor for our meeting. Yes, it's true but no, we were not wasting the church's resources! For a second time in the last three years, Whatley Manor generously allowed us the use of their conference facilities without charge (and lunch was paid for by the people who chose to attend).

Some church members have been disheartened to hear a view in the village that the church is becoming marginalised and has little to offer to the community. Well, look at the list we came up with of activities in which the church has been involved in the past year. There are the obvious religious ones, but so many other things as well:

- Three Sunday services, baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Services for special occasions such as Remembrance Sunday and Christmas, which attract enormous congregations
- Prayer on Saturday morning and Thursday morning once a month and on Wednesday mornings in term time. A prayer board where people can, and do, request prayers
- Mothers Union
- Church open every day with a visitors book showing how much this is appreciated

Sherston Auto Services



**M.O.T
Test Centre**



**Servicing & Repairs
Tyre Fitting and Wheel
Balancing
Diagnostic & Service Indicator
Reset**

All at competitive rates

Member of the Ford Blue Oval Club
Genuine Ford parts fitted

01666 840522

Unit 1, Lordswood Farm, Sherston, Malmesbury SN16 0JZ

**FREE COLLECTION & DELIVERY IN THE SHERSTON
AREA**

Courtesy cars available

All major credit cards accepted

OPEN:

**Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 1pm**

- Rotas of helpers to maintain the church and its services with a high level of community involvement
- Beautiful well-maintained church building
- Weekly flower arrangements in church and special flower festivals
- Well-maintained open churchyard with burials still taking place; place for the bereaved to grieve and find comfort
- Bell-ringing, organ and choral music
- Concerts
- Pastoral visits by clergy offering Home Communion and also to Senior Club and Clem's Club
- Rural Schools and Churches Worker, better known to many as Becky Fisher. What a huge amount she does and her role is fully-funded by the church – Mustard Seeds, Becky's Club at Sherston School, support for school RE teaching, holiday clubs, visits to Toddler Group and Pre-School, involvement in schools in the rest of Gauzebrook and the TOAST Gauzebrook Youth Group held in Hullavington and a whole lot more!
- Clergy support for School through assemblies and by working as a Foundation Governor
- Church members also run Open the Book and help pupils visit the church for a variety of activities
- Coffee Shop
- Good Neighbour Scheme to welcome newcomers and signpost sources of help
- Adult education – Foundations course about the

- basics of Christianity, Lent groups, the Alpha course
- Communication via Parish Life, Gauzebrook Gazette, Facebook, Twitter, webpage, Cliffhanger
- Little Lights pre-school group
- Family Fest
- Charitable giving – at least 10% of the Church's income each year – local and international causes - £2,000+
- The Anne Brayne Charity
- Friends of Sherston Church
- Christmas Bazaar
- Open Gardens Trail
- Living Churchyard

Church members have also supported the following village activities: Boules, Arts Festival, SherstonFest, WI, Macmillan Coffee Morning, pantomime, SHOCC, and Pop-up.

Did you realise that so much was going on through the efforts of your local church? We are motivated by our Christian beliefs to do these things and are glad to be able to join with our community to help make it a better place for everyone. We still have a lot to offer to Sherston.

Sue Robinson

Churchwarden, Holy Cross



Family Fest
Sherston Churches Together
 4th Sunday @ 4pm

In the British School Room

JANUARY 26th - CRAFT - WORSHIP - REFRESHMENTS
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !!
FAMILY MEAL AT 5.0 NOW PROVIDED
 Becky Fisher - becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk
 Bex Simpkins - rebeccasimpkins@btinternet.com



Varied times & types of Services monthly

Visitors & Observers	Very Welcome
1 st Sunday - 11.0am	For Believers: Sermon/Communion
2 nd Sunday - 11.0am	Remembrance Service-Holy Cross
3 rd Sunday - 3.0pm	"Why the Cross?" Questions & Reflections
4 th Sunday - 4.0pm - 5.30	"FAMILY FEST" - What it says on the tin!

SHERSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN THE BRITISH SCHOOLROOM

perfectly you

cosmetic injections

Treatments that help soften the fine lines and wrinkles on your face:

- Free personal consultation prior to undertaking any procedure
- Forehead lines, crows feet
- Lip lines, nasolabial folds
- Treatment for excessive underarm sweating (hyperhidrosis)

Dr Pip Pettit

BM FRCGP Aesthetic Practitioner, Sherston, Wiltshire

Tel: 0788 7582 233

www.perfectly-you-aesthetics.co.uk

PLEASE MENTION TO ADVERTISERS THAT YOU SAW THEIR ADVERT HERE FIRST

Doctor's Bag

The Tolsey Surgery - Judy Sharp Practice Manager

Happy new year to all our patients

Queen's Nurse Award

We are very proud to announce that Nurse Sue Alexander has been given the prestigious title of Queen's Nurse (QN) by community nursing charity The Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI).

The title is not an award for past service, but indicates a commitment to high standards of patient care, learning and leadership. Nurses who hold the title benefit from developmental workshops, bursaries, networking opportunities, and a shared professional identity.

Crystal Oldman, Chief Executive of the QNI said, 'Congratulations are due to Sue Alexander for her success. Community nurses operate in an ever more challenging world and our role is to support them as effectively as we can. The QN title is a key part of this and we would encourage other community nurses to apply.'

Are you a carer?

If you are offering practical, physical or emotional help to someone who could not manage without you, then please ask for a Carers' Pack at reception as carers need help and support too. There is more than one kind of carer. You don't necessarily have to care for

someone around the clock to be considered a carer.

We will be running special carers' clinics to ensure our carers receive the best possible care.

Email addresses

We are now collecting email addresses so that we have an alternative method to communicate with our patients. We will use email addresses to remind patients of appointments, regular check-ups and communicate other relevant information, such as the annual flu vaccination programme. We will not pass your email address to anyone outside the surgery for any reason whatsoever.

New at the Tolsey Surgery

We are very pleased to announce that Heather McKibbin from Physio Excellence will be working from the surgery from January 2014. We hope that making this service available to our patients locally will be very beneficial. Details are available at the surgery.

1016 Roadshow

On 25 January Sherston 1016's book sale travels to Malmesbury. Between 10.00am and 2.00pm at the Malmesbury Hub (formerly the Market /Old School Room) off Market Lane will be jam packed with thousands of books plus a selection of CDs and DVDs. All profits from the sale will go towards the costs of the Senior Citizens Christmas vouchers. If you're in Malmesbury on the day do pop in to the sale – you might even get a cuppa plus the obligatory natter!

Grittleton House School

An Independent Day School for boys & girls aged 2-16



Celebrating *60 Years* of Education
'To Strive is to Accomplish'



Please call for
Open Morning dates

For more information & details of Open Door
Days telephone **01249 782434**
www.grittletonhouseschool.org
5 mins J17 M4 - Transport available




A Holiday Club for Creative Minds
Children aged 5 to 11

Three day adventure starting February Half term 17th, 18th, 19th

9am-1pm	OR	9am-3pm
£20	Didmarton Village Hall	£30
Sibling Discount		

Contact Heather MacLeod on 07866 936471 or Lara Farahar on 07782 504128
www.creativecarousels.co.uk or Email us at info@creativecarousels.co.uk

Run by Qualified Teacher First Aid Trained CRB Checked Fully Insured

Enquire Create Imagine Investigate

HOW SCIENCE CRAFT HEALTHY SNACK PREPARED OUTDOOR INVESTIGATION DRAWING GAMES SPORTS AND MUCH MORE...



Personal Training Systems

Tues: 6.15-7.15 Westonbirt Leisure Centre
Tues: 7.30-8.30 Luckington Community School
Weds: 8.00-9.00 Tetbury Leisure Centre
Thur: 6.30-7.30 Luckington Village Hall

all classes £5.00 pay as you go, under 16's £3.00 -
for other class venues/times please visit www.pts4u.org.uk

Personal Training and Power-Plate available by appointment at the exclusive
one to one training studio in Pinkney Park.

For more information, or to book a complimentary Power-Plate session,
please call Ruth King: 07734 886275 or visit www.pts4u.org.uk

BE yourself only better!

The Honest Truth campaign



Students aged between 17 and 24 will soon take part in a driving campaign in a bid to reduce the number of young people killed or injured in car accidents.

Approved driving instructors in Wiltshire and Swindon will be delivering the campaign's eight key messages to students learning to drive, and explaining how these can influence and affect their driving.

