# THE SHERSTON



# CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

— MARCH 2014 — DELIVERED FREE

# Big win for Hugh Jarse

Yet again the annual Busy Hands quiz night was a rip-roaring success, with 22 top-class teams competing for the coveted trophy cup. There could only be one winner but who would it be?

First though, a few thank yous. A great big thank you must go out to our fantastic quizmaster, Colin MacLeod, and his wonderful assistant and keeper of the time, his beautiful wife Heather. Thank you also to Rupert Evelyn for another very lucrative year at the helm of our auction and raffle (which, incidentally, wouldn't have been possible without all the

generous donations from the kind business folk of Sherston and the surrounding areas, so thanks to all of you too). And thank you to all of you who helped out, gave generously, bought raffle tickets or came to enjoy the evening ... Busy Hands just wouldn't be



able to carry on without you so we really are most appreciative.

And so to the winners ... after many glasses of vino were quaffed, crisps eaten, questions asked, auction prizes bid for, raffle prizes won, bottles of beer downed, and one glass broken, the winners were revealed. Many congratulations to Hugh Jarse who, in the final nailbiting round, snatched victory from Three Men and an Idiot and defending champions The Return of the Green Dot (who came second and third respectively). Oh and did we mention that

we raised a whopping £2,500? Thank you all again. Until next year ...



# Pancake competition

Don't forget Sherston 1016 's annual Pancake Eating Competition on the evening of Shrove Tuesday 4 March from 7.30pm at the Rattlebone Inn.

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

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

The winner of each heat will be the first to finish

eating all the pancakes on their plate. These winners will then go on to the next heat, again with four pancakes each, and so on until



the championship round. The winner will have their name engraved on a 1016 commemorative engraved frying pan. There will also be runners-up prizes.

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

# Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 13 March 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.

# Neighbourhood Plan

The next meeting takes place in the village hall on Tuesday 18 March at 7.30pm. As ever, all are very welcome to attend.

Copy deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> 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 max size A5

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

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

PRINTED BY THE COMPLETE PRODUCT COMPANY, PINKNEY

# Dog fouling

At last month's parish council meeting, a larger number of complaints on this subject were brought to the meeting's attention than had been for some time. Councillors agreed that the situation had worsened considerably recently and decided to look at some innovative methods for the next month in the hope that some, at least, of the continuing offenders may be persuaded to change their ways. It is clear that many residents are heartily fed up with this seemingly never-ending issue.

# Dorothy Hospice local group

The local group of the Dorothy Hospice are holding a cake stall on 15 March at the Market Cross in Malmesbury. We are desperately in need of cakes and related produce. If you feel you can help in any way please let me know. Also we can always use an extra pair of hands.

Beryl Clampton 841201, 07850 623517 or beryl@clampton.com

#### 1016 Book Sale

The spring date for our popular book sales for the year is set for Saturday 29 March in Sherston Village Hall from 9.00am to 12.00noon – free entry. It's always a great village occasion and a good chance for a natter amongst friends and neighbours. Make sure it's in your diary.

Our books are very reasonably priced, with 99% being only 25p each or five for £1. We always have a massive selection, including a children's section. DVDs and CDs are £1 each.

If you have any books, CDs or DVDs to donate, these may be left with Mike Tarrant at Grays of Sherston. All proceeds from the sale go towards the senior citizens' Christmas vouchers which are now costing some £3,000 pa to fund.

# Bridges – update

As of the end of February, the re-opening date of 18 April for both the Fosse Bridge and Badminton Overbridge is, according to Network Rail, still on track. Certainly over the last month or so, Network Rail have been issuing detailed weekly progress reports to Wiltshire Council and local parish councils which is a considerable improvement on the situation beforehand.

## Dog fouling on open land



Parasites can be transmitted to livestock through infected dog waste being left on grazing land. Some of these parasites cause diseases in livestock which can result in death of sheep, and abortion in cattle.

Dog walkers and owners can take some simple steps to help minimise the risk of spreading these diseases:

- Always remove dog waste from all locations, including grazing land. If your dog is carrying the parasites, it will pass the eggs in its poo. By safely disposing of dog waste, you will help minimise the risk of passing on disease to livestock.
- Don't let your dog eat remains of dead animals or leftover birth materials such as placentas whilst out walking. Your dog may be infected by parasites if you allow it to eat animal material it may find whilst out on a walk. Often the parasites cause no symptoms in dogs, but sometimes the disease of neosporosis can seriously affect your dog's health and possibly result in death.
- If you choose to feed your dog raw meat, make sure that it is parasite-free. Your dog can pick up parasites from eating uncooked meat. You won't be able to tell if raw meat contains parasites just by looking at it, but your local vet will be able to give you advice on how to make sure raw meat is safe for your dog.

The above is reproduced from the Scottish Outdoor Access Code which is as relevant to us here as in Scotland.

www.nfus.org.uk/uploadedFiles/Campaigns/ Disease%20in%20Livestock.pdf

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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!

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WE HAVE BEEN ESTABI ISHED IN THE MAI MESBURY AREA FOR 20 YEARS

WE HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE MALMESBURY AREA FOR 20 YEARS ASA SWIM SCHOOL MEMBER www.maryderrickswimming.com

# Correction to email address for objections to the road closure for **Boules Day**

All residents affected by the proposed road closure of the High Street on Saturday 12 July received a letter last month which, unfortunately, gave an old email address for objections – the new email address is so similar I didn't spot the difference. So, should you have any objections, please write to Traffic Orders Team, Sustainable Transport Group, Wiltshire Council, Bythesea Road, TROWBRIDGE, Wiltshire BA14 8JN or email TrafficOrders@wiltshire.gov.uk by Friday 21 March. All objections must include the name and address of the objector or they cannot be considered.

Objectors have the right to request, under the Data Protection Act 1998, that their name and address be withheld from public inspection or inclusion in any published report.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused – certainly not intentional.

Caroline Moore

# 20 mph speed limits?

Following the request for residents to propose areas for possible 20 mph speed limits in the parish in last month's Cliffhanger, to date only one response has been received. This is somewhat surprising when concerns about speeding traffic are often raised generally by residents. The parish council will consider its response to Wiltshire Council's 20 mph initiative at its meeting on 13 March so there is still some time for proposals to be put forward to the parish clerk, Sarah Wood, by either email clerk@sherston.org.uk or by phone on 840197.



