

Major Roofing Work at Sherston Parish Church

Thanks to a generous donation from a local charity the much needed major repair work to our church roof can go ahead sooner than expected.

The work will consist of removing all the Cotswold stone tiles and relaying, re-covering the lead roof to the tower and repairing and replacing where necessary the rainwater gutters.

While the work proceeds, it will have a significant impact on the visual aspect of the church. To maintain the safety of the fabric and to help the contractors beat the weather, the whole of the roof will be covered in a sheeted scaffolding, known as a 'Top Hat' scaffold.

Work is expected to begin in early spring and carry on for the rest of the year. Services and other church based events are not expected to be affected.

The Parochial church council has been concerned for some time that the Cotswold tiles are reaching the end of their life and that, in this financial climate, our own fund raising would not generate all the money required in time.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to ensure that our much loved church remains safe and fit for purpose for generations to come.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact either Ness Whiffin on 840185 (churchwarden) or Roger Whitehouse on 840640.

St George's Day parade and service

The ten Scout Groups and three Explorer Scout Units of Wiltshire North will hold their annual parade and service in Sherston on the afternoon of Sunday 25 April. Visitors to Sherston have been asked to park on the Pennymead in order to ease congestion elsewhere. The Parade will march at 2.25pm from the School via Court Street, Cliff Road and Silver Street, to halt at the North end of the High Street (nearest to the Post Office).

Cirencester Band will be playing and the Sherston Magna Bell Ringers will ring the church bells before the service. The service will be taken by the Rev Eve Pegler and an audio link will be provided to the village hall which will be used as overflow.

Spring Garden Fayre at Sherston School

The Friends of Sherston School will be hosting their annual Spring Fayre on Saturday 15 May between 11.00am and 1.00pm.

A fun packed couple of hours will be guaranteed for children and adults alike. Along with a host of seasonal stalls there will be games and activities for children of all ages, tombola, refreshments and the ever popular Foxley Road plant stall. Further details will be available in next months Cliffhanger.

Why not spring clean your potting shed or greenhouse and donate your unwanted tools, seedlings and outdoor toys? Donations can be collected by calling 880008.

All proceeds from the Fayre go to enhance learning at the school.

Copy deadline: 10th of the previous month.
Send to editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk
or hard copy to Sherston Post Office Stores.

What's On: contact Caroline Moore on 841405 or info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk

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

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

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Please remember the Cliffhanger is delivered free to every home and business in the parish – more than 850 copies. This and all previous editions are also available online at www.sherston.org.uk

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Easter walk

Sue McKechnie will lead the latest seasonal walk organised by the parish footpath group on Easter Monday, 5 April, starting at 10am from the village hall. Hopefully there will be a few Easter eggs left for the younger walkers to enjoy.

The walk will be set at the pace of the slowest and families are particularly welcome along with well-behaved dogs on leads. The walk will end at the Rattlebone Inn at around 12 noon where complimentary seasonal food will be available courtesy of the pub. The walk is free with no need to book. Just turn up with suitable footwear and clothing for weather conditions on the day. The next walk will take place on Sunday 30 May - more details next month.

Age No Barrier

Are you part of a group, or an individual who would like to host an event to celebrate 'Age No Barrier' week? Ideas include sharing skills, community picnic, coffee morning, arts and crafts and workshops. This countywide event takes place from Saturday 10 July to Friday 16 July. If you would like more ideas or to register an event please contact Gemma Holdway on 01380 871800 or email gemmaholdway.wsun@btconnect.com

Little oaks

Children in Oak Class at Sherston School braved the cold to plant little oak saplings, with help from Teaching Assistant Suzanne Price and Cathy Jacques of the school's Environment Area Group. A continuation of the Tree for Life project started last year, the children will re-plant them in the village in a few years' time.



Radio Interference

Are you having a problem with your digital radio? I like to listen to Classic fm when I'm getting ready to go to work in the morning, but over the past few months I have lost reception regularly every morning about 7am. Other channels are also affected. Consultation with broadcasters has not shed much light on why this should be; they tell me that there is no problem with transmission.

I have been left with the suggestion that something starts up at that time every morning and blocks the digital radio signal. It is usually restored within 30 to 40 minutes of going down. Do any of you suffer from the same problem as me? Does anybody think they may have started doing something over the last few months that could block radio signals in a local area? It would appear that unless I can get some more evidence there is nothing that can be done, so I would be most grateful for any information.

Sue Robinson 841263.

Good Friday Workshop

As usual we will be having our workshop in Sherston Church but there will be some changes from previous years.

11.30am to 2.00pm

There will be activities and children need to bring a packed lunch if they wish to stay for the Family Service practice.

2.00pm to 2.30pm The Good Friday Family Service and walk to Luckington

Children from the age of four are welcome to come unaccompanied. Young children need to be supported by someone they know, but are still welcome to enjoy the activities.

It is very important to book a place this year as we are putting a limit on 40 children attending. This is because we need to organise enough adults who have been cleared through the Criminal Records Bureau clearance scheme in order to comply with our safeguarding children policy.

Any queries please contact Susan Harvey 840696.

Thank you

by Susan Harvey

On behalf of the Sisters of the Church, Bristol, I would like to thank all those of you who donated money and 1016 Christmas vouchers to the Five Loaves and two Fishes project, which supports the homeless and vulnerable people in the St. Paul's part of the city. It was a fantastic response and we are grateful to everyone concerned, especially Paul and Gail Mather, Sherston Post Office, who kindly managed to get a very good deal for the money raised from the vouchers. This included tin openers, hats and gloves, packet soup and toiletries, just to name a few items. The money raised during September from the counter box and the carol singing raised over £200 which will be used for the general purchasing of our weekly tinned food. We have over 200 people on a Sunday afternoon between 2.30pm and 4.00pm who visit the community for a parcel of tinned food, hot drinks and cakes. So you can see your contribution is most welcome and very much appreciated by us all. Thank you.

Village hall 200+ club

February draw

1st	£11	242	M East
2nd	£10	181	Janet Clark
3rd	£9	8	Brian Willby
4th	£8	224	P Garrett
5th	£7	182	Jeremy Clark
6th	£6	209	Pete Verard
7th	£5	17	Carol Gray

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£200 netted for Sport Relief

On 17 March Sherston School children organised a teachers v parents netball match in aid of Sport Relief. Before the game, the school netball club gave a demonstration of its skills and put the teams through a thorough warm up routine.

The parents had been training hard but were no match for the skills and height of the teachers' attack. After a few substitutions the parents fought back and the final score was 21-9 to the teachers. Unfortunately, one of the teachers' goal scorers, Colin Stewart, had to retire injured due to a Beckham-style achilles tendon tear, perhaps due to the pressure of the rallying opposition. We all wish him a speedy recovery. The parents' team is looking forward to a return match to redress the balance.