The key messages the campaign, called The Honest Truth, promotes are not to speed; not to drive after drinking; not to drive while under the influence of

drugs; to not use mobile phones behind the wheel; for everyone in the car to wear seatbelts; to not show off behind the wheel; to make sure you're properly insured; and how to avoid getting distracted while driving.

On average, a young person is killed on UK roads every 18 hours, while another suffers a serious injury every 90 minutes.

Although 17 to 24 year olds only make up about 10 percent of the population but in recent years they have accounted for:

- Half of injury crashes between 10pm and 5am
- Over a third of people arrested by Police after failing a roadside breath test following a crash
- Half of crashes blamed on excess speed
- Half of crashes involving only one vehicle
- Nearly half of injury crashes in the rain

By the time 17 year olds start learning to drive they will already have received at least one major road safety campaign presentation. In Wiltshire the Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshow has already been shown to more than 45,000 teenagers over the age of 15.



Creative Hairdressing has fully qualified and experienced stylists in all hair lengths and styles, both modern and traditional.

Come and join us for that creative experience so we can create that individual look for you.

For more information or to book an appointment contact

Creative Hairdressing,
3 Market Place,
Tetbury,
01666 502949

www.creativehairdressing.co.uk



T H WHITE

In more fields than you imagine

**Gardening Equipment, Country Clothing,
Safety Footwear, Animal Feeds,
Household Cleaning Products
Britans Toys, Tools and Ironmongery.**

Open to Trade and General Public

Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 5.30pm
Saturday 8.00 am to 12.00 Noon

**Wishing all our
Customers a
Happy New Year
for 2014**

**JANUARY SALE
15% DISCOUNT ON
SELECTED LINES**

Sherston Works, Knockdown, Nr Tetbury, Glos. GL8 8QY
On the A433 between Tetbury & Didmarton

Tel: 01454 238181 Fax: 01454 238772
www.thwhite.co.uk

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society (MAMS)

MAMS would like to announce its wonderfully varied programme for 2014.

The season will get off to an exciting start on Saturday 8 February with Classic Rhythm, playing an eclectic mix of melodic music. This fine and unique ensemble of flute, piano and percussion will play Glinka's Russian and Ludmilla Overture, Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite, Beethoven's Adagio from the Pathétique Sonata, Adrain Sutcliffe's The Emerald Isle and Jazz Suite, Ravel's Bolero, the traditional Ghanaian melody Yaa Yaa Kole, V. Monti's Czaraas and Bernstein's West Side Story.

On Saturday 8 March, Sergei Podobedov, the world class Russian-born pianist, will take our breath away with a programme of Chopin, Schubert, Liszt and Prokofiev.

Next up, on Saturday 3 May, will be Café Mozart, who specialise in performing chamber music of the

18th century on period instruments. They will delight us with a selection of songs and instrumental music.

Then on 7 June we are delighted to welcome the celebrated Hungarian-born guitar duo, The Katona Twins, to Malmesbury Abbey for the very first time. They will thrill us with their magnificent playing, and their programme will include music by Boccherini, JS Bach, Mangore, Bizet, Handel, Rodrigo and by themselves too. This is a marvellous opportunity for all our budding local guitarists to come and be inspired by a guitar duo of the very highest calibre!

Saturday 20 September will see the Bradford Baroque Band, a ten-piece band, entertain us with Telemann and Bach and then Matthew Owens, the organist from Wells Cathedral will bring the season to a grand finale on Wednesday 15 October.

Tickets for the concerts are priced at £12, or £5 for students, and can be obtained from the Abbey Bookshop or the MAMS Ticket Secretary David Barton on 824924, email d.barton763@btinternet.com. Season tickets are also available for only £55.

Prestige Computer Services Ltd

Computer Systems Sales and Repair

- Over 28 Years Experience
- PC Laptop & MAC Computer Systems
- New XP PRO Vista Win 7 & Mac Systems
- Slow and Sluggish Computers Made Fast Again
- Systems Up Grades & Software Installation
- Data Recovery
- Hard Drive Duplication
- Home and Office Service Calls
- Virus removal & Anti Virus Software Installation
- Broadband & Wireless Internet Connections
- Email Account & Access setup
- Free Off Road Customer Car Parking

Tel: 01666 824031 - 825620

Unit 4 Park Rd Centre Malmesbury SN16 0BX



A fun and stimulating environment!

