



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



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AUGUST 2010

DELIVERED FREE

What a wonderful day!



The 25th Boules day was undoubtedly one of the best ever. From the peal of the church bells at 9am right through to the winning point of the final match in the early evening the day moved seamlessly from one success to another.

The opening of the event by the Mayor of Gien set the tone for the whole event with the party from Malmesbury's twin town adding enormously to the atmosphere with their folk singers and dancers.

It was clear from mid morning that the day would be a busy one as crowds thronged the High Street. The extra attractions this year of the Wadworth dray rides and the Kids' zone in the village hall field certainly helped draw a bumper number of visitors. The French cafe, BBQ, and bar all did a roaring trade with almost all supplies exhausted by late afternoon.

The speed at which the High Street was cleared as the day came to a close must have been a record with the street cleaned like never before with the help of a road sweeping vehicle brought in from Wiltshire Council. On Sunday morning you would never have guessed the previous day's frantic activity.

The parish council congratulates the Boules & Carnival committee and the scores of volunteers for their enormous efforts in making the event such a pleasure for so many people. Sherston can be justly proud of its achievement and remarkable community spirit. Well done one and all.

Thanks

Huge thanks must go to all our sponsors, who have helped us to make Boules & Carnival 2010 such a success. As usual many local organisations have supported us with generous donations, and with their help, we were able to provide many events free of charge or at a subsidised cost.

Our major sponsor this year was Wadworth Brewery to whom we are extremely grateful for their most generous donation. Others who either sponsored boules pitches or made donations are Andrew James Coaches, Andybus, Bill Tulberg, Build Center, Compass Graphic Design Ltd, Holt Landscapes, Knockdown Stone, N 3 Graphics, P D Fitness, Props, Pulse software, The Rattlebone, Sherston Post Office Stores, Sherston Software, Swimming Pool Design Ltd, Strakers, Tracklements and Tucks.

A very special thank you indeed is due to all those residents of the High Street who are so cooperative and understanding over Boules day itself. Thanks also to all the residents of Silver Street, Cliff Road and Court Street for, together with the High Street residents, moving their cars off the roads as well as enduring the additional traffic caused by the closure of the High Street. All of your support is very much appreciated.

Sherston Boules & Carnival Committee

Recreation ground

The old wire mesh fence along the boundary wall with Court Street has now been repaired and the holes in the goalmouth areas of the football pitch filled in. Repairs to the Vicarage wall are still outstanding.

Over the summer holidays the play area will be very busy. Please help keep it free of litter. Should any of the play equipment give cause for concern please report it immediately to the parish clerk, Sarah Wood on 840351 email clerk@sherston.org.uk

Cliffhanger on line

For those of you who like to read your Cliffhanger on line just go to www.sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk or the Cliffhanger page on www.sherston.org.uk

Size costs

Many readers may have noticed the increasing girth of the Cliffhanger over recent months. This, coupled with an increased print run to 950 copies, has inevitably caused a rise in printing costs. However, the good news is that the continued support of our advertisers means that the Cliffhanger remains entirely self financing.

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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New shelter in place



Easton Town now has its long awaited bus shelter on the main road at the junction with Easton Square. Councillor Cilla Liddington headed up the project on behalf of the parish council and despite suffering a setback last year when grant funding ran out has been determined to see the shelter become a reality. 'I was surprised at the complication in getting

approval for the shelter' said Cilla. 'As it stands within the conservation area it needed the go-ahead from the planners as well as the all clear from Wiltshire Highways.' Cilla added that special thanks are due to Mr and Mrs Blanchard, whose property abuts the shelter, for being so helpful in agreeing its position.

The shelter cost £5,750 (net of VAT which is recoverable by the parish council) with £2500 contributed by a grant from Wiltshire Council. It is of extremely robust design and should give many years of service.

The shelter was produced by Littlethorpes of Leicester and was installed in a day. The first resident to have the honour to sit in it was Mrs Kath Evans of The Bartons. In return she has kindly agreed to be responsible for keeping it clean and well polished.

Sherston Parish Council Summer break

The parish council does not meet in August so the next meeting will be on Thursday 9 September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. 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 our Clerk Mrs. Sarah Wood on 840351 or email clerk@sherston.org.uk. You can also contact the Council via the response form on our website www.sherston.org.uk where minutes of meetings can be read.

Snapper sought

Someone appears to be vandalising the cock and hen stones on top of the dry stone walls around Anthony Close as well as at Knockdown Road adjoining the allotments. This has been happening for some time but has become worse this year. Cocks are being entirely snapped off which also causes damage to the hens. If you have any information as to who may be responsible, please contact Malmesbury Police on 0845 408 7000.

Speedwatch

Sherston's community speedwatch team undertook its first exercise last month and seemed to make a real difference in reducing traffic speed. One pedestrian commented to the team that they had never seen the traffic driving so slowly through the village. This is exactly the purpose of the scheme - to reduce traffic speed rather than to simply catch motorists out. To be frank if you speed past the check you can't be paying much attention to your driving as the scheme members have to stand in fully visible positions wearing day glow jackets.

Sherston shares the equipment, provided by the Wiltshire & Swindon Safety Camera Partnership, with Oaksey and Luckington. This means that the scheme runs on a rota basis between these villages. Expect to see the Sherston team in operation again during August.

Further volunteers are required to make the scheme as effective as possible. Training is provided by Wiltshire Police through a straightforward course which takes around an hour to complete. If you're concerned with speeding vehicles through the village and would like to make a difference, please contact the parish clerk Sarah Wood for further information on 840351, or email clerk@sherston.org.uk

Fun in the Sun 2010 kicks off



Over 40 children took part on the first morning.

The free sports coaching sessions run by Wiltshire Council for all children aged 5 to 11 is now underway at the recreation ground every Wednesday from 10am to 11.30 am with the last session on 25 August. There is no need to book - just turn up. All parents or guardians have to do is sign the consent/details form at the beginning of the session. The parish council is supporting the scheme by not only allowing the use of the recreation ground but also by hiring the scout hut to provide toilet and changing facilities as well as indoor space should the weather prove unkind.

Clothes and shoe bank

The recycling bank for clean dry clothes, curtains and other material as well as paired shoes in the village hall yard is proving popular. Please however ensure that all items are bagged before being deposited. The bank helps provide funds for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance service.



Dib dob

Coming to the Cliffhanger next month a new column to keep you up to date with all things scout.

Edna Black - A Founder Member of Sherston Drama Group

by Hazel Jarrett

When the Group was first formed in 1979, Edna was one of the first people to act with us.

She was one of life's natural ladies, both on stage and off but, if required, could play a convincing female plumber or jungle chieftain with equal aplomb. Whatever she was asked to do, she did it with an air of professionalism - a director's dream.

She also brought this quality to her term as our second chairman.

Despite the many roles Edna brought to the Sherston stage, it is the peerless Miss Marple in 'Murder at the Vicarage' in 1992 that many will remember her best for.

It is with sadness that we acknowledge Edna's final bow.



Summer tuck

From Monday to Friday between 2pm and 5pm during the summer holidays a tuck shop will be operating in the scout hut. On offer will be teas, coffees, cakes, soft drinks, pocket money sweets and ice pops. All profits to 1st Sherston Scout Group.



Parish stewards scheme

Wiltshire Highways Service has 20 stewards, who each look after the general function and appearance of the roads, footways and furniture in their individual areas. Towns and villages are visited on a monthly basis, in a programme which is sent to each local council, in advance of the visit. The duration of each visit is varied to meet the needs of each council.



Matt Treacy

The stewards are equipped with a purpose-built Land Rover vehicle, which is clearly marked and fully equipped to attend to most events. A system of satellite tracking and mobile radio and telephone communications enable the stewards to respond very rapidly to a wide variety of problems, which occur on the roads.

The scheme was introduced in the autumn of 2006 and has proved extremely popular with many Parish and Town Councils. The work of the stewards has begun to restore the appearance of many areas, a process often regarded as crucial in protecting civil pride.

Examples of winter work, which is routinely undertaken include:

- hand clearing of drainage grips and drain gully cover
- clearing of small culverts, pipes and pits.
- clearing storm debris
- trimming encroaching hedges from around road signs
- cleaning and straightening small road signs
- hand cutting small visibility areas

In the summer, tasks can also include

- painting railings
- cutting growth from around signs and railings
- cutting growth from drainage grips
- removal of ragwort
- treatment/removal of weeds, in rural areas

During times of extreme weather, the stewards are the first line of response, during normal working hours. Outside of normal hours most stewards actively participate on a call-out basis.

