

## Advertising vacancy - urgent

There must a person with a few hours spare each week who would be able to join the friendly Cliffhanger team to help with advertising. No experience necessary. Don't be shy, please contact John Mackison on 841197, or e-mail [advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk](mailto:advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk), for more information.

The advertising benefits both local businesses and pays for the production of the Cliffhanger, a cost that would have to be covered by our local Parish Council Precept (included in your Council Tax Bill).

## Lucy swaps Sherston for stardom



Lucy Waine, a pupil in year 6 at Sherston Primary School, has won a coveted place at the Royal Ballet School. Lucy is one of just 12 girls from across the country who have been chosen to join the school in year 7.

At just ten years old, Lucy has already performed on the Sadler's Wells Stage, and has an impressive track record. A student at The Sally Prout School of Dancing, based in Gloucestershire, Lucy took part in 'The Genee Challenge', a dance competition held in Leeds and run by the Royal Academy of Dance, winning her section. She will now attend a special masterclass held at the Royal Academy of Dance.

Lucy is the second Sherston school pupil to study at the Royal Ballet School. Back in 1999, Guy Burden left Sherston to train there. He's since become a professional dancer, and was recently performing with a ballet company in Estonia. Lucy will follow in his footsteps in September, joining White Lodge in London, the home of the lower school of the Royal Ballet.

We wish her well in the future!

## Doyle's Dolls 2012 Calendar

We hope everyone who wanted one got the much sought-after calendar for 2012 and is enjoying the lovely pictures, but if not we still have a few spare. We have been asked what are we doing next and the answer is we have finished our fundraising and, although we are still waiting for some funds to come in from calendar sales, it looks likely that we will have raised over £5,500, making our total just under £10,000.

Huge thanks to everyone involved; those who brought not only a calendar but a canvas; all our willing models; Pat Starke for all his help with the compilation of the calendar; special thanks to Nick Holland for taking all those tasteful photos and for his kind generosity in donating the cost of the canvases back to the fund; all our sponsors and all the outlets that sold them; without all of you, none of it would have been possible. Thanks also to the OAFs for playing a winter boules league and donating the money they raised.

We will be liaising with Sherston Parish Council to ensure that the money is put to great use for the young and young at heart of Sherston and surrounding villages.

*The Doyles*



# Take notice

The strange case of disappearing signs from around the Old School continues. Over the last few months two 'A boards' advertising the fish & chip van have been stolen. These cost £160 and, as you can imagine, the proprietor of Starfish Enterprise is most concerned. Both thefts occurred on a Thursday sometime between mid-afternoon and 8.30pm at night. The signs are only put out on the day the van is visiting Sherston. If you have any information as to who might be responsible for the theft of both these signs and others, please ring the police on 101 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Travellers

The small number of caravans that had been parked up on the verge at Backrill Lane have now moved on, following resolution of the situation by Wiltshire Council officers. The area was left in a clean and tidy condition.

**Copy deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.**  
Send to [editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk)**

The size and content of the Cliffhanger depends entirely on the amount of copy we receive from individuals and groups. So, if you feel you have something of interest, please don't hesitate to tell us. Around 400 words would be a maximum but the shorter the better and less editing would be needed.

**Top tip:** if you're telling us of an event coming up, write a short piece about it rather than just supply basic details or a poster. You will then get a short article published to help boost interest as well as a mention in our What's On section. Don't forget to tell us how your event went, with a photo if possible.

**To advertise, contact :**  
[advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk](mailto:advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk)  
**John Mackison 841197 Beryl Clampton 841201**

Advertising rates:  
for 12 months:  
1/4 page £200; 1/8 page £100; and 1/16 page £50  
for one month:  
1/4 page £80; 1/8 page £40; and 1/16 page £20

Inserted leaflet drop £75

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

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

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# Road closures

Sherston will see a spate of road closures for essential works during the next month or so both in the village and nearby.

From 10 April for 4 weeks the road (C1) from Norton to Hullavington will be closed at the river bridge for repairs just before the railway bridge. A diversion will be in place from the Fosse Way to Grittleton and Hullavington and vice versa. The closure will cause extra mileage and time for local drivers accessing the M4 at junction 17. It is expected that the closure will be lifted for a few days at the time of the Badminton Horse Trials – 3 to 7 May.

Brook Hill including part of the High Street at the top of the hill will be closed from April 23rd for resurfacing work which is scheduled to take 2 days. There will be no access to and from Luckington during this time and a diversion will be in place from Acton Turville to The Gibb to Grittleton and then the Fosse Way to Sherston and vice versa.

On 2 May Sandpits Lane between Holmfield and Carriers Close will be closed for a day for manhole cover repairs by Wessex Water.

Noble Street and Tanners Hill are due to be closed from 8 May for 3 weeks whilst Bristol Water renews the water mains.



After a considerable time dealing with the bureaucracy of obtaining a licence to plant a tree in the highway verge, the new tree at Manor Close is finally in the ground. It is a *prunus amanogawa*, which is a flowering cherry with a columnar shape.

Thanks are due to Noel Banks for planting the tree – which was no easy task as underneath the grass lurked a vast amount of rubble, no doubt left over from the building of Strongs Close. Local resident Susan Mandel has kindly volunteered to water the tree during its first year.



# Hedge laid



Thanks to the efforts of members of a Cotswold Conservation Board training course, the hedge running alongside the football pitch at Knockdown Park (aka the sports field) has had a serious makeover this spring. Some 11 people attended the weekend course in traditional hedge-laying, with some coming from as far afield as Hertfordshire and Surrey. Whilst the majority of the hedge was laid in two days, our local Cotswold Warden, Noel Banks, and his team of volunteers kindly completed the task.

# Sherston WI March Meeting

After a winter of afternoon meetings held in the British School Room, we were back in the village hall for our March meeting, at the start of our 72nd year. President Sheila welcomed our WI Adviser, a new member, two visitors and our speaker, Peter Knight.

Peter's talk was entitled 'Ancient Sites of Wessex' and this was illustrated with slides of present-day sites and reconstructions of how the stones had looked when built. He said how lucky we were to live in an area with a wealth of ancient sites. We were reminded that our ancestors had been responsible for their construction and his final point was to ask us to support his campaign to free the countryside of litter.

After refreshments were served, we went through items of business. 1 March had been a busy day for members of Sherston WI. Seven ladies had attended a Food and Fashion show in Melksham, where the main speaker was the cook Mary Berry. In the afternoon there was a fashion show provided by Debenhams of Swindon followed by a marvellous show of hats by Joan Pressley of Devizes and finally a great show of fashions designed and made by students from New College, Swindon – the designers of the future.

The secretary reminded us of forthcoming events, including a Jubilee Garden Party on 7 June at a school near Devizes run by the WI Federation, Quizzical Pursuits at Sheldon School on 27 June, a visit to Avebury Manor in July and several other dates for our diaries.

The next meeting is on 5 April when our speaker will tell us about 'A nun, a tart and a dark lady'.

We welcome visitors ...

# Clem's Club

Clem's Club will meet every other Tuesday, on 10 and 24 April. All friendly fellas welcome for simple char and chat, from 2.30pm to 4.00pm (alternating with the Senior Club) in the British School Room, Cliff Road.



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## Sherston Old School

COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

### Not too late to donate

We'd like to thank parish residents who donated to the Old School Appeal following last month's mailshot. As a result of your generosity, we have raised another £5,000 from personal pledges. Obviously, we're also hugely grateful to the many villagers who had already made a donation. However, despite this achievement – and the fantastic grant from the Prince's Countryside Fund – we're not quite home and dry yet.

It's often said that the last few weeks of fundraising for any good cause are the toughest. Complacency and inertia combine to slow everything down and final targets can seem as far away as ever. So, to those who have forgotten to donate, we say: 'Please, we really would appreciate your help in finishing the job.' If you've mislaid your form, there are always spares in the box attached to the pledges board in the Post Office porch. Thank you.

#### The latest on the works

The fact we are now advertising for a cleaner (see advert opposite) is as good a sign as any that we are close to completion. All internal construction and decoration work should be finished by mid-April: business units 1, 2 and 4, and the communal kitchen and loo facilities will be ready first, with the two classrooms (now one large, joint space) following fast behind. Apart from a few 'small' hitches such as the parquet floor in the classrooms needing specialist attention, the project is on budget and on time. Excitingly, terms have now been agreed with four potential occupiers. Assuming the smooth progress of all legal niceties, the Old School should be fully occupied by the end of the month. Look out for a full round-up of news in the next issue, by which time we hope to be welcoming the new tenants.



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#### First come, first served for bus to the show

We predicted that tickets for the Phil Hammond 'Rude Health Show' would fly off the shelf and we were right. The evening has totally sold out and we're now running a waiting list. Andy James Coaches is very kindly donating a bus to Malmesbury and back on 1 May. With just 55 seats available, you'd better be quick in putting your name down on the reservations list at the post office. Voluntary contributions can be made on the coach on the night.

#### Online through Facebook

You can keep up to date with project news on our Facebook page. Please pass the link to former pupils, families and friends. 'How to donate' suggestions are included.

[www.facebook.com/pages/Sherston-Old-School/245112595529396?ref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sherston-Old-School/245112595529396?ref=ts)

For further information on SOSIC fundraising please contact Irene Johnston on 841273 or email: [sherstonoldschool@gmail.com](mailto:sherstonoldschool@gmail.com)

## SmallAds

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

*Private advertisers only please – no businesses.*

#### Part-time cleaner required for Old School

Five hours per week (one hour each weekday), £8.00 per hour. Cleaning materials supplied.

Must be experienced, reliable and trustworthy, and available to start this month or soon after.

The job involves cleaning the communal areas in the Sherston Old School building, the porch, hall, kitchen and toilets. You will normally be working alone and so must be self-motivated.

Contact Mike Johnson on 840917 or by email at [mike38tt@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mike38tt@tiscali.co.uk)

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# Winner's Shield for Sherston school



Pupils from Sherston Primary School gave a sterling performance at the Malmesbury Cluster Gymnastics Festival recently – and came home with the overall Winner's Shield.

Three gymnastic teams, made up of girls and boys, were judged on both the floor and box. They won with a clear 0.3 point lead over second-placed Malmesbury School.

Individual medal hauls included Megan Thompson placed 1st in Class B (Floor), Hannah Cadle placed 1st in Class A (Floor), Poppy Slade placed 1st in girls Class A (Box), Maisy Phillips placed 3rd in girls Class B (Box) and Ben Gray placed 3rd in boys Box.

## Family Fest

Sherston churches are combining to offer Family Fest, where all ages can come together on the fourth Sunday of the month (22 April, 27 May and 24 June) from 4.00pm to 5.00pm in the British School Room, Cliff Road, for song, prayer, biblical teaching, craft and play.

Afterwards refreshments and free space will allow time for questions, discussion, table tennis, snooker and board games.

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# Village hall 300+ club

## February Draw

1st	£12	97	G Parsons
2nd	£11	58	R Wiltshire
3rd	£10	278	John Barnes
4th	£9	282	Elizabeth Hatt
5th	£8	168	Charles Price
6th	£7	295	Caroline Dickenson
7th	£6	106	Linda Fitzpatrick
8th	£5	148	Angela Stanley

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

## Whist Drive

The next whist drive will be held at the village hall on Friday 13 April, 7.15pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. £1.50 entrance, including refreshments.

M Goulding and J Gleed

## Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 12 April in the village hall at 7.30pm. This will also be the AGM. All are welcome to attend and there are opportunities to raise questions and pass comments. If you cannot make the meeting but have something to raise, please contact the clerk, Sarah Wood, on 840197 or at [clerk@sherston.org.uk](mailto:clerk@sherston.org.uk). Alternatively, you can contact the council via the response form on [www.sherston.org.uk](http://www.sherston.org.uk) where minutes of meetings can also be read.

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# Sherston Senior Club

John Craig from the Wiltshire Fire Service visited us again on 7 February and once again entertained us with his apparently inexhaustible tales and anecdotes about the fire service – will he ever run out of stories? We hope not.

On 21 February, Ian McGuire showed us a splendid selection of wildlife photographs; particularly of birds and owls.

