PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

DELIVERED FREE

Church Roof Update By Roger Whitehouse



Thanks to the amazing response to the Church roof appeal, the PCC is in a position to commission work to the roofs of the tower and the chancel. Indeed, the response has been so great that we are able to also include regilding of the weather vanes and the cockerel. In addition, the church clock face and gearing to the hands will also be re-furbished. Work is expected to be finished by early March.

I know I can speak for the rest of the committee in saying that the whole process of fundraising has been both humbling and exhilarating, so thank you once again for your continued support for our much loved church.

Details of a visit to Highgrove, graciously donated by HRH the Prince of Wales, will be announced shortly.

Village entertainment

Remember Sherston Drama Group's much-acclaimed 'Sherston's Got Talent' of 2009, where so many musical, comedic and dramatic artists were discovered alongside those you already knew and loved?

Well, we're doing it again! So, if you think you might have something to offer, new or well-tried, come along to the British School Room between 7.30pm and 9.00pm on Thursday 10 March and talk to us.

Or contact Richard Skeffington 840092 or Graham Instrell 840978.

The show itself will be casual, on the 15 &16 April in the Village Hall.

Regular theatre-goers should watch this space for more details of our Spring Production.

The ultimate romantic gesture

Give your Valentine a truly special present.

As you no doubt read on page 6 of the January edition, the footpath group is keen to install kissing gates, where appropriate, on paths around the village to help to increase the access to these wonderful walks for everyone to enjoy.

The group would also welcome ideas as to where kissing gates might be suitable.

So, why not sponsor a kissing gate as the ultimate romantic gesture for Valentine's Day. It would certainly be a gift that would be remembered.

For details please contact Maggie McKenna via email maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com or on 840047

Lights off

Following the consultation on the street light reduction scheme through the January edition of the Cliffhanger, parish council recommended that 59 lights in Sherston and 3 in Pinkney be included in the scheme. At the meeting of Wiltshire Council's Malmesbury Area Board on 19 January the recommendation was approved.

Those lights in the scheme are all those coloured red on the map printed in January's edition with the exception of the only light in Tetbury Road which parish council removed on hearing representations from local residents. Just under 50% of all lights in the parish are included.

It is expected that the necessary works to enable the lights to be turned off between 12.00 midnight and 5.30 am will be undertaken within the next few months. The cost of the work will be paid for by Wiltshire Council.

A total of 10 responses to the consultation were received. Four of those were in support of the scheme, three totally against and three against individual street lights in their area being turned off but not the concept as a whole. Parish council is grateful to those who gave their views.

It should be remembered that the scheme will be an ongoing programme and if there any complaints or problems arise over a particular street light, it can be reassessed and if deemed appropriate left on all night.

THIS AND ALL PREVIOUS ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD AT WWW.SHERSTON.ORG.UK

Precept held

For the second year running the parish council has decided not to increase the precept from the present sum of £22,400. The precept provides almost all of the parish council's income. It forms part of residents' overall council tax demand from Wiltshire Council which will be issued towards the end of March for the year 2011/12. Wiltshire Council is also not increasing its part of the council tax.

It should be noted that with widespread changes in local government expected over the next year or so including those already outlined in the Localism Bill, it is likely that the parish council will be expected to take on more responsibilities and the resulting costs. There is then a strong possibility that the precept will have to increase in future years over and above any amount necessary due to the rate of inflation.

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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1/4 page £80; 1/8 page £40; and 1/16 page £20

Inserted leaflet drop £75

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

PRINTED BY THE COMPLETE PRODUCT COMPANY, PINKNEY

Bookworms sought

by Catharine Hurford

Refugees from a longstanding book club are looking for members to join a new reading group in the Sherston / Norton / Hullavington area.

Lucky dip: each member will contribute a book within a specific, pre-agreed genre and the book to be read will be chosen at random from the hat. Genre to change at three-monthly intervals or six-monthly if it's agreed to pull two books from the hat.

Members to alternate hosting meetings which are to be held every 4-6 weeks. Food will be served by host or on a bring-and-share (no stress please) basis. Open to any age or sex. Interested? Please email Catharine churford@talk21.com. We plan to get under way in March.