# SherstonFest Second Stage

Yes people, the rumours are true! At this year's SherstonFest we are adding a second stage so even more of the 'Best in Contemporary British Music' can be showcased at the best small festival in the Cotswolds. So, as usual, there will be the outdoor stage featuring a smorgasbord of some of the very best acts we have spotted up and down the country in the last year.

But, in addition to that – you lucky dogs – on Friday night we will have the 'Malmesbury Rocks' stage where those lovely people who have brought you some cracking rock nights over the last year will be showcasing some of their finest acts from near and far.

Then on Saturday – via the wonders of CGI and cutting-edge theatre set automation (ie we change the sign) – the stage will be magically transformed into the 'Malmesbury Acoustic Sessions' stage where some the best folk/acoustic/roots stuff you will have heard in a long time will be gracing us with haunting harmonies and flying fiddles. The line up for both stages will be released soon so watch out for more announcements.

In the meantime, we are currently selling tickets twice as fast as we sold them last year, and last year we sold out in May... I'll leave you to 'do the math' but I am thinking that donning the old skates on the ticket-buying front would be a good shout at www. sherstonfest.com/buy-tickets/

by SFHQ



# Youth services presentation on area board agenda

As you may be aware a consultation is under way on the future provision of youth services and activities. The consultation includes four options that have generated a lot of interest from youth groups, clubs, communities and young people. The cabinet report detailing the four options for the future provision of youth activities provides details of the proposals.

Your local Wiltshire councillors have decided that it is important that a presentation about the proposals is given at the Malmesbury area board on Wednesday 5 March to enable you to learn more and have your say. The area board is taking place in Malmesbury Town Hall, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. Do please come along on the night to hear more and ask questions. It would be helpful to receive questions beforehand, so please either add them below or email them to: miranda.gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk

# Village hall 300+ club

#### February 2014 Draw

1st	5	Stella Thacker	£13
2nd	225	Sarah Hayes	£12
3rd	195	Henry Crawford	£11
4th	297	R Laddle	£10
5th	144	Frances Thompson	£9
6th	221	Brenda Llewellyn	£8
7th	315	Pat Bunce	£7
8th	208	R Leonard	£.6

Tremendous thanks to all the collectors namely A Andrews, G Mason, M Goulding, A Lyall, P Moody, R Moody, J Platts, and M Thacker who have done a wonderful job over the last two months often in difficult weather conditions. Well done to you all!

Lin Prior, Coordinator Sherston Village Hall 300+ Club

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# Sherston Senior Club

Thirty-four members and two visitors attended the meeting on 21 January. The speaker was Graham Fuller, a solicitor, who gave a most informative talk on the making of wills, powers of attorney and care fees. He was able to answer many questions and offered to speak one to one at the end of the talk. This offer was taken up by several members.

At our meeting on 4 February we planned to listen to the 'I remember Sherston' CD that has been produced by Barbara Gale and Chris Bowyer. Running for approximately one hour, the CD stars 10 of the old village people who were in Sherston through the war. The idea was to listen to the whole CD to hear all the different stories and to ask questions at the end. However, the CD player failed during the third person's story so we went on to talking about it asking questions to Barbara and Chris. It was interesting to hear some of the questions, there was quite a bit of interest on the subject. We finished our meeting in the usual way, with a raffle followed by tea and biscuits.

The next meeting is on 18 February at 2.00pm when we shall be entertained by Susan Marshfield who will keep us laughing through our programme. Hope to see you all there.

From the Chairman, Malcolm Hillier Tel. 840737

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# Pickled Image presents 'Fireside Tales with Grandad'

# Sherston Village Hall 3.00pm on Saturday 15 March

Cuddle up round the campfire as Grandad recalls a daring escape from a hungry shark. Tuck into a marshmallow as he attempts to make a set of underpants for a giant, and watch as the shadows between the trees unravel a tale of greedy goblins, grumpy trolls, sneaky princes and a very unusual princess.

Exquisite puppets, captivating storytelling, a magical soundscape and beautiful shadow puppetry combine to create an enchanting show guaranteed to spark the imagination.

Tickets from Sherston Post Office, £7 adult, £6 concession, £4.50 under 16, £18.50 family. Suitable for all ages over 4, no unaccompanied young children, please.

Promoted by Rural Arts Touring and Sherston Arts Festival. Any enquiries on 840375. www.pickledimage.co.uk



# Sherston Busy Hands

9.10am-12.10pm everyday in the Village Hall...
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It's Sherston Drama Group's 35th Anniversary this year! The first proper play we put on, back in 1979, was a fast-paced comedy by Derek Benfield called Fish out of Water. And for this year's Spring Production we are doing it again. But things have moved on since 1979, and this is an updated version which is even funnier. Fish out of Water is set in a hotel in a well-known Italian resort. An incompetent travel rep is desperately struggling to meet the needs of an illassorted group of guests, hindered by a hotel manager with a strong affinity for English ladies, when Agatha, an outspoken widow, and her timid sister Fiona arrive unexpectedly. The resulting mayhem changes everybody's lives forever. This riot of play is suitable for the whole family, so please note the dates in your diary: Wed. 9 to Sat 12 April in Sherston Village Hall. Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of March at Sherston Post Office Stores, or via the Box Office - just email sherstondramagroup@gmail.com. Prices unchanged from 2010 at £6.50/£5.50, including refreshments. More details next month!

## SPANISH LESSONS

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OUL OF WATE

# **Boules Weekend**

This year's Boules and Carnival Committee is concentrating on the actual weekend's events sadly due to lack of manpower - that is Boules day as usual and the traditional Sunday



events. If anybody would like to organise and run an event, please contact us. Due to a conflicting event, we need particular help with running logistics this year. Caroline 841405 caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk



# Boules Day Toblerones – your opportunity to sponsor a pitch

Would your company like to show support for Sherston Boules weekend? Sponsors receive their chosen logos on toblerone shaped adverts by the side of pitches and feature in the Boules weekend programme, which will reach the 1750 visitors on the day (weather dependent),1200 local homes and businesses via Cliffhanger and many more by local press and radio. Great exposure whilst supporting local good causes. ALL of the profits are distributed amongst 20+ local groups in Sherston and surrounding villages, such as brownies, cubs, drama, young craft, pre-school and local school groups, local church groups and to a few charities – Sherston 1016, Bristol-based and Sherston affiliated PROPS, and Alive and Well (Luckington-based charity funding water wells in Sierra Leone). All these groups and charities help out to make Sherston Boules & Carnival such a success.

