



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER

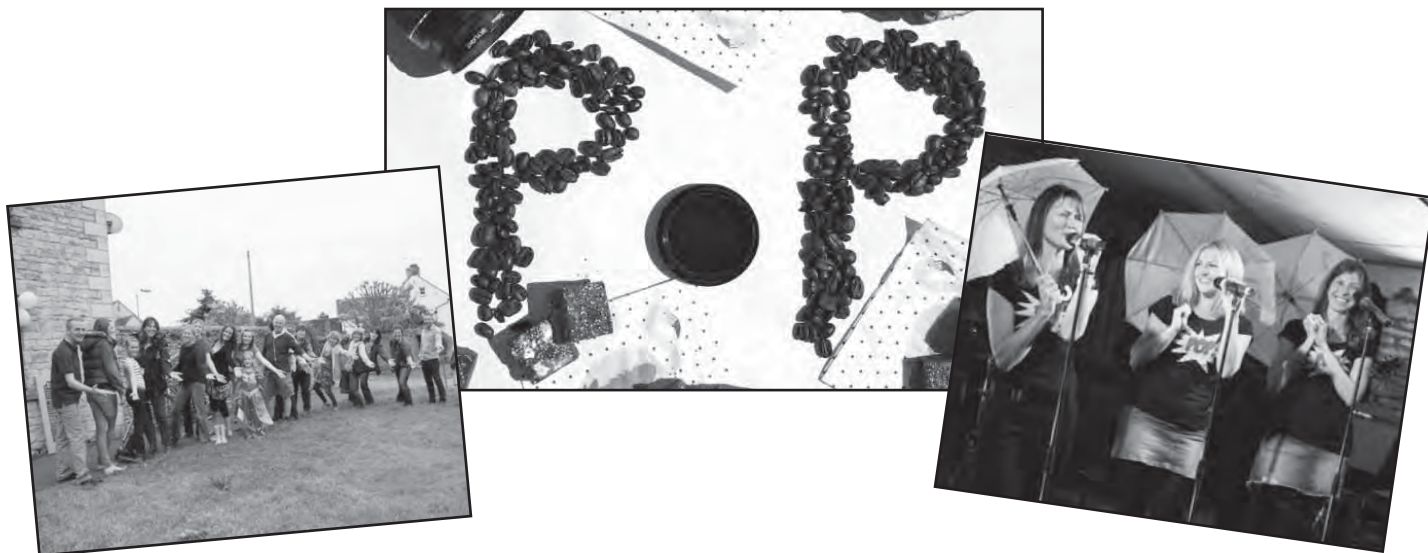


PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MAY 2016

DELIVERED FREE

Sherston POP is bigger than ever!



We hope you have 13-15 May in your diaries as the world's only POP up village is back! We have 45 amazing shops and experiences for you to enjoy over the weekend, held in homes and gardens around Sherston.

So, what does the weekend have in store for you? We think we have something for everyone and the best thing is that it's right on your doorstep!

Now, you can pick and choose what you want to do but if you did want to do EVERYTHING then your weekend would look something like this....you can start the weekend on Friday night by Zorbing (rolling around in huge inflatable balls) and follow that up with a quick crumpet toasted on the forest school fire. Then it's on to the Rec for gourmet fish and chips cooked by a 'Masterchef' contestant where you can also pick up a DVD and snacks so you can enjoy 'The BIG Night In'.

Step out of your door on Saturday morning feeling refreshed and check out POP HQ on the High Street for any remaining spaces on the Pre-book POPs (don't worry there's lots to enjoy without booking too). Retreat to the 'House of Chocolate' while you make your plans! Check out the Living Statues on the High Street outside the Sherston Post Office Stores' POP window created by Busy Hands. Then it's off to Groovie Grampie's record mart, followed by Sherston Market (have a go on the POP tombola!) and Tucks (pick up your POP sausages) ... that's if you haven't decided to enjoy a sports massage or a bread-baking session. The Clay café is a must stop for budding artists and then it's on to the bubble tent at 'Giggles in Green Lane' or perhaps stop off at the wonderful Centred Drama, followed by bites from

Bengal and a gelato with a quick detour to Tarters Tweed and Pam's Patchwork. Of course, on the way you may have decided to record a hit track at the POP stars recording studio. More gorgeous chocolate eating at Cocoa Loco and then perhaps a little French conversation! Make a costume for the Viking weekend just before you POP into the street dance workshop. Perhaps enjoy spot of golf at the picturesque POP-A-Putt at the end of the day....before heading off to any of our 19th holes – there's the fantastic Pizza Factory at The Angel, Sherston Chilli Smokehouse and Tilly's Tipples!

And that's just Saturday! We could go on ... in fact, we can't help ourselves! How could we not mention building Sherston with Brick Club, football coaching, the puzzle trail, the silk-painting workshop, the film studio, the WI POP, the crisp café, instant photo booth, the Space POP, Pad Thai POP, the yummy pick and mix sweets, the Strongs Close 'Take back the streets' afternoon with POP ending with a bang at curry and comedy night at The Rattlebone!

POP is about a whole community coming together and having fun – and if that's not reason enough, did we mention you will be helping to raise money for Sherston Primary School, Busy Hands Pre-School and Sherston Toddlers!

Check out all latest news on Facebook: POP up Sherston or www.popupsherston.com. We are looking forward to welcoming you to POP 2016 - its going to be a jam-packed weekend of fun!

Find pull out maps in the centre pages (17-20).

Neil Forster page 14

Queen's 90th Celebration - Update

The date of the Queen's official 90th birthday celebration is Sunday 12 June. Sherston School will be holding its Olympic event on the Rec from 10.00am to 4.00pm and so Sherston's celebrations will be focused on a thanksgiving service in the evening, organised by the church. Look out for details in the June Cliffhanger.

Thank you

Brenda Llewellyn and family wish to thank all who attended Alan's funeral service and sent messages of sympathy and offers of help during this sad time. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

Particular thanks to The Tolsey Surgery, Rev. Susan Harvey and The Angel for their services.

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.

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

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Strangles – Cliff paths still closed

EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF ALL FOOTPATHS OVER THE CLIFF

With immediate effect all access to the Cliff and the hill opposite has been halted

Due to an outbreak of Strangles, a serious respiratory tract infection for horses, footpaths Sherston 21 and 22 have been closed to reduce the spread of infection.

The footpath from Sopworth Lane to Stretchline and the footpath from the 30 mph signs to up over the hill (opposite the Cliff) are closed. Please do not walk along the river west of Brook Hill.

Please do not walk in this area until further notice

Footpath 22 north from Sopworth Lane to the Water tower is open and footpaths on the Grove Wood side of the B4040 are open.

Emergency Response Team, Sherston Parish Council: emergency@sherston.org.uk

The local outbreak of strangles has resulted in the death of one horse and another horse is now ill. To reduce the likely spread of the disease, it is important that the paths on the Cliff (22 south and 21) remain closed and unused.

Strangles is one of the most common equine diseases in the UK. It is a highly contagious infection of the upper respiratory tract caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus equinus*. A range of bacteria from the same family causes illnesses such as sore throats, scarlet fever and sinusitis in humans, although the disease does not transfer between horse and human.

A horse with strangles will have a runny nose, and painful abscesses may develop on the sides of the head and inside throat, which may cause difficulty eating or extending the head, due to the discomfort in the throat, hence the name strangles.

Strangles is mainly spread between horses by direct contact or shared environments, such as water troughs, with discharge from any draining abscesses being highly infectious. It can also be transferred via a third party, such as people's hands or clothing, or tack and yard equipment. The strangles bacteria will not be blown far in the wind, unlike some viruses (such as foot and mouth), but it is possible that walkers will pick up the virus from one field and transfer it to another field and for this reason paths close to an affected yard are closed.

Clean for the Queen

Sherston's 'Clean for the Queen' will take place on Sunday 10 July, ahead of Boules Day (Saturday 16 July) to ensure the village is tidy for this major event. Litter-picking equipment will be available for free and we are looking for groups to volunteer to help with the 'Clean'. It may be that your group could help one evening during the previous week, when you usually meet. Please contact Jill Cainey (841380 or jill.cainey@gmail.com) if you would like to be involved.

Sherston Baby and Toddler group has moved!

Sherston Baby and Toddler group now meets at 10.00am-11.30am each Tuesday in the British School Room on Cliff Road, where it has been generously supported by the Church to help give the youngest members of the community a lovely space to play and explore.

The carpeted floor makes it the perfect place for crawlers and early walkers, and the new sofa area allows mums of babies to sit and enjoy a drink and a chat whilst their babies play on the rugs. The group provides a craft activity for toddlers, and stimulating toys and books for younger ones.

Many friendships between children and parents have been forged at this group over the years. It is supported by Health Visitor Thelma Burgess, who suggested the group was set up over 30 years ago, and by the Children's Centre in Malmesbury which sends a member of its team along to a session each month.

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council will next meet on Thursday 12 May in the village hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend and there are opportunities to raise questions and make comments. If you cannot attend 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 also be read.

Sherston 1016 : 2016 Rally Cry



Sherston 1016 is a small group of villagers who have in the past put on successful events throughout the year for the village and raised significant funds. All events are for the community like the firework display, booksales, pancake eating race, 2016 Battle of Sherston event.

In the future we will be collecting for specific village needs, be that projects, individuals, groups or charities. This is your opportunity to share your ideas so please contact us with suggested causes at reply@sherston1016.org or place written suggestions in the 1016 Box in the Post Office.

Our meeting on 12 April drew some new support for the group which was very encouraging, so the group will now continue. We welcome Zoe Metcalfe, Emily Stavri and Julia Tully to Sherston 1016 to join our rally cry for more support.

Our major community events like the Bonfire & Firework Display need your committed support to proceed this year. Specifically by volunteering to support essential activities such as the early preparation, clear up, marshalling & food we would really value your time. The actual firework set up and firing would still be carried out by the 1016 trained and insured firers. So any groups or individuals who would like to help keep this great event going, please contact us at reply@sherston1016.org. If you have ever wanted to contribute to village life, then now is the ideal time to volunteer.

It has been decided that after many years of gradual decline in need, relevance and difficulty of fair allocation of the Christmas vouchers that these will cease.

We have our next meeting on 10 May at 8.00pm at The Rattlebone, all welcome.

Please contact us at reply@sherston1016.org or ring Richard Langley 840112, Martin Jaques on 577687 or call in and see Mike Tarrant at Grays of Sherston if you are interested in helping the village.

Thanks to our loyal Sherston 1016: Mike Tarrant, Richard Langley, Paul Ormiston, Martin Jacques, Tom Langley, along with Jill Cainey, Shane McEwan, Paul Filmer, David Lankester, Phil Burden, Roger Harden, Joanne Harmer (and all who have helped with their volunteer support) we raised £2,461 in 2015.

Battle of Sherston Millennium 1016-2016 Events

Get ready for an exciting series of events to celebrate the millennium anniversary of the battle of Sherston. Much more detail will be available in the June 2016 Cliffhanger, but here are current events in the lead up to and within the big weekend.

Saturday 14 May

3.00-6.00pm Make a battle costume Village Hall (part of POP)

Saturday 18 June

Sherston Velo 1016 – 2016 Solstice Challenge
Mass finish at the Rattlebone at 20.16 (8.16pm !)

Friday 24 June

Boules Competition Rattlebone Inn

Saturday 25 June

Athelstan Museum and Jorvik Centre Village Hall

Recreation Ground:

Bar, barbecue, teas and icecream available all day
10.16 am

Rec open for Viking displays and shows, various skirmishes and KidiVik events through the day,
2.30 pm

Bellringers fire the bells, Holy Cross Church

3.00 pm

Rattlebone and Sherston volunteers battle cry

Battle of Sherston re-enactment

5.00 pm Rec events close

7.30 pm Tim Bolton Lecture, Holy Cross Church

9.00 pm Party at the Rattlebone

10.16 pm Fireworks, Holy Cross Church

Sunday 26 June

Service with Dean of Bristol, Holy Cross Church

Throughout the weekend Nick Burrige will be taking photographs to create a keepsake book of the millennial celebrations that will be available to purchase after the event.