With additional activities such as a raffle and cake stall, the total collected for the day was £200.



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London Marathon 2010

by Anthea Young

Steph Thomas is a paramedic who works from Malmesbury Ambulance Station. She has done a duty on the Air Ambulance and knows what a very valuable asset it is both for the Ambulance Service and the Police (who share the helicopter) here in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire is a very large and rural county with its larger hospitals on the borders with our neighbouring counties. The helicopter can reach patients quickly and get help in the shortest possible time. It can fly at night and has the capability to land almost anywhere.

Steph is running the London Marathon on April 25. If you would like to sponsor her, forms are available from the Post Office or the Tolsey surgery.

Thank you. Good luck Steph.



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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Following the intervention of the Environment Agency the date of this year's A.G.M. has had to be altered. The anticipated water levels under Forlorn Bridge in early April were thought to be too high to safely house the meeting which had been set for Saturday 3 April. The meeting will now be held on Saturday 24 April commencing promptly at 2am. Some members have voiced their concerns with the venue following a previous problem with escaping sewage from the nearby works operated by Wessex Water but the Company has given assurances that there will be no repetition of the now infamous 1978 incident. At the meeting Jason Read and Carla Moulder of 'The Flaming Gourmet' are kindly providing a BBQ supper from a raft moored alongside the bridge.

The major item on the meeting's agenda will be the election of this year's Mangold Maid. The Keeper of the Lists, Mr. Graham Hayman, has now completed his vigorous and exhaustive examinations of the maids, whittling the original 14 entrants down to a final three. Members trust Graham will soon recover from his exertions. He wishes to pass on his thanks to everyone for the many cards and good wishes he has received whilst convalescing. Once the maid has been elected (rather 'chosd' to use the correct expression) she will be crowned at this year's Mangold Maid Making ceremony which will be held at the Village Green Day on the Great Field on Saturday 22 May. This is a change from the traditional date of Whit Sunday, following sustained high pressure lobbying from Irene Johnston, organiser of Village Green Day, together with copious tastings by members of her freely given and most wonderful Cock - a - leekie.

The other notable decision at the A.G.M. will be the appointment of the Keeper of the Technique. Mr Ian Ashby, the present incumbent, faces a strong challenge from Miss Jenny Lamont who showed



such skill at the 2009 Hurl. If appointed, Jenny will become the first female holder of the post since the legendary Mrs 'Babs' Jackman in 1951. It was of course Babs who perfected 'The Pinkney' which has for many years been members preferred method for gripping their root.

Since last month's article there has been much local interest in Rutabaga *Curling. Unfortunately however the Order has yet to fully convince the Cliffhanger editorial team as to the sport's authenticity and so I am presently unable to provide further details. The required affidavits from New York State are however expected early in April which should then satisfy the editorial team and allow a full feature on Rutabaga Curling in May's Cliffhanger.

Yarp! The Keeper of the Quill

**Rutabaga is the American and Canadian term for the vegetable we refer to as swede.*



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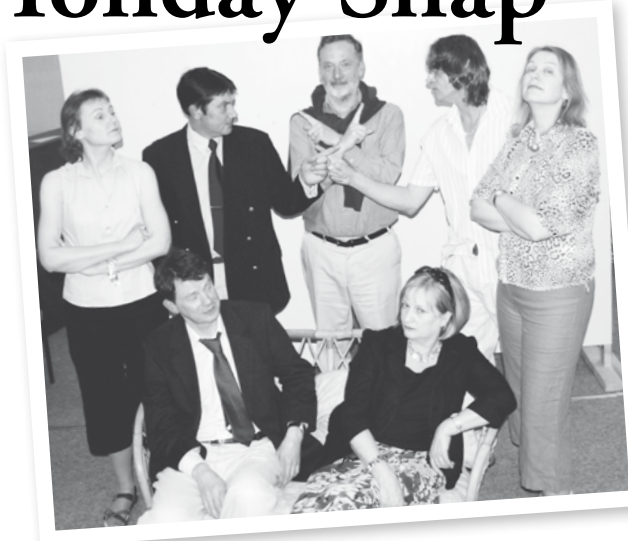
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Holiday Snap



Tickets are now available for Sherston Drama Group's latest comedy, *Holiday Snap*, by Michael Pertwee and John Chapman. Set in a time-share villa in Portugal, this saga of sun, sand and.... sherry follows the adventures of two couples who seem to have rented the time-share for the same week. Matters are not helped by the hazy grasp on reality of the local rep, Commander 'Chitto' Chittenden, who has some trouble remembering his own name, let alone anyone else's. Henry, a pompous lawyer, was looking forward to an enjoyable week with his girlfriend Mary, but his plans start to unravel with the unexpected arrival of his mother-in-law. To cover himself, Henry has to cajole Mary into pretending to be a servant and the other couple into his old school friend and his wife, much to Chitto's confusion. But these identities start to unravel with much manic confusion and hilarity. Pinky and Perky come into it as well. This comedy by two experienced playwrights (responsible between them for such hits as *The Liver Birds*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Move Over Mrs Markham* and *Not Now Darling*) has been performed all over the country. Sherston Drama Group performs it in Sherston Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7 to Saturday 10 April. Tickets from Sherston Post Office Stores or the Box Office on 840092.

Chess winners!



West of England chess championships winners, Emily Vaughan, under eight and Sam Watling, best in the Beginners category, show their trophies at school assembly. Congratulations to them.

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TREEtalk

April 2010

by Irene Johnston

It may be later than we've got used to in recent years but spring is here at last. The trees are budding furiously and the daffodils and crocuses are brightening up the gardens. Down at Grove Wood, the winter work is finished, on time and to schedule. Our volunteers have cut, chopped, cleared and burnt the hazel and brambles in Mill Corner (the first section), planted 1000 snowdrops 'in the green' along the river path and are now taking a well-earned rest until the autumn.

John has laid a superb hedge along the top edge, making a tricky job look easy. We have also pegged out the main path which will become the new project for the Community Payback Scheme team, whose efforts on the perimeter fence are much appreciated. Our nature survey has highlighted just how many plants are emerging now that more sunlight can penetrate the wood. Bird nesting boxes have been fixed at a safe height and we may put up a temporary hide for keen twitchers. It's exciting stuff and it will get even better the more we do.

We now have an explanatory board on the first gate, hopefully answering most of the questions we've been asked: 'Why are you cutting down so much?' being the most frequent. Take a walk down the wood and find out.

Many thanks to everyone who has given up Sunday mornings to help, to Sue for her excellent, home-made soup and to John whose expertise is invaluable. Watch out for the Grove Wood section on the new Sherston website where we'll post regular updates and photos of work-in-progress.

Further information on any of the above from Sherston's Tree Warden, Irene Johnston on 841273 or email: ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk

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Village Green 22 May 2010 SHERSTON

When we started planning Village Green Day, we never dreamed it would grab so much interest. There are now over 50 assorted groups, companies and individuals who are keen to join in the fun and have asked for space to promote their work. There's a bit of everything, guaranteeing a great time out on 22 May, International Biodiversity Day.