After our spring sale, which was on 20 March, we will welcome Derek Remington on 3 April at 2.30pm (we will be on summer time and the clocks will have gone forward one hour) to present a butterfly slide show.

On 17 April we have our first outing in 2012 to Dobbies Garden Centre in Cirencester (10.30am to 2.30pm, cost £8). This will be followed on 1 May by a talk on fundraising for cancer at Royal United Hospital Bath.

If anyone would like to learn more about what we get up to, or has any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

*John Venning, Chairman Tel. 840915*

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# Book sale result



Thanks to everyone who donated or bought books at Sherston 1016's spring sale in March. Some £300 was raised towards the cost of the senior citizens' Christmas vouchers. The next sale will be in the autumn, although 1016 are hoping to run their usual stall of books on Boules Day (14 July).



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and many more local ingredients .....



# SherstonFest: Full music line-up announced

The sleepy Cotswold village of Sherston is set to be boogie-ing into the night on 15 and 16 June when SherstonFest opens its doors (gates?) for the first time.

The programme for the music section of the 'South Cotswolds Cider, Music and Fine Food Festival' has just been released and it's a corker! Full details of all the bands and artists can be found on the festival website – [www.sherstonfest.com](http://www.sherstonfest.com) – but we make it 18 bands/artists - which we calculate is less than a quid a band if you get an 'early bird' weekend ticket (still available on the website for only £16).

Friday night's headline act is the awesome Dub Mafia, who have become one of the most popular dance acts in the UK, Europe and beyond. The seven-piece band blend drum and bass, dub, dubstep, bashment, breakbeat and world music into their own sound – if you missed them at WOMAD last year, here's another chance to see them in North Wiltshire.

Saturday night is no slouch either – massive local favourites the mighty Soul Destroyers will be closing the party down but only after the Rinky Dinks (the world's first 'ukulele super group') have had you dancing in the summer sunshine.

The strictly limited tickets are going fast and Saturday early bird tickets have already sold out, so visit [www.sherstonfest.com](http://www.sherstonfest.com) and buy now while stocks last.

## The Wiltshire and Swindon Youth Orchestra are coming to Malmesbury Abbey!



Just a reminder that Malmesbury Abbey Music Society (MAMS) is delighted to be hosting the Wiltshire and Swindon Youth Orchestra in Malmesbury Abbey on Saturday 14 April at 7.30pm for the first concert in their exciting 2012 season. These highly gifted young musicians, under the energetic baton of Timothy Redmond, will bring youthful exuberance to a wonderfully varied programme. The adventures of three sailors on 'shore leave' are captured in Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from On the Town. Former leader Harry Smith from Sherston will then pick up his saxophone for Debussy's beautiful Rhapsody for Saxophone and Orchestra before the rhythmic vitality of Khachaturian's Masquerade Suite draw the first half to a close. After the interval, they will play Beethoven's mighty 5th Symphony with its famous opening – a real challenge for such a young group of players, but one that we are absolutely sure they will rise to with confidence.

Tickets for the concerts are priced at £12, or £5 for students, and can be obtained from the Abbey Bookshop, or the MAMS Ticket Secretary, David Barton, on 824924, email [d.barton763@btinternet.com](mailto:d.barton763@btinternet.com). Alternatively, tickets can be bought online through the Malmesbury website [www.malmesbury.com/mams](http://www.malmesbury.com/mams).

By the way, it's still not too late to become a member of the society. For £50, you get a season ticket that covers all the season's concerts, while £10 gets you discounted tickets. The society also organises trips to musical events, the annual highlight being our trip to the BBC Proms at the Albert Hall. Contact David Barton for further details.

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# Sherston Diamond Jubilee Party

Plans are progressing well for Sherston's celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee:

- Saturday 2 June: 10.00am  
Paint a portrait of the Queen (children's activity)
- Sunday 3 June: 11.00am  
Thanksgiving Service, Holy Cross Church  
12.30pm  
Diamond Jubilee Street Party, High Street
- Monday 4 June: 10.00pm  
Beacon Lighting and Firework Display

Children can work on their portrait of the Queen (various age categories) at the village hall on Saturday 2 June, from 10.00am to midday. Children are welcome to complete their portraits at home or at school. All the completed portraits will be displayed in the village hall on the Sunday and the Best Portrait of the Queen will be selected by People's Choice vote.

On Sunday morning, there will be a Thanksgiving Service and Holy Cross Church will be decorated with arranged flowers, which will be on display over the Jubilee weekend.

The street party will be BYO picnic and furniture, however a limited number of tables will be available

to use on the day. Look out for details on how to book a table, closer to the event.

We encourage you to come along to the street party dressed in a fashionable outfit from any one of the 60 years of the Queen's reign. As well as the Best Portrait of the Queen, there will be a number of other competitions, including Best Dressed House, Best Table Centrepiece (at the party) and Best Dressed Party Attendee. Just in Time has been booked to provide music and there will be street games to entertain children throughout the afternoon.

On Monday night, 4 June, the scouts will light a beacon and this will be followed by a firework display.

The parish council will provide a free commemorative mug for every child in the village under the age of 11. Order forms will appear in next month's Cliffhanger.

We will need help to decorate and set up the street for the party and we are also looking for someone to bake and decorate 300 cup cakes to be eaten on the day of the party (reasonable costs reimbursed). If you can help out in any way, please contact Jill on 841380.

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# Spring at the school garden

## School fruit tree planting

Children in year 5 Willow Class planted the most recent additions to Sherston School's allotment area. Two apples and a cherry were the kind gifts from Whitehall Garden Centre, Lacock.



*Mrs Self, and year 5 children 2009*

Eight years ago, Whitehall started a scheme to encourage Wiltshire children to get gardening at school. 'We thought we should try to encourage local schools. We started with ornamental trees, and then switched to fruit' Whitehall said. 'Mostly primary and infants, but we do have a few secondary schools taking up our offer.'

When parents and children built the allotment area four years ago, the school was particularly fortunate to have been given a collection of fruit trees by Whitehall owner Mrs. Self. The association with Whitehall continued with the award of £500 of tokens following the successful Wiltshire school's Gazette & Herald masthead collection competition. Much of that money went towards the school pond built two years ago. More recently, the school has become a member of the garden centre's Gardening Club, giving discounts and special offers. It is hoped that the remaining tokens will go towards furnishing



*Masie and Katie planting their trees*

a chill out zone soon to be built in the school's wildlife area.

## New life for school pond

Reception children in Oak Class look on in fascination at the first spawn to be produced in the school's pond. 'We have three lots', said Suzanne Price, Assistant Teacher. 'Two batches of frog spawn and one we think is a toad. Soon after the pond was finished, we have had a large yellow toad, the one that jumped into the water as Parish Council Chairman John Matthews presided over the official opening ceremony in 2010. The children are thrilled to see that so quickly, we have established a thriving habitat in our pond.'



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# High Street makeover?

Following on from last month's news of some proposed road safety improvements in the light of the relocation of the Post Office Stores to the Old School a further proposal has now been forwarded by Wiltshire Council highway engineers.

It is now intended to consult on all the options during April. The plans are printed in the centre pages of this edition (pages 17 -20) with further copies available from Sherston Post Office Stores and Sunday Papers. It is also hoped to put them up on the parish council's website [www.sherston.org.uk](http://www.sherston.org.uk)

## Sherston Occasional Community Choir (SHOCC)

To whet your appetite, SHOCC will be giving an evening concert of light music in Easton Grey Church on Saturday 19 May. More details in May's Cliffhanger.

Contacts: Nicki Heenan, Tel. 840883/Jill Woodward, Tel. 840578

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# Last pickings



On a frosty morning in February, children from Chestnut Class at Sherston Primary School, picked the last Brussel sprouts in the vegetable allotment. They were eaten by the whole school the following day with roast lunch.

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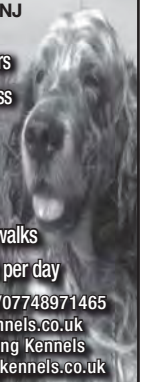
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# News from Holy Cross Church

Our Lent courses have been held in three locations, with a good number of people involved, especially bearing in mind that the Alpha course has been running at the same time with up to 20 people coming along.

We had a good marriage preparation day to which all couples preparing for a wedding within our Group were invited. We hope to run this on an annual basis.

As we enter Holy Week, on Maundy Thursday we remember the Last Supper with a service in Sherston at 7.30pm on 5 April. On Good Friday there will be a children's workshop in Sherston between 11.00am and 1.00pm, followed by an all-age service at 2.00pm. The traditional walk to Luckington ends with a brief service outside the church.

Sherston's annual meeting was on Sunday 25 March, the annual meeting for Easton Grey is on 26 April at 8.00pm at Don's house; please come along if you can.

There will be a Group Service on 29 April, 10.30 am in Stanton St Quintin Church, which replaces all other services across the Group.

Recently, the Gauzebrook Ministry Team discussed our approach to hospital visiting. The church's ministry within the hospitals is carried out by the chaplaincy team, which comprises both lay volunteers and ordained priests. Chaplains are employed by the NHS trust and supported by the Church of England. When a parishioner goes into hospital we would be very grateful to be told, so that they can be prayed for, and so that the hospital chaplains can be put in contact with them if a visit is desired. Equally, when someone returns home or to a local convalescent home, it would be helpful to know please, so that the local Ministry Team can carry on the pastoral care.

*by Christopher Bryan*

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# Five Loaves and Two Fishes: Thank you

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Five Loaves and Two Fishes Project based in St Paul's, Bristol. On behalf of the Community of the Sisters of the Church, I offer a big thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness in contributing your 1016 vouchers. Many of these were transferred into food for the large numbers of homeless people we serve each week. This year the grand total was £500.19. Also, through the generosity of Paul and Gail Mather at the post office, most of your vouchers were able to be redeemed at retail value which gave us more. In addition, in discussion with the Sisters it was decided to donate some of the generous voucher money towards the children's fund. This gives the Sisters an opportunity to take children and their families away for the day. They will be able to go to the seaside in the summer and the pantomime in January. Your other kind donations came through the counter tin which raised £131.30.

If anyone would like more information about the work of the Sister's Community, please let me know. Thank you once again from Sister Hilday Mary, Sister Rosina and Sister Margaret Sarah.

*by Susan Harvey*



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# Painting classes

Classes have been running at Brokenborough for well over a year now and there have been many wonderful paintings produced, and much fun and laughter has been had at The Horse Guards pub - thank you Jeanette and Arthur for your hospitality. We are a lively bunch who come from far and wide. We have studied several artists this term including van Gogh, Degas, Gauguin and Kandinsky.

## New courses

New painting classes resume after Easter at The Horse Guards on Friday 20 April at 10.30am for beginners. The advanced class is now full, but if you are interested there is a short waiting list. Class fee: £10 per session. For information on what to bring and the course content, please contact Nicki Heenan on 840883 or at [nicki.heenan@btinternet.com](mailto:nicki.heenan@btinternet.com).

## Coming soon

Painting classes in watercolour, acrylic and mixed media for beginners at the Carpenters Arms, Sherston. Please enrol early for this new and inspiring course - six places only. No previous experience in painting necessary, we will proceed step by step to give you confidence in using colour and painting materials to find what works best for you - be prepared to experiment.

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## Ticket sales

Following the great success of the 2010 Summer Ball, the Pinkney Party People have succumbed to popular demand and are in the throes of organising a follow-up event.

Winterball 2012 tickets will be on sale during the morning of Saturday 28 April, outside The Rattlebone in the side courtyard, between 11.00am and 1.00pm.

The £65 per person ticket price will include a welcome drink and three-course sit-down dinner, followed by a quality raffle, and spectacular entertainment, with live music and a pumping disco. Our marquee this year will accommodate 250 party-lovers.

Any profits made will be donated to the Old School Project.

The theme of the evening will be Fire and Ice - we have our creative geniuses working on it so expect some surprises. Dress code is black tie, but feel free to tweak that just a little in line with the theme.

The ticket sale event will take the same form as with the 2010 ball. We will be accepting payment on a strictly first come, first served basis. Tickets will ideally be sold as full tables of 10; however, we will accommodate smaller groups where possible.