To book your Toblerone (other makes of chocolate are available!) – please contact Jackie Muggleton on 840218 or jackie\_muggleton@hotmail.com

Any local group or charity who would like to get involved and help make it a great weekend (and receive a split of the profits) should contact Caroline Moore on 841405 caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk or Gwen Knight 840731 or mommaknight@hotmail.com

# Boules Competition Entry: 78 teams already registered!

As previously announced, the 2014 Sherston Boules and Carnival will take place on Saturday 12 July. Registration for the Boules competition is well underway, Register online through www.sherston. net (preferred) or by picking up a paper copy of the application form from the post office (they will be by the coffee machine). The registration window will open only until Wednesday 9 April, so act early, as we want to make the draw and let applicants know if they've been successful by Good Friday, 18 April. The cost per team will be £20, payable once you've been notified of a successful entry; unsuccessful entrants will be placed on a reserve list. Some places will be reserved for local teams, whose captain resides within the five Parishes of Sherston, Alderton, Luckington, Foxley and Easton Grey and for sponsors who purchase advertising space on one of the pitch 'toblerones', with the remaining places allocated to visiting teams. (So if you're unsuccessful you can buy a place!)





## Malmesbury Singers to play Requiem on 29 March



The Malmesbury Singers are pleased to announce that they will be performing John Rutter's 'Requiem' together with Brahms 'Liebeslieder Waltzes' on Saturday 29 March at 7.30pm in Malmesbury Abbey.

The Malmesbury Singers is a friendly, musically well balanced mixed choir which has been putting on two major concerts during spring and Christmas for over 50 years. Recent performances have included Handel's 'Messiah', Mozart's 'Requiem' and Howard Goodall (Vicar of Dibley composer) 'Eternal Light'. Most summers, the Singers will also perform popular pieces old and new in either Malmesbury town hall or else a neighbouring town/village. Indeed, many

of the choir fondly remember singing in Sherston church for their arts and flowers festival. It is also the Singers pleasure to raise considerable sums of money for both national and local charities. Recently, Winston's Wish, Age UK, Prostate Cancer and Naomi House have been the beneficiaries. The Malmesbury Singers membership naturally includes several Sherston residents, as well as many others who reside in Malmesbury and the surrounding towns and villages. A 70-strong choir, it is very fortunate to have both an excellent musical director, Iain Duffin, who also conducts the invited orchestra/ensemble for major works with great success, and one of the very best and talented accompanists as well as composer, John Hughes. Another musical bonus is that the Singers also perform with good professional soloists to produce many more 'magical moments' in their

For concert tickets, please contact Jean Saxty 823642 or Malmesbury Abbey bookshop, or choir members. Further information, including how to join, is available at www.malmesburysingers.co.uk

by Michael Warner

# Acclaimed Russian pianist Sergei Podobedov plays Malmesbury

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society (MAMS) is very much looking forward to welcoming the Russian pianist Sergei Podobedov to Malmesbury Abbey for the first time on Saturday 8 March at 7.30pm.

Sergei was the first ever recipient of a Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother Scholarship at the Royal College of Music and performed with Sir John Gielgud at Windsor Castle at the Queen Mother's special invitation. He is a graduate of The Moscow Conservatory, The Royal College of Music and The University of California. The conductor Gernady Rozhdestvensky describes him as 'a magnificent

pianist who possesses outstanding musical skills combined with true musicality and a refined sense of style'.

He will entertain us with a wonderfully varied programme, including pieces by Schubert, Liszt and Prokofiev – an evening not to be missed!

Tickets for the concert are priced at £12, or £5 for students, and can be obtained from the Abbey bookshop or the MAMS Ticket Secretary David Barton on 07967 123226 or email d.barton763@btinternet.com. In Sherston, they can be purchased from Joy Smith on 840865.



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# Malmesbury and District Garden Club

As the members are drawn from a wider area than just Malmesbury, last year the name of the club was changed to express this. Membership is open to all who are interested in gardening. Except for a short break in the summer (when of course we are all busy working in our gardens), the club has monthly meetings with a wide range of speakers and subjects. The club meets at Charlton village hall.

The summer show will be held at the hall on Saturday 19 July - there are classes for flowers, vegetables, fruit, pot plants and flower arranging. All the competitions are open to everyone, there are no entry fees for exhibitors and there is no charge to visit our show. If you are interested in competing in our show or would like to know about our meetings please visit our website: www. malmesburygardenclub.org

by Derek Tilney, Show Secretary, 823944.

#### Malmesbury Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild

We hold Saturday workshops on a variety of topics, using both traditional and contemporary techniques, and have Tuesday evening talks on alternate months. We welcome new members, both experienced and those new to textiles. Please visit www.malmesburyembroiderers.blogspot.co.uk to find out more. All our meetings take place at Little Somerford village hall.

# Moviola @ Grittleton Village Hall

Philomena [12A]



Philomena [12A] on Wednesday 26 March at 7.30pm.

Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan) is depressed. He's lost his job and is feeling washed up. Then at a drinks party, he hears about a woman who has kept a secret for 50 years. When little more than a child herself, retired Irish nurse, Philomena Lee (Judi Dench), was forced by nuns to surrender her son for adoption in the USA. Now she wants to find him. Martin doesn't do 'human interest' stories, he says, but Philomena's strikes a nerve. A lapsed Catholic himself, he cannot restrain the reporter's urge to find out more, and soon he is not only meeting Philomena, but agreeing to help her find her son. Based on the 2009 book by BBC correspondent Martin Sixsmith, 'The Lost Child of Philomena Lee'. Doors open from 7.00pm. Tickets £5 in advance, £6 on door available from Lesley 01249 783157 or email l\_palmer@btinternet. com [underscore between the l and the p].

Date for your diary 30 April: Gravity

www.moviola.org





# Walk on the wild side

#### Their new homes are ready (almost)....

March heralds the start of mass migrations both to the village, with birds returning from Africa and southern Europe, and winter residents returning to Scandinavia.

The redwings and fieldfares are off while we should be hearing the call of the returning chiffchaff (named after the sound it makes) and the blackcap. Interestingly we have blackcaps who overwinter here and return to more northern climes in the spring and a different population who return from further south so, while we may have them all year round, they aren't the same individuals you might see on your bird feeder

Some birds are already nesting such as the stock dove (which

looks a bit like a drab woodpigeon) and the rooks are starting to nest in their lofty colonies next to the church.