Old School plans

The planning application appears to be progressing well to enable the building to be developed for commercial and community use. Some 40 comments were received during the public consultation period – 37 in favour and 3 against. In addition, 141 people signed petitions in favour of the proposal. A decision on the application is expected during February.

70s Night

On Saturday 12 March the Village Hall will be going back in time to the era of platform shoes, hot-pants, glam-rock and disco. Yes, we're going back to the 70s for a top evening of entertainment. The Sherston Village People are back by popular demand, this time with a completely new set of 70s sounds, with some surprising guest appearances. And you can dance the night away to all your favourite 70s tracks with 'Liquid Colour Disco.' So sort out your sideburns, bring out your bell-bottoms and get your tickets before they sell out.

Vodka jelly shots are on sale at the fully licensed bar. Doors open from 8.00pm 'til midnight. Tickets are £8 each and available from the Rattlebone, Post Office or Emma on 840317.

All profits go to enhance learning at Sherston Primary School.

Sherston Ladies Swimming Club Jumble Sale

Jumble Sale on Saturday 5 February starts at 10am in the Village Hall. Includes a cake stall and Raffle. Coffee available. Any donations gratefully received – bring to the Village Hall before 9.30am on the day or give it to us beforehand (phone Maggie 840969, Annabel 840592 or Heather 840375). Come along to find a bargain.

Painting Landscapes in Acrylic and Oil and Workshops in 'Art and Faith'

Painting classes at St Mary's Hall in Malmesbury will start again in March. The classes will run for eight weeks starting from Thursday 3 March 2.30pm - 4.15pm. The focus this term will be Landscape Painting. Much fun was had last term looking at Still Life painting and how to work on composition and colour mixing. I'm looking forward to this term with the warmer lighter days and beautiful spring scenery. We will be working from your own visual material and painting on site. To book your place please call Nicki Heenan on 840 883 or email nicki. heenan@btinternet.com. Places are limited to eight and last term was overbooked, so if there is enough demand a second class will run on a day to be decided. Priority will be given to those booking for the whole course (£70) or you can book a sessional space at £10 a class.

Workshops 'Art and Faith'

I will be running a series of workshops on 'Art and Faith' modelled on Christian Art and its interpretation through the ages. The first one day workshop will be held at King Stanley Baptist Church. This is an opportunity for artists of all levels in any media to come together and look at ways of expressing their faith through visual practice. It could include painting, mixed media, floral or textiles with the emphasis being on a personal response in the lead-up to Easter. Bring any materials you wish to work with. Paper and paint will be supplied, and the cost is £10 for full day or £5 for half day, including lunch provided. Please register with Nicki Heenan on 840 883 or email nicki.heenan@btinternet.com.



Courses at Westonbirt Arboretum

Public courses are being run this spring offering the chance to take part in the restoration and improvement of the Grade 1 listed landscape at Westonbirt Arboretum. Friends, volunteers and visitors are invited to take part in the three day course, a first of its kind at Westonbirt, to help build a new Ha-ha stone wall boundary. This traditional form of stone and ironwork boundary has been used on the landscape since the arboretum's creation in the 1850s.

Led by a skilled craftsperson, those on the course will help to create the stone façade of a new Haha from Down Gate. Robust, modern techniques completed by contractors will support the traditional stone façade. A course fee of £90 (10% discount is available for Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum members) will cover the cost of tools and instruction, whilst a grant from the 29 May 1961 Charity will cover contractors' costs for materials and groundworks.

More information can be found at www.fowa. org.uk/news_and_events/news/be_part_of_the_westonbirt_project or by emailing sophie.nash@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.



Police priorities

At the community safety forum held on 6 January in Malmesbury Town Hall organised by Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP) our community beat officer PC Steve Humphries outlined the following priorities for the next three months -

Parking problems at Sherston School

Misuse of the river crossing at Easton Grey by off road vehicles.

Visible reassurance patrols

If you wish to meet Steve or his colleague PCSO Durry Maule one of them will be parked in an appropriately marked Police car in Sherston High Street near the Post Office between

2.30pm and 3.30pm on Wednesday 9 February. In the meantime if you want to talk to them about local issues such as parking near the school or antisocial behaviour call 0845 408 7000 and ask to be put through to either of them. Better still (as they both try to be out working in the community as much as they can) why not email them on

malmesburyruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk They pledge to try to answer all emails within 24 hours of receipt.