The stewards do not operate in isolation and are supported in their role by many mechanised resources, where the work exceeds what one man may achieve. They include verge mowers, high-pressure drain cleaning machines and the county's multi-purpose fleet of Unimog vehicles.

Sherston has utilised the scheme since its inception and found it most useful. If you see some work around the parish which would be suitable for our allocated steward Matt Treacy please contact the parish clerk Sarah Wood on 840 email clerk@sherston.org.uk so she can forward the details on.

Garden Party

A traditional garden party at Halfway Bush Farm, Sherston, attracted about 300 people on a glorious summer day, for a wonderful classical and semi-classical music concert by two of the younger generation of English opera singers. The concert was organised by St. Aldhelm Masonic Lodge, Malmesbury, in aid of Diabetes UK, the lodge's designated charity this year. With some money still to come the concert had raised about £2,000, bringing the lodge charity total for the year to about £5,000.

The singers were Tim Pitman and Rebecca Robinson, whose two open-air sessions delighted the audience throughout the afternoon and evening. There were also opportunities to play boules and skittles, admire a large exhibition of classic cars, veteran tractors and motor bikes, and a steam engine, and take a traditional cream tea or a Pimms in the garden. A large raffle was very generously supported.

The Rev. Richard Maslen of Woods Close, Sherston, Worshipful Master of St. Aldhelm Lodge 2009-2010 said 'We are very grateful to Colin and Sue Lewis for hosting such a successful event, to the hard-working friends who did the work – and to Cliffhanger for helping spread the word. Even the fortuitous fly past by the Red Arrows was not entirely unexpected!'

Footnote: What was unexpected was the sudden disappearance of the skittles balls from the Rattlebone skittle alley the day before the garden party. Landlord Jason Read, a generous supporter, loaned the skittles and balls but when Richard went to collect them the balls had disappeared. Panic ensued until publican and parson peered up and down the tube and saw the balls stuck halfway up - or down, whichever way you look at it. Not only were they required by the masons next day, Chris Gough was scheduled to run the Carnival-Boules skittles the following Tuesday. Jason set off in one direction and Richard the other in search of drain or flue rods. Chris produced some very modern ones only a moment after Richard found his antiques and dislodged the balls which were stuck behind two empty bottles stuffed up the pipe as far as they would go. All three were too relieved to indulge in questionable word-play quips.

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Pottery Issue

I read with incredulity your article about the 'Luckington Potteries'.

How am I to look my children (43, 41 and 36) in the eyes again? They remain convinced from childhood that what you call the pottery is in fact the home of Father Christmas!

I urge you to withdraw the article forthwith because I need them to look after me in my dotage.

Disgruntled of Manor Close

P.S. The correct name of the so called pottery is in fact the 'Milk Bottle'. Father Christmas lived in the house and stored the presents along with the Reindeers in the 'Milk Bottle'. Amazing how inventive one can be when needs must.

Pottery Reply by Cilla Liddington

I have recently heard that we have received an anonymous email from 'somebody' deeply upset that I have destroyed over 30 years of storytelling concerning the real use of the Potteries. I feel it is only right to pass on my sincere apologies over this.

Bus trips

With both Eric Thacker and Tony Weedon as trained drivers for the Cartmell Community minibus, the world is your oyster. If you have a suggestion for an excursion from Sherston please let the parish clerk Sarah Wood know your idea on 840351 or email clerk@sherston.org.uk. It is hoped that some more trips will be organised from early autumn onwards following the success of a number of excursions earlier in the year.

Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership

The Annual General Meeting of Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership Steering Group is to be held on Tuesday 17 August at Kings Arms Orangery, Malmesbury - commencing at 7pm. www.malmesburyandthevillages.net

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Sue's strolls

A well deserved break is in order for Sue McKechnie this month after her series of excellent walks over the last year or so. She will however be back on the trail in the autumn with a walk on Sunday 19 September starting as usual from the village hall at 10am. In the meantime, why not try out one or two of the nine circular walks around the parish described in the recently published Sherston Walks?

Wiltshire Parking Strategy - consultation now open

The consultation on the Local Transport Plan draft Parking Strategy is now available for viewing at <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>. Wiltshire Council would welcome your comments on this document - there is the opportunity to respond to specific questions and make general comments at a number of points in the document. The consultation will end at 5pm on Friday 3 September.

Village party

Unfortunately this year's event due to take place on Bank holiday Monday 30 August has had to be cancelled. This is due to the redecorating works to the village hall reported elsewhere in this month's Cliffhanger. Hopefully 2011 will see the return of this popular event.

Leopardwood Foundation Evening of Live Music

In aid of under privileged children in Sri Lanka still suffering the effects of the Boxing Day tsunami.

21 August 7pm - Midnight at The Old Royal Ship, Luckington. Featuring Jonestown, Anaheim, The Ashun and £12. Hog Roast, Cash Raffle, DJ. £20 Adults, £15 Children under 13.

For further information please contact:

Hannah 07737 593 625 or Helen 840222

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Sherston School Environment Area Group News

by Crispian Huggill

Bring on the rocket!



Chestnut class (year four) at Sherston School shared the array of salad vegetables they have been growing, around the whole school early in the month. Alongside hot and spicy numbers including Mizuma, Green Mustard, and slightly milder Pak Choi, this year's favourite by a long chalk was Rocket. Grown from packets of seed kindly donated by the Corless family which the children sowed in May, the crop was saved from the snails by the hot dry weather to produce a first batch of fresh tasty leaves; more to follow.

Alice weighs in at eight pounds

Strawberries grown by Sycamore Class (year six) at Sherston school, produced a bumper crop in June. The best pick was 8lbs from just 15 plants on 24 June. Chilled overnight and enjoyed by everyone at school the following day, 'Alice' is a deliciously sweet and juicy variety. Year five pupils have planted a new bed which will start cropping next year.



Colourful designs



Following the success of Sherston School pupil Hannah Clegg in winning the children's competition for the 2012 Olympic Garden, her year six class has risen to another challenge, to completely renovate a flower bed at the school entrance. The project was to design and plant this 80m² area and build three stepping stone paths.



The focal point is a timber and stone bench in memory of Rox Richardson, former school secretary, kindly donated by the Cotswold Wardens.

Each of the five Olympic entrants from last year, led a team to undertake a share of the clearance and prep work, survey and map the site

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to calculate the area and circumference, create a plan, and submit a design for re-planting. The final layout was chosen as a combination of parts from each team's work, together with a timber planter which was donated by Wiltshire Wood Recycling. The school is extremely grateful to Les Howells for his enormous generosity in donating all the plants for this project. The plants come from the wide and interesting collection that he grows for his outstanding garden in Pinkney, Sycamore's garden will in turn be a colourful spectacle by late summer. Thank you Les.

With a team of parent and staff overseers (big thanks to them), the five teams completed their tasks in a super fast time of five and a quarter hours, with the stone and bark chip paths laid in 40 minutes. Big thanks also to Holt Landscapes for some of their bark mulch. Lots of credit to the children for all their hard work and enthusiasm and congratulations to them for the end result.

Sunflower challenge

For all those who bought small plants at the Village Green day, how are they looking now? Birch Class at Sherston School raised £24 on sales of sunflower plants they had raised; the money will towards installing a tank to collect rain water from the school roof for the new wildlife area pond. Feel free to register interim height measurements, in strict confidence of course : huggill@xlninternet.co.uk

Thanks to all

A lot has happened in the last few months within Sherston School's environment area. A pond has been created with a dipping platform and a roped walkway, underwater camera, plants and wildlife seeking out our new oasis in the summer heat, and wormeries. A new landscaped flower bed has been installed at the school entrance. Sherston School Environment Area Group would like to register a thank you from the school to all of the following for their donations, gifts, generosity, endeavours and help. Thanks are due to the following:

Wessex Water and Conservation Foundation for its grant to build the pond.

The Gazette & Herald and Whitehall Garden Centre, Whitehall for vouchers from 2009 competition.

Paul Bridgeman, for digging the original base for the pond.

Peter Bishop, for providing and installing the underwater camera, as well as for the bee bricks, bug and frog homes, and much more.

Steve Skeldon, for the plastic pipe for the camera cable.

Noel Banks and Cotswold Wardens, for the new drystone wall, a stone stile, hedge laying and a timber bench.

Knockdown Stone, for all the stone;

Mark Sparrow, for a stone bird bath

Holt Landscapes, for bark mulch

Westonbirt Arboretum and Grove Wood for logs.