Over the past couple of months a number of people have been busy building nest boxes which are going up in various places around the village. Some have been installed in Grove Wood and the first barn owl boxes have been put up. Four house sparrow nest boxes, built by Sherston scouts, have been installed around the village to provide communal nesting sites for this declining but much loved resident. Many thanks to Graham Smith and Rod Moyse (pictured) for building the bigger boxes, and John Lloyd for helping install them and to the scouts for their hard work.

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We spend some time trying to find old building or barns to install the barn owl boxes and it became really clear why we have so few owls these days – they have nowhere to nest. If you do know of an out of the way old building at least 3 metres high where we could put another barn owl box please do let me know.

Please have a look at the news about WildSherston on 16 to 18 May with a range of talks, walks and events about our local wildlife - see the Wild Sherston Facebook page

Spring is in the air... isn't this a fantastic time of year!

Geoff Carss – geoff\_carss@hotmail.com or 840995







#### SHERSTON W.I.

All the tickets for the evening with Prue Leith in April have now been sold. Apologies to those who had hoped to be there.

The AGM took place on 6 February in the British School Room. Sheila Harris remains as President and Jill Woodward Secretary. Alison Atkins has taken over as Treasurer and there are six other committee members. Two long-standing committee members, Maureen Jolliffe and Rosemary Venning, are taking a break from committee duties.

Meetings will be in the village hall at 7.30pm (except 3 April in the British School Room due to Drama Group.)

6 March talk: the Funny Side of the Police Force April talk: High Fashion in Coronation Year Come and join us for an evening. You will be made welcome. £3 to include refreshment.

by Jill Woodward



## The Rattlebone In

01666 840871

#### **Monday to Friday Lunchtimes**

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# Get them in!







The Cotswold Warden's South District Working party got well and truly stuck in to planting six new trees, provided by the parish council, in the Rec at the end of last month completing the task in something like an hour. Anyone who has ever tried to dig a hole in the Rec will know what an impressive feat that is as within a few inches you are in to pretty solid Cotswold brash. The trees have long been on the council's wish list to improve the Rec.

The task was organised by Noel Banks the Cotswold Warden in charge who as ever organised the whole session brilliantly. The working party, all volunteers and a long standing initiative of the Cotswold Conservation Board, have been undertaking projects in the parish for many years. The parish council is most grateful to them for all they have done and looks forward to seeing the new trees on the Rec in leaf this spring.

# **Sherston Market**



All is set for the next market day on Saturday 22nd March in the village hall from 10.00am to 2.00pm. This will be the 5th market since the first last November and they have gone from strength to strength. We now have an increasing number of excellent food stalls in response to customer feedback as well as a good range of quality craft stalls.

So as to keep the market interesting there are always a proportion of new stalls every month and March is no exception. Limited edition signed prints of the acclaimed Scottish artist John Nelson will be available for sale by his widow Ginni Nelson whose daughter lives in Pinkney. For more about the artist and his work visit www.nelsonjohnart.com

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



# FSS Spring Event: Tell me more! Tell me more!



## Neighbourhood watch -Please read

On the morning of the 16 February a resident at the lower end of Gaston Lane had their car keyed/ or sharp instrument used to damage the rear off side door while it was parked on the side of the road at the lower end of the lane.

Please keep a lookout for this kind of damage and let the Neighbourhood Watch know.

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On Saturday 8 March, the village hall will be transformed for the Friends of Sherston School's Grease Night! With disco and dancing, and - of course - a well-stocked bar, it's going to be a night not to be missed! Oh and if you've always fancied yourself as a Pink Lady or T-Bird, come along in fancy dress! Tickets are just £7.50 and are available from the post office. Buy yours today!





# Great War Centenary



The band of the 7th Wiltshires marching through Sherston on a recruitment tour.

Sherston's Great War project is beginning to put together a very interesting programme of events over the next four years or so. The project will certainly be ensuring that the events are well spread out and that they very much reflect local involvement in the war whether in the armed services or on the home front.

A binding decision has been made to hold this year's Act of Remembrance outside the Church lych gate i.e. in the road. This will enable as many people as possible to attend irrespective of their faith or belief. All the necessary permissions are being sought for this to take place and much of the organisational detail attended to.



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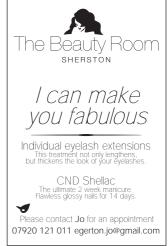
01666 825463

This year will see the start of producing a parish archive of all papers, photographs and in fact anything at all connecting those who live here now with the Great War. This will enable all residents to add to the archive details of their predecessor's part in the conflict whatever that may have been and whether or not they were living in the parish at the time. The archive's aim is to show just how much the conflict touched so many lives in so many different ways. Archive material will be scanned free of charge and then made available digitally. From time to time exhibitions will be held displaying the material throughout the four year period and no doubt beyond. The costs of putting the archive together will form part of the parish council's grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund which is being prepared for submission over the next few months.

The next project meeting takes place on Tuesday 1 April at 7.30pm in the village hall. All are most welcome to attend and add their own suggestions for future events. There is plenty of time to add new events and in fact it is inevitable that some will occur to people as the centenary progresses. 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.







#### Marmalade sale

A big thank you to everyone who bought my marmalade last month and made donations to Sherston Scouts and Sherston 1016, I collected £170 and was able to give £85 to each of them. Also thanks to Paul & Gail Mather for allowing me to set up my stall outside the Post Office. By Lin Prior

#### Old minutes

The parish council minute book for the period 1912 to 1924 has recently been scanned so it can be made available online. This is part of the Sherston Great war project and in future editions of the Cliffhanger relevant items from the minutes will be reproduced. The original minute book has been redeposited at the Swindon and Wiltshire History Centre in Chippenham along with other parish council records.

## Walk with Sue

Sue McKechnie's next walk will be on Sunday 16 March. Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00am, with a return to the Rattlebone Inn just around 12.00noon in time for a complimentary snack. As ever, children and well-behaved dogs on leads are very welcome. The walk is entirely free and there is no need to book a place – just turn up on the day.

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# Church news

Our Alpha course has gone extremely well, with about 20 participants enjoying a good meal, a stimulating talk by Nicky Gumbel, and discussion afterwards. While Alpha and Foundations, running in the spring and autumn respectively, are our main courses on Christian belief, there is always an opportunity for anyone who would like to explore the Christian faith at other times. If you're interested in this, or in being confirmed, please speak with one of the clergy.

Ash Wednesday is on 5 March, with a communion service at 7.30pm. We have some interesting Lent courses planned.