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Sherston W.I.

In recent years Sherston W.I. have met for a New Year Lunch in January, instead of their usual evening meeting. This year it was in The Rattlebone Inn on 13 January.

After this they will be taking part in an Arts Workshop learning how to do Mosaic work . This has been organised through the Wiltshire County Council Workshop Scheme (PAWS). A wide range of art forms are available to local organisations, who can apply to participate. We met in the small room at the Village Hall for three sessions on the 17, 24 and 31. Our Tutor was Anita Andrews.

Our next meeting is our AGM on 3 February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and hopefully we will have a new Committee and interesting programme for 2011 to study.

Stamp of success

Kath Evans would like to thank everyone who gave her used stamps throughout 2010 to help diabetics. The total reached a magnificent 72,000, which was a truly superb effort. Stamps can continue to be left in Sherston Post Office Stores for this worthy cause.

Yoga in Sherston

Yoga is an ancient Indian philosophy and system of practices designed to unite mind and body through the synchronisation of breath and movement, creating a sense of complete well-being.

The six week courses taught at the Scout Hut offer an introduction to some of the foundations of yoga – key physical stretching postures, breath awareness, healthy alignment and simple meditation techniques.

Yoga brings many benefits: improvement in posture and breathing, greater body awareness, increased tone, strength and flexibility and a feeling of inner calm.

Kathryn Chandler has a warm and down-to-earth teaching style. She has been practicing yoga for over 10 years. Kathryn teaches yoga to adults and children, is a massage therapist and reflexologist and teaches developmental baby massage and movement.

Her yoga students have said the following:

'Kathryn is creative and resourceful as a teacher, with excellent knowledge not just of yoga but of anatomy, safely putting us through our paces – pushing us, but making it feel easy. I also learnt about yoga's heritage, without it being a sermon. And the best thing is that Kathryn's a great listener and shapes the class accordingly – it's always friendly, relaxed and fun!'

'My mind feels clearer and I generally feel lighter and more peaceful after a yoga class with Kathryn.'

Kathryn is currently teaching yoga on Monday evenings at the Scout Hut. The next course starts on Monday 28 February. See listings or contact her for more information: 07903 802985 / 0117 902 4832 or email: yoga_in_sherston@hotmail.com.

Village hall 200+ club

December draw

1st	£11	212	Brenda Moulder
2nd	£10	66	Mrs Lewis
3rd	£9	19	Gillian Noble
4th	£8	61	Shirley Wood
5th	£7	133	Di Bush, The Tarters
6th	£6	111	Victor Vagg
7th	£5	21	Roger Whitehouse

Bonus of £5 each for non-winners

58	Ray Wiltshire	
11	Trudie Angell	
85	Doreen Smith	
190	Richard Creed	
23	Anne Marie Pritchett	
7	D Tappin	
34	Joe Beaman	

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

2 = 3

Thanks to an excellent response from Cliffhanger readers it looks as if the Village Hall's 200+ Club is about to become the 300+. The hall is very grateful to all those who have joined the club in January and they can expect to receive their new membership cards during the course of this month.

Of course with the increase in membership comes an increase in work! Could you help by joining the loyal band of six collectors? Some of them have being quietly doing their bit since the club was first started 30 years ago and would welcome some assistance. If you can spare some time please contact Mary Goulding on 840794.





Sherston Occasional Community Choir (SHOCC)

SHOCC has had a break over the winter months and is looking forward to starting again for eight weeks on Wednesday 2 March at 7.30pm in The British School Room, Cliff Road.

This term, under the direction of Nicki Heenan, we shall be singing music from the shows - light and fun to sing. Do come and join us - we would particularly like to have some more men. The subscription is just £2 a session and £1 for those under 16 years.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 2 March at 7.30pm in the British School Room. Contacts: Nicki Heenan 840883/Jill Woodward 840578 or 07817 264071.