Luckington Pre-School uses the renowned Montessori ethos of teaching to provide children with the best foundation for the future learning.

Open 5 mornings a week during term time, we offer care and education for children aged between 2 ¾ and 5 yrs. Afternoon sessions are also available in the summer term. For more information call Trish 01666 840028.

www.luckingtonpreschool.org.uk



M.Vincent Windows & Glazing

For all your glazing needs

Wiltshire & Gloucestershire areas
Fast, friendly and efficient service

Call for your FREE quotation
07890 138453 / 01666 460106
enquiries@mvincentwindows.co.uk
www.mvincentwindows.co.uk

Available at your convenience
7 days a week.



HMH CONTRACTING LTD

General Builders

Tel 01666 841412

Email info@hnhbs.co.uk

- *Extensions
- *New Builds
- *Kitchens
- *Bathrooms
- *Listed Buildings and Renovations
- *Architectural Design and Planning Service

COMPLETE BUILDING SOLUTIONS FROM START TO FINISH

In Association with Partridge Architectural Services 07833433872
Email drawings@partridgehouse.co.uk



McTimoney Chiropractic Tolsey Surgery, Sherston

A gentle & effective treatment for
back, neck & shoulder pain,
migraines, sports injuries & more

Emma Newby BSc MMCA
01666 841 402
www.mctimoneychiro.co.uk

Creative Carousel off to a good start

December saw the first two Creative Carousel events and, from the feedback we've had, they were a huge success. The aim was to enquire, create, imagine and investigate and here are some of the activities the children did:

- Enquire: The children explored nature through a scavenger hunt and nature walk outside.
- Create: We created cards, models, wreaths and new friends!
- Imagine: During the drama games we acted out games – 'The Incredible Itch' was a huge hit!

Investigate The children enjoyed becoming spies in a code-breaking activity and had fun dressing up and face-painting disguises in order to go incognito.

Have a look at our Facebook page and website www.creativecarousel.co.uk for information on our forthcoming events.



Noah's Ark Day Nursery

Providing a nurturing and stimulating environment for babies and children aged 3 months to pre-school.

Telephone: 01666 840105
E Mail: noahsarknursery@aol.com

NA Noble James Associates Ltd



Advice@noble-james.co.uk

www.noble-james.co.uk

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION



- INVESTMENTS
- RETIREMENT PLANNING
- MORTGAGES
- TAX PLANNING
- PROTECTION
- HOUSE/CAR INSURANCE

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE

**TEL STROUD (01453) 755567 or
Julian Law, 7 Manor Close, Sherston on
07866 000056**

AUTHORISED AND REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY

L.P. Electrical

Reliable & Friendly service

**Free Estimates for all your electrical needs
Domestic, Industrial and Commercial**

Safety checks, Rewires, Extensions, Extra lighting and sockets, Fault finding, Test and Inspecting, Fuse board replacements, etc

Fully insured and guaranteed
Over 11 years experience

Call Les on 07890 541492



STANTON COMPUTER SERVICES We come to you!

PC repairs

Upgrades

Installation of new hardware

Wired and wireless networking

Internet and email set up and coaching

Virus cleansing

Please call Nick Greene on 01666 837850

Mobile 07887 721396

Email: nick@computerfixer.org.uk

Need an electrician?

**DREAMSCAPE
electrical**

- Installations
- Rewires
- Faults & repairs
- Fusebox changes
- Additional lights & sockets



Tony Parfrey

01666 837580 07815 932197

23 The Parklands, Hullavington

www.dreamscape-electrical.co.uk

Sally Miles-Harris

Gifts for any special Occasion!

Email/Call or order online at:

www.hamper-house.co.uk

Hamper House

Gift Baskets/Hampers/Boxes

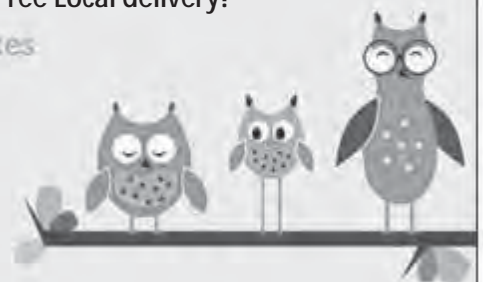
Free Local delivery!