#### Pilgrim – a course for Lent

During Lent, Holy Cross Church will be running a short 'Pilgrim' course for anybody who would like to explore the Christian faith. We'll be looking at the Lord's Prayer – one of the key texts of the Christian faith – and exploring how it might speak to us today. The Pilgrim course is a reflective safe space to learn and share together and whether you'd consider yourself a churchgoer or not, we'd love to see you there.

There are courses around the Gauzebrook Group of Churches this Lent. In Sherston we will be meeting on six Wednesday evenings at Rev'd Susan Harvey's house, 55 The Tarters, beginning on 12 March. For more details, please contact Susan on 840696, susan.harvey44@

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hotmail.com or another member of the ministry team. There will also be a sign-up sheet in church.

As a Lenten discipline, Bristol Diocesan Synod is encouraging churches to have a 'Carbon Fast'. The idea is that, by reducing our energy use, we can lessen our impact on the environment and conserve resources for future generations. Sherston PCC has already decided to switch off the floodlights on Holy Cross for the 40 days of Lent – it will be a very visible reminder of our need to be good stewards of our planet's resources.

This year there will be two Lent lunches, plus the Maundy Thursday Passover meal. The two lunches will take place on Wednesday 12 March and Wednesday 2 April from 12.00noon to 1.30pm

These will be held at Rev'd Susan Harvey's house (55 The Tarters). The proceeds of the lunches will be sent to a charity that supports flood victims in the UK. For further information or directions please call Susan Harvey on 840696 or contact the church wardens Sue Robinson on 841263 or Pam Pickthall on 841072.

It's good to see that the number of baptisms is increasing across our parishes, and they are also becoming more spread out through the year. It does take a little while to organise a baptism and complete the preparation, so do please make enquiries early!

The original meaning of Mothering Sunday refers to the practice of returning home to one's 'mother' church, which was also an opportunity to bring some flowers to Mum! As it is a local celebration, we are not

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OPEN: Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm Saturday 8am – 1pm having a Group Service as we would normally do on a fifth Sunday. Instead, most of our parish churches are holding a special all-age service with a Mothering Sunday theme. On 30 March Sherston will have a family communion at 10.30am – please note that the time has changed to allow families to come to church before taking Mum out for a meal.

For advance notice our Holy Week plans include Compline on Tuesday 15 April at 8.00pm. Our Maundy Thursday event is the Christian Passover in Sherston school on Thursday 17 April at 7.00pm. This is a Christian interpretation of the Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples and forms the background to our Eucharist. The meal will end around 9.00pm, allowing time for anyone who wishes to come to Holy Cross for the stripping of the altars and vigil. There will be Good Friday workshops at Sherston and Alderton, followed by the outdoors service in Luckington, times to be confirmed, while the reflective service at Hullavington will be at 2.00pm.

We've received some helpful thoughts on our request for feedback about the idea of a midweek service. We hope to run a midweek communion service according to the Book of Common Prayer, probably on a Thursday morning, starting for a trial period in the summer months.

There will also be a spring clean of the Holy Cross on Saturday 5 April at 9.30am. Work will be carried out inside and out. Refreshments provided. Helpers are also needed for the weekly cleaning rota.



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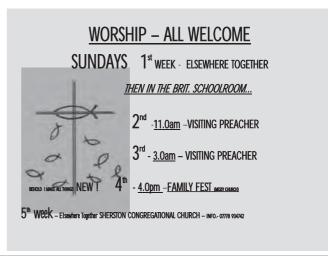
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# The Early Detection of Cancer – what can we do?

There has been a lot recently in the press about the early detection of cancer and, conversely, about reducing referrals where cancer is very unlikely.

Ciarán Devane, Chief Executive at Macmillan Cancer Support: 'Spotting cancer in its early stages has a real effect on a person's prognosis. It often determines whether the best treatments, such as surgery, can be used. Patients need to be able to recognise and report their symptoms and GPs need access to the right diagnostic tools.'

'Every single patient in the NHS has a right to the very best care - and to see a GP who can spot cancer symptoms early enough to make a difference', Mr. Jeremy Hunt.

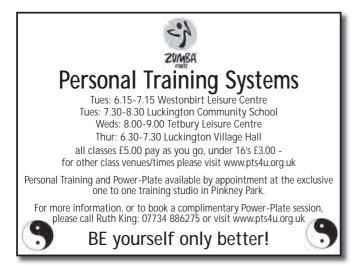
## So, what can we do as a GP Practice, and what can you do as a patient?

The Tolsey surgery is part of a research group of practices within the Primary Care Research Network (PCRN). The PCRN works with researchers and GPs providing practical support so that more research takes place across England and more patients can take part.

'The vast majority of patient contacts within the NHS take place in primary care, so it is critically important to have a strong evidence base to inform clinical practice in this area.'

## So – how is this helping with the early detection of cancer?

The Tolsey Surgery has volunteered to take part in a study called CANDID (CANcer DIagnosis Decision rules). The aim of this study is to identify 'non classical' symptoms related to possible early lung and bowel cancer – so-called 'soft' symptoms. After a patient consents to the study, a careful record of these symptoms is taken, a detailed examination



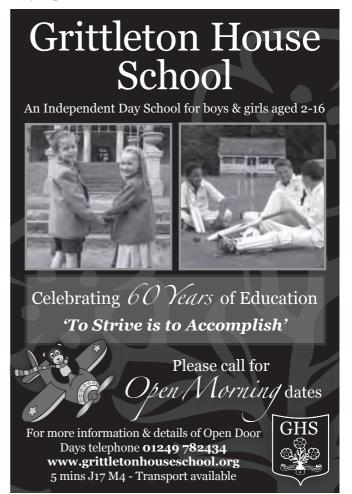
and blood samples or saliva tests are also taken if possible. There is then a follow-up notes review at two years, following what actually happened to that patient. Being in the study does not affect the way your symptoms are managed by your GP. The study is hoping to recruit several thousand patients over three years.

#### How can you help?

If during a consultation we think you may be eligible to take part, we will give you more information on the study, and arrange a longer follow-up appointment, and blood tests (these may be arranged at the same time as 'routine' blood tests we would be doing anyway). These special research appointments are funded by the PCRN and take place outside normal NHS slots. It is important to emphasise that being asked to take part does not necessarily mean the GP thinks you have cancer.

There are leaflets available in the surgery about the PCRN and also about the CANDID trial- if you can't find one, please ask at reception.

by Pip Pettit, GP Research Lead



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Moving House...... everything must go! On Sunday 16th March 09.00 - 13.00 hours we will be holding a garage sale at 26 The Tarters, Sherston as we are downsizing, there will be Books, Toys, Furniture, Garden tools etc come along for a browse!