Clem's Club

Will meet every other Tuesday again all friendly fellas welcome for simply char and chat. 2.30pm to 4.00pm in the British Schoolroom in Cliff Road. 1 and 15 Feb.

Tune up for battle

A battle of the bands contest is being staged in Malmesbury this month. A £100 first prize is up for grabs on Friday February 11 at the Bluez 'n' Zuz event promoted by Malmesbury School, Wiltshire Police and Westlea Housing.

Sergeant Martin Alvis said 'It's a really exciting event and we are looking forward to it.' A similar competition run in Wootton Bassett last year was a sell-out.

Band members must be aged between 11 and 18 and entries need to be registered with Malmesbury School.

Tickets for the evening which runs from 6.30pm to 10.00pm cost £2 and are available only from the school.





Have a Heart and Help Save Lives in Malmesbury!

Local volunteers needed to help British **Heart Foundation**

by Ann Lawrence

How many people can come home and say, I helped save a life today? Saving lives is what our volunteers do every day in supporting the work of the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

Today, BHF, the nation's heart charity, is urging more people in Malmesbury to help save lives by donating a little time. 2011 is the BHF's 50th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the BHF will be looking back on 50 years of incredible achievements and advances in the treatment of heart disease, as well as organising special fundraising events throughout the year.

Volunteers are at the heart of the BHF's life-saving work. Their time and dedication helps save and improve the lives of those affected by heart disease. Last year, BHF volunteers helped raised £25 million. They also fulfilled many other essential roles; talking to schools and groups, campaigning for change, helping at events, and generally spreading the word about the importance of heart health.

Volunteering is simple and you only have to give the time you can afford – whether it's a regular day a week or just a few hours a year. There are so many different ways to get involved in - from putting on your own fundraising event to talking to your local school.



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Ann Lawrence, Chair of the Malmesbury BHF branch says: 'The BHF saves lives every day, by funding groundbreaking research, caring for heart patients and providing valuable education on health and lifestyle. But we can only do it with the help of people like you offering a little time to volunteer. If you'd like to find out more about the 50th Anniversary Celebrations and meet some of the BHF team, come along to our launch event on February 1 2011, in the

Mayor's Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall, from 6.30pm. You'll receive a

warm welcome.

more information about volunteering and the 1 February launch event, contact Ann Lawrence, Malmesbury Branch Chair, 823685 or email ann@annpeter.com



Sherston 1016 dates for your diary

For once we have a month off in February before things start getting hectic again in March.

Our ever popular pancake race will take place at the Rattlebone Inn on Shrove Tuesday 8 March from 7.30pm so you have plenty of time to practise your gobbling expertise.

Saturday 26 March from 9.00am to 12.00noon sees the spring book sale in the Village Hall. These sales are becoming busier and busier so make sure you don't miss it.

More details on both events to follow in the March edition.

Grays of Sherston

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TREEtalk

FEBRUARY 2011 by Sue McKechnie Grove Wood

Coppicing and clearing continues despite the cold weather. Some sunshine brought out a good few volunteers who worked hard and enjoyed the soup and the bonfire. The Community Payback Team has started on improving the paths in the wood. Look out for the snowdrops by the riverside that were planted last year. Tree and hedge planting will take place soon with Sherston school children planting the trees they have grown. More snowdrops kindly donated from Pinkney Park will be planted soon followed by bluebells in April.

Date for your diary – June 5 Woodland Frolic! A village picnic/barbeque with woodland craft on display. Come and see what is happening in our wood!

Don't forget that if you spot any wildlife or plants in Grove Wood to report it on sherston.net/local-groups/ trees/grove-wood/ Leave A Reply, to help with the botanical survey.

Manor Close Tree

A Crab Apple, Malus John Downie, has been chosen for the corner site. This has white flowers in late spring followed by large, edible, orangy red crab apples in autumn. Wiltshire Council has to issue a licence before planting can go ahead but will hopefully have done so before spring.

Where did all the berries go?