You'll be able to watch master craftsmen at work, listen to live music from both brass and steel bands, be entertained by the eccentric rituals of the Mangold Hurlers, be impressed by the diversity of skills in our village groups and the wide range of local green interests.

Freshly cooked food and locally produced cider, beer, wine and fruit juices mean you can stop for a tasty lunchtime snack and continue later with tea and home-made cakes. The culinary maestros from the Rattlebone will further tempt your taste buds with an impressive display of flambé cookery!

We've divided the participants into five broad groups; in the Main Hall, you'll find most of the village environmental and crafts groups; the small hall will have Fairtrade clothes, greetings cards and advice (maybe even a massage) from a medical herbalist and aromatherapist. Outside, the gardening section does what it says on the tin – you can buy drought-tolerant plants, a range of 'grow your own veg', lavender, clematis and other perennials, organic seeds and everything for the eco-friendly garden, from wormeries to green compost. The 'demonstration' area gives you the chance to watch the experts at work - dry stone walling, spinning, weaving, wood working, flower arranging, making summer hanging baskets and a range of child-friendly bushcraft skills with some inquisitive alpacas watching too.

And last but not least, the marquee will display examples of the environmental projects on which pupils from Sherston and at least four other local schools are engaged. There will also be supervised creative activities for small (and big!) kids to enjoy, giving the grown-ups the chance to relax and enjoy the fun.

Have we thought of everything? We think so but don't just take our word for it. Make sure you, your family and friends visit Village Green, Sherston's first ever environmental event between 12 noon and 5pm on the 22 May.

Further information (for visitors, participants and people just wanting to help) from Irene Johnston on 841273 or email: ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk

Distraction Burglary Awareness

A national campaign was launched in March to make people aware of the tactics used by distraction burglars. It is important that residents safeguard themselves against these opportunists by familiarising themselves with these practices.

A distraction burglary is where one or more offenders distract a person in order to gain entry to their home before committing a burglary. It can sometimes lead to physical or emotional abuse and can affect victims in many different ways, including a decline in health.

The average age of distraction burglary victims is 81, which shows that the elderly are more vulnerable to this type of crime. It is important that people are aware of this campaign which provides advice on what they can do to help prevent others, especially the elderly, from becoming victims of a distraction burglary.

The campaign provides the following messages to the public on how to help prevent distraction burglaries:

- If you are not sure who is at your door, don't open it. Verify the identity of the caller by contacting the company he or she claims to be representing. Do not use any telephone numbers provided by the caller, as they may be bogus.
- Call a neighbour or friend nearby to ask them to check out the caller before you open the door to them.
- Many of the leading gas, electricity and water utilities provide password schemes for customers. If possible, sign up to these. When unannounced callers claiming to be from these utility providers call at your door they should know the password if they are genuine.
- Water Boards no longer exist. Anybody claiming to be from a Water Board will almost certainly be a bogus caller.

• Don't keep large quantities of cash at home. Put it in the bank where it is safe.

• Keep doors locked and windows secure at all times.

• Ensure that if you do let somebody in to your home, you close the door behind them. Distraction burglars often work in teams, with one distracting you whilst others sneak in through the open door.

• If somebody asks for your help (claiming that they need to make a telephone call, that they have lost a ball in your garden, or that they need a drink or pen and paper) refer them to a younger neighbour. Alternatively, assist them through a closed door or call a friend or neighbour to come and help.

• If you suspect a bogus caller is at your door, call the police immediately.

The campaign also includes posters which will be placed around visible areas across Wiltshire.

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Next parish council meeting

This will be on Thursday 15 April at 7.30pm in the village hall. All are welcome to attend and there will be opportunities to raise questions and pass comments. Those who cannot make the meeting but have something to raise should contact the clerk, Mrs. Sarah Wood, on 840351 or email her at clerk@sherston.org.uk. In addition, the parish council can be contacted via the response form on its website (www.sherston.org.uk) which also carries the minutes of meetings.

Bus Trip

The outing to Cabots Circus in March was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks are due to volunteer driver Eric Thacker. Further trips are in the pipeline and Tony Weedon has kindly agreed to be a second volunteer driver to help share the task with Eric.

Area Board Meeting

Sherston School will be the venue of the next meeting of Wiltshire Council's Area Board for Malmesbury and the villages. It takes place on Wednesday 12 May at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. This will be an opportunity for local residents to see the board in action right on their doorstep.

Westonbirt Heritage Gardens

On Sunday 11 April you can see the start of the restoration work in the Italian garden as well as admire the anemones and talk about ariculas with Mary Keen. Admission £4.

Sherston Living Churchyard Project

Volunteers met in the churchyard on the last Saturday of February and worked through sunshine and torrential showers to plant snowdrops, to transplant primroses from one part of the churchyard to the other and to finish clearing the ground around the three leylandii which were felled in the autumn. At the March session, which is also the occasion of the annual church spring clean on Saturday 27 March, these areas were seeded with a meadow mix which should produce grass and hay meadow type wildflowers, such as scabious and knapweed.

It is wonderful to see the annual regeneration of wildlife in the churchyard, coinciding with the Christian season of Lent when the renewal of Easter is also being awaited in expectation. I believe that the improvements in the churchyard are now becoming clearer and hope that villagers will begin to see the benefits of what is being done. Before long you should see further clearance taking place near the east wall. This is intended to clear a long overgrown area so that more burials can be accommodated. Living Churchyard Projects nationwide have the aim of making burial grounds better for their purpose as well as better for wildlife.

The April work session will take place on Saturday 24 April from 10am for a couple of hours. As ever, more volunteers are required. Do please get in touch if you are interested in helping and go and have a look at what is going on in your churchyard.

Sue Robinson 841263.

Sherston ABC

All local businesses are reminded that the Sherston ABC (Amenities, Businesses and Clubs/Culture) will be published this summer as part of the fundraising campaign for the 25th Boules week. To advertise, please call Caroline or Phil Moore on 841405..

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Boules Ball Update

The Summer Boules Ball Committee is delighted to announce that 19 out of the 20 tables for the ball have been sold already. Not to be put off by the inclement weather and possibly with the whiff of Bucks Fizz and canapés in their nostrils, a crowd of eager buyers were found queuing by the ticket sales team as they arrived early on Saturday 20 March.

18 tables were sold within the first half an hour, leaving the team with a further three hours to stand around in the rain in their best bibs and tuckers. Happy with the result and only slightly damp, they then retired to The Rattlebone for a well earned lunch.

One table of 10 now remains but the Committee remains quietly confident that it will soon be snapped up. Contact the Post Office for tickets.