Partridge House

Pinkney

01666841091

sally@partridgehouse.co.uk



Sherston Boules Day 2014 – Would you like to help make it happen?



Every year, Sherston tips tons of sand on to its High Street pavements for the oldest and biggest one-day Boules tournament in the UK and in 2014 this will be Saturday 12 July. Traffic is diverted for one day, the Union Jack and French Tricolour flutter together above more than 128 teams and countless spectators and revellers. Whilst the majority are local teams, the rest are prepared to travel from other European countries and even from as far away as Wales. The French and the Welsh have a great track record with several teams having carried the Sherston Cup back to their home towns and villages over the years. Many more go home empty-handed, but have often won the friendship of the locals and vow to return next time for another go. Sherston Boules and Carnival Committee will continue its long-standing commitment to distribute all the profits from Boules Day to local groups, charities and good causes. Since 1986, Sherston has given away around £225,000 from its Boules proceeds, an

impressive amount for a small community of fewer than 1,500 residents.

What is it that makes Sherston Boules Day so special apart from funding local groups? In addition to standards of play that would not disgrace top Gallic matches, there is live music and entertainment, craft and market stalls, children's activities in the KidsZone and a range of locally produced food and drink at pavement bars and cafés, not to mention Sunday's activities including the infamous Tug of War and the Duck Race followed by cream teas.

However, it takes quite a bit of organisation, work and time to put on the show. Should you feel you could help make this annual event happen and maybe you have radical ideas on how it can be improved, please contact Caroline on 841405 or email caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk for details of the kick off meeting due to be held in January. There are a few vacancies to fill and we are always on the look out for fresh ideas.



Planning

On occasion there can be some confusion as to the parish council's role concerning applications for planning permission.

Firstly residents should be aware that all planning decisions are made by Wiltshire Council and not the parish council. Accordingly if you wish to comment on an application to those who decide it you must do so directly to Wiltshire Council within the specified time.

The parish council is a statutory consultee in the planning process and is sent all applications within the parish upon which it can comment. If you wish to bring your own views on a planning application to the attention of the parish council prior to it considering the application at its monthly meeting these need to be sent to the Clerk to the council as soon as possible. The parish council has to keep to the same response times to Wiltshire Council as everyone else.

Residents should remember that they can also raise their comments on a particular application directly with their Wiltshire Councillor John Thomson – again within those all important time limits. Time is very much the key to have your voice properly heard.

lucy tom

HANDMADE CURTAINS, BLINDS AND HOME FURNISHING ACCESSORIES

We specialise in handmade curtains, blinds and interior accessories. A personal service is offered with home visits and free quotations.

We have a wide range of fabrics and wallpapers available to suit all budgets.

Curtains, roman blinds, cushions, throws, loose covers, headboards, curtain poles, tracks and anything else required.

826766
Mobile: 07813 877509 **Workshop:** 01666 880132
Email: contact@lucytom.com
Web: www.lucytom.com

SmallAds

WANTED

Please! Someone to finish the single patchwork quilt that I started many years ago and which has been in a box since.

Tel. 840578

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

Positively Dogs



Behaviour Consultation

Positively Dogs offers a logical, straightforward, scientific approach with qualified advice and positive methods that really work.

121 training

Do you have a dog that won't come back when called or pulls on a lead? Whatever the problem, we can help.

Classes

We aim to teach solid foundations for life skills that will help your dog become a confident, relaxed and happy adult.

Classes Starting in Sherston January 2014

01666 840179 or 07712 128147

www.positivelydogs.co.uk




The Beauty Room
SHERSTON

*I can make
you fabulous*

Individual eyelash extensions
This treatment not only lengthens,
but thickens the look of your eyelashes.

CND Shellac

The ultimate 2 week manicure.
Flawless glossy nails for 14 days.



Please contact Jo for an appointment
07920 121 011 egerton.jo@gmail.com

Do you have a mole problem?

With over 30 years experience in traditional mole control I can effectively, discreetly and humanely remove the culprit(s)!
No gas, chemicals or poisons used and completely safe to children and pets.