After a wonderful autumn with masses of berries you might have been eyeing up some beautiful red berries for your Christmas decorations. If you had left gathering until the week before Christmas you would have been unlucky as the birds had descended on Sherston. Flocks of fieldfare and redwing, both of the thrush family, stripped the trees and bushes of the red berries in the very cold weather. Quite an amazing sight. As reported in the January Cliffhanger, a rare waxwing was also seen. I hear that frozen apples on trees were also devoured.

information from Sherston's Tree Warden, Sue McKechnie, on 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Malmesbury traffic calming report

During the latter part of 2010, Malmesbury Town Council together with Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP) conducted a public survey of the current traffic calming measures in Malmesbury.

MVCAP presented a report examining the results of the survey to the Planning & Environment Committee of Malmesbury Town Council on 4 January. The Partnership was thanked for all its hard work and the Planning and Environment Committee has formed a group to examine the results in more detail.

A total of 425 people in Malmesbury and the Villages responded to the survey and the report is available to read on www.mvcap.org.uk . Hard copies of the report can be read in both the Town Hall and Library.

Lunch or Dinner for a Fiver (or a Tenner)

The Times and The Sunday Times are running their annual Lunch or Dinner for a fiver initiative until February 11, and a number of nearby restaurants are participating. These include The Hare and Hounds at Westonbirt, the King's Arms at Didmarton, Major's Retreat at Tormarton, The Swan at Bibury and Tatyan's of Cirencester, as well as plenty of eateries in and around Bristol.

Three-course lunches appear to be on offer at all these restaurants for £10 until April 30 (excluding Valentine's Day, Mothering Sunday and Bank Holidays). Some are also offering two-course dinners for £15. Drinks, unsurprisingly, are not included. To take part, collect four of the tokens that will be published each day until February 11 in the Times and Sunday Times.

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Haynes Motor Museum - Retirement home for ex Sherston resident



Readers may have seen recently in the Western Daily Press an article about the Haynes Motor Museum. Some will have noticed a familiar old car mentioned and pictured in the article. The car is the 1937 Ford Woodie that resided in the High Street for many years. It was purchased by and is now exhibited at the museum. With half term not too far away the museum is a great attraction for the family, and especially for those interested in historic automobiles. Make a day out of it by combining the trip with a visit to The Fleet Air Arm Museum which is only 10 minutes away. www.haynesmotormuseum.com www.fleetairarm.com

Open Gardens Trail

Open Gardens Trail – This will take place this year on the weekend of 25 and 26 June. Last year was fantastically successful and we hope it will be at least as good this year. We hope that maybe there will be some new gardens to view. If you think you might like to open your garden – large or small - please get in touch. All proceeds go towards maintenance of our Church.

Phone Heather 840375 or Pat 840640.



Look out for egrets and ravens

by Richard Maslen

Hard winter weather made a difference to the bird population in Sherston. We had a visit from a group of waxwings (maybe more than one) which came south to escape the northern arctic weather and found it caught up with them. They must have liked it here because they hung about and fed on our surfeit of berries.



The egrets which we hope may colonise the river valley are still in Sherston. At least six have been reported, and perhaps they may nest as they have already done further south.

Greenfinches are said to have suffered some kind of viral infection and we have lost many. Against this blue tits and wrens are still around albeit in much smaller numbers than previous years. We have a welcome revival in Sherston house sparrows.



Ravens have re-appeared in the Cotswolds further north. There are no verified sightings yet around Sherston but one or two locals claim to have heard the unmistakable 'cronk, cronk' call. It makes a quite different noise to a crow and is larger and unmistakable when you see it.

Carpenters Arms

Quiz and Curry night 6th, Valentines night 14th
Music Night 25th, Indian Night 23rd
Steak night every Tue, 2 x 8oz steak and bottle
of wine £19.95, top value !!
Daily £5 lunchtime special, lunch for a fiver !!
6 Nations rugby on the big screen !!
Check boards for details of events

Boules & Carnival 9 – 17 July 2011

After a highly successful 25th anniversary last year, the 26th Sherston Boules tournament will take place on 16 July. Despite the demand for places in the 2010 tournament once again exceeding the number available, the Committee is not planning to increase the number of teams for 2011, which remains at 128.

The preponderance of the 128 places will be reserved for teams whose captain resides within the five Parishes of Sherston, Alderton, Luckington, Foxley and Easton Grey: i.e. local teams. The remaining places will be allocated to visiting teams.