Digital Switchover

Switchover is a two-stage process. Stage one was completed on 24 March, which involved re-tuning your Freeview, BT Vision or top Up TV digital box or TV.

Stage Two – 7 April

Is the date when all the remaining analogue channels will switch to digital and the remaining digital channels will become available. This means that:

if you haven't switched to digital, you will lose your TV service

if you have Freeview, BT Vision or Top Up TV you'll need to re-tune your equipment again

Hints and tips

After re-tuning, you may have to reset any favourite lists and picture settings.

If you re-tune a digital TV recorder, previously recorded programmes will be kept, but you should re-set future recordings (including 'series links') or you may lose them.

Need more help?

Friends or family may be able to assist


Contact the product manufacturer for instructions, or See your local electrical retailer.

Still need help try www.digitaluk.co.uk or telephone 08456 50 50 50 (Opening hours: Mon - Fri 8am - 7pm, Sat 10am - 4pm. Extended opening hours on switchover dates).



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Grants

Does your group need finance for a project? The community area grant scheme run by Wiltshire Council could help. A number of groups in the parish have benefitted in the past to make their ideas a reality.

Information about the 2010/11 grants scheme is available from: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areboards.htm. Deadline dates for receipt of applications for the next two rounds are:

5 April for consideration on 12 May

28 May for consideration on 7 July

Further dates can be found at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areboards/malmesburyareaboard.htm

Small Ads

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



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The Bristol Mercury and Daily Post

Wednesday February 4 1885

Bristol Police Court

Yesterday

THE SHA'S ALIBI

Walter Sha a young man was charged with stealing a loaf of bread from the shop of Mr Tottle, Baker, of the Horsefair Malmesbury. The complainant stated that on Thursday the prisoner who had a basket on his arm, came into his shop and asked him if he wanted to buy any Ferns. He told him that he did not, and as the prisoner was leaving the shop he saw him take a loaf of bread and put it in the basket. He went to the door and collared him. The accused who denied that he was the man, said he had brought no Ferns into Bristol for more than twelve months, and that on the day in question he was at Sherston in Wiltshire cutting Water Cresses. He left Bristol on the Wednesday evening, and did not return until Friday. He put up at the Rattle Bones at Sherston, and stayed on the journey at the Old House At Home at Burton near Littleton Drew, and that information could be obtained from each of these places. Mr Tottle recalled and stated he was positive that the prisoner was the same man. The magistrates remanded him until Monday and directed inquiries to be made at Sherston and Burton.

Contributed by Cilla Liddington

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Westonbirt project local residents evening - 15 April



Westonbirt - the National Arboretum, which is managed by the Forestry Commission - will hold an open evening on April 15 to share development plans for the Westonbirt Project with the local community.

Between 6 and 8pm local residents are invited to the Great Oak Hall to meet the Westonbirt Project team and find out more about future developments to the National Arboretum and associated planning applications.

Architectural visuals will be on display and senior staff from the Forestry Commission and the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum (FOWA) will be available

to discuss the arboretum's future.

Westonbirt Project director, Miranda Winram, commented: 'We are keen to share our vision for the arboretum with the local community throughout the development of the Westonbirt Project. Westonbirt is an internationally important place for heritage, learning and conservation and we believe the project will protect the site for people to enjoy in the future.'

'We'd like as many local residents as possible to be able to attend the evening so please do contact us if you'd like to discuss wheelchair access, the hearing loop or any other matter relating to accessibility.'

Call 880220 or email westonbirt.project@forestry.gsi.gov.uk for information on accessibility. For further information on the Westonbirt Project visit www.westonbirtproject.co.uk

WAA Badminton collection

Over Badminton Horse Trials weekend, 30 April – 3 May, Sherston 1016 members will be collecting from local hostleries on behalf of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. If you see them about in their eye-catching orange tabards please give generously to this worthy cause.

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Sherston Rocks

Following the last two sell out gigs in the village hall, the Sherston Village People are returning to the fray on Saturday 15 May starting at 8.30pm for an evening of fun and frolics. There will be a fine array of cheesy covers designed to get you singing along and dancing plus a parade of local faces on stage shredding the last vestiges of their street cred to raise funds for local clubs and causes.

Before and after the band, there will be banging tunes from Huw Bowles' 'Wheels of Steel' disco, but this time there is also a twist in the format. The High Street Howlers karaoke system will be there for you to give it your all. But this is not the normal karaoke in the corner of a crummy bar, this is a big stage, stunning light show and a pro sound system all designed to make you a star.

Tickets will be available from all of the usual outlets and are £8. But be warned, all of the gigs in the village hall put on by the 'Sherston Rocks' team have sold out in a few days, so you need to get your skates on.

Also, if you have a particular karaoke track you'd like to cover, let Dave know in advance to make sure it's on the system on the night.

For more information please contact Dave Shephard at ds@oldbellhouse.com or 07860 448438

Sally Clayton sally.clayton@nokia.com or 840361.

Sherston W.I.

by Ann Wilcox

Members of Sherston W.I. met in the village hall on a cold March evening, to be told the origins of some of the customs and traditions of Lent and Easter.

The Rev. David Alderman, a well known Methodist Minister for Sherston and a large number of churches, in Wiltshire was the speaker. He told us first about his skills as a pancake maker and then explained why the need arose to make them. In order to prepare for the 40 days fasting of Lent people would use up perishable goods, such as eggs and milk for a feast of pancakes. 1445 was the earliest record of a pancake race. The Shroven Bell would be rung on Shrove Tuesday to summon people to Church for confessions. The 40 days of Lent did not include Sundays so that some food could be taken on that day to keep them from starving.

Mother's Day was an American idea thought up by Hallmark cards, whereas Mothering Sunday was the one day before Easter when servants were allowed home and generally took small gifts of flowers which were picked on the way home. Hot Cross Buns were a sign of everlasting friendship with protective powers. Some people kept one bun from one year to the next.

Some of these symbols originated in Pagan rituals and past Jewish customs. Links were shown to the Passover ceremony and the Exodus of Moses from Egypt. Pat Smith thanked the Rev. Alderman for his interesting talk.

After refreshments the business was conducted by the President, Maureen Jolliffe. She began by presenting past Treasurer, Rosemary Venning, with an orchid as an appreciation of her work for the past four years.

The new programme had been prepared by Sheila Harris and it looks interesting and varied. We started with a Craft Day on 12 March in the British Schoolroom. We learned how to do felting and weaving. A jumble sale took place in the Village Hall on 20 March. Two teams hope to be taking part in a Quizzical Pursuits Quiz to be held at Sheldon School on 30 June.

Our June meeting will be a Mini Show when members can show their skill in cooking, craft, flower arranging and other skills. A visit to Denman College is also planned.

Our April Meeting in the British School Room at 7.30pm will be a talk by Tiggy Lessner on 'How to design your garden'. The prize will be a plate of Easter biscuits with recipe.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings on the first Thursday of the month in the Village Hall at a cost of £3.