Blaze Fire, for fire engine which filled the pond (great fun!)

The Perry family, for the tadpoles.

The Martin family, for the carved bees on the pond fence (they're great!).

Howard Harding, for Chestnut, Copper Birch and White Oak saplings

Les Howells, for a great collection of plants for the front of the school.

Mr. & Mrs. Quirke, for a wormery plus worms.

Nicky Gray, for a small glass indoor wormery.

Wickes in Chippenham, for bags of cement.

Nurdens, for a bulk bag of sand.

Wiltshire Council for sandbags.

SIG Fixings in Yate, for stainless steel screws (pond walkway boards).

Tracklements, for crab apple money and for a private local donation which helped to buy all the pond timber.

Steve Burgess of Luckington, for a day's carpentry.

Wiltshire Wood Recycling, for a timber trough planter

And the dedicated few, who through their time, work, and commitment, have brought these projects to fruition. A big thank you to each and all.

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Sue Middleton retires after 24 years at Sherston School



Left to right: Frank Middleton, Kathy Mallaband, Janet Clark, Rita Rice, Colleen Payne, Julia Smith, Peter Payne, Jane Hillier, Sue Middleton, Nick Bowditch, Moira Saunders, Dorothy Sutton, Shirley Wood, Pam Baldry.

Mrs Middleton was bid an official farewell during the Year 6 leavers' service at the Church of the Holy Cross on Friday 23 July. She was then honorary guest at lunch at the school where she was joined by many past and present staff.

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Sherston W.I.

At our July meeting we learnt about the history of Malmesbury from our speaker, Charles Vernon. It is believed that a Stone Age settlement existed on the site, which has a unique position for defence purposes, with water on three sides. We were told how it became an important place for learning, attracting pilgrims and scholars from far and wide.

The grandson of King Arthur was Athelstan, who became the first king of England, uniting the warring tribes. The Commoners of Malmesbury helped him repel the Vikings and were rewarded with certain rights and land. He was famous for his firmness and diplomacy.

Mr Vernon briefly outlined the development of Malmesbury to present times. He explained that the centre of town remains virtually as it was in medieval times. We all found the talk gave us fresh information on this country town, which has an important place in the history of England.

Five members attended an Open Day at Denman College. They were able to watch demonstrations in cookery, silk painting, jewellery making and many more. They also went to a lecture on garden design by Bunny Guinness from the RHS. There was much to see besides the craft stalls, the gardens were beautiful and we had a perfect summer's day to enjoy it all.

A visit is planned to Hanham Court and gardens at Bristol at the end of the month.

Our next meeting is on 5 August where there will be a talk by Shan Williams on 'Colour me Beautiful'. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £3.

Manor Close tree

The request from the parish council for residents' views on the proposal for a tree to be planted in the verge appears to have fallen on deaf ears with only three responses. In the circumstances the idea has been shelved.

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Drawing Classes in Sherston

These classes (held in the British School Room) have been running for a number of years. They run for 10 week terms, on Wednesdays, and are suitable for any ability. There is a morning class from 10am to 12 noon and an afternoon class between 1.15pm and 3.15pm. There are a few spaces available, so if anyone is interested in finding out more with a view to starting in September, please phone Heather Martin on 840375.

The Sherston Church Fête and Open Gardens weekend

Saturday was a bit fresh but dry, Sunday was warm and gloriously sunny. The Fête attracted good numbers to eat, drink, play games and buy plants, cakes, and sit around and chat. The Open Gardens attracted large numbers of visitors on both days who enjoyed wandering around the village and looking at gardens great and small, then rounding it all off with tea and homemade cakes. The organisers would like to thank all those who helped to make this event such a success, particularly those kind enough to open their gardens for us to see.



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Footpath group

After the exertions of getting Sherston Walks published in time for Boules Day, the group could perhaps have been excused for taking a summer break. In reality though the group has still plenty to do, especially in ensuring that all the rights of way in the new guide are in as good a condition as possible.

A few months ago a working party was set up with the aim of tackling basic footpath problems such as overgrown vegetation. Tools have been provided by Wiltshire Council through our rights of way officer Stephen Leonard who has also given some essential health and safety advice. The working party is headed up by Nigel Freeth with Chris Edgecombe acting as his deputy. The team has already been out dealing with overgrown footpaths, especially with cutting back nettles. In due course and with some further advice from Stephen Leonard, stile repairs and installation of kissing gates, where appropriate, can hopefully be taken on.

It is very important that the group quickly become aware of any problems with rights of way particularly those referred to in Sherston Walks. If you come across a problem, please report it without delay to the parish clerk, Sarah Wood, on 840351 email clerk@sherston.org.uk giving as much detail as possible. The group has developed a local method of resolving footpath issues by liaising with landowners and together seeking the most practical method of dealing with the matter in hand. This has worked well to date, but if a problem persists the group does not intend to become involved in protracted discussions. Instead it would prefer to leave its resolution to Wiltshire Council as the responsible authority.

If you would like to learn more about the footpath group and perhaps take part in some of its activities please come along to the next meeting on Wednesday 1 September at 7.30 pm in the village hall. The group is a subcommittee of the parish council with a simple remit 'to promote the use by all of the rights of way in the parish, ensuring they are in good condition and free from obstruction'. Minutes of meetings can be found on www.sherston.org.uk. Whilst this may

all sound a little formal, please be assured that the meetings are both enjoyable and practical. If you can't make the September meeting but would like more information, please contact the secretary, Maggie McKenna, on 841047, or email maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

Hot cakes

Boules day saw the publication by the Sherston Footpath Group of the eagerly awaited Sherston Walks - a new guide to local rights of way.

Any concerns as to the reaction of the paying public to the £4.99 guide were instantly dispelled with copies flying off the group's High Street stand. Over 100 were sold and with Sherston Post Office Stores selling another 40 the guide's success seemed assured. Indeed by the end of July almost half of the print run had been sold, so if you haven't secured a copy yet, don't delay. A good number seem to be being purchased as presents for relatives and friends living outside the parish.

As well as the Post Office, copies are available from the Rattlebone Inn, Sherston Sunday Papers, Tuck's, Luckington Post Office, Malmesbury and Tetbury tourist information centres and the Yellow Lighted Bookshop in Tetbury. Copies can also be purchased by post from the parish clerk Sarah Wood at 23 Cliff Road Sherston SN16 0LN for £6.50 including P & P. Cheques should be made payable to Sherston Parish Council.

Many kind comments have been received as to the quality of the guide which was produced by a dedicated team of volunteers over a two year period. The parish council is very impressed with the publication and thanked all concerned for their hard work at its July meeting. Special thanks were given to Phylip Harries whose design of the guide has been a major factor in its success.

Inspired by Sherston Walks, a number of local parishes are very interested in producing their own guides. Phylip is already in demand for his design expertise and the group is being asked for advice on producing similar guides.

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6th	£6	36	Jill Woodward
7th	£5	6	Barbara Dickenson

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Village hall

The community payback team will complete the outside painting and the redecoration of the small hall, lobby, toilets and kitchen lobby early this month. They have worked very hard in all their sessions and the management committee is most grateful for all they have done. Special thanks are also due to their supervisor Malcolm Rainbow. We hope to see them again later in the year redecorating the main lobby and toilets.

In respect of the main hall, the committee has taken a decision to have removed all the old paintwork from the walls by means of dry blasting. Years of plastic based paint on top of original lime mortar have taken their toll and a complete removal of the old paint seems the only way forward. This will be undertaken in early August and includes the blasting of the visible roof beams of paint. Once all the paint is gone a decision will be taken as to how best treat the exposed walls. At the same time, new lighting will be installed. All has to be completed by the end of August ready for the pre school's new term.

Naturally all these works to the hall are at a cost. Fortunately recent fundraising efforts plus the absolutely invaluable proceeds from the 200+ Club should meet the present expense. Undoubtedly however further fundraising efforts will be needed to continue the programme of improvements. You have been warned!

It is now over a year since the new air to air heating pump system was installed replacing the old calor gas system in the main hall and electric wall heaters in the small hall. Not only is the new system much better to use, it is also far more energy-efficient and appears to have reduced energy costs by around 25% to 30 %. The cost of the new system was heavily subsidised by a grant from the former North Wiltshire District Council.

If you know of any community type classes which may wish to consider hiring the hall please put them in touch with our bookings officer, Julia Nichols, on 840633, or email julia.nichols@btinternet.com for further details. In particular there is presently availability in the main hall every Monday and Wednesday evenings. Hirers which benefit the community are entitled to reduced rates.