There are now 3 ways of applying.

An application form to download and return by post is available at www.sherston.net:

sherston.files.wordpress.com/2010/08/2011-sherston-boules-application-form2.pdf

(Please note the requirements for applying by post differ slightly from those when applying electronically so please read the form carefully.)

Alternatively you can use the online application to send your application details electronically.

Via a paper form available from Sherston Post Office Stores to be returned by post.

However you apply please note that no one household can apply for more than two teams. A valid application must include the team name and the name, postal address, telephone number and email address, where available, of the captain. If you apply electronically a confirmation email will be sent from the competition organisers to acknowledge receipt of your entry. If applying by post, your second SAE will be used for confirmation.

Please note that only applications complying with these conditions will be accepted. The closing date for entries will be 30 April 2011; the draw will take place in early May. The decision of the Tournament Organiser will be final. Confirmation of success or failure in the draw will be sent out by email (for those applying electronically) or in the stamped-addressed envelope provided, if you are a postal applicant. If you have been successful in gaining a place, the letter or email will include your first round match details and ask for a cheque, by return, for £18 made out to 'Sherston Boules and Carnival Committee'. If you have not been successful in gaining a place, please check your letter/email to see if you have been placed on the reserve team list.

Thank you very much for supporting the Sherston Boules Tournament. We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Next meeting

The parish council meets on Thursday 10 February in the village hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend and there are opportunities to raise questions and pass comments. If you cannot make the meeting but have something to raise please contact the clerk Mrs. Sarah Wood on 840351 or email clerk@sherston.org.uk. You can also contact the council via the response form on www.sherston.org.uk where minutes of meetings can be read.

Allotments

If you're interested in 'growing your own' and are thinking about an allotment, this is the time of year to make sure you're on the waiting list for the Knockdown Road site. A form is available from the Clerk, Sarah Wood. E-mail clerk@sherston.org.uk or tel 840351. Those already on the list can expect to be contacted to confirm their interest and check their details.

The parish council is very much aware of the need for additional allotment land and is continuing in its search for a suitable site. If any landowner has some land they would consider either selling or leasing please contact the Clerk.

High Street

Following the recent repainting of the bus shelter and return of its clock parish council continues to consider aspects of the street scene which are in need of improvement. Discussions are already on going with Wiltshire Council in respect of the area around the tree and STOP sign opposite the Post Office. In addition our Deputy Tree Warden Sue McKechnie is concerned with the condition of the tree in front of the Tolsey. 'To say it has seen better days is putting it mildly' said Sue' 'and it really needs replacing'. Sue has sourced a possible grant to remove the tree, undertake improvements to the remaining soil and plant a new tree. Further news is expected this month on her endeavours.

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Superfast Broadband Network – not quite yet!

A huge thank you to everyone who voted for the chance to win the BT Race to Infinity, BT's campaign to fast-track six locations not currently on the rollout of the superfast broadband network. The Sherston Exchange didn't have enough exchange users at 973 as the minimum level was set at 1,000 connections by BT, but still returned an impressive 342 votes with 35.15% of the possible users voting. Part of the reasoning behind continuing with the vote, whilst knowing we couldn't win, was to use BT's voting website to test the level of interest locally. The six exchanges which won the race returned voting levels of over 93% and so deserve to be selected to be fasttracked.

BT's rollout plan continues for four more years throughout the UK. Looking at the map, the West has been included in this plan but mainly the larger exchanges rather than rural ones. Swindon and Chippenham were both upgraded in Spring 2010.

It's not over yet though. There are other companies which don't require such a large number of interested parties and which specialise in providing superfast broadband to rural communities such as the recently publicised Lincolnshire village of Ashby de le Launde. BT had told them that it was not economically viable to provide them with broadband but they now have a 100Mbps connection with profits going back to community projects.