We can only accept cash or cheques. Please inform us of any vegetarians in your group at the time of booking. After the initial sale, any remaining tickets will be made available via our ticket hotline and dedicated email, details of which will be published on the village website and here in the Cliffhanger.

So get yourselves organised, make up your tables of 10, and get someone there on 28 April to avoid missing out on what may turn out to be the village event of the year.

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# Grittleton Baptist Chapel open afternoon

Halfway along the main street in Grittleton, on the opposite side to the Neeld Arms, is a pair of green iron gates, which are usually locked. The gates lead to a grass track, and at the bottom is Grittleton Strict and Particular Baptist Chapel. The Chapel was last used for worship in 1982, since when it has been looked after by a group of the Trustees of the Baptist Congregation now based in West Kington. At the end of last year, it was taken on by The Historic Chapels Trust, which looks after about 20 chapels spread across the country.

The Chapel will be open from 2.00pm to 5.00pm on the afternoon of Sunday 22 April. At 4.00pm Matthew Butler, a resident of Acton Turville and an archaeologist at the University of Bristol, will give a short talk on the history of the Chapel. Matthew will be on hand all afternoon to point out some of the main features and to answer questions.

Grittleton Chapel is a real gem: a time capsule, and one of the finest surviving nonconformist places of worship in the south of England. Built in 1721, box pews and galleries were installed and, apart from one reordering about 200 years ago, it has remained unaltered ever since. A burial ground with gravestones lies alongside the Chapel.

The Chapel is now available for use and as a resource for our communities. So few people have ever seen it, the first challenge is for as many people as possible to come and have a look. For further information, please contact Matthew on 01454 218036 or at [matthew.butler8@btinternet.com](mailto:matthew.butler8@btinternet.com).

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# Olympic Family Fun Day: Sherston 2012



On Saturday 19 May, the Friends of Sherston School are holding a fun day on the rec, featuring a decathlon which primary school pupils are invited to take part in. The ten 'sports' will include a sprint, football penalties, basketball hoops, discus and long jump, with medals and prizes for the winners. There will also be a family torch relay. It may be the closest you get to the real thing!

Bar, barbecue and picnic area, from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. More details to come next month ... watch this space ...

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# Sherston Living Churchyard 2012

Life is starting to come back to the churchyard after the winter and it was great to see the primroses in the wooded area flowering even in January. They have now been joined by snowdrops and the leaves of the bluebells are starting to poke up through the soil.

In view of this resurgence of natural life, you may have been surprised that there has not been any human activity yet this spring. Unfortunately, as many of you may have heard, I have been ill and still have to undergo several months of chemotherapy. This means that I shall not be able to organise monthly working parties in the churchyard as in previous years. You may still see me there when I feel up to it. There is now good scientific evidence that contact with the natural world is good for body, mind and spirit, and I certainly find it so and I believe that being there will help my recovery.

The churchyard will still show the results of the work of previous years, especially the areas of grassland plants which flowered so beautifully last year and attracted so many insects. These included a marbled white butterfly, one which I have not seen before anywhere and which was drawn by the knapweed flowers planted in the grass.

Work to learn more about the wildlife in the

churchyard has not stopped – as you will see from Jill Caine's report below about the birds that she has observed there over a year. Many thanks go to Jill for doing this work and to all the people who have helped to make the churchyard a better place for people and wildlife over the last few years. This is just a pause in our efforts and I hope to be back on a regular basis next year.

*by Sue Robinson*

## Living Churchyard - Bird Survey

Over the past year you may have spotted someone lurking in the churchyard with a clipboard and binoculars, usually in the early morning... the bird survey is almost complete and the churchyard supports a wide variety of birds. You are probably all aware of the jackdaws that roost in the copper beech, but the tower is also a roost for a large flock of starlings, which are a 'red-listed' species in the UK, meaning that their numbers have declined dramatically over the past 25 years.

There are all the usual birds you might expect to see in your garden – robins, dunnocks, blackbirds, tits and finches, including a bullfinch feasting happily on the blossom buds, in the last month. While greenfinch numbers have been badly affected by a virus this winter, the churchyard still has a small flock of four, along with a flock of goldfinches. If you look very carefully, you might even see Britain's smallest bird, the goldcrest, in the conifers in the churchyard and, over the summer, an endangered song thrush was using the east end roof as song post. The most dramatic visitor of the year has been a sparrowhawk hunting over the churchyard in summer, but the large family of coal tits managed to avoid this danger, successfully rearing all four chicks. The churchyard offers a varied and safe habitat for birds and, if you are prepared to watch quietly, you might see any one of the 21 different species that make the churchyard their home.

*by Jill Caine*



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# Sherston Boules & Carnival: 7-15 July

Sherston Boules Tournament is now in its 27th year, having been started in 1986 by Rev. Hugh Thomson-Glover (Sherston's vicar at the time), Dr Colin Owen (local doctor) and Richard Maslin. It was originally held in September but now takes place on the closest Saturday to Bastille Day, 14 July. The Tournament has since grown to 128 teams, making it the UK's largest one-day boules tournament.

The Tournament was amalgamated with the existing village Carnival. Since then, Boules & Carnival has evolved into a full week of events, including seniors teas, a skittles tournament, cricket at Pinkney Park, a children's disco, tug of war and a duck race, with other activities on Boules Day itself.

This year's Boules Tournament is again being organised by Martin Smith. Applications can be made online using the link <http://sherston.net/boules-2012/> or by using a form available on the website or from the post office. The final deadline for entries is 30 April.

The main aim of Boules & Carnival is for everyone to have fun but also to raise money for local clubs and charities. Since it was established, over £210,000 has been raised. Last year £6,615 was distributed to 25 different clubs/charities, of which 19 were from Sherston, two from Luckington, two from Malmesbury and two were charities associated with people in the village. For some of these clubs, the contribution they receive is vital for them to keep going.

The running of Boules & Carnival is by an open committee (anyone can join) of people from the village and surrounding area who want to give something back. This year, our Chairman of many years, Tony Weedon, stepped down and no one has come forward to replace him in this role, so the organising is very much a joint committee effort. We are delighted that founders of the Boules Tournament will take on the ceremonial functions of this role. We are always looking for additional help. This doesn't mean you have to join the committee; there are many other ways to help, which don't involve much work but are crucial to the running of the event. As if by a magical old tradition, a gallant team of strong villagers appears at 6.30am to help set up the boules pitches and sand and then again from 5.00pm to 7.00pm to clear them away – help at these vital times would be much appreciated. Alternatively, help would be welcome at 2.00pm on Friday 13 July to help move pitch surrounds from the container by the football pitch to the High Street and for an hour

or so on Boules Day itself at the French café, the bar in the High Street or with teas in the village hall.



If you're able to offer any help, however small, please call Caroline Moore on 841405 or email [caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk](mailto:caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk) or Louise Osborne on 841238 or email [louise.osborne@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:louise.osborne@networkrail.co.uk) and they will put you in contact with the right person.

Let's make Sherston Boules & Carnival another village success in 2012.



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# TREEtalk

APRIL 2012

by Irene Johnston

## End of another season!

We missed two out of four work sessions in February due to icy conditions, only for the weather to turn incredibly mild in March. The unseasonal warmth meant that new growth was kick-started earlier than expected and we finished our third season a couple of weeks early. Can't be trampling all over the emerging woodland flowers; that would never do! Our doughty team of volunteers have made considerable progress since last October and there remains just one section to finish (up to the Macmillan Way) before we go back to the beginning and start all over again.

More good news to report as we've just heard that the Community Payback team will return this summer to get on with upgrading the riverside path. This will be music to the ears of all winter rambblers and dog walkers (not to mention our volunteers). Coppicing and clearing will resume in the autumn and we hope new workers will be tempted to join the team. In the meantime, don't forget to take a walk in the woods during this month to see the wild flowers, particularly the bluebells that put on such a dazzling display last spring.

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## Spotted any of the following?

Volunteer, Geoff Carss (who is now writing a monthly wildlife column in the Cliffhanger - see page 21) is often to be spotted down the wood with his camera. He and a local botanist observed many different wild flower species and native plants on a recent visit. Their list included Pignut, Spindle, Wild Angelica, Arum Lilies, Crow Garlic, Wild Gooseberry, Dogs Tooth Violet, Blackcurrant, native Iris, Nipplewort (brilliant name!), Sanicle (quite exciting, apparently), Cow Parsley, Harts Tongue fern, Brissily, Oxtongue, Dewberry and several others. Not bad for a two-acre wood that will continue to reveal its secrets after years of neglect.

## The royal oak

Of the 105 free native trees that we received from the Woodland Trust, one is extra special: a tiny oak sapling has come from one of the Royal estates and is included to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Any inspired ideas about where to plant it should be sent to me via the email address below (though we won't be able to plant it out till the start of the dormant season in the autumn).

Further information from Sherston's Tree Warden, Irene Johnston on 841273, email: [Ie\\_johnston@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk) or Deputy Tree Warden, Sue McKechnie on 840601, email: [susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Sherston Parish Council

### High Street improvements

When the Old School project was given the green light last April the parish council began considering possible road safety improvements to the High Street to take into consideration the redevelopment particularly the relocation of the Post Office Stores. With the stores now being on the south side of the High Street there are greater numbers of pedestrians crossing the main road at its junction with Court Street including children who attend Sherston School. Highway engineers from Wiltshire Council were asked to look at the situation and to come up with some ideas. A proposal has now been drawn up that basically concentrates on providing safe protected pedestrian crossing points between the Old School and the tree on the opposite side of the road. Included is a disabled parking area outside the Old School and a replacement tree which will be protected from vehicle damage. In addition, a proper footpath is provided from Court Street to the area of the tree with that path possibly having railings to one side to avoid it being driven over by vehicles attempting to cut the corner.

In relation to High Street car parking, the parish council has not received any complaints caused by the new position of the Post Office Stores since it opened last November. The availability of parking for delivery vehicles to the rear of the Old School may well have alleviated the parking issue to some extent. The proposal for enhancing pedestrian safety in the High Street will undoubtedly have some impact on the car parking situation but it is a question of balancing that against greater road safety. Unfortunately both the present tree and nearby sign have been regularly driven into by vehicles for many years. Some may say that if a driver can't see a tree or sign whilst reversing they could easily fail to see a pedestrian, especially a child.

Before reaching any decision on the proposal the parish council wishes to hear from residents throughout the parish with their views.

There are four options within the proposal and Option A is shown overleaf in full. Options B, C and D are very much the same but with some differences in surfacing and in the intended new pathway running from the Court Street junction with the High Street to the area around the tree opposite the Old School. The areas of difference in options B, C and D are shown on page 20. It is also hoped to put these plans up on the parish council's website [www.sherston.org.uk](http://www.sherston.org.uk)

#### **The estimated costs of the options are:**

Option A   £15,933.08	Option B   £15,654.78	Option C   £13,168.82	Option D   £13,260.49
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The major cost differences are due to whether paving is used or straightforward tarmac the latter being the cheaper. The paving option is due to the fact that the High Street is in the centre of the conservation area and paving could therefore be considered more appropriate than plain tarmac.

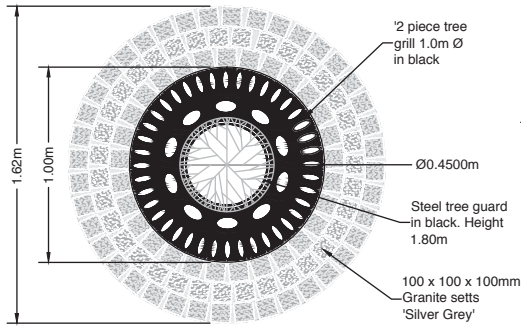
If the proposal is to proceed the parish council will have to meet the majority of the cost. The Malmesbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council has made available a sum of £5000 as a contribution via the Community Area Transport Group. The parish council's contribution would be paid out of the present budget and from existing reserves.

The proposal now being considered is phase 1. The parish council has also asked the highway engineers to look at improving the area alongside the Rattlebone Inn (phase 2) and when any proposal for phase 2 is presented, further public consultation will be undertaken. It should be noted however that phase 1 is the priority and it is unlikely that finance will be available for phase 2 until 2013/2014.