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



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# Cricket

Sherston Magna Cricket Club held it's AGM on Tuesday 4 February. James Harmer will continue as Saturday captain and David Fitch-Peyton (DFP) takes over as Sunday captain, with Simon Hulance his vice-captain. The big news from the meeting was the club's commitment to install a new practice facility at the ground at Pinkney Park. The exact nature of the facility will be dependent on the level of grants received from various funding authorities but, after the very successful club fundraising event Smile Out Loud last year and grants already received by the club, the AGM agreed that sufficient funds were available to commit to the investment.

The club also agreed to set the annual subscriptions to a level more in line with the facilities and coaching standards available to club members.

This season the club will run two junior sides (U13 and U15) playing league cricket. For more details of junior coaching and junior league cricket please contact sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk.

With the outdoor season starting in April, indoor practice nets have already started. For those interested in joining (juniors, seniors and ladies welcome), the practice nets take place from 2.00pm to 3.00pm at the Malmesbury Activity Zone on Sundays in March at a cost of £3 per session.

There are two more indoor league games, played at Sheldon School in Chippenham, for SMCC to retain their first division status. The games are against Biddestone on Sunday 9 March at 6.35pm and Christian Malford on Sunday 23 March at 5.30pm. If you are interested in playing or just coming along, please contact Andy Pegg on andypegg28@gmail.com.

# Sherston Sixes

The annual SMCC fun day - the Sherston Sixes - will take place on Sunday 6 July. Please keep the date free to come along to Pinkney Park to join in the fun; if you are interested in entering a side, please send an email to sherstonmagna@yahoo.co.uk.





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# THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS



There is much consternation this month amongst members of the Order who are somewhat distressed by the news that the seed of their most favoured variety of mangold, the much vaunted Yellow Ekendorf, is unlikely to be delivered until early April. It would appear that our newly appointed 'Procurer of the Seed' Nic Fisher, has fallen at the first hurdle. It seems she entirely forgot to attend the annual thrashing of the seed in Eckendorf, Germany, last October. As readers will be fully aware such failure is severely frowned upon by the good burghers of that fair town and immediately results in all procurements of the offending party being relegated to the bottom of the delivery list. Ms Fisher's failure is even more extraordinary in the light of her well recorded and highly tuned expertise in seed thrashing.

Fortunately, particularly for the aforesaid Ms Fisher, the ground is unlikely to be dry enough to form a decent tilth for sowing until early April at the earliest which gives members sufficient growing time for a more than decent crop this season. The lack of early seed has however not thwarted one

particular member namely Mr Graham Hayman, The Keeper of the Back Passage. Well known for his almost fanatical pursuit of the largest root he has of course been self seed thrashing for most of the last six months or so much to the annoyance of his near neighbours in Silver Street. His recent experimentation with hydroponics has somewhat back fired on him however as his electricity supplier became suspicious on noticing a large unexplained increase in supply. Further investigations led to the now infamous police raid with sniffer dogs to the fore last month in the early hours of the morning. Mr Hayman was in a state of total shock at this turn of events especially when his precious young plants were seized for scientific examination. Such was his distress that that very night he rushed to the Rattlebone bar without any thought for self preservation shouting 'Marvellous!' and claiming his 9 pints of free Guinness from a somewhat stunned Mr Jason Read.

Yarp! The Keeper the Quill

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# Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop - Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade biscuits. Open 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 2nd Sunday of month: Service at 11am – 12 noon followed by coffee/chat. 3rd Sunday Service at 3pm. 4th Sunday Service at 4pm. 5th Sunday (occasionally) members visit Castle Combe Congregational Church Service 10.30am For further details see parish Life or phone 07778 934742.

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

#### Gauzebrook Church for Children

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

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

Little Lights

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

#### Easton Grey Parish Church

See Parish Life for details of services

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

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

#### Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

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

#### **Busy Hands Pre-school**

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

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

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

Clem's Club 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 www.facebook.com/MalmesburyCommunityChoir.

#### Malmesbury Embroiderer's Guild

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

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

# Malmesbury Villages Community Partnership

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

#### Malmesbury Rainbows, Brownies & Guides For details contact Liz Fleming, the Division Commissioner on 575229 or liz@jacfleming.plus.com

Ingleburn Trefoil Guild

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

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

#### The Rattlebone Boules League

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

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

#### Sherston 1016

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

#### Sherston Badminton Club

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

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

#### 1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

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

#### 1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

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

#### Sherston Whitewall Explorers

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

#### Westonbirt Guides

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

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

#### Sherston FC

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

#### Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

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

#### Sherston's Living Churchyard

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

#### Sherston Netball Club

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

#### SH.O.C.C.

Sherston Occasional Community Choir meets each Wednesday in British Schoolroom at 7pm.Further information: Lucy Lawrance 840778 or Lucy@sherston.plus.com

#### Sherston Photography Forum

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

#### **Sherston Pilates**

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

#### Sherston Tennis Club

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

#### Sherston Theatre Club

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

#### Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The group is a fun way for babies, toddlers and their parents to meet and play. We meet at 10 -11.30am each Tuesday in the Scout Hut with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music and snacks for all, not to mention a much-needed cup of tea/coffee for the deserving parent. Further details contact Lauren (07885 597429), Saara (07739 552336) or alternative like us on Facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers

#### Sherston Village Hall

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

#### Sherston W.I.

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

#### Sherston Young Craft Group

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

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

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

#### Village Hall 300+ Club

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

#### Wiltshire Walks

The walk lasts approximately 45 minutes and often ends with a cup of tea or coffee. Further information contact Sarah Sims on sarah.sims@wiltshire.gov.uk or 07846100233.

For a full list of walking groups in Wiltshire please visit.

For a full list of walking groups in Wiltshire please visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/getwiltshirewalking.