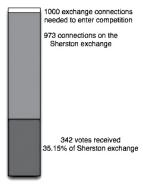
Wiltshire District Council has expressed interest in upgrading the broadband network in villages and towns throughout the county to keep Wiltshire up to speed with the rest of the country and to provide better opportunities for self-employed workers and small businesses. 2011, however, is presumably going to feature more cuts in council spending than increases so we can't necessarily count on this. Approaches will be made in the coming weeks and months to the Council and to these broadband firms to find out what could potentially be done to keep Sherston up to speed now that we know a good percentage of residents would be interested

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Thank you to Sherston Parish Council sponsoring the leaflets circulated with December's Cliffhanger and to all the collection points, especially Sherston and Luckington Post Offices. 26 leaflets were collected from Sherston PO, 12 from Luckington PO and two from Alderton.



Plans afoot

The Sherston Footpath Group is stepping up ideas for new local walks which link parishes and places together. Already under consideration are walks from Sherston to Norton and from Malmesbury to Luckington via Sherston. These walks are being planned with local groups and individuals from other parishes who are interested in encouraging the use of our local rights of way. If you have ideas for a particular walk or would like to help in planning and walking the intended routes please come along to the group's next meeting on Wednesday 23 February at 7.30pm in the village hall. Alternatively or to find out more contact Maggie McKenna via email maggie. mckenna@harriespartnership.com or on 841047.

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Allotments SAGA continues

Richard Maslen.

Acting Chairman (maslens@tiscali.co.uk)

There has been a hiatus in Sherston Allotments and Garden Association (SAGA) affairs. Our Chairman, Dr Ian Crouch, unfortunately had to resign because of ill-health, and we all send him our good wishes and thanks.

Interim committee meetings did not take place and a new programme which was on the stocks thus remained uncompleted.

SAGA was formed to draw attention to development threats to the Knockdown Road allotments, organise opposition to any proposal to build on the allotment site without adequate provision for the future, obtain good compensation for sitting tenants if they have to move, debate loss of a village amenity, and expedite the provision of new allotments to fill the waiting list.

Other communal, commercial, horticultural, and social benefits have developed but they are not the main reason for SAGA's existence. The most pressing reason for continued support by all is that a future threat to allotments in Sherston is still possible.

Irrespective of what happens to the old school, Knockdown Road allotments is still a prime and desirable site for development. If and when serious proposals are made for the lucrative sale of a valuable public asset (especially in the present economic climate) solutions may have to be advanced and argued in the future best interests of all.

SAGA was successful in its earlier campaign due to widespread support. It may have to be similarly vigorous in future, and also look ahead constructively in light of events. If a sale were to be proposed, the interests of the village, allotment holders, and prospective allotment holders would most surely need advancing and safeguarding. SAGA is vital insurance for the whole village and we should keep it ready to act at any time. Our association is a voice and tool to make the best of any situation. It is needed now as much as it ever was.

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A subscription of £4.50 is a very small annual price to pay for unity and strength which could be needed sooner than expected. More than half the subscription covers the cost of affiliation to the National Society of Allotment Gardeners (which offers legal advice, guidance and support at all levels) and a smaller amount meets minimal running costs. Please renew your subscription and ask others to do so, or join for the first time. All are welcome as allotment holders, on the waiting list, domestic gardeners or supporters. A new programme will be prepared and a team lined up for next year. In the meantime, please think of ways you may be able to help, especially by joining the committee or taking office. Good ideas, and help to carry them out, are always welcome.

The secretary is Richard Marshall (r.marshall@ the treasurer Clare Mitchell waitrose.com); (claremitchell1@yahoo.co.uk). Committee members are Frederic Nicolas, John Knight, and Anne Andrews.

Porkchop on the menu

James Morton's Porkchop appear on Saturday 12 February 2011 at 8.00pm at Sherston Village Hall.

Porkchop are a quartet from Bristol specializing in Funk and Boogaloo with Gospel/Jazz inflections. The band comprises of musicians who to date have performed with the legends of Funk, Jazz, Blues and Rock. These legends include: Fred Wesley, Pee Wee Ellis, Dr. John, The Meters, The New Mastersounds, Snowboy, Martha High, Andy Sheppard, Roy Ayers, Tony Allen, Kasabian to name but a few.

For more on Porkchop and to listen to their music check them out on www.myspace.com/porkchopfunk

Tickets are on sale from Sherston Post Office Stores or via 840348. Adults £ 6.50, Senior Citizens £5.50 Children £3.50 Family (2 +2) £16. Licensed bar. Proceeds to village hall funds. Supported by Rural Arts Wiltshire.