Look out for the millennium memorabilia that will be on sale in the village to raise funds for the events and 1016. A commemorative coin has been designed and minted, each child who is currently at Sherston Primary School will receive one of these coins free, but the coins will also be available to buy if you don't want to miss out.

A Wentworth Rattlebone jigsaw has been created and will be on sale at the Post Office and on the day of the big battle.

Look out for the Sherston Saxons, we'll be at the Post office before the event looking for helpers on the weekend. If you're interested please contact Jill Caine, 841380, jill.caine@gmail.com



Front and back of the commemorative coins

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1016 and all that



As part of the Sherston Viking Weekend, there will be a talk in Sherston Holy Cross Church, on Saturday 25 June at 7.30pm. The speaker, Dr Timothy Bolton, has recently published a book about King Cnut for Yale University. He will talk about the lead up to the Viking invasion of England, Edmund Ironside's defence and the Battle of Sherston, and the consequences for English history.

Tickets, on sale from Sherston Post Office from mid May, are £10 to include a glass of wine. Proceeds to the church.

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Coins being minted at a secret location in the midlands

Make a tunic and be part of Rattlebone's army

The Vikings are coming on Saturday 25 June and John Rattlebone needs 15 young lads or lasses to join his army (suggested age 8 – 12). They will need a tunic to wear and this can be made at the workshop on Saturday 14 May in the village hall 3.00-6.00pm – this is part of the POP-Up weekend.

The workshop is suitable for adults (making a tunic for their child) or children who are able to use a sewing machine. Fabric will be provided and sewing machines – or you can bring your own. You will also stencil the Rattlebone logo on the front. The children wearing the tunics will be able to take part in the Battle of Sherston re-enactment on Saturday 25 June.

Please email heather@geoffmartin.plus.com to book a place and state preferred start time: 3.00pm, 4.00pm or 5.00pm. Cost £5

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News from across the Gauzebrook Group

Magazine deadlines mean that this is the first chance I have had to write a word of thanks to all those whose care and attention enabled Holy Week and Easter to be such beautiful and moving events across the Gauzebrook Churches. A lot of love and creativity goes into supporting services and events, decorating churches and backroom work, so thank you to everyone who contributed so generously.

The run up to Easter was a very encouraging time for several reasons. We had a lot of support for the first Worship Together in Sherston, which is a new style of informal service, and will be repeated on Sunday 8 May. An early Holy Week meant that school services were close to Easter, and a beautifully sunny Good Friday meant lots of families enjoyed walking to Luckington for the service there.

The Easter period comes to an end with the Ascension Day communion on Thursday 5 May, 7.30pm at Holy Cross, Sherston. Shortly before that is Rogation Sunday, 1 May, on which we gather at the tiny church of Bremilham to pray for God's blessing on this year's crops. A 6.30pm service is followed by refreshments, thanks to Bindy Collins and her family.

We now have a JustGiving page for the Gauzebrook Gallivant, a 21-mile circular walk around all our beautiful churches. This is happening throughout the

day on Saturday 9 July, and it's possible for those who enjoying walking short distances to do a few miles out of the whole. Organised by Gemini Outdoor, it will be raising money for the ongoing employment of Becky Fisher, our Schools and Children's Worker. I'm pleased to be able to announce that we have recently received a significant cheque from one of the Laing Family Trusts to support this work, which leaves us short of about £7,500 per annum for the next two years.

Christopher Bryan, Rector of the Gauzebrook Group

Have your say at the annual parish meeting

The annual parish meeting takes place on Thursday 26 May at 7.30pm in the village hall. This an opportunity for members of the community to raise and discuss any subject regarding the parish.

Every resident is entitled to attend and like most parish council meetings, it should last no longer than an hour and a half.

Come along and hear about the Battle of Sherston celebrations and enjoy some wine and nibbles.

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. Alternatively, you can contact the parish council via the response form on the website www.sherston.org.uk where you can also read minutes of meetings.

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Sherston Senior Club

On 5 April, 28 members and five visitors enjoyed John Parsons Photographic themed images to music. The images were very cleverly matched to music, for instance '9 million bicycles in Beijing!' sung by Katie Melua with photos of bicycles used for transporting anything and everything in Beijing.

Members and guests then enjoyed a splendid Birthday tea provided by Doris Saunders.

On 19 April, we visited Almondsbury Garden centre.

On 3 May, we are at home in the British School Room for members to recall and share memories of the Second World War.

On 17 May, we will be having a half-day outing to Marlborough with an optional visit to the Silk Merchants house. Coach fare will be £10.00, entry to House £7.50. Leave Carpenters 1.30pm, High St 1.40pm. Visitors: coach £12.00, entry to House £7.50.

On 31 May, Mystery speaker Stephen Wells will be giving a talk on the 'Life and Crimes of Jack the Ripper'.

Visitors are welcome to meetings at £2.00 per visit, which includes tea and biscuits. Visitors are also welcome on the outings. Please contact Helen Quirk on 840516 for more details.

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Good Neighbours

As you are aware, the Good Neighbours Scheme closed on 31 March. I am pleased to say that I started in my new role as Health & Wellbeing Champion, working directly with the Malmesbury Area Board, on 1 April. The role will be very similar to Good Neighbours, but bespoke to the needs of this area. I will be supporting older and vulnerable individuals to live independent, happy, healthy and fulfilling lives by offering information on a variety of topics and working to improve outcomes for them by representing their needs at decision-making levels. This will involve:

- providing information to empower individuals to make decisions about their lives;
- responding to calls of help from individuals who need support to maintain a happy and healthy lifestyle;
- offering options to support health, transport, finance and emotional issues;
- supporting individuals to access provision & services to ensure their needs are met wherever possible;
- working with local groups to strengthen and encourage membership, and ensure sustainability for the group;
- supporting new activities and projects; and
- working with 'Local Champions' to increase capacity in supporting vulnerable people.

The contact number remains the same (07557 922020), but note the new email address (Ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk). My thanks go to the Malmesbury Area Board and to Community First for helping the smooth transfer to the new scheme. This is a free and confidential service.

Ellen Blacker

Charming House to rent in historic Southern France

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

Light and airy with stunning views

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

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

Or call Jennie Lamont on 07985443863

Quote Cliffhanger on any enquiry

Groovie Grampie's vinyl record mart

I will be running this stall in Silver Street during Sherston's POP weekend, 13-15 May. The business plan is to get together a collection of second-hand vinyl albums, LPs, EPs and singles and sell them in aid of Sherston Primary School, Busy Hands and the Toddler Group.

I am personally donating a considerable number of items from my own collection but I need quite a lot more to make it a really worthwhile project. So, if you no longer have a turntable and/or there are dusty boxes of old records lurking somewhere in your loft or under your bed, why not get them out now and let me know when to come around and collect them?

This will be a village event so local 'shoppers' will have the first chance of picking up bargains – all at around charity shop prices. Items that remain unsold at the end of the weekend will be taken to auction and the entire proceeds donated to the Pop-Up fund. Old vinyl prices are quite high at the moment so, with minimal overheads, we have an opportunity to realise a quite useful profit. If you have any items you would like to donate, please call Graham Hayman on 840068 or e-mail grampie@btinternet.com.



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Eat 'cheese' for Macmillan: Wednesday 1 June

Phyl Thorburn is once again having an Open Garden Day at Barton House, The Bartons, Sherston serving morning coffee, Ploughman's Lunch with lovely cheese and pickles, and afternoon tea and cake. So please put Wednesday 1 June in your diary. Come and enjoy the pretty garden, good fare and hospitality and the company of friends between 10.30am and 5.00pm. Phyl hopes that, by opening all day, you will find a moment to join her, or come for lunch and stay for tea! Entrance, morning coffee and afternoon tea and cake are by donation. Tickets for the Ploughman's Lunch are £4.00 including a soft drink and can be bought at Sherston Post Office Stores, the Seniors May meetings and the WI May meeting or from Phyl direct. If you would like to support the event by baking a cake or donating a raffle prize or want to know more, please ring Phyl on 840206. Last year she raised £1,000 for the Macmillan nurses at Bath RUH and has set the bar rather high, so let's eat cheese – and cake! – for Macmillan.

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.

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Walk with Sue

Sue McKechnie's next walk will be on Sunday 29 May. Please assemble at the village hall at 10.00am, with a return to the Rattlebone around 12.00noon. As ever, children and well-behaved dogs, the latter on leads, are very welcome. The walk is entirely free and there's no need to book a place – just turn up on the day!



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Sherston Velo 1016 – 2016 Solstice Challenge



Now an annual tradition for Sherston Velo, on the weekend closest to the summer solstice riders set out on a challenge that aims to take full advantage of the longest day of the year. Previous years have seen progressively longer rides, with double and even triple centuries tumbling. This year sees something a little different to commemorate a very special year for the village. On 18 June, the Velo will be grouping up and leaving the village with a mass start at 10.16am (ie 1016), with an aim to complete a lap of Wiltshire (around 140 miles) and return by 8.16pm (ie 2016) the same evening for some fun and games at the Rattlebone. There are different rides for all club members, from 20 miles up to the full distance. The 140-mile route is by no means compulsory and each group will reform with the other members to ensure a mass finish at 20.16. For more information on how to join the Velo, Sherston's thriving and friendly cycling club, please contact secretary@sherstonvelo.co

Sherston Village Hall 300+ Club

April 2016 Draw

1st	205	Paul Moody	£13
2nd	201	Elaine Littlejohn	£12
3rd	102	Phil Moore	£11
4th	69	Roger Ashley	£10
5th	109	Jane Harden	£9
6th	203	Linda Stevens	£8
7th	128	Dr Richard Skeffington	£7

Collectors: Anne Andrews, Mary Goulding, Gwen Mason, Pat Moody, Rachel Moody, Janet Platts, Lin Prior, Margaret Thacker and Jill Woodward.

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Sherston Market

The next market is on Saturday 14 May at Sherston Village Hall from 10.00am to 2.00pm. The café will be serving up some enticing and delicious food to tempt you both to eat in or to take away. Not only will we have our very popular vegetarian curry with naan bread, but also our sought-after bacon butties, as well as a delicious home-made soup.

At all markets, at least one free stall is offered for a charity or voluntary group to raise funds. Anyone interested in running such a stall should please use the contacts below. All these stalls have done well to date so don't be shy in booking one! At the May market, there will be a stall in aid of Riding for the Disabled and also a special tombola raising money for POP.

For those on Facebook, there is an active Sherston Market page with lots of information about our stallholders and their products. Please also visit our new website – www.sherstonmarket.co.uk – which lists details of which stallholders are attending the next market.

If you are a local maker, baker, grower or producer and are interested in taking a stall, please get in touch using the contact form on the website, phoning 07887 814843 / 07769 613627 or emailing info@awkwardsquad.co.uk

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SHERSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Meeting in the British School Room

May Services

1st May 4.00pm	All Age Service
8th May 11.00am	Communion Service
15th May 11.00am	All Age Service
22nd May 11.00am	All Age Service
29th May 11.00am	All Age Service Ray Avent

Doing it for the kids: find out what Boondocks 2016 has in store for the youngsters!

We're proud to say we genuinely have something for ALL age groups at Boondocks 2016. Here's a preview of what's in store for the younger children!

The Baby Bell Tent – for shade, shelter, changing, feeding or just some quiet time, a tiny world just for tots will be on hand for the under-twos.

The Climbing Wall – a towering 7.3m tall, send your kids up the wall for the best view of the festival, and probably even Malmesbury too.

Miss Popularity – an absolute favourite with the younger children last year, we're delighted to welcome back the queen of balloon-modelling to provide swords, hats, animals and who knows what else all weekend.

Best of all – most of these activities are included in the ticket price. And those that aren't will be helping local causes. Check out the website here: www.theboondocksfestival.co.uk/under18s for the full range of treats in store, and we'll be adding more as we get closer.