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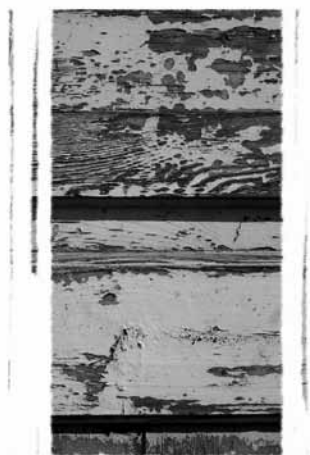


Malmesbury exhibition: four ways of seeing

Landscape has inspired four artists from the Vale of Pewsey (Wiltshire) in four distinct ways.

An exhibition aptly called 'Four Ways of Seeing' will be on show from Saturday 27 March to Friday 23 April 2010 in the Gallery space at the newly refurbished Malmesbury Town Hall.

On display will be photographs by Peter Cooper, whose eye is drawn to the detail, texture and patterns of objects found in the countryside, some simple, some complex. Freelance consultancy in social housing has given Peter the time to pursue his art. Peter's photography is a testament to his favourite Confucian saying: 'Everything has its beauty, but not everyone sees it'.



Ceramic sculptures by Diana Devonshire are intimate in scale and echo the scarring and weathering left by man and nature on the land. They are conceived through a painter's eye: burnished, scraped and patinated to build up layers of colour around fragile objects. Diana has exhibited widely and taught young children.



Oil paintings by Oliver Freeman are large and striking. Rhythm, movement and pattern are an

ongoing preoccupation. Much of his work has its roots in the Wiltshire countryside. Oliver successfully exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition having broken away from a career in architecture to paint full time.



Drawings of rural scenes and landscapes by Jane Nicholas have a quiet delicacy and presence that draw in the viewer. Jane, who works mostly in charcoal and graphite, has exhibited at the Royal West of England Academy and in London. Jane studied ceramics, life drawing and etching at various stages in her career. She follows in the footsteps several generations of a family of talented artists. Jane also teaches drawing.

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm. Sunday 10.30am to 4.00pm. Refreshments available at the adjoining café.

Contacts

Peter Cooper 01380 860174 M: 07966 653517
peter.cooper@pandatown.co.uk
www.pandacooper.co.uk/6.html

Diana Devonshire 01672 514232
cockatroop@yahoo.com

Oliver Freeman 01380 860470
oliverfreeman1@googlemail.com
www.oilliefreeman.com

Jane Nicholas 01672 564679
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60s NIGHT

60s NIGHT

60s NIGHT

60s NIGHT

You could have been forgiven for thinking that the village had been transported back to the 1960s on the evening of Saturday 6 March as party goers descended on the Village Hall resplendent in mini dresses, hippy garb, wigs, winkle pickers and so many false eyelashes!

The occasion was in fact a night with the The Beatles... well almost, Sgt Pepper's Only Dart Board Band chose to leave the Cavern Club and a previously sold out international tour to don their famous Pepper regalia and perform to a packed village hall in Sherston.

The Sixties swingers bopped the night away to hits from the fab four (well five, but who was counting..?). The event was a fund raiser for The Friends of Sherston School and proved to be a great success.

Special thanks to all of those involved in organising the evening, in particular to Laura Gould for producing some fantastic icon images from the decade to dress the hall.



In King Athelstan's footsteps

Roy Cooper was a former Mayor of Malmesbury who came to the area in the 1950s with the Peter Saunders organisation which moved from Aberdeen in Scotland to pioneer a new method of world-wide clothes marketing from Easton Grey House. He became Managing Director before the business was taken over and he left in the late 70s.

Roy came from Nottingham and joined Peter Saunders after a tough war at sea, serving in submarines from HMS Dolphin with the Royal Navy, which he joined in 1939. In Malmesbury he soon became a popular and well known character locally – especially with the Athelstan Players the local amateur dramatic society that benefited greatly from his wide and gifted amateur stage experience.

He took a wholehearted interest in everything the town and area had to offer both socially and civically. After joining Malmesbury Town Council Roy became Mayor between 1972-74 and embraced the ancient borough's tradition and history alongside a wish to further the welfare and interests of its townspeople.

Roy died in August 1984 and there is a memorial plaque to him in Malmesbury Abbey Cloister Gardens. He was Chairman of the Malmesbury 1100 Committee in 1980 when the Cloister Gardens were opened by Princess Anne. While visiting the memorial

recently Roy's eldest son Michael, from Hemyock in Devon but who lived many years in Malmesbury, was re-appraised of the Saxon history of the town, and of the importance of King Athelstan, perhaps the first real King of England, who was buried in the Abbey.

Saxon armies mostly moved and fought on foot. Michael decided to walk ancient soldiers' roads from Hemyock across Somerset and Wiltshire to finish at Malmesbury Abbey. He is collecting sponsorship for the military charity Help4Heroes, which cares for ex-service men and women, and Sport Aid which will support disabled competitors in the 2012 Paralympics. The route, which will take in the Lyneham and Wootton Bassett area, will also include the Isle of Athelney, Glastonbury, Wells Cathedral and Lacock Abbey.

Michael will be joined for company on part of the last stage of the journey, from Dauntsey Lock to Malmesbury on the week-end of April 10 and 11, by the Rev Richard Maslen, an old friend of his father who lives at Sherston.

How to contribute, and further details, are available on www.athelstanwalk.co.uk and www.justgiving.com/athelstan1. Michael Cooper can be contacted on 01823 680175; and Richard Maslen on 840387.

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Baggers and chuckers

In recent times a strange and increasingly familiar phenomenon has arisen on the outskirts of the village – the appearance of plastic bags containing the deposits of the local dog population.

It would appear that a small number of dog walkers whilst commendably clearing up after their animals in the village itself then somehow feel it appropriate to discard the collected material, neatly packaged in a plastic bag, as soon as they reach the nearest open space outside the village. The volunteers who worked at Grove Wood this winter regularly came across these bags which have also been noticed elsewhere both on paths and in hedgerows. The bags have also been known to be thrown into private gardens and even the allotments.

Wiltshire Council has a number of bins dotted around the village for the proper disposal of this material. Could all dog owners please either use these bins or alternatively their own household bin? If it is thought that additional dog bins would help please contact the Clerk Sarah Wood on 840348 email clerk@sherston.org.uk Suggestions as to where to place extra bins would be useful.

As well as the 'baggers and chuckers' there are those that simply let their dogs defecate at will and then make no effort to clear up whether in the village or on public rights of way in the countryside. Some of the footpaths adjoining the village can at times take on the appearance of a canine's toilet which is hardly welcoming for those who want to simply enjoy a pleasant walk in the open air especially with children. The public use of these paths has never included a right to abuse them in this way. It must be remembered that the land over which the paths run are privately owned and proper consideration should be given to both the owners as well as all those who use them.