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Waste collection and recycling

Wiltshire Council is proposing the following in respect of future household waste and recycling services –

- A kerbside collection of plastic bottles and cardboard every two weeks.
- A kerbside black box collection for glass, papers, cans, foil and textiles every two weeks.
- A non-chargeable optional kerbside collection of garden waste every two weeks.
- A collection of leftover waste every two weeks.

It will be noted that the proposed recycling service is much improved from the present whilst the weekly leftover waste collections will move to a fortnightly arrangement.

Residents are being asked to respond Yes or No to the proposal by Friday 20 August at the latest. Copies of the printed questionnaire are available from Sherston Post Office Stores with a freepost reply. You can also complete the survey on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste and by emailing wasteconsultation@wiltshire.gov.uk

Details of the reasoning behind the proposal which is stated as aiming to provide a first class waste and recycling service are clearly set out both in the questionnaire and on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste

Waste collection and recycling are essential services. Please make your views known on this important proposal.

Cotswolds Rural Skills

Here in the Cotswolds, traditional skills such as dry-stone walling, hedge-laying and woodland coppicing have played an important role in shaping the distinctive and unique landscape that we see around us today.

Unfortunately, the significant change in land management practices over the past century has resulted in many of these features being left neglected and falling into disrepair.

That's why here at the Cotswolds Conservation Board, we run an annual programme of training courses aimed at teaching people the methods and techniques involved in these traditional Cotswold skills. Now, in our 7th year of running a rural skills programme, we are able to offer a wide range of enjoyable, practical courses from which trainees can leave with new found skills and the knowledge that they have helped to conserve one of the country's most important landscapes.

For full details of courses available over the rest of the summer as well as the autumn and winter visit www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or call 01451 862000.

News from the Tolsey Surgery

Things are changing at the Tolsey Surgery. In April, Dr Watkins became a Partner and we welcomed our new Practice Manager, Judy Sharp, to the team. Since then we have all been working very hard together to try and improve the services on offer to our patients. Local and national feedback, from the national survey, has been very positive. We are grateful for our patients' kind comments. However, there are a few recurring problems, which we are trying to address:

Appointments

The Government scheme that introduced appointments that could only be booked 48 hours in advance has caused numerous difficulties. The method in which they had to be booked resulted in patients having to make frequent contact with the surgery. In some instances, patients spent a lot of time trying to get through to the surgery by telephone, only to discover that the appointments had already been taken. We understand the frustration felt by the community when trying to book these particular appointments.

Therefore, we have tried to restructure our appointments system and made some changes that we hope you will find beneficial. We will still be offering 'book ahead' appointments (up to one month in advance), a few 'book within two days', and 'on the day' slots which should only be used for an emergency problem that cannot wait.

Extended Hours

Another interesting result from the national survey is that 70% of respondents did not know that The Tolsey Surgery offers extended hours, and has done so for the past two years. On each Thursday we have appointments from 7.30 am until 8.00am, and also between 6.30pm and 7.15pm. These appointments are designed particularly for patients who commute to work, and who might otherwise have difficulty getting to the surgery during normal office hours.

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

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

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

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Telephone answering

Many of you have had difficulty contacting the surgery by telephone to answer queries or make appointments. We are therefore changing our telephone system from July to an automated answering service. This will direct you to the correct member of staff for specific prescription or administrative queries, thereby freeing up the reception telephone to make appointments. We will also have a dedicated line to leave a message should you need to cancel an appointment.

Future Plans

We are also looking at future possibilities, including making your own appointment via our website www.tolseysurgery.co.uk, and phone text reminders for appointments. We hope that some of these measures may help reduce our failed attendance rate. We are hopeful that these changes will improve the quality of service on offer at The Tolsey Surgery and we would welcome any feedback or suggestions that our patients may have. Please let us know, in person, or via our complaints and suggestions box in the downstairs waiting room.

Drs Pettit, Harris and Watkins.

Sherston 1016

Thanks to everyone who bought books and crêpes from our stalls on Boules day. We raised a fantastic £400 towards the senior citizens Christmas vouchers.

The crêpe stand proved especially popular with crêpe master Richard Langley on almost nonstop duty throughout the day. Special thanks to his assistants Liz Langley and Cathy Garton. Thanks also to Colin and Jo Owen for the use of a second crêpiere hotplate to augment our own, Gail and Bruce Hamilton for donating their wonderful Sherston eggs and to Mr and Mrs Martin Evans owners of Lantern House who allowed us to use their electricity.

We had great fun on the Sunday of Boules weekend in organising the tug of war by Grove Wood. Referee Martin Ward was as fair as ever, although at times had to be kept in check by his partner in crime Andy Walden. Sincere thanks are due to both - we'd never manage it all without them.

Our next event is the Lobber Jenkins Memorial Boules Tournament, to be held at the Rattlebone Inn on Saturday 4 September – please note the new date. That is quickly followed by our autumn book sale in the village hall on Saturday 25 September.

www.sherston.net

Boules & Carnival's community website is presently in the process of being given a complete revamp. In order to assess progress and to seek further volunteers to help with both the present and future site there will be an opening meeting on Monday 13 September at 7.30 pm in the Rattlebone Inn. If you think you can help please come along. If you can't make the meeting please contact Caroline Moore at info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk

C'est Magnifique!



The 2010 Boules & Carnival will be remembered for many a year for a series of superb events attracting some of the best levels of support ever seen. Financially and with help from much increased sponsorship it looks as if we will have had a good result but the figures are still being totted up and bills arriving daily!

The nine day event kicked off with the Park Lane Big Band giving another high class performance on the evening of the first Saturday in the village hall field. With the return of the traditional family evening now firmly re-established it is sure to be repeated next year.



The following day saw Sue McKechnie lead another successful carnival walk with an excellent complimentary snack provided at the end by the Rattlebone Inn.

The carnival Quiz on Monday 12 July at the village hall was a lively affair as ever with winners 'Five Guys called Mo Mowlem' - a team made up of the Dickinsons and the Hollands.



Our senior citizens enjoyed a great afternoon's musical tea on Tuesday at the British Schoolroom. This is always an event to be cherished with friends old and new enjoying each other's company.

Tuesday evening's concert in the church was a fascinating insight into Mongolian overtone singing and instruments by Michael Ormiston and Candida Valentino which mesmerised an enthusiastic audience.



Unlike 2009 there was no shock result this year at the carnival skittles championship at the Rattlebone Inn on Wednesday evening. That wily old alley cat Mike Shortridge retained his title with consummate ease. It was good to see a large increase in lady participants and Mike looks forward to putting them through their paces one by one again next year.



Thursday saw a fantastic children's disco with DJ Huw Bowles in full flow. The only dampener of the week was that the Carnival Cricket had to be postponed due to that rarity this summer - rain.

The junior football on Friday afternoon organised by Andy Irvine again proved a great success with a downpour just relenting as the teams started to arrive. This was followed by another hilarious fancy dress football match between Sherston FC and Oafs Utd. A bit of fun maybe but the game was taken very seriously by all concerned lasting a full 90 minutes with the Oafs running out convincing 3-0 victors.



By 6am on the big day, Saturday 17, the High Street was already busy with an army of volunteers preparing pitches and putting up marquees. All was well completed by 9 am when the church bells rang out over the village quickly followed by an opening ceremony to mark the 25th Boules day attended by the Mayor of Gien, Jean-Pierre Hurtiger. The tournament attracted very large crowds throughout the day who enjoyed an excellent range of stalls with the French cafe, BBQ and High Street bar all doing brisk business. In the village hall teas were served throughout the festivities with the kids' zone in the field proving a rip-roaring success.



Highlight of the day for many was undoubtedly the Wadworth dray rides which delighted young and old alike.

Music has always been a vital part of Boules day and this year was no exception with old favourites the Celebration Jazz Band in the morning followed by the Gien singers and dancers, the Doddington Parish Band, Malmesbury Morris and the wonderful Just in Time swing band in the afternoon.

The flower festival in the church looked superb and tickets for the church tower visits again sold out within minutes of going on sale. The senior club's exhibition in the British School Room

Rattlebone Razzlers pipped the Sherston Software Luckington Babes. There was a marked increase in the number of teams entering this year but referee Martin Ward took it all in his stride with everything running like clockwork.

The Duck race winner was Mike Johnson with a tumultuous crowd following the race to the teas at Mill Cottage where the raffle winners were announced. Children's fancy dress winners were Gwennie Chandler - Farahar, Emma Sheppard and Sam Read.