If you don't yet have your tickets, then now is the perfect time to buy, now the summer term has started

(yes! summer!), July will be here in no time once the sun comes out! Under 18s, adults, camping and glamping tickets all available here: www.theboondocksfestival.co.uk/tickets.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Boondocks 16 family!

With best wishes

The Boondocks Team

Small Ads

Looking for someone to walk my friendly shih tzu, Chazzie, on weekday mornings! Happy to pay.
Contact Julia: 841222, juliawebb98@gmail.com.

You can now advertise items for sale or wanted in the Cliffhanger including services required such as gardening or cleaning. Cost is £2 for up to 20 words. Copy should be in paper form and put through the letterbox at 37 High Street by the 15th of the month together with £2 in cash. All monies raised will be donated to charity.

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Sherston Boules & Carnival 2016



What a summer for Sherston! POP in May, the 1016 re-enactment of the Battle of Sherston and Olympic Day in June and, of course, don't forget Sherston Boules & Carnival, with 'Boules Day' taking place this year on Saturday 16 July.

Team entries have now closed and, as always, we have been well oversubscribed and therefore, by the time this goes to press, the draw will have taken place to finalise our 128 teams. We are pleased to confirm that we have a strong local team presence this year to take on the mighty Welsh whilst we are pleased to confirm the French are coming too, fielding two teams from Gien this year.

Once again, a whole raft of sponsors are generously supporting the event which directly aids local groups and activities in and around Sherston. If any businesses are keen to sponsor, they get a free team entry and will have their company name and logo emblazoned on one of our famous pitch-side 'Toblerones' so please do get in touch.

In the run up to Boules Day, we are reviving the children's disco on Tuesday, the traditional skittles takes place this year in the Bone on Wednesday, and we have an evening cricket match and barbecue at the beautiful Pinkney Park on Thursday – bring a rug, some friends and enjoy a beer or glass of wine. On Friday, we have another revival – the Fancy Dress Football – whilst The Rattlebone will be host too for the annual Sherston 'reunion party', with live music and food where friends and family can get together before the main event.

On Sunday, we have some fresh ideas for some morning fun on the Rec from Egg Catching to Welly Wanging plus the annual Tug of War aided by 1016 and not forgetting, of course, the Duck Race and teas at Mill Cottage in the afternoon.

And finally – a plea for help – we appreciate that Sherston is at 'full stretch' this year with so much going on, but as always we are very grateful to everyone who helps. Last year, I was astounded at how many Sherston people 'just make it happen' and as always the event needs as much help it can muster. Whether that is shovelling sand and setting up, manning barbecues and stalls, pulling pints or on 'logistics' and shifting trestles and tents and taking it all down again – any help is appreciated so please let me know if you have an hour – it will go a long way to making the event fun.

James Pyle, Chairman, 840886, james@jamespyle.co.uk

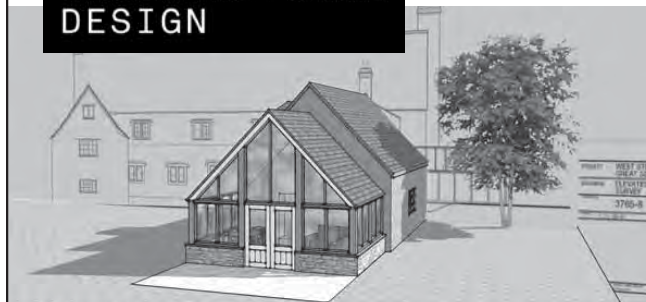
Checkmate for Sherston Cubs!



Sherston Cubs Jake Law and Jacob Cheetham represented Ist Sherston Cubs at Wiltshire North Cub Chess Competition, held at the end of April in Corsham. The event was a great success, with more than 25 cubs taking part from eight packs. While the top cub of the day managed to win all five of his games, Jake and Jacob both managed to win a respectable two out of five their games.

Sherston Cubs meet every Friday, 6.30pm-8.00pm. To add your son to the waiting list, please email sherstoncubsandscouts@gmail.com

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Christian Aid Week 2016

This year, Christian Aid week runs from 15 to 21 May. Once again, we are aiming to carry out our door-to-door collection, visiting as many homes as we can in the Gauzebrook Group – Alderton, Easton Grey, Foxley, Hullavington, Luckington, Norton, Sherston and Stanton St Quintin. We have already started our preparations; the thousands of envelopes, the banners, posters and collectors' badges will be arriving this week.

We are now beginning to organise the teams of people who will help to carry out this big undertaking. Many of them have been faithfully collecting for years and will do so again this year, but we are always looking for new helpers. It would be great if the 2016 collection could be as successful as last year's, when Gauzebrook raised £3,736.48 - or perhaps even better!

Could you be a Christian Aid volunteer in 2016? We need people who will deliver and collect donation envelopes during Christian Aid Week. You could just visit the five or ten houses closest to your home; if a good number of people would do that it would make such a difference

Please look kindly on the red Christian Aid envelope when it comes through your letterbox this year and join us in trying to help our neighbours in the world who need support to deal with lives that are full of problems we can hardly imagine. If you don't want to donate on the doorstep, perhaps you could consider an online donation at www.caweek.org

Thank you in advance for whatever you can do to help.

Sue Robinson 841263

Gauzebrook Christian Aid Week organiser

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Neil Forster

A Remarkable Life

Members of Sherston PROBUS will remember the talks that Neil gave about his life and times. Such was the variety and richness of his biography that by the end of three talks he had only managed to get to his 60th year! Those of us who were privileged to hear him were treated to remarkable stories and anecdotes covering the time before he came to Sherston. It is very difficult to précis such a history, but in brief:-

He won a scholarship to the Byam Shaw Art School and then set up in London with a studio-cum-apartment in London, becoming friends with many of the Chelsea set. He supplemented his income with work as a bartender. In 1966 he went to the south of France to launch the opening of a friend's gallery there, staying on for a year, largely as the guest of various friends. He then led a peripatetic life travelling from one commission to another; Spain, France, Ireland, America, Kuwait, Norfolk before he found 'home' in Sherston. It was here he married Penny Mitchell, in the leap year of 2000, asking her to pop the question to him!

He also came to know the Prince of Wales and stayed regularly in Scotland on painting tutorials, passing on his knowledge and techniques. A bond, through art, developed into a strong and caring relationship; the Prince of Wales taking a close interest in Neil's work and welfare.

It is said that Neil was one of the finest animal painters of his time and it is true he carved out a special niche for himself. 'I can't think,' says Chris Beetles, whose gallery represented him for several years, 'of any more talented pastel portraitist, either of people or of animals, since the Second World War. His gifts were sublime'.



We were all aware we had a very special talent in our midst but it was not so much his art that

attracted our attention. It was his very presence. He was everyone's friend; he greeted people with a personal warmth that was irresistible. This greeting would usually start with a massive hug which made the recipient feel that he or she was the most important person in Neil's life. After the hug, there would be engaging conversation, humour, laughter and perhaps if you were lucky an anecdote or two from his colourful life.

However, more than this was the work he did on behalf of the village. There was Sherston Magna Cricket Club (SMCC), which he almost single-handedly revived. He kept wicket, batted and fielded with skill and enthusiasm, characteristics which he would pass on to the many young players he coached after he retired from playing. His coaching concentrated on the ethics, good manners and sportsmanship of the game of cricket as much as on the technique. He continued to be an ardent supporter of the club and nothing gave him greater pleasure than seeing 'one of his boys' perform. Talking of performance those of you who were there, will not forget his participation in the 'Smile Out Loud' evening where he enthralled the audience with his stories and played a major role in an event which raised much needed seed money to ensure the installation of nets at Pinkney Park. He kept a close association with SMCC and in 2014 was elected President.

He participated in all village activities with enthusiasm. He was an omnipresent figure on Boules day and a keen supporter of those involved in its organisation and promotion. Mangold Hurling, Sherston Probus, the Arts Festival and other activities which benefited the community were all on his agenda. He was often asked to provide one of his paintings for auction to support a good cause and he was always generous in his gift.

Through all the changes of his life, the one constant was people's affection for him. His friends and acquaintances loved him for his company and he will be greatly missed by all of us. He would be pleased to know that we are there to support Penny in what is a very difficult time for her.



Neil Forster Memorial Service

As many of you may already know, a Memorial Service for Neil Forster will be held in Holy Cross Church at 11.00am on Monday 16 May.

We anticipate that a lot of people will want to come to this service so we would like to give you some information which you may find helpful beforehand. A number of pews at the front of the church, as requested by the family, will be reserved for them and their guests. There is limited further seating in church and this will be filled up as people arrive or given to those who are unable to stand for the length of the service. To accommodate the biggest possible congregation, part of the north aisle will be standing room only and you may be asked to stand there if you are able to do so. The words of the service will be relayed into the churchyard, courtesy of Mr Dave Shepherd so that, in the event of the church being filled to capacity, those outside will still be able to hear what is being said inside. There will be no admission to the church after 10.50am.

Thank you in advance for your understanding of these arrangements.

Sue Robinson and Pam Pickthall, Churchwardens

Sherston Open Gardens Weekend

We are still open to offers for more gardens to be open over the weekend of 18 and 19 June, large or small, if you love your garden, do share it with us and others. Also, if you are a keen gardener, please save some cuttings, and small plants, especially vegetables, for the very popular plant stall.

For further details please get in touch with heather@geoffmartin.plus.com or phone 840375.

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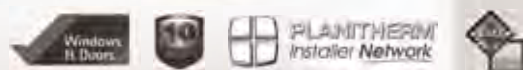
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Walk on the wild side

Spring is everywhere



Swallows and house martins have arrived, chiffchaffs are singing having just arrived from West Africa (that's one in the picture taken near Grove Wood) and everything is frothing with spring. A chiffchaff weighs just seven grams - the same as a pound coin - and flies all that way. Isn't that quite an amazing feat?! The swifts should be here soon - for me it's the iconic summer bird with small flocks shrieking up and down the High Street.

After keeping an eye out for a couple of years, I have finally seen water voles in the river near Grove Wood. Usually they are so fast and disappear with a splash before you see them but this time I saw them swimming down the river. Kingfishers are back and very active.

For the past few weeks, I have had a camera trap out in gardens and along the river to see if the otter is around. As yet it hasn't been spotted but lots of other birds and animals are around, such as the muntjac deer in the photo. The Chinese or Reeve's muntjac has been introduced to this country, with a population being released from Woburn Abbey in

the 1920s. They have spread to such an extent that they could be the most common deer in England.

Finally - an antidote to the European Vote on the 23 June!! - there will be a number of talks in the village hall at 7.30pm from Butterfly Conservation, Wiltshire Ornithological Society and the Bristol Avon River Trust on many aspects of our local wildlife and natural environment. You can vote in the small hall and pop round to the big hall for something quite different and everyone is welcome - even if you are an 'innie' or an 'outie'!!