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Westonbirt Estate Open Days

On 12 and 13 April, visitors to Westonbirt – the National Arboretum, which is managed by the Forestry Commission - will have the chance to explore the 150-year legacy of the Westonbirt Estate.

This rare opportunity will be included in the price of admission to the arboretum.

Activities at the arboretum, house and gardens will enable visitors to step back in time and appreciate the magnificent former home of Robert Holford, a key figure in Cotswolds history.

Tree team demonstrations and propagation tours will demonstrate how the arboretum has grown from one man's aspirations, to an internationally important tree and shrub collection. Over at Westonbirt House, tours, free access to the gardens and guided walks will show visitors how the different aspects of the estate were designed to work in harmony.

It is anticipated that the public will soon be able to enjoy the whole estate all year round, with the success of a Heritage Lottery Funding application and the planned Westonbirt Project.

Miranda Winram, Westonbirt Project director commented:

'We have ambitious plans to open up the estate to all. Following urgent conservation work on the stonework and gardens, we plan to increase access to the picturesque grounds and wider parkland; connecting the site and preserving it for the future.'

Mary Keen, a Holfords of Westonbirt trustee and noted gardening writer commented on some of the restoration work already underway in the gardens.

'With the help of a generous grant from the Finnis Scott Trust, work has begun to restore the unique Victorian herbaceous borders in the Italian Garden, and by the summer, a new border of exotics will be added next to the glamorous Camellia House.'

'We hope visitors to the open days will be intrigued by the history of the estate, and share our excitement about the potential to preserve the legacy for the future.'

During the open days, access to Westonbirt house and gardens will be available via shuttle bus. Parking will be available at the house for disabled access.

Transfers will run at regular times between the two sites from 10am. The last bus from the Arboretum to Westonbirt House will be at 3pm. The last return bus to the arboretum from the house at 4.30pm.

Telephone: 880220

www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt



Massive surge in applications for boules 2010

People in Sherston wanting to be in the draw for this year's tournament need to get their applications in as soon as possible. Although the closing date for the 25th running of this event is not until 30 April, there has been a significant increase this year in interest from outside the area; particularly from Swindon and Bath.

As usual, the preponderance of tournament places will be allotted to people living in Sherston and the surrounding parishes, but, after the draw, reserve places are allocated by date of receipt of entry.

Application forms are available from www.sherston.net and Sherston Post Office.

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Action for health from your area board

At the March meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board held in Crudwell, Nicola Cretney, assistant director of public health, and Mary-Ann McKibben, consultant in public health, joined the discussion centered on the health joint strategic needs assessment. This report had been considered by members of the community at a health fair and workshop held in February. While Malmesbury community area was a healthy place to live in, there were issues of concern which included:

- Road traffic accidents
- Take up of chlamydia screening
- Stroke admissions to hospital
- Dementia

A lively debate took place regarding each priority issue which was championed by a member of the area board. It was agreed that Cllr Carole Soden would take a lead on improving chlamydia screening uptake, Cllr. Toby Sturgis would lead on road traffic accidents, Cllr Simon Killane on stroke admissions to hospital and Cllr John Thomson on dementia. The area board invited members of the community to join any one of these short term action groups. If interested, they should contact the community area manager, Miranda Gilmour, on 01672 515742 email: Miranda.gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk



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April: 8am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (18 Apr Family Service); 6pm Evensong (18 Apr Evening Holy Communion)

Holy Week: 1 Apr 8pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist with the Stripping of the Altars. Good Friday Workshop 11.30am, Family Service 2pm, walk to Luckington 2.30pm, short act of worship approx 3.30pm followed by hot cross buns. Sunday 4 Apr Easter Day

Congregational Church

Services each Sunday 11am - 12.00 noon

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 contact Cyril Hoskin on 841143 or see the Parish Life

Gauzebrook Junior Church

Every 2nd and 5th Sunday each month in Sherston or Hullavington, joining the adult service at the end for Holy Communion. Next in Sherston: 11 April at 9.30am in the skittle alley at the Rattlebone Inn. Please contact Sarah Slarke on 07971 090740 for any further information

Ancient Order of Sherston

Mangold Hurlers

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

'Busy Hands' Pre-school

Meets 9.15-11.45 everyday in the village hall for 3 - 5 year olds. Further details call 841118

Charity Bingo

In aid of a different local charity each month. Fri 23 Apr 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 Room every other Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm - 13 and 27 Apr. Donations to BSR expenses collected each week.

Eudo Tae Kwon Do

Juniors every Tuesday at 3.15pm Sherston Primary School and Seniors Thursdays 7-9pm in the village hall.

Abby Lees-Smith 07778 326956 or www.eudotaekwondo.co.uk

Footpaths group

Currently the main task is the publication of a new walks booklet for the parish. For further information contact Maggie McKenna on 841047 or maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

Ladies' Swimming Club

Open to ladies from local area meeting at Westonbirt School on Wednesday 8 - 9.30pm. £38 for 15 weeks. Call Annabel Clifton on 840592 or Heather Martin on 840375.

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

There is no April meeting due to Easter. The next meeting will be on Wed 12 May 6.30 for 7pm at Crudwell Village Hall

Malmesbury Rangers

Girls over 14 years meet every 2nd Thurs in the month - 8 Apr Further details from Helen Price 503187 or retreatcottage17@btinternet.com

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 8 April at 7.30pm the village hall. Minutes of meetings can be read online at www.sherston.org.uk. Further details contact Sarah Wood on 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk

Patchwork & Quilting Classes

Advance notice: Patchwork and Quilting Classes to be held on the 1st Thursday of each month starting 6 May from 10am - 2pm in The British Schoolroom.

Further details from Anne Chapman on 01249 782842.

Senior Club

Meets at 2.00pm in the British School Rooms every other Tuesday 6 and 20 Apr.

For further details contact Cyril Hoskin on 841143.

Sherston 1016

Fundraising for local good causes and charities.

For further details, contact Eric Thacker on 841344 or email eric.thacker@yahoo.co.uk

Sherston Badminton Club

We play every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the village hall from September to May. All standards welcome.

For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592

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5a Church Street, Sherston, Wiltshire, SN16 0LR

Telephone: 01666 841 346

Sherston Boules and Carnival 2010

Date for the diary – Boules day 2010 will be Sat 17 July with events all the previous week.

Any new ideas and offers of help in planning or just on the day gratefully received.

For more details contact the chairman Tony Weedon on 841377 or dogleg@waitrose.com or secretary Caroline Moore on 841405 or caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk

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

SHOCC – Sherston's Occasional Community Choir

Meets every Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm in the British School Rooms for 11 weeks (except 7 Apr) leading to an informal performance on Thurs 20 May. All welcome. Contact Mary Clements 840688 or Nicki Heenan 840883 for more details.