NO MOLE – NO FEE

Fully insured and references available

Telephone 07766 132934 (Days)

01285 770968 (Evenings)

Member of the British Traditional Molecatchers Register

Member of the Guild of British Molecatchers

BPCA/RSPH level 2 certificate in pest control

**Call now for a free,
no obligation site survey and quote**
www.gbstateservices.com



Kristian Pettifor

Furniture designer & maker with 14 years experience creating bespoke freestanding and fitted furniture to enhance both traditional and contemporary interiors.

www.kristianpettifor.com
kristianpettifor@gmail.com
07922878899

Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop - Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade biscuits. Open Thurs 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

Mustard Seeds is a Saturday morning club for children aged 4 and over, from 10am – 12noon once a month.

Congregational Church - in The British

Schoolroom 1st & 2nd Sundays of month: Service at 11am – 12 noon followed by coffee/chat. **3rd Sunday Service** at 3pm. **4th Sunday Service** at 4pm. **5th Sunday** (occasionally) members visit Castle Combe Congregational Church Service 10.30am For further details see parish Life or phone 07778 934742.

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

Gauzebrook Church for Children

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

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

Little Lights

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

Easton Grey Parish Church

See Parish Life for details of services

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

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

Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

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

Busy Hands Pre-school

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

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

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

Clem's Club Clem now in hibernation till Spring!

Drawing Classes in Sherston

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

Eudo Tae Kwon Do

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

Footpaths group

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

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

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

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

Malmesbury Community Choir

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

Malmesbury Embroiderer's Guild

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

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

Malmesbury Villages Community Partnership

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

Malmesbury Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

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

Ingleburn Trefoil Guild

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

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

The Rattlebone Boules League

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

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

Sherston 1016

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

Sherston Badminton Club

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

Sherston Brownies

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

1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

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

1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

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

Sherston Whitewall Explorers

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

Westonbirt Guides

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

Sherston Drama Group

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

Sherston FC

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

Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

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

Sherston's Living Churchyard

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

Sherston Netball Club

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

Sherston Photography Forum

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

Sherston Tennis Club

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

Sherston Theatre Club

Excursions with a Sherston High Street-to-venue return coach service. Annual fee £20. Listings under www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/ or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or 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 Lauren (07885 597429), Saara (07739 552336) or alternative like us on Facebook for regular updates <http://www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers>

Sherston Village Hall

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

Sherston W.I.

Winter meetings in 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 Victoria Parish on 840071 or email vparish@btinternet.com

Splash Dance

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

Tetbury Chess Club

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

Village Hall 300+ Club

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

Wiltshire Walks

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

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

WHAT'S ON

What's on in 2014 Dates for your diary

January

18 Sherston Market 10.00am - 2.00pm.

February

1 Busy Hands Quiz

March

4 Pancake Competition
29 1016 Book Sale

April

9-12 Sherston Drama Group Spring Play

May

7-11 Badminton Horse Trials
16/17/18 WildSherston

July

12 Boules Day

October

5 Mangold Hurl
29-1 Nov Pantomime

November

8 1016 Fireworks

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

MOBILE BEAUTY THERAPIST

CND SHELLAC~MANICURE

PEDICURE~FACIALS

MASSAGE~MAKE UP

WAXING~EYE CARE

PAMPER PARTIES.

Kerry Outlaw I.H.B.C

To make an appointment call
07811364851 or email
kerryhannington@aol.com

kerrybeautyathome.webs.com


beauty@home

...in the comfort of your own
home.

Sherston

The Rattlebone Inn

Monday Quiz Nights Every Monday at 7:30pm

Free entry and prizes for the winning team

New Year's Eve Fancy Dress Party pop stars vs rock stars

Tues 31 Dec

Burns Night Celebrations

Live music from Gouldie Jan 31

Check boards for more details of events,

call 840871 or visit www.therattlebone.co.uk

Sherston Market

Local crafts and produce, cake stall,

Sherston Rare Breed bacon butties and sausage rolls,

Aunt Addie's Farm Project fresh vegetables

Sat 18 Jan 10am - 2pm Village hall

Art Display at Shear Class

Local Artist Gill Ashley January

SHOCC Sherston Occasional Community Choir

The new term will commence on 22 Jan - meeting every

Wed at 7pm in The British Schoolroom £30 for 10 weeks

British School Rooms For further details call Lucy Lawrance

840778/Jill Woodward 840578

Busy Hands Pre School

Annual Quiz Night Raffle and auction. Sat 1 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