Friday 13 th May 2016	Time Slot : PM As shown	Saturday 14 th May 2016	Time Slot : 12.00pm-3.00pm cont.
<p>1. POP Up Zorbing, 4pm-6pm, Sherston Primary School. Five-a-side football in Zorbs by Go Active. 10 minute sessions for 7-15 year olds. (signed consent forms needed from parents). £4 per child. ND</p> <p>2. Campfire Cooking Forest School, 3.10pm-6pm, Sherston Primary School. Join Niki, toast a tea cake or crisp a crumpet over our fire (<u>must</u> be accompanied by a parent/guardian). Donations. ND</p> <p>3. The Big Night In! 6pm-8pm, The Rec. Pick up everything you need for a fun night in. Pre-order posh fish & chips to collect from the gourmet fish van via sophcheetham@gmail.com. Drinks, snacks, records and DVDs to takeaway and enjoy at home! See website for full details. ND</p>	<p>Saturday 14th May 2016 Time Slot : 9.00am – 12.00pm</p> <p>Also on: <i>Puzzle Trail</i> (see No. 32), <i>Cake POP</i> (see No. 33), See Sunday map for full details</p> <p>4. POP Puzzle Trail, POP High Street HQ. Adventures galore around Sherston. Trails available all weekend and prize for every completed one – ends 4pm Sunday. Enter for grand prize! £1 per entry.</p> <p>5. Living Statues, Outside the Post Office, 10am-11am. Three living statues...what will happen if you POP a coin in the hat?</p> <p>6. House of Chocolate, 17 High Street. For the chocoholics! A celebration of all things chocolate... so come in, take a seat and indulge in some delectable treats. From 30p to £3. ND, T</p> <p>7. The Clay Café, 30 Easton Town, 10am-12pm. Get creative in the garden, make anything you fancy with clay. £1 per splat of clay. Garden plants, café and 'real' dragon's eggs to buy! ND, T, NS</p> <p>8. Groovie Grampie's Vinyl Record Mart, 26 Silver Street. Selling vintage vinyl records for young adults and old hippies. POP in for some old school vibes. From £1.</p> <p>9. Baking at No. 5, 5 The Tarters. With THE bread-baking master, taste, bake and take home various breads from scratch. Only 4 spaces. Pre-book essential: rob_farahar@hotmail.com. £25pp.</p> <p>10. Sherston Sports Massage, 14 Cliff Road. Take time out and book your 30 minute taster session. See website for full details. Pre-book: carol@sherstonsportsmassage.com. £20 per session. ND, T, NS</p> <p>11. Tucks Farm Shop, Noble Street. Introducing the POP sausage, a secret recipe created just for POP! On sale for the week before POP and Saturday morning. Grab them while you can!</p> <p>12. Sherston Market, Village Hall. Full of lots of lovely stalls. POP in and try our charity tombola. T</p>	<p>Saturday 14th May 2016 Time Slot : 12.00pm-3.00pm</p> <p>Also on: <i>Puzzle Trail</i> (see No. 4), <i>POP Stars</i> (see No. 18), <i>Animal Treats</i> (see No. 32), <i>Cake POP</i> (see No. 33)</p> <p>15. Indian Garden, 42 The Tarters. An Indian-inspired garden featuring henna body art and bites from Bengal. POP in and get some gorgeous temporary body art. From £2-£6. T</p> <p>16. Tarters Tweed, 23 The Tarters. All things tweed including beautiful cushions, lampshades, phone covers and baby ponchos. From £6-£18.50.</p> <p>17. Centred Drama, 5 The Tarters. Fun drama activities in the bell tent. 2 sessions, Years 4-6: 12pm-1pm, Years 2&3: 1.05pm-2.05pm. Pre-book: lara@centredrama4kids.co.uk. £4 per child. ND</p> <p>18. POP Stars, 17 High Street. Become a POP star, record a track in a professional studio! Adults and Year 7+, groups or individuals. Pre-book: ds@oldbellhouse.com. Only 6 sessions avail. at £10.</p>	<p>Saturday 14th May 2016 Time Slot : 3.00pm-6.00pm</p> <p>19. POP-A-Putt, Honeywell, Grove Road. One of the county's most idyllic six-hole pitch and putt courses with refreshing 'Golf teas'. From £1, just POP in. ND, T</p> <p>20. Cocoa Loco, 6 Easton Town. A tempting array of handmade chocolates made with the help of a real Belgian Chocolatier, Matthieu de Gottal! From £1-£5. ND</p> <p>21. Pam's Patchwork, 2 Manor Close. Beautifully stylish handmade bags large and small from £2. T</p> <p>22. Rattlebone Army Costumes, Village Hall. The Vikings are coming Saturday 25th June, join in and make a tunic. See website for details. Pre-book: heather@geoffmartin.plus.com. £5 pp. ND, T</p> <p>23. Pumped POP up Street Dance School, British School Rooms. Learn to street dance with this high-energy session from Bristol's 'Pumped' Dance School. 3.00pm-4.30pm. Pre-book: laurafmgould@btinternet.com. £4.50 per child. ND, T, NS</p> <p>24. Conversation Française, Marden House, Thompsons Hill. Perfect your French, a fun 45-minute session with a real Frenchman! Pre-book: tvmeheust@gmail.com. £5 pp, includes refreshments.</p>
<p>Saturday 14th May 2016 Time Slot : 5.00pm-8.00pm</p> <p>25/26. Sherston Chilli Smokehouse & Tilley's Tipples, The Old Pharmacy, High Street, 5pm-8pm. Food cooked Low 'n' Slow, including 16hr smoked pork, mac and cheese and hot dogs all served alongside good gin, bourbon and beer! Fantastic full menu on the website. From 50p-£5.</p> <p>27. 'Pizza Factory', The Angel, 5pm-9pm. Kids can create their own pizza while adults enjoy a gourmet pizza made by the chef and a cheeky glass or two in the wine bar. From £5-8. ND, T</p> <p>28. Courthouse Blowout, Court Street, 8pm-11.30pm. Dancing to the hottest DJs in town. Very limited space. Pre-book essential: juliet.blows@googlemail.com. £5 per ticket.</p> <p>29. Late Night Lauren's. Mmm...chips with cheese, curry sauce or coleslaw on the side! £1.50.</p> <p>T=Toilets available, ND=No dogs please, NS=No shoes please</p>			

Please pull out this centre spread and separate the two maps - have fun!

Welcome to Sherston, home to the world's only POP up village and it's jam-packed!

Held in gardens and homes around Sherston here are a few helpful notes to enjoying POP.

Everyone involved is generously giving their time free of charge. Every penny of profit will go to *Sherston Primary School, Busy Hands Pre-School and Sherston Toddlers*.

Some of the POPs need to be pre-booked. If you are just picking this map up on the day, don't worry, there will be a list of spare places still available at the information marquee on the High Street and there is plenty to enjoy without booking.

Full details on every POP are also available at www.popupsherston.com - 'A visitors guide to POP'.

Thank you for visiting POP and we appreciate your support! Check out Sunday's map for more fun.

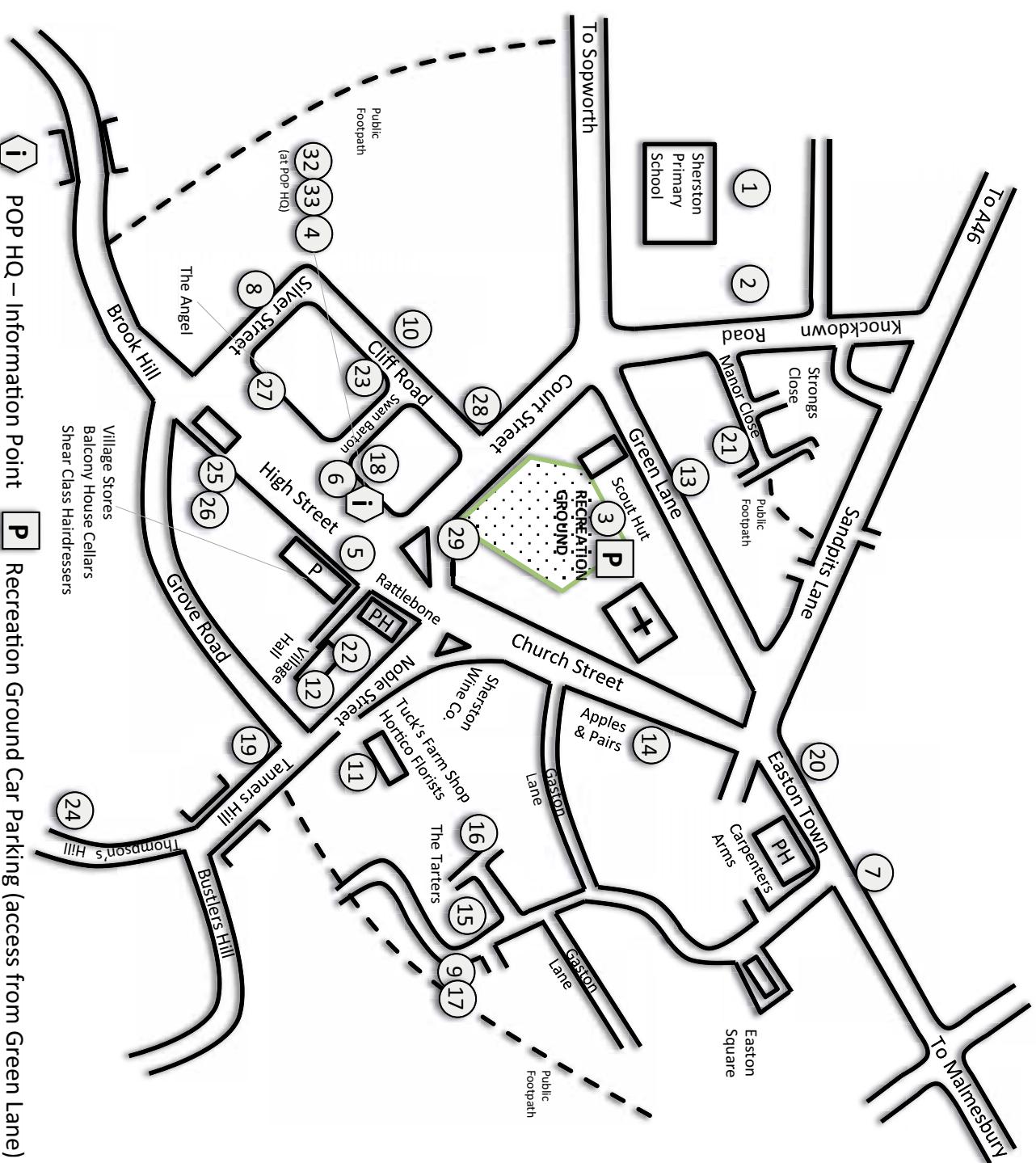
Don't forget to visit the wonderful Sherston shops that are here year-round too!

We hope that you enjoy your visit but please note that visitors making voluntary contributions/donations for goods or services from any of the POP up village's POPs do so at their own risk and Sherston Primary School, Busy Hands Pre-School, Sherston Toddler Group, the POP up team, or the volunteers running the POP ups accept no responsibility for any possible harm, loss or damage caused by participation. This is a charity event with all proceeds paid to the three benefiting groups and as such prices are suggested levels of donation.

Facebook/[popupsherston](https://www.facebook.com/popupsherston)
www.popupsherston.com