Sherston Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club play on two hard courts off Knockdown Rd in Sherston. Fees for the 2010/11 are: Family £80, Adult £45, Senior citizen £20, Junior (18 and under) £15.

For more information, please contact the club secretary, Ashley Stopforth, on 840825

Children's Tennis Coaching Saturday mornings starting 24 April for 10 weeks Session 1 - 9.30am - 10.30am; Session 2 - 10.30am - 11.30am max 8 children per session £40* for 10 weeks *excluding membership. For further details contact Helen McLeish on 840992 or 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.communitate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/ or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or Hjquirk@aol.com

Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The group is a fun way for children and their parents to meet and play and helps young children get used to the village hall in preparation for Busy Hands Pre-School and meets at 2.30pm each Tuesday in the village hall. Further details contact Alex on 841095 or alex@stickyfingerscookery.co.uk

Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events, parties etc.

For details contact the bookings officer Julia Nichols on 840633 or julia.nichols@btinternet.com

Sherston W.I.

Meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall – 1 Apr.

Further details contact Maureen Jolliffe on 840867

Sherston Young Craft Group

Mondays 6.45 – 8.15pm in the village hall (9 years and over). £3.00 (incl all materials) per evening paid in advance of each half term.

To join, please contact Jane Milne 841090

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 more details contact Charlotte on 01453 886632 or email charlotte@splashdance.co.uk.

Village Hall 200+ Club

Monthly draw prizes ranging from £11 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake, plus a quarterly £5 bonus for 7 non-winners.

If any new members of the village would like to join, contact either Mary Goulding on 840794, Joyce Gleed 840744 or Gwen Mason 840660.

Whist Drive

A whist drive is held in the village hall on the first Friday in the month, Fri 2 Apr 7.30 for 7.45pm. Please note change of date. Admission £1.50 including refreshments. All profits to help maintain the village hall

Further details from G. Mason, M. Goulding and J. Gleed.

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

FOREST GREEN ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB
APRIL FIXTURES
at The New Lawn

Easter Monday 5th APRIL
KICK OFF - 3pm
TAMWORTH*

Tuesday 13th APRIL
KICK OFF- 7.45pm
CRAWLEY TOWN

Saturday 17th APRIL
KICK OFF - 3pm
HISTON*

*** Tamworth and Histon matches are both 'KIDS GO FREE'**
 (up to 2 Juniors (under 16) admitted FREE if accompanied by a full paying adult)

Normal Admission Prices:
 Adults: £15 seated £13 Standing
 Concessions: £10 Seated £8 Standing
 Juniors (under 16): £7 Seated £5 Standing

For further details on any of these or future fixtures call **01453 834860**
www.forestgreenroversfc.com
www.fgrtrust.com

Forest Green Rovers F.C., The New Lawn, Smiths Way, Nailsworth, Glos. GL6 0FG



R & B

VEHICLE SERVICES

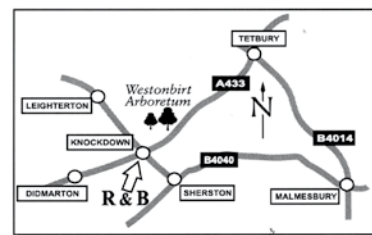
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 (1 MILE FROM WESTONBIRT ARBORETUM)



What's on in 2010 – Dates for your diary

April See opposite

May

- 15** School Spring Fayre
Village People fundraising concert at the village hall
- 22** Village Green Day
Mangold Maid Making

June

- 19** 1016 Boules Marathon
Church Fete
- 19-20** Open Gardens
- 26** Boules Ball

July

- 10 -18** Boules & Carnival – Sat 10 Big Band on the field, Sat 17 Boules Day

August

- 28** Lobber Jenkins Boules Competition
- 30** Village Party including Flower, Vegetable and Produce Show

September

- 25** Autumn book sale
Soul Destroyers in fundraising concert at the Village Hall

October

- 2 - 3** Sherston Beer & Cider Festival
- 3** Mangold Hurl

November

- 6** 1016 Fireworks Party

If you're planning a community event in the parish why not let the Cliffhanger have the basic details as soon as possible?

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

WHAT'S ON

Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

Good Friday music night Fri 2 Apr

Curry Quiz Night Sun 4 Apr - Easter Day

Chinese night

Last Wednesday of every month 28-Apr

Check boards for details of events

Further details contact 840665

Easter Walk

Easter Monday, 5 April, starting at 10am from the village hall.

Sherston Drama Group

Holiday Snap

Wed 7 - Sat 10 Apr

£6.50 adult £5 children / OAP

Further details contact Tickets on sale at the Post Office or from Richard Skeffington 840092 or richard.skeffington@virgin.net

The Rattlebone

Sunday night is pizza night

Rob's homemade pizzas every Sunday

Fish Week

from Tues 20 Apr

Badminton weekend celebrations:

Fri 30 Apr BBQ Steaks night Sat 1 May - Music from the Killertones with outdoor rotisserie chicken Sun 2 May Music from Nobody's Business and spit roasted sirloin & pork

Check boards for details of events

Further details 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Busy Hands and Baby & Toddler

Table top sale

Sat 24 Apr 10am - 12 noon in the village hall

£10 per table for vendors. Free entry to buyers

Further details contact Sally Clayton 840361 or sally.clayton@nokia.com

St George's Day Parade

and service

Sun 25

Parade starts at 2.25 from the Scout Hut

Cricket Club Fixtures

Early season fixtures shown below

Date	Venue	Opponents	Start
Sat 17 Apr	Home	White Knights	1.00pm
Sun 18 Apr	Home	Upton St. Leonards	1.30pm
Sat 24 Apr	Home	Chipping Sodbury	2.00pm
Sun 25 Apr	Home	South Wraxall	2.00pm
Sat 1 May	Home	Williamstrip (League)	2.15pm
Sun 2 May	Home	North Nibley	2.30pm

FSS Spring Fayre

In aid of Friends of Sherston School. Tombola, cake stall, Foxley Road Plant stall, toys, Potting shed (Oddments for the Garden), Games for the children, nail painting and refreshments Sat 15 May 11am - 1pm at Sherston School

Village People in concert in May

Advance notice Village People in concert supported by Huw Bowles' Wheels of Steel disco and karaoke Sat 15 May £8 Village Hall tickets from PO or usual groups

Further details contact Dave Shephard

ds@oldbellhouse.com or 07860 448438

Sally Clayton sally.clayton@nokia.com or 840361

Badminton

Horse Trials

Fri 30 Apr - Mon 3 May from 9.30am Advance tickets: Car pass £9 (4 days £25) Entry tickets £11pp (4 days £41)

Further details contact 01454 218375 or

boxoffice@badminton-horse.co.uk or

www.badminton-horse.co.uk

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Specialist wood sales in aid of FOWA