The whole week was brought to a traditional end with the Thanksgiving service at the village hall field with the Bath Salvation Army Band and an address by our Methodist minister the Rev David Alderman, swiftly followed by the final tea of the week.

Thanks are due to everyone who worked so hard this year to make everything so wonderful. Special thanks must go to Malmesbury Air Training Cadets and the Oafs (Occasionally Athletic Fathers of Sherston) without whom the main event on Boules day would have been impossible to stage.

Planning for next year will begin in the autumn. If you would like to become involved please contact Caroline Moore on 841405 or email caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk

See you in 2011
Sherston Boules & Carnival Committee
Vive le sport!

Boules & Carnival Photo DVD 2010

The production of the 2010 Boules & Carnival Photo DVD is well underway with many more photos being collected than 2009's 443 photos from all of the week's events, including the Boules Ball. Due to the high quality and number of photos received, the selection process is taking longer than planned. The DVD should be on sale in early August at a cost of £5. All profits to the grand total. Check village notice board for details. All the photos in this month's Cliffhanger will be featured on the DVD. Call 841405 or email to caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk to order your copy.



was as ever excellent with a theme of '25 years of Boules'. Many took the opportunity this year to visit Sherston's hidden gem - the Congregational Church in Cliff Road to view a fascinating collection of old family bibles.

On the Boules pitches it was the French side Gien 1 who again won the final beating the Welsh team Piste Artists 13-11. The new Colts competition winners were Nichon Sucre who conquered Balls Up.

Sunday's treasure hunt at Grove Wood was won by Jake Law. The Sherston Cup in the tug of war was retained by the Vine Tree Norton with the Sherstonians as runners up. In the ladies' event the



The Coaching Club (1871-2010)

by Richard Stancomb

Like the Four in Hand Club (established in 1856), the Coaching Club gave a stimulus to driving four horses to a private coach for pleasure, after steam trains had reduced the use of coaching commercially. The Coaching Club was more exclusive, limited to 50 members and largely made up of wealthy titled families and cavalry regiments.

Today's membership is quite different, consisting of more enthusiastic eccentric aficionados, who wish to keep alive a forgotten way of travel, in a similar manner that steam railway enthusiasts do as well today. They drive 'park drags', as against road or mail coaches, which were like Green Line buses accepting fee paying passengers and carrying post and packages commercially.

Drags are like private minibuses and limousines, belonging to one family for their exclusive use and allowing them to travel alone and in more comfort than by other means. The arrival of the combustion engine around 1905 put an end to commercial coaching, but the clubs kept the tradition alive and continue to provide the spectacle today.

The dark blue driving coat and buff waistcoat worn with brass buttons engraved with 'C.C', was chosen as a compliment to the first president, 'The Blue Duke' of Beaufort, in 1872. The corn flowers worn

by the Blue Duke at the first meet which has since become the adopted insignia of the Coaching Club.

Coaches weigh about 1 1/2 ton unladen and require four strong horses to pull them, particularly up Brook Hill. These are not heavy horses, of the kind displayed by Wadworth on Boules Day, but faster and more agile horses requiring more skilled handling.

Sherston was on the route from Oxford to Bristol along the B4040. The Angel was a small coaching inn, where fresh horses could be acquired between Malmesbury and the Cross Hands. Around the corner was The Swan commercial hotel. Generally the average distance a team can travel between changes is 10 to 15 miles.

The Tolsey surgery was almost certainly a toll house and perhaps offered a 'cock horse', should it have been required, to assist an overloaded coach up Brook Hill. If unavailable, passengers would have to disembark and push - hence the expression 'putting ones shoulder to the wheel'. Going down hill coaches carry a metal shoe, placed under the near side rear wheel, effectively locking it, called a 'skid pan'.

Coaching dangers are many, with hills just one of a multitude of challenges. They have only manually operated leather brakes, and apart from highwaymen, other perils include collisions, broken axels, overturning, runaway teams, snow, drunkenness and, worst of all, flooding.

Their natural affinity with horses made Dalmatian dogs the ideal companion. They were often stupid and sometimes deaf, but loyal and protective to horses. They used to run under the back axle to see off common dogs annoying the horses and also to warn of stable fires when at home. Today, they are still the mascot of the New York fire brigade.

Road coaches continued to operate through Sherston up until about 1900, when the Great Western Badminton 'cut off' railway line was opened, connecting London with the new Severn tunnel, with local stations at Hullavington and Badminton. The Angel continued to provide a weekly local carrier service to Chippenham, Tetbury and Malmesbury, up until after the First World War.



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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Last month's horrendous news of the decimation of this year's mangold crop is still reverberating around the parish. Whilst recriminations continue to fly many have forgiven the Guardians of the Crop Fred Harrison and Nic Fisher for their freely admitted gross dereliction of duty at dawn on Sunday 20 June 2010 – a date now stitched on the gussets of their matching vermilion Damart thermal underwear. To be fair both have done much to repair their reputations. Fred has been copious in his supply of free pints of 'Oh be joyful' at the Rattlebone Inn with one or two Tunnock's Tea Cakes, www.tunnock.co.uk, thrown in for good measure. Nic's special one-on-one midnight tours of the allotments have surprisingly proved most popular with many a member. Repeat appointments are however now strictly limited and entirely dependent upon Nic's personal performance related criteria.

Whilst a small quantity of mangolds in the parish miraculously survived the attack by the dreaded *Pegomya hyoscyami* members of the Order have been on a frantic search for a sufficient supply to satisfy the demands of the Hurl in October. Representatives have been dispatched to Somerset where negotiations are ongoing with a number of

growers but to date excessive prices have hindered any conclusive deal. Sherston is in competition for their crops with other Orders that have recently been bought out by foreign owners with seemingly bottomless pockets. This has caused considerable distortion to the market and is threatening to seriously undermine the development of the sport in this country. Members however remembered Bill Tulberg spotting a clamp or two of mangolds in Scotland only a few years ago and accordingly enquiries are currently being made with the National Union of Farmers Scotland to track down a grower. Jock Walker has already volunteered to lead a party in September to his homeland to collect the roots. Such is the increasing number of members intent on joining him in what could prove to be a fascinating excursion north of the border that quotes for a suitably sized coach are being sought from Andrew James Coaches.

Whilst the Order is determined to overcome the loss of the local crop contingency plans including the use of swede and sugar beet are being put in place. There will be no doubt that these immortal lines from an 'Ode to a Mangold Hurl' will once again be heard wafting through the air of Sherston come October -

*Each year when autumn comes to pass
And tawny owls do hoot
We take ourselves out to the grass
To hurl our sacred root*



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Neighbourhood News from Wiltshire Police

Priorities

The Neighbourhood Tasking Group meeting took place on Thursday 24 June at the Kings Arms, Malmesbury. It was hosted by Malmesbury Community Area Partnership and chaired by Cllr Ray Sanderson.

The past quarter's priorities were discussed and the concerns raised by local residents during the Neighbourhood Policing Team consultation meetings were prioritised for the next quarter. Please see below for details of the priority for the next quarter alongside how we will address the issue.

Overnight crime in rural areas

During the meeting it was agreed that crime occurring overnight was becoming a major problem with thefts of vehicles, fuel and stone tiles on the increase.

To combat this, we intend to dramatically increase the number of patrols during the times criminals are currently active.

We have already enlisted the assistance of other forces and partner agencies. Don't forget we need your assistance too. Always take crime prevention advice seriously and together let's make life miserable for anyone thinking of taking your property. It also goes without saying if you think something is not quite right about a situation, such as a vehicle parked in an odd place or a stranger loitering, then take their details and let us know right away!

Summary of Crime

In the past three months our top three crimes have been house burglaries (20 incidents) followed by common theft (19) and burglaries in outbuildings (18).

Outcomes

Our previous priority which rolled on for several months was around conducting high visible patrols in order to reassure the community.

During this period a series of daytime and very early evening dwelling burglaries were identified around the Little Somerford area. Lighter evenings and additional patrols may have assisted in stopping these completely since early May.

Consultations

We aim to attend as many parish council meetings as we can. This will give you an opportunity to let us know your concerns and have your say on future priorities.

We are in regular attendance at Brokenborough, Dauntsey and Lea including Garsdon and Cleverton. We hope to extend these consultations across all parishes this quarter. Contact us for further details.

Appeals

There has been an increase in stone tile thefts within the area and we are appealing for information that will lead to the capture and conviction of the offenders.