The POP up Village – Friday 13th & Saturday 14th May 2016



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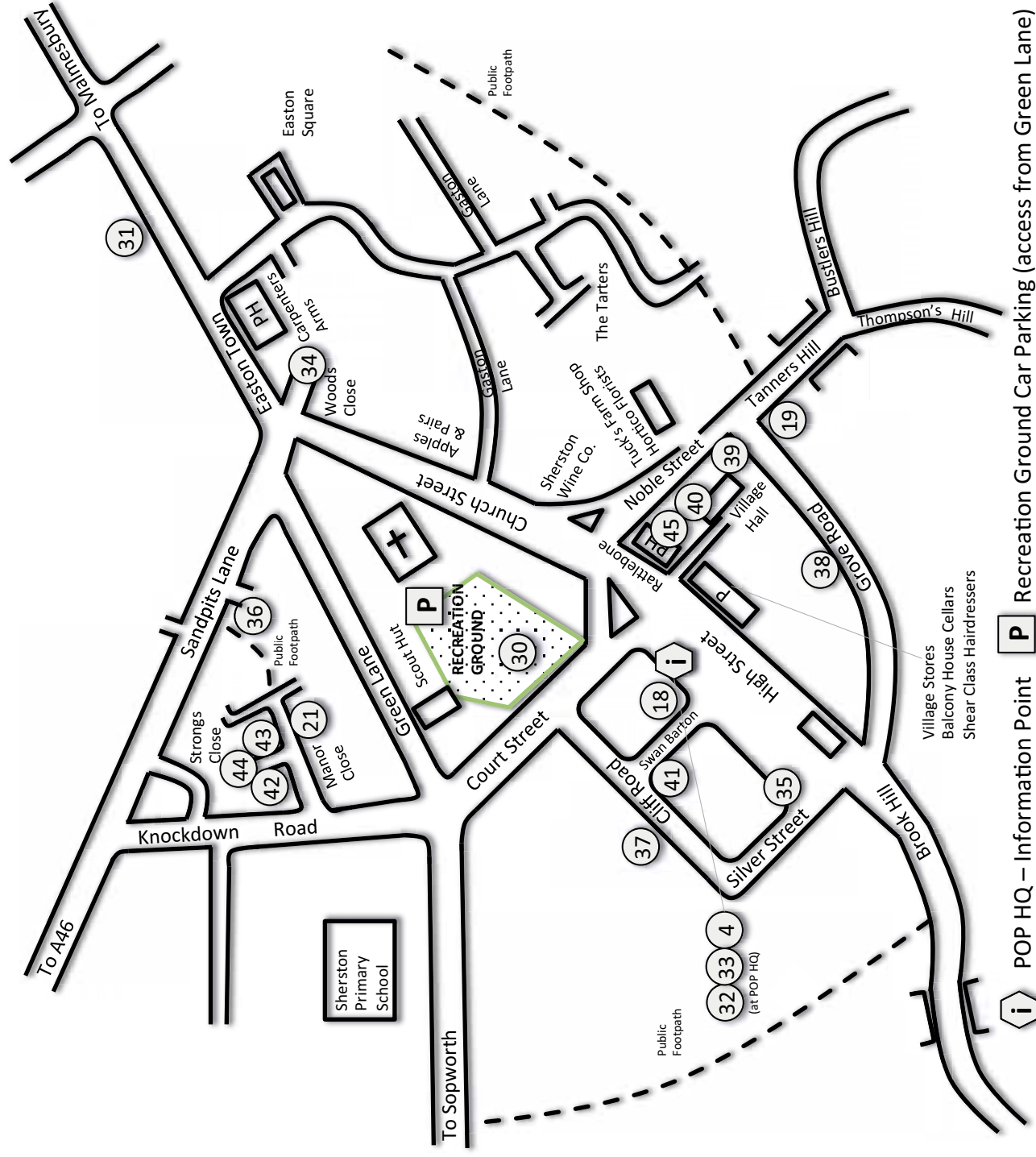
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The POP up Village – Sunday 15th May, 2016



Sunday 15th May 2016

Time Slot : 9.00am-12.00pm

30. POP up on the Pitch, The Rec, 9am-11am. Just POP along to this football coaching session for all ages, boys and girls, followed by the competition of the year – the penalty shoot-out! A perfect way to spend a Sunday morning! £1 per child. ND, T

31. Silk Painting Workshop, 30 Easton Town, 10am-1pm. A relaxing and creative session making your own hand-painted silks. Only 4 spaces for adults. Pre-book essential: jane@milnefamily.co.uk. £20 includes all materials and refreshments. ND, T, NS

32. Animal Treats by the Brownies, POP HQ, High Street. Your dogs, cats, guinea pigs and rabbits can enjoy POP too! Pick up a treat down at HQ! All handmade by the lovely 1st Sherston Brownies. From £1-£3.

33. Cake POPs, POP HQ, High Street. Chocoholics will love these cake POPs. Available all weekend at HQ – well, while they last! From 50p.

19. POP-A-Putt, Honeywell, Grove Road. One of the county's most idyllic six-hole pitch and putt courses with refreshing 'Golf teas'. A Masters green jacket will be awarded for the lowest score. All equipment provided. From £1 just POP in. T, ND

4. POP Puzzle Trail, POP High Street HQ. Adventures galore around Sherston. Trails are available all weekend and there is a prize for every completed one – finishing 4pm Sunday. Enter for the grand prize! Thank you to Sherston Post Office Stores for sponsoring this event. Don't forget to check out the POP window there too! £1 per entry.

Sunday 15th May 2016

Time Slot : 12.00pm-3.00pm

Also in this session: Puzzle Trail (see No. 4), Animal Treats (see No. 32), Cake POP (see No. 33)

34. Pad Thai POP, 11 Woods Close. Authentic - and might we add legendary - Pad Thai to take away. Need we say more! Yum! £5 per box (adult portion or feeds two children).

35. Instant Photo Booth, 39 High Street. An instant photo booth will take your picture, props are provided or POP along with your own. Bring your family, friends and pets. Takeaway a strip of photos at the end – well it is instant! From £2. T, NS

36. The Carriers Crisp Café, 4 Carriers Close. All the rage in London Town, a 'Gourmet' selection of crisp sandwiches, tea, coffee and proper biscuits for dunkin! POP in and chill out. From £1-£2.50. T

37. The Pop-Vox-POP Film Studio, 12 Cliff Road, 1pm-3pm. Have you ever wanted to be a film star? POP in and we will interview you for the Sherston POP film. We would love to see everyone – those who have run a POP or enjoyed any of the POPs this weekend. The edited film will appear on the POP website! FREE – just POP in and see the crew!

Sunday 15th May 2016

Time Slot : 12.00pm-3.00pm cont.

38. Space POP, 7 Grove Road. All things space - come along and create a mini rocket to launch, using special 'rocket fuel', junk model flying saucers and make your own spacemen. £1.50. T

39. Pick and Mix Sweets, Apple Wood House, 11 Noble Street, 1pm-4pm. All your favourite childhood 'penny' sweets in a stripy bag! From 1p!

40. Sherston Women's Institute POP, Village Hall, 2pm-4pm. POP in and children can have fun printing a card and making a bracelet and adults can snuggle a vintage scarf. There are also demos of large scarf tying. From 50p.

18. POP Stars, 17 High Street. Become a POP star and record a track in a professional studio! Adults and Year 7+, groups or individuals. Get your track on a CD to take home. Check out the website for details. Pre-book: ds@oldbellhouse.com. Only 6 sessions available at £10.

Sunday 15th May 2016

Time Slot : 3.00pm-6.00pm

Also in this session: Puzzle Trail (see No. 4), Animal Treats (see No. 32), Cake POP (see No. 33), POP Stars (see No. 18), Sherston Women's Institute (see No. 40)

41. Build Sherston!, British School Rooms. Brick Club presents a monumental building challenge – create Sherston in just three hours. POP in for an hour and have a go! Donations welcome.

42/43/44. Take Back The Streets!, Strong's Close, 3pm-5pm. We have reclaimed the street and children can bike, scoot, heele or skate around the car-free 'track'. With traditional games on the side and a café for everyone to chill out in, THE rainbow drink and the Welsh Fudge POP. This is a bit of a street party! 3pm-3.45pm, ages 6 and under. 3.45pm-5pm, all ages welcome. £1.

21. Pam's Patchwork, 2 Manor Close. Beautifully stylish bags large and small from £2. T

Sunday 15th May 2016

Time Slot : 6.00pm-late

45. Curry & Comedy POP, The Rattlebone. POP ends with a bang! Reserve your table for a top night down The Rattlebone – and enjoy a brilliant comedian with your curry. Or if you can't find a babysitter, someone can POP down the pub for a pint and pick up a takeaway curry for you! Ring the Rattlebone for details.

What's on next?

Thank you for joining us at POP we really appreciate your support. Can't get enough of 'only in Sherston' moments? Fear not – there is plenty going on! First up is the Olympic Day on Sunday 12th June, followed by Viking Day on Saturday 25th June and the 30th Anniversary of Boules on Saturday 16th July. Oh, and just out of Sherston is the unmissable Boondocks Festival 8th-9th July!

T=Toilets available, ND=No dogs please, NS=No shoes please

Sherston W.I.



Our President Mo Mulrain cruised in the Antarctic two years ago and enthralled us with her description and photographs of her amazing trip. She became very familiar with the different types of penguins and seals and was lucky enough to see whales.

The icebergs with their blue tint towered above the boat and on two occasions small dinghies were used to take passengers ashore to get up close to the penguins and seals and to visit various scientific stations long vacated but still stocked with items of equipment, tinned foods, minute bunks, etc.

The speaker in May will be telling us about behind the scenes running a garden centre, and voting will take place on the two resolutions that have been put forward this year which could make a difference: 'Avoid food waste, address food poverty' and 'Appropriate care in hospitals for people with dementia'.

On a lighter note, the WI will be helping children to make bracelets and greeting cards, and ladies to tie large scarves at Pop Up weekend. We shall also be selling good second-hand scarves. Pay us a visit in the small village hall on Sunday 15 May between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

1st Sherston Cubs on parade!

A dedicated contingent of cubs from the 1st Sherston pack attended the annual St George's Day parade on Sunday 24 April. Each year a different village or town of North Wiltshire hosts the march and this year Colerne, near Chippenham, was the location. It was, thankfully, a bright, sunny day as we gathered for the off. Each cub dressed in their best uniform, neckers ironed and shoes polished we lined up in our threes, the 'colour party' proudly leading the way bearing the cub flag. For many of the cubs this was their first parade, and everyone marched well and kept in line.

The parade was followed by a very entertaining church service which included a re-enactment of the fight between St George and the dragon! Sherston cubs sat quietly attentive and were very well-behaved throughout.

Thanks go to all the parents who brought their boys and, of course, to the cubs themselves.

Thanks for buying our books (and DVDs and CDs)!

Sherston Village Hall was again packed with books, DVDs and CDs on Saturday 23 April for the latest book sale organised by Sherston 1016.

The event has become so popular that, for this most recent sale, Sherston 1016 weren't able to accept any new book donations! They had run out of storage space!

Thanks to a good turnout of book lovers at the sale, the stock level has reduced somewhat, but there is still a plentiful supply in the store.

Books are displayed under children's, fiction, gardening, cooking, travel and biographies. The book sales have become a real social event, with regulars coming along not just to browse through the thousands of books on display, but also to have a chat with friends.

The sale was in aid of Sherston 1016's local charities, and raised £167. There was also a raffle, kindly organised by Jill Caine, which raised £116 towards the costs of June's re-enactment of the Battle of Sherston.

All the members of Sherston 1016 thank everyone who supported the event. Sherston 1016 takes its name from the date of the Battle of Sherston, with the army of the Viking Canute/Cnut and the Anglo Saxons, led by Edmund Ironside with help from local chieftain John Rattlebone.

There will be a smaller version of the book sale on Boules Day, in the High Street.

Luckington Post Office to close

Having run the Luckington Post Office and associated shop for over 23 years, John and Judy Sykes have announced their plans to retire. Consequently, the post office and shop will be closing in the near future. Plans are still being finalised by them to manage the closure of the business, but it is expected to occur within the next three months.

Luckington Parish Council is, however, investigating the possibility of re-establishing a village shop, and recently circulated a questionnaire about shop provision in Luckington. In total 134 replies were received. The majority of residents would like newspapers and magazines and a post office and many residents would be happy to help run a shop/post office or buy a share into one. There will be more discussion on this at the next meeting on 11 May at Luckington Village Hall.

SHERSTON DRAMA GROUP

At the Sign of The Crippled Harlequin

A Thriller by
Norman Robbins

Photos: Marc Lehrer



In early April, audiences in the village hall were captivated by Sherston Drama Group's staging of the Norman Robbins' thriller *At the Sign of the Crippled Harlequin*. Debut director Finlay Evans, mentored by Kirstie Blair, marshalled his cast so skilfully in this difficult play that several audience members commented that the play reached a new high level of professionalism for SDG productions (which are already high, of course). The play centred round Peak Lodge, a small guesthouse owned by the Lockwood family. Georgina Evans as Sally Lockwood gave a convincing portrait of a decent woman trying to make ends meet, while newcomer Geoff Colvin was spot-on as her husband Bryan, desperately trying to keep the guesthouse going and keep his wife's spirits up, while humouring the guests. And what a set of guests! All of them had some hidden issue which was revealed as the play progressed. Youngest actor Sarah Cowell radiated tranquillity as the oldest character, Marjory Pike, but was dramatically killed at the end of Act I. Sue Ormiston applied her usual skill to the largest part, Pamela Seaton, a jolly middle-aged rambler who turns out to be a jewel thief on



the side. Her partner in crime, the highly-strung Isobel Clarke (Sue Lehrer), turned up unexpectedly, and the bickering between the two was a joy to listen to. Nicola Pearce-Smith, new to Sherston though an experienced actress, employed a superb Sheffield accent in her portrait of Joan Reece, the sharp-tongued skank with terrible taste in clothes, while Mark Andrews had fun as flashy, boastful, profane husband Lionel. Finally, Drama Group veteran Andi Hunte effectively portrayed the mentally unstable Derek, bringing the play to its dramatic conclusion. Richard Warren prompted, but not very often; Ewan Blair set up the lights and Paul Ormiston operated them and the sound system; Dawn Jago supervised make-up; Sue Ormiston painted a superb portrait of Jemmy Junkins, the harlequin of the title; and the cast between them constructed the outstanding set. The support team – too numerous to mention here (but still much appreciated) – ran front of house. Look out for another play at the same time next year. But before that it's the pantomime – the dates are 26-29 October – watch this space for announcements!