#### Wild Yoga

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

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

# WHAT'S ON

# What's on in 2014 Dates for your diary

#### **April**

9-12 Sherston Drama Group Spring Play

17 WI Open Meeting

19 Sherston Market

May

7-11 Badminton Horse Trials

10 Sherston Market

16/17/18 WildSherston

June

7 Sherston Market

13/14 SherstonFest

July

5 Sherston Market

12 Boules Day

October

5 Mangold Hurl

29-1 Nov Pantomime

November

8 1016 Fireworks

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

# Sherston

#### The Rattlebone Inn

**Monday Quiz Nights** Every Monday at 7:30pm Free entry and prizes for the winning team

Live Rock playing in the Public Bar from 'We Are The Lost boys' Fri 28 Feb

Italian Night Gourmet Three Course Italian Menu, with Tableside Magic From Jack Stevens Thur 20 Mar £23.50 per head Live Music in the Public Bar from Leon Daye Fri 28 Mar

Check boards for more details of events,

For further details call 840871 or follow on Twitter #GavinHunt@Therattlebone or visit www.therattlebone.co.uk/

# 1016 Pancake Eating Competition

Shrove Tues 4 Mar from 7.30pm £2 entry
The Rattlebone Inn For further details call Richard Langley
on 840112 or 07879 612776

#### Art Exhibition at Shear Class Salon

During March there will be a display of paintings and drawings by Heather Martin. Anyone can call in to see them – you don't have to be attending the salon. Shear Class, High St

Events at the Church of the Holy Cross

Pilgrim – a course for Lent for anybody who would like to explore the Christian faith, whether you'd consider yourself a churchgoer or not Wed evenings for 6 weeks from 12 Mar at Rev'd Susan Harvey's house, 55 The Tarters For more details please contact Susan on 840696 susan.harvey44@hotmail.com Ash Wednesday 5 Mar 7.30pm - service of Holy Communion

Mothering Sunday Service Sun 30 Mar

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

**Lent Lunches** This year there will be two lunches plus the Maundy Thursday and Passover meal. The two lunches will take place on Wed 12 Mar & 2 Apr 12 – 1.30 at 55 The Tarters - home of Rev'd Susan Harvey

For further details call Rev'd Christopher Bryan 837522 christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com or Henny Metters 837778 or visit www.alpha.org

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www.luckingtonpreschool.org.uk



#### Sherston WI

**Talk: Funny Side of the Police Forc**e Mar 6 - 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors very welcome £3

Thurs 3 Apr at 7.30pm meeting in BSR

Talk by Prue Leith CBE restaurateur, caterer, TV presenter, broadcaster, cookery writer, Great British Menu judge and writer of novels Thurs 17 Apr - tickets £6.50 to include light refreshments available from the Post Office, Committee Members or Jill Woodward 840578 or jillwoodward222@btinternetcom

#### Sherston Badminton Club Jumble Sale

Sat 8 Mar 10 - 11.30am 20p entry Raffle, tea and coffee available. All in aid of the village hall. Good quality jumble welcome – please bring to the village hall on the morning of 8 March from 9am

For further details call Maureen Jolliffe on 840867 or Ray Clifton on 840592

**FSS Grease Night** 

in aid of Friends of Sherston School Sat 8 Mar 8pm - midnight Tickets £7.50 from the PO or FSS members optional fancy dress, karaoke, Grease-themed cocktails, beer and dancing Village Hall

For further details call Tickets available from the Post Office or the school reception. Contact 07786 990045

#### Sue's Strolls

Sun 16 Mar 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 or visit www.legacymalmesbury.org.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 22 Mar 10am - 2pm The proceeds from the market go towards village hall funds.

Sat 19 Apr Sat 10 May

Village hall For further details call 840348 or visit http://sherstonmarket.weebly.com

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#### 1016 Book Sale

Sat 29 Mar 9am - 12 noon village hall - free entry Donations of books, videos, DVDs and CDs gratefully received. Please deliver to Mike Tarrant at Grays of Sherston. Our books are very reasonably priced with 99% being only 25p each or 5 for £1. We always have a massive selection including a children's section. DVDs and CDs are £1 each. All proceeds to the senior citizens Christmas voucher fund. For further details call 840611

Sherston Drama Group

Spring Play 2013- Fish out of Water Wed 9 to Sat 12 Apr 7.30pm Doors open 7pm Tickets £6.50/£5.50 concessions, including interval refreshments - on sale at the Post Office or via sherstondramagroup@gmail.com Village Hall For further details call Richard Skeffington 840092 sherstondramagroup@gmail.com

#### WildSherston

Weekend of talks and activities Fri 16 May – speaker in the evening on a wildlife topic of general interest Sat 17 May – lots of activity in the Village Hall and Church with 6 – 7 talks on subjects such as identifying local birds, bats, butterflies, flowers and what to do if you find an injured animal or bird. A There will be a programme of activities for children and maybe some wild animals to see. A number of local and national societies will have stands and lots of experts including Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Avon Valley River Trust, a wildlife refuge, British Trust for Ornithology, Forest School, RSPB etc.

Sun 18 May – a number of walks around the village some focused on particular topics such as wild flowers, butterflies or birds as well as a nature trail for children For further details call Geoff Carss on 840995 or geoff\_carss@hotmail.com

#### SherstonFest2013

"the best of contemporary British music and traditional English ciders in a beautiful Cotswold setting" Fri 13, Sat 14 Jun - but tickets sell out fast. STOPPRESS: early bird tickets now sold out - sign up to the email alert for when next tickets released http://sherstonfest.com/buy-tickets/ See website for full details of all events

Village Hall Field

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

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# Open Gardens Trail in aid of Sherston Church

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

Donations of cakes, surplus seedlings, cuttings or divided perennials most welcome For further details call Heather Martin 840375 or Pat Whitehouse 840640

#### Knockdown

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

#### Rural Arts Wiltshire

Pickled Image: Fireside Tales with Grandad Exquisite puppets, captivating storytelling, a magical sound scape and beautiful shadow puppetry combine to create an enchanting show guaranteed to spark the imagination Sat 15 Mar 3pm - Rural Arts event promoted by Sherston Arts Festival CRUSOE Sea, sand, sex and space! 'Gavin Robertson performs with a subtle conviction that is compelling to watch.' The Guardian Sat 1 Mar 7.30pm for a 8pm start. BYO drinks. Grittleton Village Hall Tickets in advance from Jan Jeffcoate 01249 782798 or dandjjeffcoate@btinternet. com. ADULTS £7, CONCESSIONS £6 Sherston & Grittleton Village Halls For further details call TEL: 01249 701628 or email info@ruralartstouring.org.uk

#### Westonbirt

#### The Arboretum

or visit www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

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

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

Walkies - dog walk with Maisie Sun 9, Wed 19 Mar 11am meet at the Skilling gate, free after admission, no need to book Family Event - Forest discovert day - Family Ties Sun 30 Mar 10.30-4pm at the Education centre Free after admission Summer concerts announced: June: Fri 20 Little Mix Sat 21 Suede Sun 22 TBC; July Fri 18 Boyzone; Sat 19 TBC Sun 20 Katherine Jenkins Tickets £39.60 - £43 Box Office 03000 680400 or online For further details call 880220 or visit www. forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