If you have any information please call us on 0845 408 7000 or anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

Meet your team

We are your dedicated neighbourhood policing team working with you and our partners to tackle your local concerns.



**Community
Beat Manager**

Pc Stephen Humphries



**Police Community
Support Officer**

PCSO Durrý Maule

Contact us

0845 408 7000

malmesburyruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Lob needs a pair or 32

On Saturday 4 September the annual Lobber Jenkins Memorial Urn Boules Tournament organised by Sherston 1016 takes place at the Rattlebone Inn from 10 am.

Following the success of last year's pairs competition – a first for Sherston – the same format will be followed this year. Up to 32 teams can enter at a fee of £12 per team. There will be the usual liquid prizes for the winners and runners-up. Book your team over the bar at the Rattlebone Inn as soon as possible as 'Lob's Urn' is always extremely popular. For the avoidance of doubt this is an open competition and not limited to players in the Rattlebone leagues. If you've not played pairs before it's a whole new boules game even though the matches take just as long as triples.

All proceeds from the event which includes a raffle go towards funding the senior citizens Christmas vouchers.

Old school grant success

Wiltshire Council and its partners has awarded £65,000 to the Sherston Old School project from the Performance Reward Grant funds made available to the council from central government in recognition of them meeting a number of targets in service provision. This follows the endorsement earlier in the year by the Malmesbury Area Board of the original application from the Old School project. The result of the bid, given by Wiltshire Councillor John Thomson at the parish council's July meeting, was warmly welcomed.

The project has been further boosted by the news that the protracted negotiations with the Diocese over the terms of the sale of the property appear to have now been resolved. One consequence of that agreement is that the likely project structure will involve the parish council acquiring the property from the Diocese by way of a 999 year lease and sub-leasing the building to SOSIC (see note below) for management and development. As a result of their increased role, the parish council has decided to obtain its own separate legal advice and, at their July meeting, a firm of solicitors with specialist knowledge of local authority law were instructed. It is expected that this change is unlikely to impact on the overall legal costs involved.

In order to secure the purchase a number of legal agreements now have to be finalised including leases relating to the allotment site and the village hall field. This will take time to complete. Nevertheless the project now appears to be close to achieving the aim of acquiring the property and thereafter developing it for the benefit of the community.

SOSIC – Sherston Old School Community Interest Company Limited – is an independent body set up to develop and manage the property for the community. In due course all residents will be invited to become members of the company which is limited by guarantee. Membership will be free on the basis that should the company fail member's liability is strictly limited to £1. The company's board will be elected by the members and its assets both managed and protected for the benefit of the community only.

LIKE TO OWN A RACEHORSE?

I am a bloodstock agent who lives in Sherston looking to establish a syndicate of local people to share the excitement of owning and running a thoroughbred racehorse using a top class trainer (e.g. Tim Vaughan).

Typical costs for a syndicate of 10 people would be an initial payment of £1,000 followed by £150 per month.

Interested?

Give me a call on 07772 531 783 or e-mail me via my web site www.TomMaloneBloodstock.com

Boules day parking

With large numbers of visitors attending this year's event it is clear that the issue of parking needs to be addressed in good time for next year. In particular additional off road parking is required with drivers also being better directed to park in the sportsfield once the recreation field is full. To this end the Boules & Carnival committee is hoping to meet with our community beat officer PC Steve Humphries to discuss possible solutions. If you have any suggestions on this issue, as well as any general comments on this year's event or ideas for 2011 please contact the committee secretary Caroline Moore on 841405 or email caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk

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Sherston FC

By Pete Brock

Hello all, first of all I would like to thank everyone who came up to support the fancy dress game of football on the boules weekend. It gets better support every year and a lot is down to the bunch of villagers called the OAFs, which I believe stands for old and fat who always are up for dressing up and having some fun.

Also thanks to all the people who came up last Sunday (25 July) to help raise some much needed funds for the football club. We had a really good day and a special thanks to the girls' teams who entertained us all with their antics and in some cases their skill, also to all the old footballers who came out of the woodwork to help us to victory over the young guns within the club, a good day was had by all.

Now the work begins for rebuilding for the future and helping set up the second team with Matt Neal who will be running it. He seems to be doing most



of his recruitment down the pub, although Kenny, Pete, and Ted may be a little, shall we say, over the hill. We will be training on a Wednesday night in the next couple of weeks and some friendlies are being organised as we speak so anyone interested in playing should contact me on 07912777647 or speak to someone within the club.

So once again a big thank you to one and all who helped with setting up, cooking on the barby, running stalls and general setting up and playing. We wouldn't survive without your help.



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Rovers return

By Green'un

Supporters of Forest Green Rovers have certainly suffered a rollercoaster of emotions in the last few months.

In April the club finished 21st in the Blue Square Bet Premier league meaning relegation after over 10 years in the top flight of non league football. There had been much controversy over the relegation caused by goal difference after the three points earned and goals scored by Rovers in an away win against Chester City last September were expunged following Chester's sad demise from the league later in the season.

By June however the club was back in the premier league following the expulsion of Salisbury City for breach of the rules. With a massive sigh of relief fans could look forward to another season of the best non league football in the country.

The forthcoming season looks to be an exciting one at the New Lawn with the fixture list packed with top notch ties including twelve former football league sides as well as local derby games against newly promoted Bath City and Newport County. August sees home matches against Wrexham, Gateshead and close rivals Bath City. For full fixture details visit www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Ticket prices remain the same as last year with one big difference – children pay just £2 for admission to any part of the ground. With adults at £15 (seated), £13 (standing) and concessions at £10 and £8 respectively, a family visit to the New Lawn this season is a must. You'll be sure of a warm welcome – 'the friendly club on the hill' is a very well deserved description of Forest Green Rovers. It even has its own pub in the ground - 'The Green Man'.

Hope to see you at the Rovers this season – remember the New Lawn ground at Nailsworth is only a 20 minute drive from Sherston.

Come on you Greens!

Sherston Tennis Club – UPDATE

by Helen McLeish

Sherston Tennis Club's courts on the Knockdown Road are playing well this year and seeing considerable action. Here's a selection of what's on:

Junior Coaching

The Spring/Summer Saturday morning sessions have now finished, but will resume in September. Helen McLeish (840992) is the woman to contact.

Adult Club Sessions

These are undergoing something of a revival, especially on Fridays at 9:00am, but also occasionally on Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Apparently a number of rare talents have been unearthed.

Men's Matches

Despite the increasing age and lengthening list of infirmities of the squad, well of three of them at least, the Sherston Men's A (or only) Team is currently top of the Chippenham & District League (Division IV). Ably organised, coached and led by Sherston Vineyard's Jeremy Nabarro, the team also comprises Joseph 'Rafa' Nabarro, Kim Stuckey and Nic Riley. More players are needed to join the squad. Please contact Jeremy.

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	<p>FOREST GREEN ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB AUGUST 2010 at The New Lawn</p>
<p>Tuesday 17th - k.o. 7.45pm WREXHAM</p>	<p>Admission Prices: Adults: £15 Seated £13 Standing Conc: £10 Seated £8 Standing ALL KIDS £2 (16 years and under)</p>
<p>Saturday 21st - k.o. 3pm GATESHEAD</p>	<p>For further details on any of these or future fixtures call 01453 834860 www.forestgreenroversfc.com www.fgrtrust.com</p>
<p>Saturday 28th - k.o. 3pm BATH CITY</p>	<p>Bring a Mate - Double the Gate!</p>

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

Sherston win keeps slim chance alive

On 24 July Sherston Magna kept their slim chances of retaining the Cotswold and District Cricket Association (CDCA) Division 1 title alive with a 38 run victory against Nottgrove and Turkdean (NATS). NATS won the toss and invited Sherston to bat. After a shaky start, at 10 for 2, Richard Cartwright (84) was the main contributor to Sherston's match winning score with solid partnerships of 66 with James Harmer and then 64 with Jed Pitman. Sherston finished their 40 overs with a score of 176 for 8.

In reply, NATS were always going to struggle

with their prolific Andrew Phillips sidelined with a muscle injury. Oliver Moore (1-17) and Andrew Tremellen (2-27) restricted early NATS batsmen so that the 177 target was never really achievable. Alan Dickenson (3-27) and David Sutcliffe (3-28) mopped-up the remaining NATS wickets to ensure maximum bowling points for Sherston.

This victory leaves Sherston in 5th place in the league, but with games against Great Rissington and Adlestrop still to come the final league outcome is still uncertain, though Adlestrop must remain strong favourites.