Every 2nd Sunday in the month 10am - 1pm Cash & cheques only Admission £8 adult /£7 concs/ £3 chd under 5s free

Summer Concerts - Dates for your diary

Keane Fri 18 June, **Simply Red** Sat 19 June, **Blondie** 20 June, **JLS** Fri 16 July; **Status Quo** Sat 17 July;

James Morrison Sun 18 July 2010 Tickets on sale now for the summer concerts £30 - £38 plus booking fee online or 01842 814612

'Willow Structures to Support and Enhance Your Garden' You can expect to make at least four large items

for your garden Fri 7 May 10.30am - 3.30pm. Price £55 for the day - lunch not included. Phone Norah Kennedy for bookings and details - 01453 751010

Family workshops for the Easter holidays include:

Origami Thurs 1 ; Sun 4 **Paper craft**; Mon 5 - 9;

Fri 9 Easter Challenge; Mon 12- Fri 16 **Awakening**

Woods all 10.30 - 4pm free after admission

Midweek wild flower walk Wed 14 10.30am free after admission

Local Residents Consultation Thurs 15 Apr 6pm - 8pm

Friends' 2010 AGM and talk Sat 24 Apr 10 for 10.30am start

Digital Photography Course - Beginners Thurs 15 10.30 - 3.30 £50 contact Graham Light 01285 653069

For further details contact 880220 or

www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School and the Westonbirt Holford Gardens Open Day - view the restored Italian Garden

Sun 11 Apr £4

Bath Light Operatic Group Sat 24 Apr 8pm £9

Orangery

Estate Open Days - free tours by shuttle bus round the arboretum, house and gardens 10am - 3pm Book your place at 881220 or www.westonbirtproject.co.uk

Further details contact 880333 or for the gardens Jo

Egerton joanne_egerton@hotmail.com alternatively

www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

and www.holfordtrust.com for the gardens

Easton Grey

Whatley Manor

Sunday jazz lunch with the Solent City Jazzmen 12 noon - 3pm Sun 18 Apr £37 includes 3 course lunch or dinner, film & popcorn

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner State of Play starring Helen Mirren Sun 25 Apr £37 includes 3 course lunch or dinner, film & popcorn

Further details contact 834026 or

www.whatleymanor.com

Malmesbury

Netball coaching

Sophie Warner is running a 6 week indoor course of netball for both complete beginners and those who are looking to return to the game after a break. The 1 hr sessions start on Thurs 1 Apr at 7pm at the Malmesbury Activity Zone and will be lead by a qualified netball Coach £18 for 6 sessions (which covers all costs and includes Affiliation to England Netball)

Further details contact Sophie Warner, Wiltshire Netball Development Officer 07540 126813 or sophie.warner@englandnetball.co.uk

Art Exhibition

'Four Ways of Seeing' 'til Fri 23 Apr 2010 in the Gallery space at the newly refurbished Malmesbury Town Hall

Mon to Sat 9am to 5pm. Sun 10.30 to 4pm.

Refreshments available at the adjoining café

Further details on page 15 or at www.wayconsult.com/fivos

Community Safety Event

Thurs 1 Apr 7.15 for 7.30pm Kings Arms High St

Further details contact Sue Webb at email

dennis.webb01@virgin.net

Hullavington & Grittleton

Rural Arts Wiltshire

Cscape Dance Company - When the Shops Shut
Sat 10 Apr 8pm Hullavington Village Hall - for tickets call 837569

Barb Jungr in Concert

Sat 24 Apr 7.30pm Tickets from 01249 782798

Grittleton village hall

Further details contact or www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

Tetbury

The Close Hotel

Blossom Singers in concert in the private chapel, interval refreshments and a 2 course meal in the restaurant £30

Further details contact 502272 or www.theclose-hotel.com

Tormarton

Macmillan Cancer Support Quiz Night

The Sherston and District Committee are holding a pub quiz and hot supper on Thurs 22 Apr 7.00 for 7.30pm at The Compass Inn, Tormarton Tickets - £8 available from on 840724 or 880142

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by the community
Coming soon: **A Single Man; Crazy Heart; Percy Jackson and the Olympians - The Lightning Thief; Princess and Frog; The Railway Children; The Last Station; Alice in Wonderland** and **MicMacs** - check website for more details *Further details contact 01453 844601 or www.wottoneph.co.uk*

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Home matches: Mon 5 Apr 3pm v Tamworth; Tues 13 Apr 7.45pm v Crawley Town and Sat 17 Apr 3pm v Histon Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £7/£5

The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth

Further details contact 01453 834860 or www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Bath

Comedy Festival

1 - 14 Apr Various events throughout Bath city centre including Barry Cryer, Arthur Smith, Lee Hurst and Richard Digance Tickets vary from £1-£17

Bath Festivals Box Office *contact 01225 463362 or www.bathcomedyfestival.co.uk/whats-on*

Theatre Royal

Noël Coward's Present Laughter till Sat 3 Apr 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £12.50-£35

Enjoy - starring Alison Steadman Mon 5 - Sat 10 Apr 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £17-£35

The Gondoliers - Bath Operatic & Dramatic Society
Tues 13 Apr - Sat 17 Apr 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £17-£35

Lord Arthur Savile's Crime Mon 19 - Sat 24 Apr 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £17-£35

Further details contact 01225 448844 or www.theatreroyal.org.uk

World Heritage Day

Join the celebrations on Sun 18 Apr with lots of free activities in Bath and in the Roman Baths including Roman Military enactments at 11am and 3pm. Guided walks at 11.50, 12.50, 1.50pm and 2.50pm

Further details contact 01225 477785 or www.bathnes.gov.uk/heritageevents

Swindon

Great Western Railway Museum

Easter holiday fun for all the family

2 - 18 Apr 10am - 4pm Easter Egg Hunt 2-6 Apr £24 family tickets / £7.50 adults / £5.50 Children/ under 5s free

BBC Antiques Roadshow Bring your antiques to the experts Thurs 22 Apr

Meet the railway workers - the stars of steam age 'Evening Star' and 'Caerphilly Castle' 10 and 24 Apr

Further details contact 01793 466646 or www.steam-museum.org.uk

Cheltenham

Jazz Festival

Varied programme of talks and events featuring all types of jazz including Jamie Cullum, John Scofield, Paloma Faith

28 Apr - 3 May Various locations in Cheltenham

Further details contact 0844 576 7979 or www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/jazz/

Useful Numbers

BT fault line 0800 800151

CLARENCE (Highway complaints) 0800 232323

Cllr John Thomson 01666 840785

Malmesbury Activity Zone 01666 822533

Malmesbury Library 01666 823611

Malmesbury Police 0845 4087000

Malmesbury Primary Care Trust 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 840351

Sherston Post Office 01666 840202

Sherston School 01666 840237

Sherston Village Hall (bookings) 01666 840633

Tolsey Surgery 01666 840270

Wiltshire Council 0300 4560100