#### Westonbirt School

Saturday 8 March Westonbirt Schools Open Morning (Prep Boys & Girls 3-11, Senior Girls 11-18) 9.30am – 12.30pm For further information or to pre register, please contact Mrs P Stevenson 01666 881301 or pstevenson@westonbirt.org Spring Fashion Show and Supper Friday 21 March 7pm Tickets: £20 per adult, £15 (age 21 and under). Tickets available from Mrs T Warner: 01666 881333 or twarner@westonbirt.org or visit www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

#### Cotswolds Cotswold Rural Skills

Dry Stone Walling LANTRA level (Intermediate) 15-22 Mar £230 Beginners 12 Apr Landsdown £99 Blacksmithing taster Day 02-Mar Tetbury

2 day course £109 1 day £59 For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org. uk or visit www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk. Book ahead to avoid disappointment

#### Easton Grey Whatley Manor

Fondue Plausch - Swiss Cheese Fondue Evenings Tues 11 and 25 Mar £29pp incl fondue main course dessert and a glass of white wine Prebooking essential

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner Now You See Me Sun 23 Mar £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner

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

#### Highgrove House Tetbury Art Society

Roy Baker Memorial Lecture The art of the silversmith - particularly the work of the Hart family from Chipping Campden, gold and silversmiths Tues 18 Mar 2.15pm £28 includes tea & cake. All proceeds to the Prince's Charities Foundation. Advance booking only from Gill Ashley The Orchard Room, Highgrove House For further details call Gill Ashley 840993 or visit www.tetburyartsociety.org.uk

#### Malmesbury

#### MP's Surgery

Local MP surgery with James Gray MP Sat 22 Mar 12 noon - 1pm Sat 19 Apr Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall For further details call www.jamesgray.org or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk for online surgeries

#### Dorothy House Hospice Cake Stall

Malmesbury Market Sat 15 Mar Come and support by bringing cakes for sale or buying delicious homemade cakes All proceeds to Dorothy House Hospice Market Cross For further details call Beryl Clampton 841201, 07850623517 or beryl@clampton.com

#### Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

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

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



#### Malmesbury Singers Easter Concert

The John Rutter Requiem & Brahms Liesbeslieder Waltzes Conductor Iain Duffin accompanists John Hughes & Helen Coombs 29 Mar 7:30pm Tickets (£12, £10 senior citizens, £2 students) available from Abbey Bookshop, choir members or call 823642 Malmesbury Abbey For further details call Abbey book shop

#### Charlton

#### Wiltshire Wildlife Trust – Malmesbury Local Supporters Group

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

Garden Birds and Adventures of a Wildlife Photographer Peter Basterfield Mar-06

Mull. One Foot in Paradise Bob Rogers 03-Apr

#### Didmarton

#### Flicks in the Sticks

Philomena Fri 14 Mar 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

#### Easter Holiday Club for Creative Minds

science craft healthy snack provided outdoor investigation drama games sports and much more Easter holidays adventure 7-9 April 9am—1pm £20 9am-3pm £30 Sibling Discount Run by Qualified Teacher First Aid Trained CRB Checked Fully Insured Didmarton Village Hall For further details call Heather MacLeod on 07866 936471 or Lara Farahar on 07782 504128 or email us at info@creativecarousel.co.uk or visit www.creativecarousel.co.uk

#### Grittleton

#### Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme Wed 26 Mar Philomena

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

#### **Charlton Park**

#### WOMAD - World Music Festival

Thurs 24 - Sun 27 July 2014 WOMAD Early Bird tickets are on sale now Including • SN16 Weekend £115 (full price £160) More information at womad.co.uk/tickets. For further details call or visit Reading Box Office on 0118 960 6060



#### Wotton-Under-Edge The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: The Railway Man: 12 years a Slave; Dallas Buyers Club; Tinkerbell and the Pirate Fairy 2D; Cuban Fury; NT Live: War Horse (Encore) Sat 15 Mar; The Invisible Woman; Monuments Men 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 8 Mar 3pm v. Cambridge United Tues 11 Mar 7.45pm v. Salisbury; Tues 18 Mar 7.45pm v. Grimsby Town; Sat 22 Mar 3pm v. Welling 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

#### Corsham The Pound

Exhibition: 'Wiltshire Unravelled' by Bath Textile Artists The group of ten from the Bath and West Wiltshire area, which includes Heather Martin from Sherston and Gloria Pugh from Luckington, will show stitched, painted and woven textiles inspired by our county Feb 8 - Mar 22. The exhibition preview (open to anyone) is on Fri 7 Feb from 6.30pm to 8pm The Pound Arts Centre hosts a wide range of arts events, live music and drama performances, regular films, exhibitions and a coffee shop. See the website for more details For further details call Box Office 01249 701628 or visit

#### Bath, Stroud, Bristol, Wotton 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 The Sleeping Beauty 19 Mar The Winter's Tale 28 Apr, Manon Lescaut 24 Jun



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#### **National Theatre Live**

Live and pre recorded screenings Live from the National theatre:

15 Mar Encore screening of War Horse at the National Theatre Live Screening: King Lear 01-May

Live Screening: King Lear U1-May

For further details visit www.ntlive.com

#### Bath

#### **Bath Literary Festival**

The Independent Bath Literary Festival Fri 28 Feb - Sun 9 Mar Various events throughout Bath city centre by many authors and actors - Jennifer Saunders, Henry Blofeld, Mark Watson Tickets vary from £4-£17

Bath Festivals Box Office, For further details call 01225 463362 or visit www.bathlitfest.org.uk

#### City of Bath Choir

The Čity 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

For further details call or visit www.bathbachchoir.org.uk or www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

#### Theatre Royal

Arrivals & Departures 3-8 Mar £15-£33.50

Time of my Life 5-8 Mar

Farcicals 08-Mar

Moscow City Ballet - Romeo and Juliet 10-11 Mar Swan Lake 12-16 Mar





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For further details call 01225 448844 or visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk

#### Bath Comedy Festival

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

Bath Festivals Box Office, For further details call 01225 463362 or www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

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

#### Cheltenham

#### The Festival

Tues 11-14 Mar with Wed Ladies' Day, Patrick's Thursday and The Gold Cup Fri from £22 (except Gold Cup Friday from £40) Cheltenham Racecourse For further details call 0844 579 3003 or visit www.cheltenham.co.uk/racing/fixtures/the\_festival.html

# **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



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