Please put any comments, whether for or against the phase 1 proposal in writing to the Clerk, Sherston Parish Council, 23 Cliff Road, Sherston SN16 0LN or by email [clerk@sherston.org.uk](mailto:clerk@sherston.org.uk) Comments should please be made by 30<sup>th</sup> April at the latest and all will be taken into account before any decision is reached.

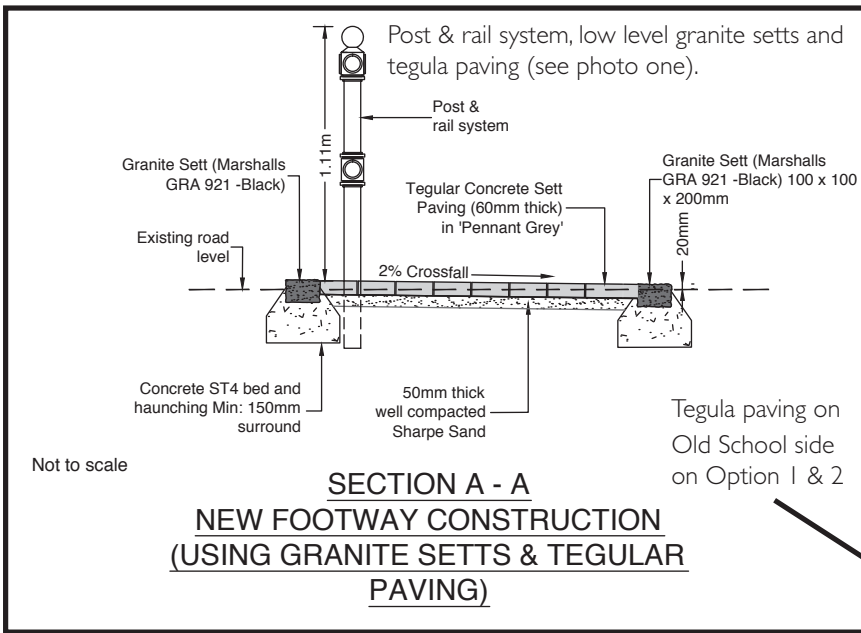
**OPTION A**

(Shows the common layout to all options -  
paving and post and rail system on footpath vary between options)



Not to scale

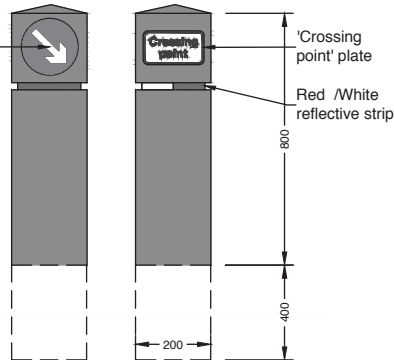
**TREE SURROUND DETAIL**



Not to scale

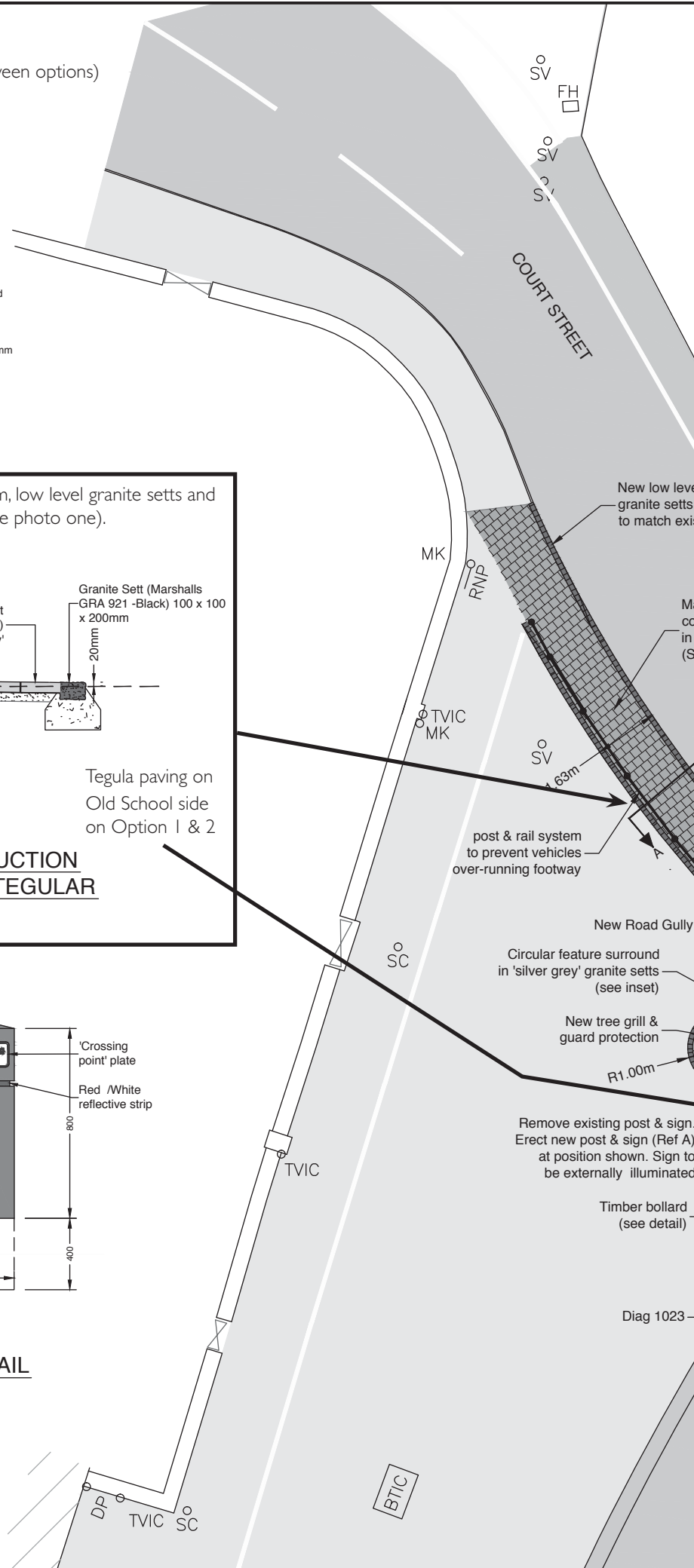
150mm roundel to diagram 610.  
for bollards at crossing point. 2 no.  
bollards to feature 'keep right'  
aspect. 2 no. bollards to feature  
'keep left' aspect.

NOTE. Bollards adjacent  
to Post Office to be  
lockable and removable



Not to scale

**TIMBER BOLLARD DETAIL**







NOTES:

NOTES:


400 x 400 x 50mm tactile paving (Silver Grey) laid on 6:1 sharp sand / cement Gritmix 50mm thick.
---

 Granite Setts (Marshalls  
GRA921 -Black 100 x 100 x200mm  
20-50mm upstand.

 Footway construction consisting of 60mm thick 'Tegular' paving in 'Pennant Grey' laid on 30-50mm thick compacted sharp sand. Finished joints to be sealed with 'Keybond' joint stabiliser or similar approved



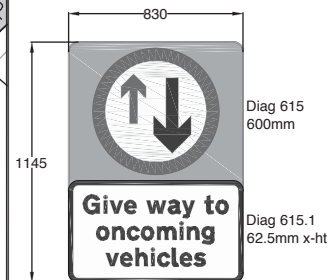
Post & Rail system. 1.1m high.  
Distance between posts - 2.0m

 Precast concrete trapped gully with a grating clear opening size of 450 x 450mm, grade D400. Type Stanton Aqua max or similar approved.

■ ■ ■ ■ Vitirfied clay pipe, 150mm Ø  
with Class B bedding.

## General Notes

1. The use of this drawing does not absolve the client from his responsibilities under Health & Safety: The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.
2. All works within the confines of the highway shall be signed in accordance with The Department for Transport's 'Traffic Signs Manual' 2009 Chapter 8 'Traffic Safety measures & Signs for Road works & Temporary situations'.
3. All Road markings shall be laid in accordance with The Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 5: All road marking material shall be formed in thermoplastic material complying with BS 3262: Class A.



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Wiltshire Council (100049050) 2012

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PROJECT-

B4040 SHERSTON  
HIGH STREET / COURT STREET  
PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

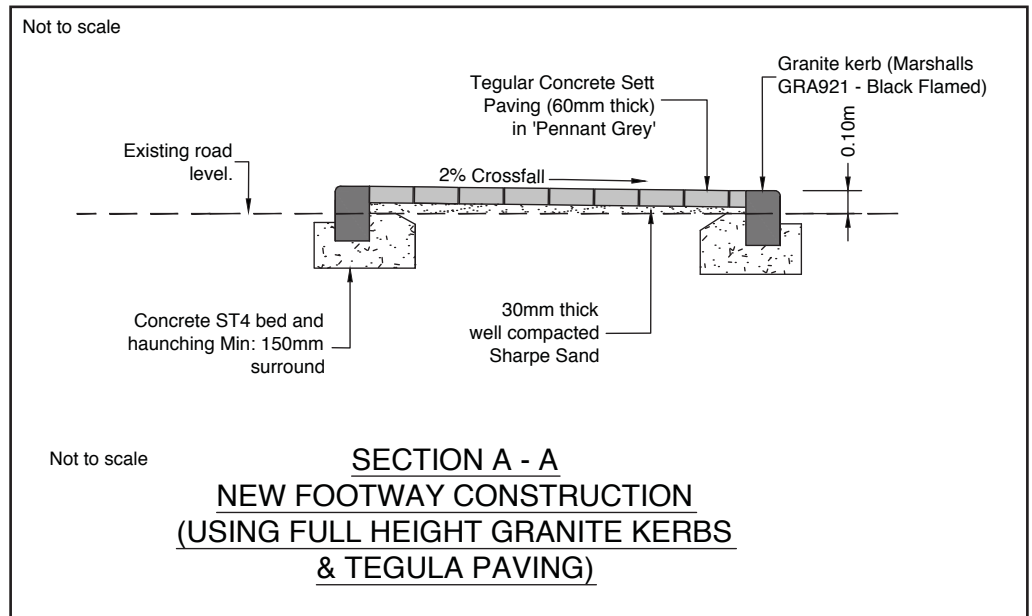
DRAWING TITLE:

PARISH COUNCIL  
OPTION A

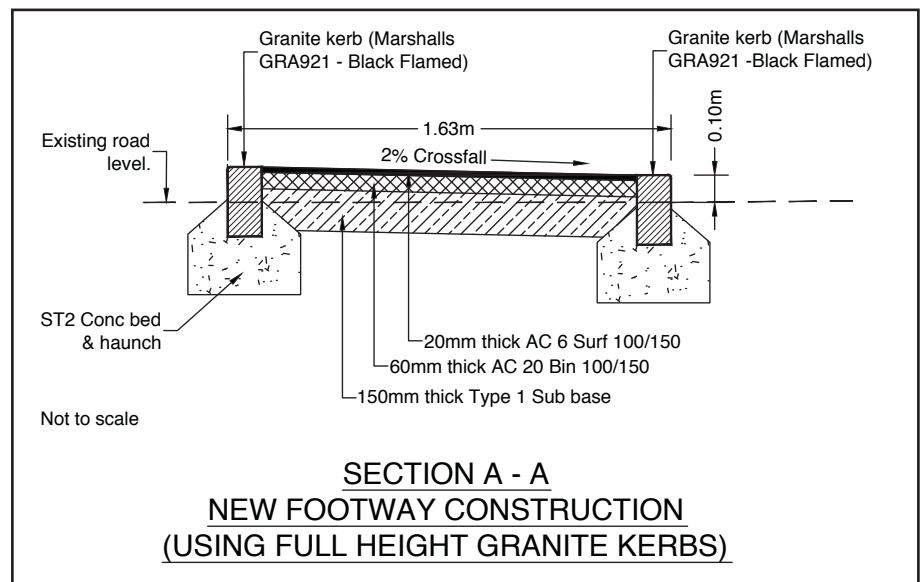
SCALES:	AS SHOWN	SHEET SIZE:	A2
DRAWING No.	2058-058-SHERSTON-D004	REVISION:	0
FILE REF:	L:\integratedtransport\currentschemes\areaboard\name\sub\sherstonhighstreet\designing		