Sherston Magna CC - 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s	Bowling	O	M	R	W
Phil Duffell	ct Tom Beasley	b Graham Bartlett	2	16	0	0	Will Spence	10	2	51	0
David Fitch-Peyton		b Graham Bartlett	3	21	0	0	Graham Bartlett	10	1	26	3
James Harmer	ct Tom Beasley	b J Jaling	35	52	3	1	J Maling	10	2	45	1
Richard Cartwright		b Chandu Patel	84	93	8	0	Chandu Patel	10	0	46	4
Jed Pitman +		b Chandu Patel	10	31	1	0					
J Nabbaro	ct Simon Smith	b Graham Bartlett	0	5	0	0					
Alan Dickenson		b Chandu Patel	24	18	3	1					
Andrew Tremellen*	ct Will Spence	b Chandu Patel	6	5	1	0					
Ollie Moore	Not Out		1	2	0	0					
David Sutcliffe	Not Out		0	1	0	0					
Mark Howell	Did not bat										
Extras	(2b 6lb 2w 1nb)		11								
Total	(8 wickets, 40 overs)		176								

Fall Of Wickets

3-1 Phil Duffell (David Fitch-Peyton-1*); 10-2 David Fitch-Peyton (James Harmer-5*); 76-3 James Harmer (Richard Cartwright-30*); 140-4 Jed Pitman (Richard Cartwright-80*); 141-5 J Nabbaro (Richard Cartwright-81*); 153-6 Richard Cartwright (Alan Dickenson-9*); 159-7 Andrew Tremellen (Alan Dickenson-9*); 175-8 Alan Dickenson (Ollie Moore-1*)

* = notout batsman,

N.A.T.'s CC - 1st XI

			R	B	4s	6s	Bowling	O	M	R	W
Simon Smith +	ct phil duffell	b Ollie Moore	1	17	0	0	Ollie Moore	10	2	17	1
Chandu Patel *	ct Alan Dickenson	b Andrew Tremellen	33	0	5	0	Andrew Tremellen	10	3	27	2
J Maling	LBW	b Alan Dickenson	34	0	3	1	Richard Cartwright	4	0	24	0
B Phillips	ct James Harmer	b Andrew Tremellen	0	1	0	0	Alan Dickenson	10	2	27	3
Will Spence	st Jed Pitman	b David Sutcliffe	1	17	0	0	David Sutcliffe	5.4	0	28	3
Ian Close	ct David Fitch-Peyton	b Alan Dickenson	0	1	0	0					
A Lewis		b Alan Dickenson	5	14	1	0					
Neeraj Patel	ct Alan Dickenson	b David Sutcliffe	25	0	1	0					
Tom Beasley	ct Alan Dickenson	b David Sutcliffe	7	4	1	0					
Graham Bartlett	Not Out		5	12	0	0					
Andrew Phillips	Timed Out		0								
Extras	(13b 2lb 12w)		27								
Total	(all out , 39.4 overs)		138								

Fall Of Wickets

9-1 Simon Smith (Chandu Patel-1*); 84-2 Chandu Patel (J Maling-31*); 84-3 B Phillips (J Maling-31*); 88-4 J Maling (Will Spence-0*); 88-5 Ian Close (Will Spence-0*); 90-6 Will Spence (A Lewis-1*); 94-7 A Lewis (Neeraj Patel-0*); 122-8 Tom Beasley (Neeraj Patel-16*); 138-9 Neeraj Patel (Graham Bartlett-5*); -10 ;

* = notout batsman,

Cotswold and District Cricket Association Division 1 (24 July 2010)

	Pld	won	lost	canx	abdn	Bat	Bowl	Pen	Pts	Ave
Adlestrop CC	13	10	1	2	0	47	48	0	195	17.73
Great Rissington	13	7	3	2	1	39	40	0	149	14.9
Oakridge CC	13	6	4	2	1	36	40	0	136	13.6
Williamstrip CC	13	6	4	2	1	26	35	0	121	12.1
Sherston Magna	12	5	4	2	1	30	28	0	108	12
Cricklade CC	13	5	5	2	1	26	40	0	116	11.6
Chedworth CC	12	4	5	2	1	33	23	0	96	10.67
N.A.T.'s CC	12	3	6	2	1	30	29	0	89	9.89
Andoversford CC	12	3	6	2	1	26	27	0	83	9.22
South Cerney CC	13	0	1	1	2	08	26	0	34	3.09

Useful Numbers

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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

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Groups and Regular Events in Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop - Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade cakes Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday mornings from May to October

Sunday services June: 8am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (15 Aug Family Service); 6pm Evensong (15 Aug Evening Holy Communion)

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:** 29 Aug Luckington. 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 20 Aug 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

On holiday during July and August. Clem invites 'cheerful chaps for a chair and a chat' in the British School Room every other Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm starting again in September. Donations to BSR expenses collected each week.

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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

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 the next meeting on Wed 1 Sep at 7.30 pm in the village hall. For further information contact Maggie McKenna on 841047 or maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

Ladies' Swimming Club - Summer Swim

During July and August Sherston Ladies Swimming Club welcome occasional swimmers at £3 per session. These months are quieter as many of our regular members are on holiday so do come along to try the lovely pool at Westonbirt Leisure Centre. We swim on Wednesday evenings in 2 sessions at 8- 8.45 and 8.45 - 9.30. Please bring £3 cash in a named envelope each time you swim and give to Heather or Annabel. We hope to welcome some of these visitors to join as members in September. Call Annabel Clifton on 840592 or Heather Martin on 840375.

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

None in August. The next meeting will be on Wed 15 Sep 6.30 for 7pm at Malmesbury Secondary School

Malmesbury Rangers

Girls over 14 years meet every 2nd Thurs in the month - 12 Aug. Further details from Helen Price 503187 or retreatcottage17@btinternet.com

Parish Council Meeting

None in August. Thurs 9 Sep at 7.30pm in the village hall. Minutes of meetings can be read online at www.sherston.org.uk. Further details contact Sarah Wood on 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk

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Email: nick@computerfixer.org.uk

Patchwork & Quilting Classes

Advance notice: Patchwork and Quilting Classes to be held on the 1st Thursday of each month from 10am - 2pm in The British Schoolroom – 5 Aug
Further details from Anne Chapman on 01249 782842.

Senior Club

Meets at 2.00pm in the British School Room every other Tuesday - 10 and 24 Aug.
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 Boules and Carnival 2011

Please come forward and be part of the committee for 2011. Any new ideas and offers of help in planning or just on the day gratefully received.
For more details contact the 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

Sherston Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club play on two hard courts off Knockdown Rd. Fees for the 2009/10 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.
Two club sessions are now up and running, ALL club members are warmly welcomed:
Tuesday evenings 7pm onwards - contact Belinda Robinson on 840316
Friday afternoons 1pm onwards - contact Helen McLeish on 840992

Children's Tennis Coaching will start again in September. 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.communicate.co.uk/wilts/sherstontheatreclub/ or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or Hjquirk@aol.com

Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The group is a fun way for children and their parents to meet and play We meet at 10am each Tuesday in the Scout Hut.
Further details contact Alex on 841095 or alex@stickyfingerscooking.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

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.

Sherston W.I.

Meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall – 5 Aug.
Further details contact Maureen Jolliffe on 840867

Sherston Young Craft Group

Autumn term starts Mon 13 Sep. 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 840 071 or email vparish@btinternet.com

Splash Dance

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

Whist Drive

A whist drive is held in the village hall on the second Friday in the month, Fri 13 Aug 7.30 for 7.45pm.
Admission £1.50 including refreshments. All profits to help maintain the village hall. Further details from G. Mason, M. Goulding and J. Gleed.
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.



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What's on in 2010 – Dates for your diary

August See below

September

- 4 Lobber Jenkins Boules Tournament
25 Autumn book sale
Soul Destroyers in fundraising concert at the Village Hall

October

- 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

Curry Quiz Night Sun 1 Aug
Carpenter's Arms Cricket matches 5 and 19 Aug
Greek Night Wed 18 Aug
Music Night Fri 27 Aug
Coffees, teas and homemade cakes every day at 11am
Boules league with evening lighting. Check boards for details of events.

Further details contact 840665

The Rattlebone Inn

Authentic Curry Festival Sun 29 Aug
Sunday night is pizza night Martyn's homemade pizzas every Sunday
Speciality coffees, smoothies and homemade cakes every weekday at 10.30am Kids, babies and dogs welcome
Check boards for details of events
Further details contact 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Scouts Tuck Shop

From Monday to Friday 2pm - 5 pm during the summer holidays a tuck shop will be operating in the scout hut. On offer will be teas, coffees, cakes, soft drinks, pocket money sweets and ice pops. All profits to 1st Sherston Scout Group.