Tickets on sale at the Post Office from December

Sue's Strolls

Sun 2 Feb starting from the village hall at 10am returning
to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at
around 12 noon This is a PHEW! event see

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

Upcoming events at Holy Cross Church

Alpha Course explore, question and discuss what the
Christian faith is really all about and whether or not they
believe it Every Wed at 7.30pm in Jan and Feb 2014

For further details call Rev'd Christopher Bryan 837522

christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com or Henny Metters

837778 or visit www.alpha.org

Sherston WI

Luncheon at the Ship Jan - first Thurs

AGM Feb - first Thurs

Talk by Prue Leith CBE restaurateur, caterer, TV presenter,
broadcaster, cookery writer, Great British Menu judge and
writer of novels Thurs 17 Apr but tickets will be on sale
shortly priced at £6.50 to include light refreshments.

For further information contact Jill Woodward 840578
British School Room

Knockdown

The Holford Arms Live Music every weekend.
Check boards for more details of events
For further details call 01454 238669

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Saturday and Sunday every month 10am-1pm in aid of FOWA
Stick Man Trail Based on Julia Donaldson's book, Stick Man
Talk:Q&A with Stephen Segar, Chairman of the Friends' Board of Trustees Wed 8 Jan 10am free after admission
Dec - Feb admission prices Adults £5 Concs £4 Children £2
For further details call 880220 or visit
www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School

Burns Night Sat 1 Feb 7.30pm Tickets: £30 per adult, £15 young adults (16 - 21)
Spring Term Lecture Life on Air with Judy Merry and Post-Lecture Supper Fri 28 Feb 7pm Cash Bar
Lecture: 7.30pm (free admission) Optional post-lecture supper tickets - £15 per person to include a two-course supper, tea/coffee and wine on the table. Westonbirt School
For further details and tickets call Tania Warner on 880333 or twarner@westonbirt.org or visit
www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

Easton Grey

Whatley Manor

Jazz Sunday with The Solent City Jazzmen 12-Jan £39 includes a three-course menu served in 'Le Mazot' while listening to live jazz from 12.00pm until 3.30pm
Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner 'Behind the Candelabra' starring Michael Douglas, Matt Damon, Scott Bakula and Eric Zuckerman Sun 26 Jan £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner
For further details call 834026 or visit
www.whatleymanor.com

Charlton Park

WOMAD - World Music Festival

Early Bird tickets On sale now till Jan 3 for the 2014 festival Thurs 24 - Sun 27 July Including • SN16 Weekend £115 (full price £160) You can spread the costs with 4 easy instalments via direct debit
For further details call Reading Box Office on 0118 960 6060 or visit www.womad.org/festivals/charlton-park

Charlton

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Malmesbury Local Supporters Group

Winter Talks Programme 2013-14
7.30pm Admission £2.50, children free.
Non-members very welcome. Charlton Village Hall
Val Melville talks on Luanga National Park, Zambia 9th Jan
Amphibians of the UK by Gemma Harding Thurs 6 Feb

Malmesbury

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

Classic Rhythm A fine and unique ensemble of flute, piano and percussion playing an eclectic mix of melodic music Sat 5 Feb Tickets from the Abbey Bookshop, from David or via website £12/ £10 members/ £5 student or chd. Season tickets are also available for only £55

Sergei Podobedov the world class Russian-born pianist, will perform a programme of Chopin, Schubert, Liszt and Prokofiev. Sat 8 Mar

For further details call David Barton 824924
d.barton763@btinternet.com or visit www.malmesbury.com/mams

Luckington, Tetbury, Westonbirt and Cotswolds

Cotswold Rural Skills

Hedgelaying for beginners (Somerset Style)
11-12 Jan or 22-23 Feb Luckington £109
Blacksmithing Taster Day 26 Jan or 2 Mar Tetbury £99
Hedgelaying for beginners (Midlands Style)
28-29 Jan Westonbirt £109 8-9 Feb Naunton £109
Cotswold Tile Roofing - beginners 8-9 Mar Naunton £99
For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or visit www.cotswoldsruralskills.org.uk

Didmarton

Flicks in the Sticks

Blue Jasmine Fri 10 Dec Doors open 6:30pm for 7.30pm start. Cash bar £3 in advance £3.50 on the door Didmarton Village Hall For further details call Jenny Body 01454 238358 or jenny.body@virgin.net



Bishop Property
building services ltd
Preserving the past, building the future

Quality Building & Renovation

Stone Barns, Cottages, Extensions & New Build
All aspects of building projects undertaken



Please contact us to discuss your building requirements.