**OPTION B**

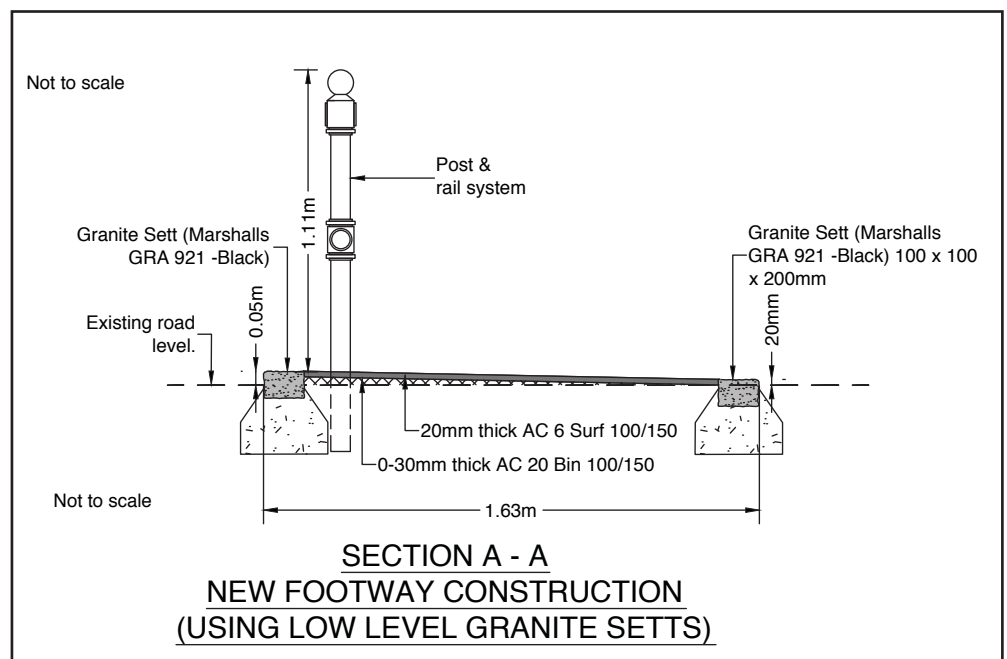
Full height granite kerbs with tegula paving (no post and rail system).  
Tegula paving on Old School side.

**OPTION C**

Full height granite kerbs.  
(no post and rail system or tegula paving)

**OPTION D**

Low level granite sets with post and rail system.  
(no tegula paving)





# Walk on the wild side

## Comings and goings

April is a time of change for our local wildlife. Many of the birds that overwintered here have now left – the redwings, fieldfares and many of the finches have all departed for more northerly climes – while the summer migration from southern Europe has already started, with stock doves already nesting and chiffchaff males beginning to arrive a week or so ago.

The chiffchaff, a member of the warbler family, is a delightful small brown bird, and there are a number of males singing in the bushes and trees along the Cliff. They have a two-tone song a bit like their name and, with a little patience, you can see them (see photo). There are more details on my blog at <http://sherstonwildlife.wordpress.com>.



During the month, we should start to see the arrival of many of our other summer birds, such as cuckoos, house martins, whitethroats, willow warblers and swifts. If we are really lucky we may even get nightingales. I will be spending some time trying to find some locally; we are right on the edge of their range, although they do occur in the Cotswold Water Park so watch this space.

Grove Wood will be bursting out in bluebells very soon. The first few are in flower and this outstanding warm spring will bring them forward. Peacock and brimstone butterflies are out and about, as are many species of insects, especially bumblebees.

Martin Barber (from Hullavington) visited Grove Wood last week and identified many of the plants growing there. Hopefully, he will come back from time to time to help us understand the effect the coppicing has had on the plant life.

The jackdaws are out in strength, filling all sorts of crevices with their nests at the moment. They seem to congregate around the church and fly up and down the High Street like squadrons of Spitfires.

Until next month, if you see or hear of any interesting wildlife stories, please add them to my blog (<http://sherstonwildlife.wordpress.com>) or email me at [geoff\\_carss@hotmail.com](mailto:geoff_carss@hotmail.com).

*By Geoff Carss*

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## Public vote launched for the Seven Wonders of the Cotswolds

Following the Cotswolds Conservation Board's public appeal to help compile the 'Seven Wonders of the Cotswolds' list, an overwhelming number of nominations have been received and a public vote has now been launched to determine the final seven.

The quest to find the Cotswolds' wonders has fired up the public's imagination, resulting in a long list of over 80 nominations. Historic and ancient sites, Cotswold buildings, churches and monuments, natural attractions, towns and villages and many more suggestions have been flooding in since the campaign was launched before Christmas.

With such a variety of suggestions covering natural, geological, historical, landscape and cultural features throughout the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Board is inviting the public to vote for their top seven Cotswolds' wonders to help determine the final list. The list will then be used to create a brand new series of 'wonder walks' to help more people access and enjoy the best places in the Cotswolds landscape.

Nicola Greaves, Information & Interpretation Officer at the Conservation Board said: 'This campaign has attracted huge interest from the public and we were amazed by the variety of nominations from across the area that people have sent in. It has shown just how many wonderful features and attractions the Cotswolds AONB has and we are now looking forward to seeing what the final list will look like and then developing the wonder walks.'

To vote for your favourite final seven, view the full list at: [www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/wonders](http://www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/wonders), then email your seven choices to [info@cotswolds-aonb.org.uk](mailto:info@cotswolds-aonb.org.uk), or submit via [facebook.com/cotswolds-aonb](https://www.facebook.com/cotswolds-aonb) by 1 June. The final seven will be announced shortly afterwards.

## WEA invitation

The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) invites you to join us in the British School Room on Saturday 21 April for a free taster course by Jane Hack entitled 'Blood and Guts: a history of medicine from Ancient Egyptian to Tudor Times' for anyone who wonders what happened in the past when one got sick. WEA members will be there to welcome you for tea and coffee from 10:30am to 11.00am when the AGM begins. Anyone interested may come and learn what course programmes are planned for autumn and spring of next year. After a 45-minute break for lunch independently, the sample course with coffee break will be offered from 1.00pm to 4.00pm at no cost. Jane Hack is a popular lecturer, so we hope you will join us for an informative and enjoyable afternoon. No registration is required. Questions may be directed to Carolyn Hewitson (840558) or Jill Chadwick (841164).

## Flowers in church: Any budding flower arrangers out there?

We are planning to decorate the church with flowers for the Jubilee weekend and would welcome any offers of help. You don't have to be expert but just enjoy working with flowers or just willing to help in any other way – even just making the tea or helping with the clearing up.

If you are interested, please contact Pat Whitehouse on 840640.

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# ZOO-WEE MAMA!

Well, if that didn't get your attention, perhaps this will: [www.sherston.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.sherston.wilts.sch.uk).

Sherston Primary School has launched its new website. If you've not visited the site yet, you've missed all of this:

- Latest news,
- Class pages,
- Photo stream,
- Curriculum info,
- Parents' pages,
- Lunch menus,
- Calendar,
- Kids' zone and games,

....and of course much, much more.

So get clicking – it's all there. If you can't find what you're looking for, just email us: [office@sherston.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@sherston.wilts.sch.uk).

In the meantime, we can announce our next two open days for new pupils (and their parents). These will be on Tuesday 26 June and Tuesday 18 September. We look forward to meeting you there – more details in the next edition of Cliffhanger and, of course, on the website.

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# Busy Hands and Sherston Toddlers Table Top Sale

Saturday 21 April sees the return of the popular Sherston Table Top Sale from 10.00am to 12.00noon at the village hall. Organised by the Busy Hands Pre-School committee and the hard-working mums of Sherston Toddlers, the sale is a great fundraiser and an opportunity to buy a wide range of second-hand goods. Sellers will have equipment for babies, toddlers and children, including moses baskets, prams, bedding and sleeping bags, as well as clothes, toys and books. There will be an opportunity to sit down and relax with a cup of tea or coffee and a cake whilst your little ones play with toys provided by the Toddler Group - or to buy a cake to take home for the weekend.

There will be a £2 donation on the door, and a further £1 will enter you into a prize draw with the opportunity to win an adult and child ticket to the Cotswold Wildlife Park. There will be a lucky dip for children, a Hello Kitty stall and Minnie Hulme will be selling Phoenix Cards so you can grab birthday cards, invitations and other great stationery.

Put the date in your diary and tell all your friends, we look forward to seeing you on the day.

If you are interested in selling, tables cost £15 and can be reserved by phoning Joey Ross on 890463.



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## Buy with confidence

Wiltshire Council has joined an approved trader scheme – Buy with Confidence – to support legitimate businesses and to protect people from rogue traders. It will bring together a list of local traders, such as gardeners, plumbers and builders, all of whom will be individually checked for trustworthiness. There is an application and membership fee for joining the scheme and for this members get:

- their details added to the approved traders list on the Buy with Confidence website (visited by more than 50,000 consumers every month);
- recognition of high business standards by being 'trading standards approved';
- promotion and publicity of the scheme to local residents ; and
- use of the Buy with Confidence logo on promotional material.

If you know a reliable, trustworthy trader who you think would benefit from joining our scheme, please let us know by emailing [bwc@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:bwc@wiltshire.gov.uk).

For more information about the scheme and to apply online, visit the Buy with Confidence website: [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk)

## Wiltshire libraries launch eBook lending service

Wiltshire libraries eBook service is now available to library members day and night, with over 1,500 titles to choose from. Members can download up to three eBooks at a time for free, using their library card number and PIN.

For more information about the service and to access the online catalogue, visit the Wiltshire Council website: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk).

## Adult social care - helping people to stay safe at home

The Help to Live at Home service is progressing very well, with 639 people (out of a total of 1,500 eligible customers) receiving the new service from one of the selected Help to Live at Home providers. The transfer of customers will continue over the next few weeks.

Cabinet has now approved the development of a new call centre and response service based in Wiltshire that will link with telecare (assistive technology). This new service will be provided by Wiltshire Medical Services which currently provides the GP 'out of hours' service. The call centre is based in Chippenham but there will be a team of care staff based in the south of the county, able to respond to non-medical emergencies.

Wiltshire Medical Services will work in partnership with Medequip which will provide community equipment, telecare and other adaptations to enable people to remain in their own homes. The development of telecare in Wiltshire will extend the range of equipment available to support people to include fall alarms, heat detectors and bed movement sensors, offering customers the opportunity to remain safe and secure.

Through implementing these new services, the council believes that customers will be able to remain in their own homes for longer.

The council want to encourage people to feedback on these services. There is a dedicated telephone helpline (01225 712553) for any concerns or comments people may have about the services that are being provided. The helpline is available Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm.

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Moviola is the first rural cinema scheme to be permitted to show The Iron Lady in the UK.

Show starts at 7.30pm, with doors opening at 7.00pm.

Tickets are priced at £5 in advance, £5.50 on the door, and are available from Lesley on 01249 783157 or at [L\\_palmer@btinternet.com](mailto:L_palmer@btinternet.com).



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## Indoor cricket success

The final weekend of the Chippenham indoor cricket league took place on Sunday 4 March and saw Sherston Magna beat Christian Melford by four wickets. This result means that Sherston are promoted as Champions from Division 2 to Division 1 after their first season in the league. Congratulations to all the players who took part: Richard Cartwright, Matt Goodwin, Ian Gould, Chris Lovell, James Kutchera, Ollie Moore, Harry Stevens, David Fitch-Peyton and captain James Harmer.

Indoor nets have started for those keen to prepare for the summer cricket season. The nets take place



in Tetbury every Sunday until Easter starting at 4.30pm for two hours. New players are welcome to join. The nets in Tetbury are in the Cotswold Leisure Centre, Lowfield Road, and cost £5 per person for two hours. Please contact Kevin Smith (kevinarchersmith@btinternet.com) or Andrew Tremellen (andrewtremellen@hotmail.co.uk) if you would like to attend.