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Tolsey News



Foot Healthcare Service at The Tolsey

We are pleased to be offering a new Foot Health Care service at the surgery on Friday afternoons from 6 May. Louise Reynolds is a qualified Foot Health Practitioner who trained at the S.M.A.E. institute in Maidenhead, Berkshire in 2012. For an appointment, please call Louise on 07876 565774.

MMR vaccination call following recent measles cases

Public Health England is asking people to check that they have received two doses of the Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine and to be aware of the signs and symptoms of measles following an increase in confirmed cases over the past few weeks.

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and sometimes lead to serious complications. It's now uncommon in the UK because of the effective MMR vaccination programme. Although usually a mild illness in children, measles can be more severe in adults.

Telephone Appointments

A few years ago, it was decided that it would be a good idea to offer our patients telephone appointments as an alternative to a face-to-face appointment. The doctors are often able to sort out queries and offer advice, saving time and avoiding the need for the patient to come to the surgery. However, we are finding more and more that this service is not being used appropriately, and the doctors are spending a lot of time answering queries that could easily be dealt with in other ways. We would just like to remind our patients that appointments with the doctors, whether face to face or on the telephone, are a very limited resource. Please think carefully before booking an appointment about whether your query could be solved by someone other than a GP. If you are not sure, please speak to the receptionist. For other useful resources, you could go to our website, www.tolseysurgery.co.uk, patient.co.uk or NHS Choices online or your local pharmacy or dentist.

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Wednesday 25 May: Bridge of Spies [12A]

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Tickets £6 from Lesley on 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com. Doors open 7.00pm, programme starts at 7.30pm. <http://www.moviola.org/> www.grittleton.info/

Dates for your diary,

29 June: Spotlight

27 July: Dad's Army

No film in August, back in September

BoA Promotions presents The Harmonettes in 'Dorothy's War'

Sunday 8 May, 7.30pm, Malmesbury Town Hall

Dorothy's War is an exciting new musical play, packed full of songs from the First World War, all sung live by The Harmonettes - three singers with outstanding voices and a fine sense of harmony. They have given many captivating performances in Wiltshire over the past few years, including at The Wiltshire Music Centre, Corsham Town Hall, Great Somerford School and Hullavington Village Hall.

The play is based on one woman's extraordinary life during the First World War. It celebrates the true story of Dorothy Lawrence, a journalist and adventurer who travelled into the heart of a man's war. Telling her story and those of the communities at home, this show brings to life the impact of the Great War. The Harmonettes are past masters at working with the audience to involve everyone in a charming and engaging way, and will leave you feeling uplifted and elated.

'The show is hugely entertaining, but packs a poignant dramatic punch at the same time.' Claire Smith - Cheshire Rural Touring Arts

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North Wilt's Villages Flower Club

Our March meeting took the form of an imposed workshop, in which 30 members took part. Everyone was given the same selection of materials to create a design; this caused much apprehension and the hall was buzzing with the anticipation of what might be created. The end result was 30 impressive designs all of which were different. It was clear from the results that there is a wealth of talent within the club.

Future meetings

On 18 May, Linda Garratt from Abergavenny will demonstrate under the title 'All That Glistens'. The competition this month to be a 'golden arrangement', there are two levels (improvers and experienced), all entrants welcome.

On 15 June, we will be having an evening garden visit to Ashley Grange, Ashley near Crudwell.

On 20 July, Cath Brown from Batheaston will call her demonstration 'The Power of Flowers'.

Looking forward

The flower-arranging course that ran throughout the autumn will resume later in April.

On 6 May it is national flower-arranging day, club members will celebrate this by placing small bouquets

around the area for the finders to enjoy. Please keep your eye out as you may be a lucky finder.

On 1 June, the club will be hosting a day workshop tutored by Michael Bowyer MBE from Salisbury. This will take place at Oaksey Village Hall. Bookings for this can be made at our April meeting, or contact the number below.

Club news

New booklets have been purchased for the flower club library; these were on show at the April meeting.

The club had been approached regarding flower arranging at the Athelstan House care home in Malmesbury, so two members went along on a wet afternoon in March and did a flower demonstration for the residents. This proved to be a success and was much appreciated by the audience.

Flower club meetings take place at Crudwell Village Hall (SN16 9HB) on the third Wednesday of the month, 7.00pm for 7.30pm. If you enjoy flowers come and join us – visitors and new members are always welcome.

For more information, please contact Margaret on 01285 770639

Boules at the Bull

There is a friendly boules club at the Red Bull Inn on the Malmesbury Road that meets every Thursday evening at 7.15pm. The large piste has an excellent surface and lighting. Whether you are an absolute beginner or an experienced player, you will have games with different people and widen your experience, juniors are particularly welcome. Boules are available for beginners and help will be given to improve your game. For the more competitive members, we have a team playing in the Cotswold Pétanque League. Just turn up any Thursday evening from now until the end of October and you will be made most welcome.

There is a doubles tournament on Sunday 5 June. If you would like to enter please contact Sue McKechnie on 840601 or email susannemckechnie@hotmail.com.

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The 'Accidental' Bluegrass Festival: Friday 6 May

How many good ol' bluegrass bands would you reckon might play in our sleepy Wiltshire village of Sherston on your average Friday night? I think most people might guess at, oh I don't know, errr, none?

So, what are the chances of two of them being independently booked to play, 50 yards apart, on the same night and both having a banjo player called Dave?!

Well, they have, and thus has been born 'The Accidental Bluegrass Festival 2016'. As one local wag quipped on Facebook: 'Blimey, there will be so much bluegrass I might bring my strimmer', with another commenting that, 'Bluegrass bands are like buses...!'

So, for your toe-tapping hoedown delight, on Friday 6 May the Accidental Bluegrass Festival presents ...

The legendary Arkansaw Jukebox Collective. Playing covers from The Sex Pistols to Radiohead but (as they say) 'just like God intended... bluegrass style!'. They are playing at the Rattlebone, entry is free, food is available and the show starts at about 8.30pm. The three girls and three boys who are the Arkansaws were one of the hits of last year's Boondocks Festival and the band features lush four-part harmonies, with surprising takes on well-known songs – good times and laughs guaranteed.

Stompin' Dave and His Bluegrass Band. Next door in the village hall, they will be playing their old-time bluegrass classics with an all-star band. Tickets are

£10 in advance from the post office and food is also available, with the show starting at 7.30pm.

Which one to choose? Well, we went to the horse's mouth and 'Bad Banjo Dave' of the Arkansaw Jukebox advises: 'Well, if you are a bluegrass aficionado then Stompin' Dave is your man, but if you want a laugh, a sing-along and maybe even a dance – in straight lines only obviously – then it's the Arkansaws all the way!'

So, there you have it, the Accidental Bluegrass Festival is born!

Links and more info:

<https://www.facebook.com/ArkansawJukebox>

<https://www.facebook.com/Stompin-Dave-154499757976/?fref=ts>

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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 biscuits and brownies - Open 3 mornings a week - Tues, Wed and Thurs 9.30 am – 12 noon

Sunday services 1st and 4th Sundays - Holy Communion, 2nd Sunday Worship Together - a service for all age groups preceded by breakfast at 9am, 3rd Sunday - Family Service preceded by breakfast at 9am See the Parish Life for more details

Mustard Seeds is a Saturday morning club for children aged 4 and over, from 10am – 12noon twice a month. Contact Becky Fisher 07974 030212 or becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk.

Congregational Church - in The British

Schoolroom Services at 11am apart from 1st Sun 4pm. Brick Club alternate Fridays 5.30 – 6.30 / 6.30 – 8pm All services are led or hosted by Pastor Andrew Williams-Tarling. Contact awtcharfield@hotmail.co.uk or 07921 390878 (or find us on Facebook).

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. 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 Every Thurs, 10.30 am in Hullavington church. 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.

Link provides a voluntary car service for residents living in the Malmesbury area, taking those in need to hospital, the chiroprapist, 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 Henry Crawford on 841065 www.sherstonbusyhands.org.uk or email us on chair@sherstonbusyhands.org.uk

Castle Combe Colts Football Club Join a charter standard club with CRB checked FA qualified coaches, fantastic playing & training facilities and a healthy inclusive culture – take a free 4 week taster session. Currently recruiting for the following age groups: Mini-Kickers (Rec/Y1) U10 (Y5) U11 (Y6). Tel 837286 or secretary@cccfc.co.uk www.cccfc.co.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 Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays Feb to June and Sept to Dec 2.30pm – 4 pm in the British Schoolroom (alternating with the Senior Club). All friendly fellas welcome for simple char and chat.

Dance classes at The Scout Hut Fun and friendly classes for children to learn ballet and/or jazz on Tuesday afternoons during term time Preschool/infant ballet 3.30 - 4pm, Jazz 4 - 4.30pm. Junior ballet 4.30 - 5pm, Jazz 5 - 5.30pm All abilities welcome. For more information please call Abigail on 07720 396195.

Drawing Classes in Sherston

Classes are held in the British Schoolroom during term times Weds either 10am to 12noon or 1.30 to 3.30pm. Students have individual attention and the classes are friendly and welcoming. We work on observational drawing in a range of media, pencil, watercolour crayon and pastel; subjects include plants and flowers, natural objects and still life groups. For further information please contact Heather Martin heather@geoffmartin.plus.com or phone 840375

Eudo Tae Kwon Do

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

Footpaths group

'Sherston Walks - a guide to local rights of way', featuring 10 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 Harries on 841047 or maggie@harriespartnership.com Now online @ www.sherstonwalks.org.uk

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

Fresh Air Fitness A fun outdoor workout suitable for all levels. Sherston Rec Fridays 9.30-10.30am £6 per class. Book with Stuart 07986 003602 / 01453 836173 or stuart@pulse4life.co.uk

Hogwards The Help a Hedgehog Hospital charity has a satellite hospital in Tetbury. Mary Hinton 07779 299224 www.helpahedgehog.org

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

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

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

Malmesbury Concert Band

Rehearsals on Fri evenings in Malmesbury, 7.15 – 9.15pm. The band performs at local Bandstands, public concerts, etc. and is always on the look-out for brass and woodwind players (and percussion and string bass or bass guitar) of reasonable sight-reading ability. For further details and to ascertain current vacancies see our website <http://www.freewebs.com/malmesburyconcertband/> and/or contact Tony Fleming, the Musical Director, on 575229 or tony@jacfleming.plus.com

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 Film Society

Memorable new, classic and foreign films are shown at 7.30pm every 3rd Sunday of the month at St. Mary's Hall, Malmesbury - no booking or membership necessary. Join us for unique films and an enjoyable evening out. See our website www.malmesburyfilmsociety.org.uk for details on all upcoming films.

Malmesbury Villages Community Partnership

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

Malmesbury Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

For details contact the Division Commissioner at malmesbury@wncounty.org.uk

North Wiltshire Villages Flower Club

(affiliated to National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies - NAFAS) meets at 7.30pm on the third Wed evening of most months of the year at Crudwell Village Hall. Join members come from the surrounding villages to hear speakers and enjoy floristry demonstrations and do workshops and competitions. Call Margaret Stanford on 01285 770 639 to answer any queries or give information about forthcoming events.

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. Contact Tony Towle on 840574.