Wiltshire Council Free Sports Coaching

For 5-11 year olds. Every Wednesday in August 10 - 11:30am on the Recreation ground. No booking necessary

Coaching Club

The coaching club will be stopping for a 20 minute break in Sherston High St on Sun 1 Aug 11.30am There could be as many as 15 coaches, each pulled by 4 horses.

Lobber Jenkins Boules Competition

Sat 4 Sep 10am (please note new date) All day pairs Boules knockout competition in aid of 1016. £12 per team.
At the Rattlebone Inn

Sherston 10K Run

Sun 19 Sep 10am £8 in advance or £10 on the day starting and ending at the Cricket Club
Further details contact Caroline Dickenson 840168 or sherston10k@aol.com

The Soul Destroyers

in concert Sat 25 Sep 8.30pm in the Village Hall £8
Further details contact Dave Shephard on 840361 or 07860 448438 or email ds@oldbellhouse.co.uk or www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Family Event: Our Native Trees 9 - 12 Aug 10:30 - 4pm
Festival of the Tree 23- 30 Aug Kids go free for this festival Including exhibitions, displays and walks

Giant woodwork Sculptures made this week will be sold at auction on Bank Holiday Monday 30 Aug at 3pm

Workshops: Digital Photography Course - Beginners Mon 16 Aug 10.30 - 3.30 £50 contact Graham Light 01285 653069 or consult@abbey-studios.co.uk or www.abbeyphotoschool.com

co.uk for further details

Introduction to T'ai Chi Wed 18 Aug 10:30-3:30pm £65 limited spaces Call Graham Anset 01225 705642 to book.

Walks: Wild Flower walks Wed 11 Aug 10.30am free after admission

Specialist wood sales in aid of FOWA Every 2nd Sunday in the month 10am -1pm

Admission £8 adult /£7 concs/ £3 chd under 5s free (27-30 Aug £10/£9)

Further details contact 880220 or

www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School and the Holford Trust House & Gardens

Garden Open days Every Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun till end of Aug 11-4pm

Bampton Classical Opera Presents 'The Marriage Of Figaro'

Sun 29 Aug 5pm on the Orangery Terrace.

£28.50 advance tickets only from 01367 810769

Feel free to bring rugs and garden chairs and a picnic

Further details contact 880333

www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk or for the gardens Jo

Egerton on joanne_egerton@hotmail.com or

www.holfordtrust.com

Badminton

The Badminton Ride

10 mile sponsored ride in aid of Help for Heroes and the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt Sun 26 Sep start times 10am - 2pm £20 advance entry to ride

Further details contact or www.badmintonride.com

Luckington

Leopardwood Foundation Evening of Live Music

In aid of under privileged children in Sri Lanka still suffering the effects of the Boxing Day tsunami. 21 August 7pm - Midnight at The Old Royal Ship, Luckington

Featuring Jonestown, Anaheim, The Ashun and Σ12. Hog Roast, Cash Raffle, DJ.

£20 Adults, £15 Children under 13.

For further information please contact:

Hannah 07737 593 625 or Helen 840222

www.leopardwoodfoundation.ning.com

Malmesbury

Carnival

Malmesbury Carnival month

Aug 2- 6 Sep Full month of events including quizzes, historical walks, poetry, ceildh, music events, Caribbean salsa party, bike rides, culminating in float procession & carnival on Sun 30 Aug Various locations in and around Malmesbury

Programme on line at www.malmesburycarnival.co.uk or from the Library and museum

Eilmer 1000th year anniversary celebrations

Kite Festival International and British kite flyers including a Rokkaku kite fighting competition

Sun 1 Aug Free admission The Worthies

Festival Film: Aviator

Exhibition: model flying machines though the ages Town Hall and Athelstan Museum

Carnival workshops 2-5 Sep

Lecture: Reach for the Skies - then and now Paul Chapman and Capt. Mannion £5

Further details contact Town Hall, Library or website or www.malmesbury.gov.uk

Malmesbury Library – Space Hop

Space Picnic Tues 3 Aug 2pm to 3pm

Alien Invasion Wed 11 Aug 2pm to 3pm

Booking essential for all free activities. Tel 823611

Malmesbury and the Villages Community

Area Partnership AGM

Tuesday 17 August at Kings Arms Orangery at 7pm.

www.malmesburyandthevillages.net

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by the community.

This month: Heartbreaker; Shrek forever after; The

Girl with the Dragon Tattoo; Twilight Saga; Wild

Target check website for details

Further details contact 01453 844601 or

www.wottoneph.co.uk

Kemble

Didmarton Bluegrass Festival

Music festival 2-5 Sep £16 - £65 (incl camping), under 14s free. Kemble airfield

Further details www.didmarton-bluegrass.co.uk

Gloucestershire Steam & Vintage Show

Kemble Airfield Fri 6 - Sun 8 Aug £7-12, juniors £5, under 5s free. Advance discounted tickets from Tetbury Tourist office

Further details contact 01453 762508 or

www.steamextravaganza.com/

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston.

Home matches:

Tues 3 Aug 7.45pm pre season friendly v **Exeter City**; Tues 17 Aug 7.45pm v **Wrexham**; Sat 21 Aug 3pm v **Gateshead** and Sat 28 Aug 3pm v **Bath City** Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s only £2

The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth

Further details contact 01453 834860 or

www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Gatcombe Park

Horse Trials

The classic one day eventing trial

6-8 Aug 8-5pm £12-18, family tickets available from £39

Further details contact 0871 789 1423

or www.gatcombe-horse.co.uk/

Bath

Theatre Royal

The Rivals starring Penelope Keith and Peter Bowles 7-18 Sep 7.30pm

The Country Girl starring Martin Shaw and Jenny Seagrove Mon 20 - Sat 25 Sep

Book ahead for:

Carrie's War; Enron; Thriller - Live; The Duenna; Ben Hur; Blithe Spirit; Monty Python's Spamalot; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers

£17.50-£35 *Further details contact 01225 448844*

or www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Iford

Opera & Music Festival

Verdi's Rigoletto 24 July - 7 Aug

Promenades: Another World Jazz

Sat 14 Aug Iford Manor

Further details contact Book via the Theatre Royal

Bath Box Office 01225 44 88 44

or www.ifordarts.co.uk

Bishops Cleeve

Vintage Sports Car Club's annual Prescott Speed Hill Climb

over 400 pre-war vintage cars race in 2010 in aid of Help for Heroes

7-8 Aug £5-£15 (Under 16s free) - cheaper if bought in advance from www.vsccl.co.uk

Further details contact 01608 644888 or

www.vsccl.co.uk

Bristol

Bristol Harbour Festival

Fri 30 Jul - Sun 1 Aug Free events and entertainment all weekend.

See website for details or call 0117 922 3287

www.bristolharbourfestival.co.uk

Bristol Balloon Fiesta

Thurs 12 - Sun 15 Aug Mass early launch Fri - Sun at 6am. Nightglow mass launches on Thurs & Sat at 9.30pm Red Arrows display Sat 5pm Free entry - car parking £7 if bought in advance

Ashton Court Estate, Long Ashton.

Further details contact 0117 953 5884 or

www.bristolfiesta.co.uk

Gloucester

Three Choirs Festival - 2010

7-15 Aug various locations in Gloucester - see website for details

Further details contact 0845 652 1823 or

www.3choirs.org

Rural Skills Courses in the Cotswolds

Various courses in preserving ancient local skills, including:

Dry-stone walling 2 day weekend courses 7/8 Aug Naunton, 21/22 Aug Broadway, 28/29 Crickley Hill £80

Hedge-laying for beginners - 2 day weekend courses in the Autumn

Green woodworking - Field Gate making 14/15 Aug £135 Northleach

Please contact us on 01451 862000 to check availability of courses before booking or email

david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or

www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/?page=cotswolds-rural-skills

Wiltshire Business Club

The Wiltshire Business Club meets on the 3rd Wednesdays of every month from 6pm to 7.30pm at the Rose & Crown in Lea, Malmesbury SN16 9PA - next meeting Wed 18 Aug. The purpose of this club is to bring together Wiltshire businesses so that they can help each other to find new customers both from within the network and introductions from outside. Members of the same types of business can join and work together. A not for profit organization with free membership and only a charge of £10 per meeting to cover the cost of food at the meetings.

See www.wiltbizclub.co.uk for more details.