Other dates for the diary are the pre-season drinks on Saturday 14 April, a friendly versus Chipping Sodbury on Saturday 21 April and the first league game at Pinkney Park against newly promoted Windrush at 2.15pm on Saturday 5 May.

More details at [www.sherstonmagna.play-cricket.com](http://www.sherstonmagna.play-cricket.com).

DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Tied	Pens.	RunRate	Points
Winsley A	10	8			1.68	16
Bradford	10	7			1.73	14
Biddestone A	10	6			1.42	12
Box	10	4			1.67	8
Winsley B	10	5			1.64	10
Chippenham	10	4			1.627	8
Spye Park A	10	4			1.625	8
MYDP	10	2			1.34	4
DIVISION 2	Played	Won	Tied	Pens.	RunRate	Points
Sherston Magna	10	8	1		1.79	17
Spye Park B	10	8			1.73	16
Christian Melford	10	6			1.77	12
Biddestone B	10	4	1		1.55	9
Golden Fleece	10	5			1.73	10
Marshfield A	10	4			1.60	8
Marshfield B	10	3			1.34	6

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## Sherston Ladies' Cricket – come and join us

The evenings are now getting lighter and Sherston Ladies' Cricket will be starting again soon. We practise on Friday evenings at 6.00pm at Sherston cricket ground (Pinkney Park), and we have a great (and patient) coach in Paul Jarvis. We need more girls/ladies of any age or ability to join us, so please come along. We're all beginners, and our main aims are to have fun, get a bit of exercise and improve our skills.

Our first practice will be on Friday 13 April at 6.00pm (as long as it's not pouring with rain).

For more information, please contact Sarah Wilkinson by email on [swilkonite@hotmail.com](mailto:swilkonite@hotmail.com) or mobile 07919 911654. Otherwise just turn up – we hope to see you there.

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**Saturday 21st 3PM  
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Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Adult £36.00 Senior £34.00 Child £32.00

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This spectacular exhibition at Buckingham Palace will show the many ways in which diamonds have been used by British monarchs over the last 200 years. The exhibition includes an unprecedented display of a number of the Queen's personal jewels – those inherited by Her Majesty or acquired during her reign. The exhibition will reveal how many of these extraordinary stones have undergone a number of transformations, having been re-cut or incorporated into new settings during their history.

Pick up points: Tetbury, Sherston, Malmesbury and surrounding areas. Please phone for details.

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Email: [ajcoaches@andrew-james.co.uk](mailto:ajcoaches@andrew-james.co.uk) Website: [andrew-james.co.uk](http://andrew-james.co.uk)

## From Sherston to Wimbledon, beginning on the baseline....

Sherston Tennis Club is offering Saturday morning tennis lessons for school-age children this summer. The course begins on Saturday 28 April and will run every Saturday morning, ending on Saturday 30 June.

There will be three sessions:

- 9.00am-10.00am,
- 10.00am – 11.00am, and
- 11.00am – 12.00noon.

There are ten spaces per group to be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Anybody who misses the boat can be put on a reserve list, should there be any cancellations.

The course of ten sessions costs £40, plus membership costs to Sherston Tennis Club: child £15, family £80, with a 50% discount to anyone signing up before the end of April.

To sign up, please contact Gemma Bird on 840557 or Sarah Ravenhill on 01454 238394.

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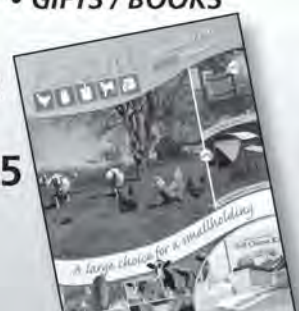
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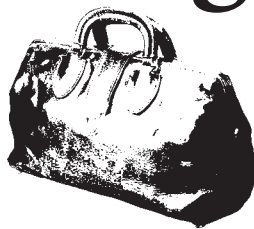
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Training Times - Every Wednesday  
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Seniors 7.15pm - 8.15pm



for further details and information  
please contact Sensei Tony Baxter  
t. 07769 668833 e. tony@kurotaka.co.uk

find us on Facebook  
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[www.kurotaka.co.uk](http://www.kurotaka.co.uk)

## Coming Soon: the new NHS Summary Care Record

The new NHS Summary Care Record has been introduced to help deliver better and safer care, and to give you more choice about who you share your healthcare information with.

## What is the NHS Summary Care Record?

The Summary Care Record contains basic information about:

- any allergies you may have,
- unexpected reactions to medications, and
- any prescriptions you have recently received.

The intention is to help clinicians in A&E departments and 'out of hours' health services to give you safe, timely and effective treatment. Clinicians will be allowed to access your record only if they are authorised to do so and, even then, only if you give your express permission. You will be asked if healthcare staff can look at your Summary Care Record every time they need to, unless it is an emergency (for instance, if you are unconscious). You can refuse if you think access is unnecessary.

If you would like further information, you can call the helpline number 0300 123 3020 or go to [www.carerecords.nhs.uk](http://www.carerecords.nhs.uk). Letters will be going out to all patients in mid-April.

## SHERSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

IN THE BRITISH SCHOOLROOM

**April Sundays 11.00-12.0**

(Except 4th Sunday 22nd -- 4.0pm-5.0pm instead.)

**1st** - Service taken by Trevor Brain of 'Operation Mobilization.'

**8th** - **Easter Sunday Communion Service.**

**15th** - Service taken by members.

**22nd** - **4.0 - 5.0pm - 'FAMILY FEST !'** with Andrew W. Tarling (Mission and Society Rep. S/W Midlands)

**29th** - Prayer and share.



"No-one comes to the Father except through me." John 14 v.6

"There is no other Name under heaven through which man can be saved." Acts 4 v.12

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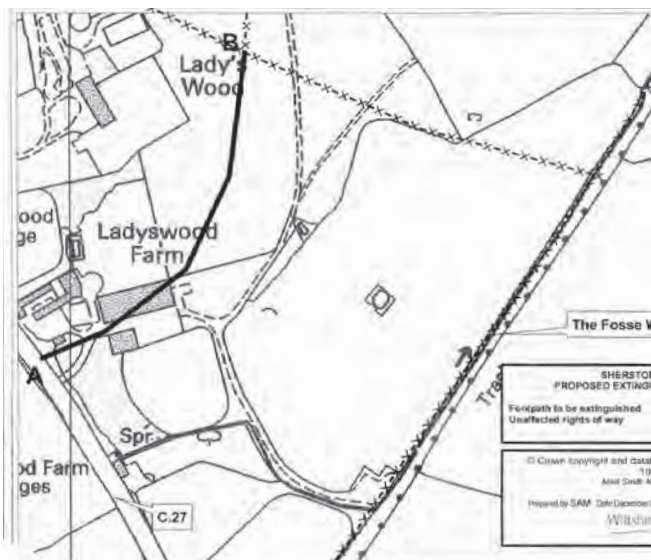
## Wanted: House to rent

Sherston family is  
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Please call Lauren on  
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# SHER 14



The application to extinguish part of this footpath at Ladywood Farm has been refused by Wiltshire Council.

The parish council objected to the application but indicated that a diversion of the present route could be explored as this may resolve the issues involved. It is understood that Wiltshire Council has invited the landowner to consider making an application to divert the route. Any such application would be considered anew and include a period of consultation before any decision was made.

## Rural Readers Book Group

Rural Readers Book Group was formed last year and celebrated its first birthday in March. The group membership comes from a wide range of locations – Tetbury, Luckington, Willesley, Hullavington, Sherston and Norton. It meets on a mid-week evening at five-/six-weekly intervals. Members volunteer to host the meetings which usually start at 7.30pm.

Everyone plays a part in suggesting books to read and, after receiving nominations for a particular genre, the titles are put into a 'hat' and one is selected at random. Genres and books selected to date are:

- Biography – The Hare with the Amber Eyes by Edmund de Waal;
- Fiction – Long Song by Andrea Levy;
- Crime – The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, by Steig Larsson;
- American fiction - The Turn of the Screw by Henry James;
- Fantasy – The Time Travellers Wife by Audrey Niffenegger; and
- Drama – The Singing Detective by Denis Potter.

We are currently reading a novel in translation – Irretrievable by Theodor Fontane.

Most group members joined because they wanted to widen their reading experience. They also say that discussion of a book often brings out different perspectives. If you think you might be interested in joining us, please contact Catharine Hurford on 07760 298911 or at [churford@talk21.com](mailto:churford@talk21.com).

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# THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

There is not long before this year's mangold maid must be chose. Both Mr Jason Read and Mr Graham Hayman in their respective roles as Keeper of the Maids and Keeper of the Lists have already been hard at it whittling through this year's entrants. Could any other prospective maids please make themselves known to either of these two gentlemen during April if they wish to be considered for this illustrious position in which full training will be freely given. Please note that for legal reasons all applicants must be 16 or over.

Due to the cycles of the moon this year's AGM at which the maid will be chosen will take place in early May rather than more usually in April. As ever it is proving somewhat difficult to find a suitable venue. Due to past apparent misdemeanours of some members a number of the usual facilities for such meetings in the parish are no longer open to the Order. Should anyone have a suitable shed, pergola or wood store which might be suitable could they kindly let me know at their earliest convenience. I should add that the Order is fully insured for any unfortunate occurrences.

April brings with the height of the sowing season for this year's crop. Please therefore do not be alarmed if you are woken by the sound of the great spring anthem 'Mangold sowing I' as members walk through the village in the early hours just before dawn on their way to the parish brassica fields.

Yarp! *The Keeper of the Quill* 



*Sherston's Mangold Maid of c1312, Mary Clarke. (later accused of witchcraft and punished at the village ducking stool).*

*Woodcut taken from IN SCORRANSTONE ORE RUPE FABULA.*



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Malmesbury Library	01666 823611
Malmesbury Police 101	(emergency 999)
Malmesbury Primary Care Centre	01666 825825
Malmesbury Secondary School	01666 829700
Malmesbury Youth Centre	0799 0908550
MP James Gray	01249 652851
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Sherston Parish Council	01666 840197
Sherston Post Office	01666 840456
Sherston School	01666 840237
Sherston Village Hall (bookings)	01666 840633
Tolsey Surgery	01666 840270
Wiltshire Council	0300 4560100



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### 8th April Easter Sunday Lunch

£41 includes a three-course Easter Sunday lunch in our brasserie 'Le Mazot', followed by coffee, an Easter chocolate truffle and a surprise gift from the garden

### 9th April Easter Monday Lunch

£32 includes a three-course table d'hôte menu followed by coffee

### 10th April and 24th April Swiss Cheese Fondue Evening

£25 per person includes a traditional Swiss cheese fondue made with emmental, gruyère and vacherin cheese, a dessert of choice and a glass of wine.

### 15th April Sunday Jazz Lunch with

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£39 includes a three-course lunch served in 'Le Mazot' and live jazz from 12.00pm to 3.30pm

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# Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

## Holy Cross Church

**The Coffee Shop** - Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade biscuits. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9.30 am – 12 noon from April till Autumn

**Sunday services** 8.15am from 6 Nov for 6 months Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (3rd Sunday 9.30am Family Service); 6pm Evensong (3rd Sunday Evening Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer) See the Parish Life for more details

## Congregational Church

**Services each Sunday 11am - 12.00 noon** Please note services held in the British School Room from Oct 23 - March For further details see the Parish Life or phone 07778 934742

## Methodist Church

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

## Gauzebrook Church for Children

Children are welcome at all the services which are held in the Gauzebrook Group churches but there are some occasions which are particularly for them: A Family Service is held at Holy Cross Church in Sherston at 9.30am on the third Sunday of each month. There are Family Services at other churches in the Group on other Sundays – see The Parish Life for details

A new Junior Church has started at the Church of the Holy Cross on the First Sunday of every month at 9.30am during the morning service, with storytelling then individual craft time, rejoining parents for Communion and refreshments in church. More information from Becky Fisher (Rural Schools and Churches Worker) on 07974 030212 or becky.fisher@deanery.org.uk

**Junior Church** is held at Court House, Hullavington now on the first Sunday of each month, except for August. This is for children from 3 to 11+. Any children under 3 need to be accompanied by an adult.

Contact Ness Whiffin 840185.