Red Bull Inn Boules Friendly boules club at the Red Bull Inn (Malmesbury Rd) - meets every Thurs at 7.15pm - any level. For the more competitive members, there is a team playing in the Cotswold Pétanque league. To enter, please contact Sue McKechnie on 840601 or susannemckechnie@hotmail.com

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. Contact sherston1016@gmail.com or Martin Jacques 07717 424619

Sherston Badminton Club We play every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the Village Hall from September to the end of May. - New members welcome. For more information contact David Boyle 841587 or email djboyle@hotmail.com

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 email sherstoncubsandscouts@gmail.com to obtain an application form

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) r.a.skeffington@gmail.com Tel. 840092

Sherston Town FC The club play in the Stroud league at Knockdown Park on Saturday afternoons - spectators and new players welcome. Contact Pete Brock on 07912 777647 or peter.brock666@btinternet.com

Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

Want to get fit? Lose weight? Our Club is a friendly and sociable group open to any ladies of any swimming ability from Sherston and the surrounding area. We swim at Westonbirt Leisure Centre on Wednesday evenings from 8 - 9 pm. Everyone swims at their own pace although there is a lane for faster swimmers. It costs £5 per week, £40 for 10 weeks. For further information please phone Maggie (840969), Annabel on 840592 or Heather (840375).

Sherston Magna Cricket Club Junior nets and Senior nets at 6.30pm on Tues nights at Pinkney Park. If you would like to get involved with local cricket please email cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk or visit the website www.sherstonmagnacc.co.uk

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. The choir meets at 7.30pm each Wednesday in the British Schoolroom £3 per session - Summer term will start after the Easter break. Refreshments 50p. Further information from Lucy Lawrance on 840778 (evenings) 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 Classes held on Wednesday afternoons and evenings in the village hall. 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 10-11.30am each Tues in the British School Room with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music and snacks for all, not to mention a much-needed cup of tea/coffee for the deserving parent. Further details contact Sophie Cheetham, sophcheetham@gmail.com 07786 990045 or alternative like us on Facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers

Sherston Velo A new cycling club formed of enthusiastic road cyclists from Sherston and the surrounding area - formally accredited by British Cycling at the end of 2014. There are regular rides each Saturday and Sunday morning with a fast paced group leaving first for an hour, followed by a longer club run. For membership and other information about the club, visit the website www.sherstonvelo.cc or email Mark Walsh at secretary@sherstonvelo.cc

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 on first Thursday of month Mar - Sept in the Village Hall (except Apr due Spring Play) at 7.30pm and Nov/Dec/ Feb/Apr in the British Schoolroom at 2.30pm. No meetings Oct or Jan. New programme in Mar. Visitors always most welcome £3.50. Further information: Secretary 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 Minnie Hulme on 841118 or email hulmessherston@sky.com

WEA Sherston Arts, Literature and History Courses

The WEA (Workers's Education Association) offers courses on the Arts, Literature and History in the British School Room, Cliff Road. For more information or to book a place contact Warwick or Pat Jones on 840764 or warwick.jones@btinternet.com.

Village Hall 300+ Club For an annual subscription of only £8, give yourself the opportunity of winning a cash prize in every monthly draw whilst supporting the Village Hall. If you would like to join, or need more information, contact the coordinator, Lin Prior on 840846.

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

Wild Yoga Mon evenings during term time - 6.45-8pm and 8.15-9.30pm in the village hall. Drop in rate £9 reducing to £7.50 if you take up the course. 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

Dates for your diary 2016

June

12 Sherston School Olympic Day

18-19 Open Gardens Weekend

24-25 Battle of Sherston Events

July

16-17 Boules Weekend

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

Live Music - 80's cover band OUTTATIME Sun 1 May 9pm

Live music - ARKANSAS JUKEBOX COLLECTIVE Fri 6 May 9pm

Comedienne and Curry Night Charity Event featuring 'HARRIET BEVERIDGE' Sun 15 May

Check boards for more details of events

For further details call 840871 or follow on Twitter

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

Sherston WI Talks

Running a Garden Centre - Behind the Scenes 5 May 7.30pm VH

WI POP UP Bracelet and card making for children in the small village hall on Sun 15 May 2-4pm. And a sale of ladies' scarves and a demo of different ways in which to tie large square scarves

Visit from Scrapstore with hands on craft - Margaret Hiscocks 2-Jun

The Rococo Gardens - Dominic Hamilton 7-Jul

For further details call Jill Woodward 840578 or

jillwoodward222@btinternet.com

Sherston Market

Local crafts and produce which vary each month, cake stalls including Aunt Addie's Farm Project fresh local vegetables and cheeses from Brinkworth Dairy.

Every month a free stall in the lobby is made available to local charity or voluntary group to raise funds. May's stalls will be in aid of Riding for the Disabled and POP event 10am-2pm

Sat 14 May Sat 11 Jun Village hall

For further details call 07887 814843 or 07769 613627 or email info@awkwardsquad.co.uk or visit www.sherstonmarket.co.uk or <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sherston-Market/195319400641324>

Sherston POP weekend

Sherston POP weekend - the world's only POP up village is back! Fri 13- Sun 15 May We have 45 amazing shops and experiences for you to enjoy over the weekend, held in homes and gardens around Sherston Far too many to list here - please see the main section for more details. Maps online <https://popupsherston.com> Owing to limited numbers some of the POP ups will be pre-book only. There will also be a POP pre-book list on the Post Office notice board.

For further details call Kirsty Strachan on 07841 571943 or visit Facebook: POP up Sherston or www.popupsherston.com

Church events

Neil Forster Memorial Service Mon 16 May 11am

Gauzebrook Gallivant a 21 mile circular walk which takes in all the nine churches of the Gauzebrook Group - but don't worry, you can take part in stages as well as the whole thing Sat 9 Jul with refreshment stops. proceeds from entry fees go to the Gauzebrook Churches Children's Worker Fund

For further details call Rev Susan Harvey 840696 or susan.harvey44@hotmail.com

Christian Aid week

15 -23 May In 2015 Gauzebrook raised £3,736.48

For further details call Sue Robinson on 841263 or visit www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/christianaidweek

Events in aid of the Village Hall

BLETCHLEY PARK Home of the WW2 Codebreakers by Sir Francis Richards, KCMG, CVO in aid of the Village Hall Restoration Fri 13 May 6.30pm Free seating. No late admissions Tickets £12.50 (to include a glass of wine) from the Post Office Village Hall For further details call Lavinia Corbally Stourton, The Old Vicarage, Sherston 841007

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Rural Arts Wiltshire

Stompin' Dave and his Bluegrass Band Fri 6 May at 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall. Tickets £10 available from the Post Office. The band, who have performed at lots of Festivals including Glastonbury and Bestival, play classic bluegrass and old-time music. Licenced Bar and Ploughmans Platters available during the interval.

Village Hall

For further details call or visit www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

Sherston Magna Cricket Club

junior BBQ Fri 13 May Junior training Mondays 6pm

Senior training Tuesdays 6.30pm

Sherston Sixes Sun 24 Jul

Pinkney Park Ground

For further details call cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk or visit <http://sherstonmagnacc.co.uk>

Art Exhibition at Shear Class Salon

May shows work by Nicki Heenan, from Pinkney.

Sue's Strolls

Sun 29 May Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00am with a return Rattlebone Inn just around 12noon for seasonal refreshments. As ever children and well behaved dogs, the latter on leads, are very welcome. The walk is entirely free and there is no need to book a place – just turn up on the day. 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

Macmillan Cancer Fundraiser - Open garden day

Join Phyl at Barton House for ploughmans or cake Wed 1 Jun. Come and enjoy the pretty garden, good fare and hospitality and the company of friends between 10.30am and 5pm. Lunch £4 tickets at PO. If you would like to support the event by baking a cake or donating a raffle prize, please ring Phyl on 840206. Last year she raised £1,000 for the Macmillan nurses at Bath RUH.

FSS Olympic Legacy Day

on Sherston's Rec Sun 12 Jun from 11am - 4pm Our very own Olympic legacy continues, offering children the chance to take part in a mini-decathlon - and win a bronze, silver or gold medal! 'Passports' on sale soon (£2.50 per child). It features a competitive mini decathlon with medals for girls and boys in each year group at primary school, a barbecue and bar for the grown-ups.

Open Gardens Trail in aid of Sherston Church

Sat 18 - Sun 19 Jun New gardens open for the first time in addition to favourites. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Church.

If you would like to open your garden (all proceeds go towards the upkeep of Sherston Church), please contact Pat Whitehouse 840640, or Heather Martin 840375.

Donations of cakes, surplus seedlings, cuttings or divided perennials most welcome.

Sherston Velo

1016 - 2016 Solstice Challenge a mass start at 10.16 18 Jun, with an aim to complete a lap of Wiltshire (around 140 miles) and return by 20.16 the same evening for some fun and games at the Rattlebone. There are different rides for all club members, from 20 miles up to the full distance. The 140 mile route is by no means compulsory and each group will reform with the other members to ensure a mass finish at 20.16.

For further details and to join the Velo, Sherston's thriving and friendly cycling club, please contact secretary@sherstonvelo.co

1000th anniversary of the Battle of Sherston

Sat 25 Jun

Viking Battle Re-enactment on the Rec
Visiting Saxon Museum in the village hall

Talk by Dr Tim Boulton

Party at the Rattlebone

Fireworks - location tba

Sun 26

Thanksgiving Service with the Dean of Bristol David Hoyle
Holy Cross Church



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The Chippenham Natural Therapy Centre
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Home Visits
Tel: 01666 838683 Mob: 07593 324 128

Knockdown

The Holford Arms

Live Music every weekend

Check boards for more details of events

For further details call 01454 238669 or info@theholfordarms.co.uk

Badminton

Badminton Horse Trials

Wed 4 - Sun 8 May from 9.00/ 9.30 am Gates open at 8am See website for ticket information Under 12s free. Cash (only) at gate is £2 more than advance tickets. Free admission after 4pm

Badminton

For further details call 01454 218375 or

boxoffice@badminton-horse.co.uk or visit www.badminton-horse.co.uk

Badminton House Plant Fair and Gardens open day

Many local nurseries, selling a wide variety of plants including annuals, perennials and vegetables will attend and visitors will also be able to walk around the gardens. The Old Royal Ship Pub from Luckington will be serving a variety of lunch and teatime refreshments Sat 19 Jun 11am - 5pm Entry £5pp (on the gate) - children under 16 free

For further details call 01454 218203 or visit www.badmintonestate.co.uk/

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

STIHL Treetop Walkway opens 27 Apr The main walkway is step-free, making it accessible to visitors on foot, using mobility scooters,

wheelchairs and pushchairs and to those with dogs on leads. It is 300 metres long and gradually rises on gentle inclines to a height of 13 metres. Scramble up to the crow's nest viewing platform; Swing across the rope bridge; Peer through the mesh-floored section Adults £9 Concs and those arriving by bike or public transport £6 Children (5-18) £3 under 5s free

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

CREATIVE COTERIE 2016 COLLECTION. 9 local artists return to The Great Hall to exhibit paintings, glass work, jewellery and frames Thurs 26-Tues 31 May 10am - 4pm

Summer concert dates June - Thurs 16 Rudimental SOLD OUT ; Fri 17 Kaiser Chiefs SOLD OUT; Sat 18 UB40 Featuring Ali Campbell, Astro and Mickey Virtue; Sun 19 Tom Jones Tickets from the Arboretum or <http://boxoffice.forestry.gov.uk/default.aspx> Check website for details of events, wood and photography courses, guided walks and family fun days

Westonbirt Arboretum Till Aug admission prices

For further details call 880220 or visit www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Easton Grey Whatley Manor

Creating an award-winning RHS Garden with Kate Durr (TV presenter and garden designer) Kate's engaging talk will cover the considerations for designing, building and planting a show garden. Kate will share her techniques for creating the 'wow' factor in your garden. After lunch and accompanied by Kate, Whatley Manor's head gardener Andy Spreadbury will give guests a private tour of the gardens Thurs 19 May 10.30 - 3pm £45 including talk, tour, welcome refreshments and lunch