Tel: 01666 848108 or Mob: 07881828454

Our passion and expertise lie in renovating and converting stunning character buildings, whilst retaining their important characteristics. Delivering 21st century living expectations and desires, enabling our customers to realise the potential in their unique property.

www.bishoppropertyltd.com
keith.bp@btconnect.com

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

Wed 29 Jan RED 2 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

Chippenham

ChippFolkFest 23-26 May - early bird tickets on sale till 29 Jan Concerts throughout the town
For further details call 01249 657190 or visit www.chippfolk.co.uk

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: **Philomena**; **Gravity 3D**; **Love Aaj Kaal**; **NT Live: Coriolanu** check website for details
For further details call 01453 844601 or visit www.wottoneph.co.uk

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston.
Home matches: Sat 4 Jan 3pm v. Salisbury; Sat 11 Jan 3pm v. Hereford United; Tues 14 Jan 7.45pm v. Grimsby Town;
Sat 25 Jan 3pm v. Chester FC
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
Ballet & Opera: Live from the ROH 2013/14 season
Giselle 27 Jan Don Giovanni 12 Feb The Sleeping Beauty 19 Mar The Winter's Tale 28 Apr Manon Lescaut 24 Jun Stroud Apollo, Odeon Bath and many other Cinemas
For further details call 0871 220 6000 or visit www.roh.org.uk/cinema

Bath, Stroud, Bristol, Wotton

National Theatre Live

Live and pre recorded screenings
Live from the National theatre:
Live: Coriolanus 30-Jan-14
Live screening of War Horse at the National Theatre 27-Feb
For further details visit www.ntlive.com

Bath

Theatre Royal

Peter Pan 12 Dec - 12 Jan £15-£33.50
The Perfect Murder 13-18 Jan
Moon Tiger 21-25 Jan
Agatha Christie's Black Coffee 27 Jan - 1 Feb
Book ahead for: The Full Monty; Fallen Angels; Chariots of Fire; Moscow City Ballet present Romeo and Juliet and Swan Lake; The Life of Galileo Pygmalion; Moon on a Rainbow Shawl; The Witches of Eastwick
For further details call 01225 448844 or visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk

City of Bath Choir

Annual singers workshop - Handel's Messiah This is a great and very sociable day out and an opportunity to work with the inspirational choral conductor Nigel Perrin. Katie Taylor from Sherston is a regular singer with the City of Bath Bach choir and would be happy to lift share/look after anyone Sat 25 Jan 9.30 - 5pm, St Michael's Without, Bath. Tickets £20 + score hire £2 For more information contact Katie Taylor on 840087 or email workshops@bathbachchoir.org.uk
The City of Bath Bach choir present Handel's Messiah in Bath Abbey Sat 22 Mar at 7.30 pm Tickets £8, £14, £19, £22, £25 Children under 16 £8. Tickets available through Katie Taylor
Bath Abbey For further details visit www.bathbachchoir.org.uk or www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

Stroud

The Cotswold Playhouse

Jack and the Beanstalk 15-18 and 22-25 Jan 7.30pm and Sat mat 2.30pm £13/£7.50
Second Face Theatre Company present 'Mouthing Off' 7 Feb at 7.30pm £12 Cotswold Playhouse
For further details call Box Office at Stroud Tourist Information Centre 01453 760960 or visit www.cotswoldplayhouse.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 841377
Tolsey Surgery	01666 840270
Wiltshire Council	0300 4560100

SHERSTON DRIVING SCHOOL

Michael Holborow A.D.I.

Tel: 01666 840327

Mobile: 07790890978

mike@sherstondriving.co.uk

box of pork

Succulent, tasty, local pork available by the 5 kilo box:

- Delicious belly pork;
- Mouth watering chops;
- A joint (leg or shoulder);
- Sausages or bacon.

Delivered to your door.

All our pork is outdoor-reared in Sherston from happy, healthy pigs.

Call Paul on 07717131737 or email: paul@jarvis2.co.uk