**Little Lights** is an informal service and meeting, with play, squash and biscuits, for pre-school children and their parents/carers at Hullavington Church 10.30 – 11.30am every other Thursday. Contact Chantal Bryan for more information on 837522

If you would like there to be more provision in Sherston for your children, the PCC and ministry team are looking for people who would like to help organise and run this. If that could be you please contact Revd. Christopher Bryan on 837522 or Christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com or Sue Robinson, churchwarden on 841263

## Sherston Churches are combining for “FAMILY FEST”

where all ages can come together on the 4th Sunday of the month between 4-5pm for Song – Prayer – Biblical Teaching - Craft – Play and afterwards refreshments, questions, discussion table-tennis, snooker and board games. The British Schoolroom Cliff Rd.

## Easton Grey Parish Church

See Parish Life for details of services

## Sunday Newspapers

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

**Link** provides a voluntary car service for residents living in the Malmesbury area, taking those in need to hospital, the chiropodist, GPs' surgeries and to visit sick relatives. For further information please call 01249 721532.

## Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

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

## Boules at The Bull

Meet every Thursday at 7.15pm April till Sept at The Red Bull Inn, Malmesbury Rd. Further details from Sue McKechnie 840601 or ssusannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk

## Busy Hands Pre-school

Meets 9.10am - 12.10pm everyday in the village hall for 3 - 5 year olds. Further details call 07766 714544

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

## Church bell ringing

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

## Clem's Club

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

## Drawing Classes in Sherston

Classes for all abilities are held in the British Schoolroom every Wednesday during term time. Tuition is given in the use of all drawing media, in monochrome and colour. Subjects include still life, and natural objects e.g. fruit, vegetables and flowers. There are currently a few spaces in the afternoon class 1.30 to 3.30pm. Newcomers, of all standards including beginners, are very welcome. The Spring term starts on 18th January - to find out more contact Heather Martin on 840375 or heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

## Eudo Tae Kwon Do

Juniors every Tuesday at 3.15pm and Seniors Thursdays 7-9pm both in Sherston primary school hall. Abby Lees-Smith 510125 or email info@eudotkd.co.uk or see the website www.eudotaekwondo.co.uk

## Footpaths group

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

## Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

For details see [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)

## Malmesbury Embroiderer's Guild

The local branch holds monthly meetings at Little Somerford Village Hall. On alternate months there are Saturday workshops on a wide range of topics, and on the intervening dates there is a Tuesday evening talk at 7.30pm. We always welcome newcomers and occasional visitors, although prebooking is essential for the workshops. For further information please phone Heather Martin 840375.

## Malmesbury Luncheon Club

Over 60s meet every Wednesday at midday in the Wesleyan Room of Malmesbury Town Hall for a chat and a 2 course lunch followed by tea or coffee. £3. Please call Helen Churchill on 840080 if you'd like to attend. New members most welcome.

## Malmesbury Netball Club

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

## Malmesbury & Villages Community Partnership

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

## Malmesbury Rangers

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

## Malmesbury Guides - Ingleburn Trefoil Guild

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month, usually at St. Mary's Hall, Malmesbury at 7.30 p.m. Details from Helen Price, 503187 or retreatcottage17@btinternet.com

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



## Patchwork & Quilting Classes

1st Thursday of each month from 10am - 2pm in The British Schoolroom. Further details from Anne Chapman on 01249 782842.

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

**Sherston 1016** Fundraising for local good causes and charities. For further details, contact Eric Thacker on 841344 or [eric.thacker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eric.thacker@yahoo.co.uk)

**Sherston Badminton Club** We play every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the Village Hall from September to May. For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592.

## Sherston Boules and Carnival 2012

Any new ideas and offers of help in planning or just on the day gratefully received. For more details contact Caroline Moore [caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk](mailto:caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk) or Louise Osborne [osborne@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:osborne@networkrail.co.uk) or call Caroline on 841405.

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

## 1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

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

## 1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

Is open to young people from the village and surrounding parish from the ages of 10 ½ to 13 ½. We meet at the Scout hut on Tuesday nights from 7.00pm to 9.00pm during school term times. To join contact Mark Sparrow on 840983 or e-mail [mark@scorranstone.co.uk](mailto:mark@scorranstone.co.uk) There is currently a small waiting list to join.

## Sherston Whitewall Explorers

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

## Sherston Drama Group

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

**Sherston FC** The club play in the Stroud league at Knockdown Park on Saturday afternoons - spectators and new players welcome. For more details contact Pete Brock on 07912 777647 or [peter.brock666@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.brock666@btinternet.com)

## Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

Swim at Westonbirt Leisure on Wednesday evenings from 8 – 9.00pm. £30 for 10 weeks, open to any ladies, of any swimming standard, from Sherston and surrounding area. There is a lane reserved for the more serious swimmers. To join, please contact Heather 840375, Annabel 840592 or Maggie 840969 or email [heather@geoffmartin.plus.com](mailto:heather@geoffmartin.plus.com)

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

## Sherston Martial Arts Club

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

## Sherston Tennis Club

**Summer Tennis Coaching** for children of Sherston and 50% off club membership till end of April

Sherston Tennis Club is offering Saturday morning tennis lessons for school age children this summer beginning Sat 28 Apr ending Sat 30 Jun . 3 sessions of 10 per group. 9am-10am, 10am - 11am , 11am – 12 noon. The course of ten sessions costs £40, plus membership costs to Sherston Tennis Club: Child £15, Family £80, with a 50% discount to anyone signing up before the end of April. To sign up, please contact Gemma Bird 840557 or Sarah Ravenhill 01454 238394.

Sherston Tennis Club play on two hard courts off Knockdown Rd. Fees for the 2011 are the same as 2010: Family £80, Adult £45, Senior citizen £20, Junior (18 and under) £15. As ever, there will be coaching for children, adults too if enough people ask. Speak to Helen McLeish (840992) or Harry Stevens (840602). A men's team has been entered into the Chippenham & District Leagues, matches are on Wednesday evenings, and match captain Jeremy Nabarro (07973 517655) will be delighted to hear from anyone interested in playing. Club night is Thursdays, starting 5 May from 6.30pm. Louise Osborne (841238) is keen to see you at the courts. Further details contact Nic Riley 840682, Helen McLeish 840992, Louise Osborne 841238 ([helen.mcleish@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:helen.mcleish@ukonline.co.uk))

## 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/](http://www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/) or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or [Hjquirk@aol.com](mailto:Hjquirk@aol.com)

## Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The group is a fun way for babies, toddlers and their parents to meet and play. We meet at 10 -11.30am each Tuesday in the Scout Hut with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music and snacks for all, not to mention a much-needed cup of tea/coffee for the deserving parent. Further details contact [SherstonToddlers@gmail.com](mailto:SherstonToddlers@gmail.com), or Kate on 841205 or Clare on 840120

## Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events, parties etc. For details contact the bookings officer Julia Nichols on 840633 or [julia.nichols@btinternet.com](mailto:julia.nichols@btinternet.com)

## Sherston W.I.

Meet on the first Thursday of each month.

Further details contact Maureen Jolliffe on 840867

## Sherston Young Craft Group

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

## Splash Dance

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

## Tetbury Chess Club

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

## Village Hall 300+ Club

Monthly draw with eight prizes ranging from £12 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake, plus a quarterly £5 bonus for seven non-winners. If any new members of the village would like to join, contact either Mary Goulding on 840794, Joyce Glead 840744 or Gwen Mason 840660.

## Whist Drive

A whist drive is held in the village hall on the second Friday in the month at 7.15 for 7.30pm. Admission £1.50 including refreshments. All profits to help maintain the village hall. Further details from G. Mason, M. Goulding and J. Glead.

## Yoga in Sherston

Mondays: 5.45pm Pregnancy Yoga. 7pm Beginners adults yoga class. All welcome, no experience necessary. 8.15pm a more dynamic class for those with some yoga experience. £45 per 6 week term. Monthly Family Yoga classes, Saturdays 10am. Booking essential. Scout Hut. Further details contact Kathryn Chandler: 0790 380 2985 or email: [yoga\\_in\\_sherston@hotmail.com](mailto:yoga_in_sherston@hotmail.com)

# What's on in 2012

## Dates for your diary

### May

- 1 Evening of Entertainment in aid of SOSCIC  
3-7 Badminton Horse Trials  
27 Mangold Maid Making

### June

- 3 Diamond Jubilee Street Party  
4 Diamond Jubilee Beacon & Firework  
15-16 Cider Music and Food Festival  
23-24 Sherston Open Gardens in aid of the Church of the Holy Cross

### July

- 8-15 Boules & Carnival Week - Sat 14 Boules Day

### August

- 25 Lobber Jenkins Boules Competition  
27 Village Party including Flower Vegetable and Produce Show

### October

- 7 Mangold Hurl  
31- 3 November Pantomime

### December

- 8 2012 Winter Ball - Fire and Ice

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](mailto:info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk) to add the event to this list. Everyone will then know what's occurring in good time and it will help prevent events clashing.

## WHAT'S ON Sherston

### The Carpenter's Arms

Curry Quiz Night Sun 1 Apr  
Check boards for details of events  
Further details contact 840665

### The Rattlebone Inn

Monday Quiz Nights Every Monday at 7.30pm  
Live music from Andy Margrett Sun 6 Apr Free entry and prizes for the winning team  
See boards for more details of events  
Further details contact 840871 or [www.therattlebone.co.uk](http://www.therattlebone.co.uk)

### WI Open Lecture

Talk by David Duff entitled "A Nun, a Tart and a Dark Lady" (Shakespeare's ladies) Thurs 5 Apr 7.30pm Village Hall Visitors very welcome £3

### Busy Hands Pre-School and Sherston Toddlers Table top sale

Sat 21 Apr 10am - 12 noon in the Village hall. Sellers will have equipment for babies, toddlers and children including Moses baskets, prams, bedding and sleeping bags as well as clothes, toys and books. £15 per table for vendors. £2 donation on the entry door.

For further details call Joey Ross 890463

### WEA courses

#### AGM and free sample course

WEA members welcome you for tea and coffee from 10:30 - 11am when the AGM begins. Anyone interested may come and learn what course programs are planned for fall and spring of next year. The WEA invites you for a free taster course by Jane Hack entitled "Blood and Guts: a history of medicine from Ancient Egyptian to Tudor Times" for anyone who wonders what happened in the past when one got sick. Sat 21 April 1-4pm in the British School Rooms

For further details call Carolyn Hewitson (840558) or Jill Chadwick (841164)

### 80s night with the Village People and "Electric Dreams 80s Disco" in aid of Sherston Primary School

Dig out those legwarmers, shoulder pads and "Frankie says" t-shirts to party like it's 1980 in the village hall all in aid of Sherston Primary School Sat 28 Apr 8pm - midnight Fully licensed bar Tickets £10 from the post office

### Sue's Strolls

Sun 13 May starting from the village hall at 10am returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 12 noon For further details call Sue McKechnie 840601 or [susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susannemckechnie@hotmail.co.uk)

### Olympic Family Fun Day - Sherston 2012!

The Friends of Sherston School are holding a fun day on the Rec. Featuring a decathlon which primary school pupils are invited to take part in. The ten 'sports' include a sprint, football penalties, basketball hoops, discus, long jump. Medals and prizes for the winners! There will also be a family torch relay. Bar, barbecue and picnic area, Sat 19 May, from 2-6pm. More details to come next month...watch this space... Sherston Recreation ground

### S H O C C

#### (Sherston Occasional Community Choir)

Every Wed 7.00pm Come and join us to sing a variety of music. British School Rooms. £30 for the term / £20 for teenagers and over 65s.