Thursday evening cinema £23 includes a choice of either a glass of

'Sherston Brick Club'

British Schoolroom

Friday 86h & 20th May

5.30 to 6.30pm - Junior Brick Club:
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6.30 to 8.00pm - Brick Club:
8 years upwards

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wine, a bottled beer or soft drink. A small tub of delicious ice cream (choice of flavour) and of course popcorn. Must be prebooked 8.30pm start 'Steve Jobs' starring Michael Fassbender, Kate Winslet and Seth Rogen 15 May

Sunday Cinema £8.50 includes your cinema ticket for the screening and popcorn. In addition, on the day, choose one, two or three courses from the a la carte lunch menu in 'Le Mazot' brasserie The Sunday Cinema Screenings must be pre-booked and at least one course must be booked

'Steve Jobs' starring Michael Fassbender, Kate Winslet and Seth Rogen 12 May

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

Cotswolds

Cotswold Rural Skills

Dry Stone Walling - Beginners 21-22 May Tetbury £99

Cotswold Tile Roofing - Taster Day 11 Jun Naunton £99

Blacksmithing Taster Day 7 Aug Tetbury £99

For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Tetbury

Woolsack Race

35 years of the world famous event Mon 30 May Races start at 2pm, entertainment and stalls from 10am See website for parking Gumstool Hill

For further details call tetburywoolsack@goolemail.com or visit www.tetburywoolsack.co.uk

Malmesbury MP's Surgery

Local MP surgery with James Gray MP 12pm - 1pm

check website for surgery dates

Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall

For further details call www.jamesgray.org or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk for online surgeries

Rotary Club of South Cotswolds present

The Stuart Singers from Minchinhampton in concert at Malmesbury Abbey All their performances are given without music and are under the enthusiastic direction of Helen Sims and feature medleys of popular songs by Lennon and McCartney and Abba and other modern classics Sat 11 Jun 7.30pm Tickets £10, incl beverage in the interval available from the end of April from the Abbey Bookshop and Flowers Galore in High Street Malmesbury or any Rotarian Malmesbury Abbey

Singing for the Brain

Singing sessions are led by a trained Singing for the Brain leader Every other Monday 1.30-3pm a free service (funded by Wiltshire council) is designed to be a fun, stimulating and social activity for people with a diagnosis of dementia and their family/friends or carers. For session dates and to book your place please call Pam Ollis at our Chippenham office on

Malmesbury Activity Zone, Bremilham Road

For further details call 01249 443469 or

e-mail nwilt@alzheimers.org.uk or visit www.alzheimers.org.uk

The Harmonettes present

'Dorothy's War' Sun 8 May 7.30pm Dorothy's War is an exciting new musical play, packed full of songs from the First World War, all sung live by The Harmonettes - three singers with outstanding voices and a fine sense of harmony £12

Malmesbury Town Hall

For further details call Pound Arts 01249 701628 or visit www.poundarts.org.uk

Events at Malmesbury Children's centre

Workshops for toddlers, infants and new parents Free parenting courses for parents with children under 5 - check website for details free crèche

Malmesbury Children's Centre

For further details call 825566 or email:

malmesburycc@spurgeons.org or visit www.malmesburycc.org

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

Oriel Singers Sat 25 Jun An evening of madrigals £15 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

Boondocks Festival

More top acts announced The line up for Boondocks 16 will feature some 25 live bands across 3 stages throughout the weekend - check website for details Tickets cover all the festivities on Fri 8 and Sat 9 July. You can also buy a camping or campervan ticket which will allow you to camp onsite both nights. No day tickets are available. Full price adult tickets are £55 and under 18s are £15. Everyone needs a ticket, even babes in arms, but don't forget, activities for under 18s are included in the ticket price this year.

There is on-site parking which is included in your ticket price Boondocks takes place just outside of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, in a 15 acre field towards Foxley For further details call or visit <http://theboondocksfestival.co.uk>

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email us on chair@sherstonbusyhands.org.uk
visit us at www.sherstonbusyhands.org.uk

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Malmesbury & District University of the Third Age

U3A is a unique organisation which provides educational, creative and leisure opportunities for retired and semi-retired people to come and learn together, drawing upon the knowledge, experience and skills of their own members to organise and provide interest groups in a very wide range of subjects. Now with over 350 members in the Malmesbury group Meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10am for refreshments 10.30-11.30 speaker close by 11.45 Charge 50p

Suzann Valadon: Model and artis by Paul Chapman

An Elizabethan Blockbuster: 'A Knack to Know a Knave' at the Rose - Dr. Tim Hammond Thurs 23 Jun

The History of Art: Post war to today Paul Deacon Thurs 23 Jun Assembly Rooms at the Town Hall

For further details call Membership Secretary Julia Batty on 01249 720327 or visit www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk

Didmarton

Flicks in the Sticks

The Bridge of Spies Fri 13 May 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@btconnect.com

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

The Bridge of Spies Wed 25 May Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start £6 from Lesley or on the door

Grittleton Village Hall

For further details call Lesley 01249 783157 or

email l_palmer@btinternet.com or visit <http://www.moviola.org/>

Grittleton Plant and Food Fair

organised by children's charity Action Medical Research Set in the stunning surrounds of Grittleton House, plant lovers and "foodies" are in for a real treat, many stalls selling plants from specialist nurseries, stunning accessories for your "room outside" and delicious local artisan produce. Special guest appearance by the charity's big fluffy mascot, Paddington Bear Sun 29 May 11am - 3pm Entrance - £3 per person, Children free

Grittleton House

For further details call If you are interested in having a stall please contact Tracey Edwards T 01225 776691 E tedwards@action.org.uk or visit http://www.action.org.uk/grittleton_plant_and_food_fair

Hookshouse Pottery spring/summer exhibition

'Rustle of Spring' The exhibition will include paintings, craft and sculptures, some of which will be displayed in the delightful Hookshouse Pottery garden. There will also be a tea tent 28 May - 5 Jun 11am - 6pm daily The gardens at the pottery are open for the National Gardens Scheme throughout the week

Outdoor Theatre at Hookshouse The Pantaloons present 'The Canterbury Tales' Sun 3 July 7pm. Gardens open at 5.30pm. Bring

a picnic. £10 in advance £12.50 on the door

Hookshouse, near Westonbirt

For further details call Chris or Lise White on 880297 or

hookshouse@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.hookshousepottery.co.uk

Crudwell

North Wilts Villages Flower Club

Flower club meetings take place on the 3rd Wed each month, 7 for 7.30pm. If you enjoy flowers come and join us, visitors and new members are welcome..

All That Glistens Demonstration by Linda Garratt 18 May

Evening garden visit to Ashley Grange, Ashley near Crudwell. 15-Jun

The Power of Flowers Cath Brown from Batheaston 20 Jul
Crudwell Village Hall SN16 9HB

For further details call Margaret on 01285 770 639

Castle Combe

Steam and Vintage Rally

Sat 20 May 10am - 6pm Sun 21 May 10am - 5pm £6 (concs £5) under 14s free, Free parking Steam engines, vintage, fairground engines, pony rides, Rowan working horses
For further details call or visit www.castlecombesteamrally.co.uk

Nailsworth

Arts Festival

Full festival programme on line including music, comedy, music, story telling, poetry, workshops, exhibitions and walks 21-29 May

For further details call 01453 839222 or directly from the Town

Information Centre, Fountain Street or

visit www.nailsworthfestival.org.uk

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston. Home matches: Sat 2 Apr 3pm v. Wrexham; Sat 16 Apr 3pm v. Woking; Sat 23 Apr 3pm v. Halifax Town Adults £17/£15, Concessions £13/£11, under 16s £9/£7 junior £6/£4 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

Coopers Hill

Pie and Pint Festival and maybe an impromptu Cheese Rolling

-the famous Cheese Rolling Mon 30 May 12-8pm - Midday roll traditional English outdoor games, and maybe a last minute cheese roll on Monday 4 Jun

Near Coopers Hill

For further details call or visit www.cheese-rolling.co.uk

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Wotton-Under-Edge The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: Films: Amy; Love and Mercy; The Globe on Screen: Comedy of Errors; RSC Live Othello Wed 26 Aug; NT Livr: The Beaux Strategem Thurs 3 Sep; NT Live Coriolanus (Encore) check website for details

For further details call 01453 844601 or visit www.wottoncinema.com

Chippenham ChippFolkFest

ChippFolk Festival 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

Cirencester

Cirencester Open Air Swimming Pool

Heated spring water open air pool run by volunteers as a non profit making charity Open Thurs 21 May to Sun 6 Sept. 7am-6.45pm midweek and 9/10 - 5.45 Sat/Sun. Mon & Wed Adult evening swim 6.45-7.45pm. Friday Youth Evening 7-8.30pm 10-17 year olds Only £1 £4.50 / £2.50/ Family £13 Season tickets available.

Cirencester Park, GL7 2EF

For further details call 01285 653947 or visit www.cirenopenair.co.uk

Calne

BART Riverfly Conference 2016

Bristol Avon Rivers Trust Speakers including the Environment Agency, Riverfly Partnership, Severn Rivers Trust and University of the West of England, including top angling author Professor Mark Everard Sat 7 May 10am £10 The main conference will take place from 10am with a break for a buffet lunch at 1pm. After lunch, several optional workshops will allow for discussions to solve existing issues and discuss next steps

Bank House - The Strand, Calne SN11 0EN

For further details call or visit www.eventbrite

Bath

Musicfest

Bath International MusicFest Festival celebrating the world's best jazz, classical, folk and world music in Bath 20 - 29 May Various locations in Bath

For further details call 01225 463362 or visit www.bathmusicfest.org.uk

Theatre Royal

Brideshead Revisited 3-7 May £15-£33.50

The Truth 9-14 May

Breakfast at Tiffany's 16-21 May

After Miss Julie 24-28 May

Book ahead for: HMS Pinafore; King Lear; Lady Anna: All at Sea; Present Laughter; While the Sun Shines; A Midsummer Night's Dream

For further details call 01225 448844

or visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Bath, Stroud, Bristol

Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet @ the cinema

Live and pre recorded screenings of opera and ballet from the Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor

Ballet: Frankenstein 18-May

Opera: Werther 27-Jun

Stroud Apollo, Odeon Bath and many other Cinemas

For further details call 0871 220 6000 or visit www.roh.org.uk/cinema

Malmesbury, Chippenham, Bath, Stroud, Bristol, Wotton National Theatre Live

Live and pre recorded screenings

Young Vic's A View From the Bridge Thur 12 May (encore)

The Audience Thur 9 Jun (encore)

For further details, call or visit www.ntlive.com

Cheltenham

87th Festival of Performing Arts

3-15 May Dance, music, speech & drama Town Hall

For further details call or visit www.cheltenhamfestivalofperformingarts.co.uk



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Please call Sophie Francis on 01666 840538 or 07531 057016

References available on request

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

If you are in immediate danger call 999

The public version of Sherston's Emergency Response Plan can be found on the Sherston website:

www.sherston.org/downloads/sherston-parish-council-emergency-plan/Sherston-Emergency-Plan-REDACTED-20-11-2015.pdf

Sherston Emergency Response Coordinator

Jill Cainey

841380

3 Noble Street

emergency@sherston.org.uk (only during an incident)

Wiltshire Council

Highways, Social Care, Emergency Transport

24hr telephone contact: 0300 456 0100

EPRR@wiltshire.gov.uk (only during an incident)

Floods: 0300 456 0105 or drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk

Useful Information

Wiltshire Council Online Gritting routes

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/gritting.htm

Utilities

ELECTRICITY – SSEPD Power track

www.ssepd.co.uk/Powertrack

0800 072 7282 or 0345 072 1905 from a mobile phone

WATER – Bristol Water

www.bristolwater.co.uk/contact/

Emergency Helpline: 0345 702 3797 (24 Hour)

WATER – Wessex water

www.wessexwater.co.uk/Contact-us/

Emergency Helpline: 0345 600 4 600 (24 hours)

BBC Wiltshire can be heard via:

West Wilts area

(Chippenham, Devizes and Trowbridge): 104.3FM

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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