The choir will be giving an evening concert of light music in Easton Grey Church on Sat 19 May. More details next month For further details call Nicki Heenan 840883 or [nicki-heenan@btinternet.com](mailto:nicki-heenan@btinternet.com) or Jill Woodward 840578 or [jillwoodward222@btinternet.com](mailto:jillwoodward222@btinternet.com)



## Grittleton

### Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

The Iron Lady Wed 25 April

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start £5 in advance £5.50 on the door

Grittleton Village Hall

For further details call Lesley 01249 783157 or email [l\\_palmer@btinternet.com](mailto:l_palmer@btinternet.com)

### Grittleton Strict and Particular Baptist Chapel: Open Afternoon

Sun 22 April 2- 5pm 4pm - short talk about the chapel by Matthew Butler, archaeologist of Bristol University For further details call Matthew Butler on 01454 218036 or [matthew.butler8@btinternet.com](mailto:matthew.butler8@btinternet.com)

## Westonbirt

### The Arboretum

The Meadow exhibition in Silk Wood All of Apr & May - photography exhibitions in Silk Wood Exhibition: From the Woods Thur 5 - Tues 10 Apr An exhibiton of fine handmade furniture, artwork and photography by some of today's best designer/makers and artists.

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

Family Events: Easter Challenge Tues 3 - Fri 6 Apr 10.30am - 3.30pm Jurassic plants and other ancients Tues 10 - Fri 12 Apr 10.30am - 3.30pm Free after admisison

Guided Tours: Tuesday wildflower walks 10 Apr 10.30 - 12.30 Westonbirt's signature trees Sat 21 Apr 12.30 - 12.30 Free after admission

Summer 2012 Concerts: June Fri 22 - Will Young SOLD OUT; Sat 23 - Plan B; Sun 24 - Madness SOLD OUT; July Fri 20 - The Wanted; Sat 21 Alfie Boe; Sun 22 - Steps £35-36.50 plus booking fee. Buy tickets at Westonbirt shop to avoid booking fee

Workshops: Beginners and Advanced Digital Photography One Day Courses Fri 13 Apr £55 Advanced Mon 23 Apr £105 Both 10.30am - 3.30pm contact Graham Light on 01285 653069 or email [consult@abbey-studios.co.uk](mailto:consult@abbey-studios.co.uk) Workshops: Make a Windsor Chair 30Apr - 5 May £275 Booking essential contact Paul Hayden 01373 836051 or [www.greenwoodcourses.co.uk](http://www.greenwoodcourses.co.uk)

Spring & Summer admission: Adults £8 / Conc £7 Chd £3 Further details contact 880220 or [www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt)

### Westonbirt School

Summer Term Lecture with Gavin Menzies 'The Lost Empire of Atlantis' Fri 11 May at 7:30pm Admission: Free Optional post-lecture supper: £15 per head which must be booked by Friday 4th May

A Diamond Start To The Jubilee! - the Big Jubilee Picnic Sat 26 May from 5:30pm All guests are welcome to bring a picnic and enjoy a programme of music and dancing, sessions by The Big Brunch Band, Swindon Brass and Swingbytes. Other attractions of the evening include a refreshment tent, an ice-cream bicycle and a classic car display Tickets are on sale at £10 per adult, £5 per child (18 and under), under 5s free. There is also a family ticket on offer at £25 (2 adults and 2 children under 18).

For further details call Laura Reid on 880333 or [lreid@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lreid@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk) or visit [www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Easton Grey

### Whatley Manor

'Fondue Plausch' Swiss Cheese Fondue evenings in Le Mazot Tues 10 and 24 Apr £25 per person includes a traditional Swiss cheese fondue made with emmental, gruyère and vacherin cheese, a desert of choice and a glass of wine. The Swiss Cheese Fondue evening must be pre-booked. Call 822888

Jazz Sundays Walter Weber's International Jazz Band 12 - 15:30 Sun 15 Apr £39 including 3 course Sunday lunch in Le Mazot

Tuesday Garden Tours 24 Apr 1 & 29 May 11.30 for 12 noon start Garden tour 2.30-4pm Welcome reception and 2 course lunch follwed by private tour of the 12 acrea garden by head gradener Barry Holman £42

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner 'Johnny English Reborn' £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner Sun 29 Apr

Further details contact 834026 or [www.whatleymanor.com](http://www.whatleymanor.com)

## Brokenborough

### Painting classes with Nicki Heenan Oil and Acrylic Painting classes

NEW! Painting classes resume after Easter at The Horse Guards on Friday 20th April at 10.30am for beginners. The advanced class is now full, but if you are interested there is a short waiting list. £10 per session

Coming Soon - painting classes in Watercolour, Acrylic and Mixed Media for beginners at Carpenters Arms Sherston! Please enrol early for this new and inspiring course - 6 PLACES ONLY. No previous experience in painting necessary

Further details contact Nicki Heenan 840883 or [nicki.heenan@btinternet.com](mailto:nicki.heenan@btinternet.com)

## Doughton

### Highgrove House

#### Highgrove Garden Tours

Tickets on sale for tours up till Aug. Sep - Oct tickets will go on sale in June. Standard Tours: £19.50 per person, individuals join a group of 26 guests. Group price is £507 for a maximum of 26 guests. Groups may pre book Lunch or Afternoon Tea after their garden tour. Please note that an administration fee of £1.50 is applied to all tours. Champagne Tea Tours - You will be one of 32 guests with a maximum of 16 guests per garden guide. After your tour you will visit the beautiful Orchard Restaurant for a delicious Highgrove afternoon tea. Cost: Individual £70.00. Couple £135.00. Gift boxed.

For further details call 020 7766 7310 or visit [www.highgrovegardens.com](http://www.highgrovegardens.com)

## Badminton

### Badminton Horse Trials

Thurs 4 - Mon 7 May from 9.00/ 9.30 am Gates open at 8am Advance tickets: Car pass £10 (5 days £28) plus Entry tickets Thurs £5 Fri /Sat £12.50 pp / Sun £24 Mon £10.50 (5 days £45) Under 12s free. Cash (only) at gate is £2 more) Grandstand tickets on top of entry. Free admission after 4pm Badminton

For further details call 01454 218375 or [boxoffice@badminton-horse.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@badminton-horse.co.uk) or visit [www.badminton-horse.co.uk](http://www.badminton-horse.co.uk)

## Malmesbury

### Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

The Wiltshire and Swindon Youth Orchestra are coming to Malmesbury Abbey Malmesbury Abbey Music Society is delighted to be hosting the Wiltshire and Swindon Youth Orchestra in Malmesbury Abbey on Sat 14 Apr at 7.30pm for the first concert in their exciting 2012 season £12/ £10 members/ £5 student or chd

*For further details call Joy Smith on 840865 or*

*David Barton 824924 d.barton763@btinternet.com or visit [www.malmesbury.com/mams](http://www.malmesbury.com/mams)*

### Local MP surgery with James Gray MP

Sat 14 Apr 12 noon - 1pm

Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall

*For further details call [www.jamesgray.org](http://www.jamesgray.org) for information on surgeries or for online surgeries or email [jamesgraymp@parliament.uk](mailto:jamesgraymp@parliament.uk)*

## Castle Coombe

### Rural Arts Wiltshire

**Pip Utton as Dickens** Charles Dickens, the most famous man of his generation, staggers on to the stage, clutches his chest and falls down dead. Seconds later he leaps up to entertain his audience. Fri 27 Apr 7.30pm Castle Coombe VH tickets up to £10 from 01249 782821 Also appearing Wed 11 Gastard VH tel 01249 713662 and Fri 20 Apr Bowerchalke VH tel 01725 552311 and Sat 28 Brinkworth VH tel 07879 884176

*For further details call 01249 701628 / 01249 712618 or*

*email [box.office@poundarts.org.uk](mailto:box.office@poundarts.org.uk) or visit*

*[www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk](http://www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk)*

## Wotton-Under-Edge

### The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: Warhorse; The Artist; Coriolanus; J Edgar; The Descendants; The Muppets; Woman in Black; Best Exotic Marigold Hotel and World Cinema: Mid August Lunch and extra showings of A Separation Check website for details [www.wottoneph.co.uk](http://www.wottoneph.co.uk) or call 01453 844601

## South Cerney

### Events at the Cotswold Water Parks

**The White Fritillaries (& more) of Upper Waterhay – a guided walk** Led by reserve warden, John Grearson, this walk will take you back in time, to one of the ancient hay meadows of the Cotswold Water Park, which in spring provides a dazzling display of thousands of white fritillaries, and other native wildflowers. Sun 15 Apr at 2pm, meet at Waterhay Car Park, near Ashton Keynes Booking essential. Tickets: £4. Please email [events@waterpark.org](mailto:events@waterpark.org) to make a booking.

**Fossil Hunts** From time to time, the Cotswold Water Park Trust organises fossil hunts in the winter months, between October and April, on a Sunday, by special arrangement with the mineral companies. Next dates: 1 Apr. Numbers are limited for safety reasons, and places must be booked in advance. £8 Over 5s only, sorry no dogs. If you would like to be added to the email waiting list, please send an email to [events@waterpark.org](mailto:events@waterpark.org).

**Birds on Film: An illustrated talk by Lloyd Buck** With nearly 100 film credits to his name, bird trainer Lloyd Buck and his amazing birds have been responsible for some of the most memorable sequences on wildlife films – who can forget the peregrine falcon racing a skydiver out of a hot air balloon? Some of Lloyd's birds will be with him for the talk. Mon 16 Apr 7.30pm at the Gateway Centre Booking essential. Tickets: £6.

The Cotswold Water Park covers an area of 40 square miles within Gloucestershire and Wiltshire countryside, north of Swindon and south of Cirencester, off Jct 15 M4

*For further details call Jill Bewley on 01793 752413 or visit [www.waterpark.org/trust/willow.html](http://www.waterpark.org/trust/willow.html)*

## Nailsworth

### Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Home matches: Apr: Fri 6 3pm v Ebbsfleet Utd., Sat 21 3pm v Darlington Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2 Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2 The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth

*For further details call 01453 834860 or visit*

*[www.forestgreenroversfc.com](http://www.forestgreenroversfc.com)*

## Cotswolds

### Cotswold Rural Skills

**Dry Stone Walling** for beginners 14-15 Apr Lansdown 2 day course £99 - NOW FULLY BOOKED

**Dry Stone Walling** Beginners course 5-6 May Long Compton £99

*For further details call David Molloy on 01451 862000 or*

*[david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](mailto:david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk) or visit*

*[www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)*

## Bath

### Theatre Royal

**Steel Magnolias** 3-7 Apr

**Birds of a Feather** 9 - 14 Apr

**Barefoot in the Park** 16-21 Apr

**Abigail's Party** 23-28 Apr

**Anne Boleyn** 1-5 May

*Further details 01225 448844 or [www.theatreroyal.org.uk](http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk)*

## Stroud

### Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet @ The Apollo

**Opera: Rigoletto (Verdi)** LIVE Tues 17 Apr

**Ballet: La Fille mal Gardée** LIVE 16-May

Stroud Apollo Cinema

*Further details 0871 220 6000 or [www.roh.org.uk/cinema](http://www.roh.org.uk/cinema)*

## Slimbridge

### Wildfowl and wetlands centre

**Landrover Safaris** every weekend and daily in school holidays 11am & 2pm £5/£3 chd - book tours with David Bell 01453 891 223

**Nature Detectives** every weekend and daily in school holidays Free after admission

*For further details call 01453 891223 or email*

*[eleanor.wise@wwt.org.uk](mailto:eleanor.wise@wwt.org.uk) or visit*

*[www.wwt.org.uk/centre/122/slimbridge.html](http://www.wwt.org.uk/centre/122/slimbridge.html)*

### Alive & Well Shooting Party

Alive & Well would like to invite you to shoot clays at an excellent venue, enjoy a shooters lunch and raise funds for our Sierra Leone well project – [www.alivewell.org.uk](http://www.alivewell.org.uk) (a Luckington based charity) Sun 13 May - The day will comprise of a 50 "bird" sporting shoot; Trophy competition; Shooters Lunch (12 noon) ; Beginners trap (tuition £6 /10 shots if required) The sporting shoot will cost £60 pp, incl refreshments and shooters lunch, of which at least £30 will be donated to Alive & Well. The price includes all clays and cartridges for each session. 12 and 20 gauge guns will be available for use. Arrive between 10 & 11.00am. Shoot closes 3.30pm

Tower Guns, South Brewham, Somerset, BA10 OLA

*For further details call [paul@dowding.co.uk](mailto:paul@dowding.co.uk) or call Kim Findlay on 07973 828217 or visit [www.alivewell.org.uk](http://www.alivewell.org.uk)*