Invitation for young people to bid for funding for transport and access to projects/activities

Malmesbury area board is inviting young people to come up with ideas to help improve local transport and access to projects and activities for young people, with £8,000 up for grabs for the best entries.

The application process is now open to groups of all ages and abilities, and the area board is looking for innovative ideas to help solve transport and access issues experienced by local young people. For an application form, criteria and guidance people, contact Miranda Gilmour or Gareth Brown (details below).

A maximum of £1,500 can be applied for each project by the deadline, Friday 18 March. The Malmesbury Area Board will be holding a special meeting on 4 May where those attending will get to vote on the projects and help decide where the money is allocated.

The theme is transport and access, and projects could include ideas such as bringing experts and courses to local clubs rather than having to travel out of the community area, having a safe place to store bicycles in the town or ensuring activities are open to people with all abilities.

For help with completing the form or discussing ideas, young people can speak to either Miranda Gilmour, the Malmesbury area board community area manager on 01672 515742 or Miranda. gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk. Alternatively they can contact Gareth Brown at the Malmesbury youth development centre on 823747 or email Gareth. brown@wiltshire.gov.uk

Applications must be led by young people living in the Malmesbury community area. This includes Ashton Keynes, Brinkworth, Brokenborough, Charlton, Crudwell, Dauntsey, Easton Grey, Great Somerford, Hankerton, Lea and Cleverton, Leigh, Little Somerford, Luckington, Malmesbury, Minety, Norton, Oaksey, Sherston, Sopworth and St. Paul Malmesbury Without.

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National Sing-Up Day

Sherston Primary School hopes to join up with over 200 schools around the country in a singing celebration on Wednesday 9 February with a whole-school performance of Jonah & the Whale by Anthony Foster in the School Hall. Parents are most welcome to attend at 2.45pm though it may be standing room only. Parents will be needed though as the piece does involve audience participation. There may also be a surprise performance from another singing group.

The performance is hoped to be the main plank in the school's application to attain the Silver Award given by the Sing Up organisation.

Almost a valentine

Sue McKechnie's next walk takes place on Sunday 13 February starting at 11.00am from Sherston Village Hall returning to the Rattlebone Inn at around 1 pm for a complimentary snack courtesy of the pub.

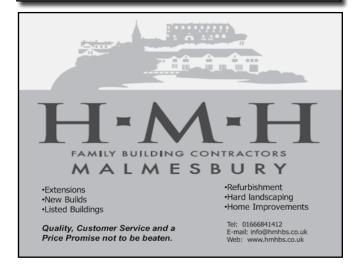
The recent January walk proved to be one of the most popular yet with 16 attending.

The walk is free with no need to book. Just turn up with suitable footwear and clothing for weather conditions on the day. The walk is open to all – if you're new to the area it's a great way to meet people and explore our beautiful countryside. Children are most welcome as are well behaved dogs on leads.

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Planning success for the Westonbirt project



The Planning Inspectorate overturns decision to reject Welcome Building application by Miranda Winram

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, has won an appeal against Cotswold District Council to approve full planning permission for developments planned as part of The Westonbirt Project. The arboretum was granted planning permission by The Planning Inspectorate for a new Welcome Building, Tree Walkway and restoration to its Grade 1 listed Downs landscape, which will include building a new car park.

The Forestry Commission-managed National Arboretum is run in a joint management partnership with the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum charity. The project led by the Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum will bring much needed improvements to the way visitors park at the site and, very importantly, provide an opportunity for visitors to learn about the significance

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of the arboretum at the start of their visit.

The appeal was granted by The Planning Inspectorate with a positive endorsement of the Welcome Building, with the appeal decision describing the design as 'a simple, self-effacing building, intelligently designed to use the local topography to its advantage, engage and empathise with the existing landscape features of the site whilst fulfilling its role as both a focus and a prelude for visitors entering the arboretum.'

Miranda Winram, Westonbirt Project Director, commented: 'This is fantastic news for the arboretum. The Welcome Building is an integral part of our plans to improve visitor experience. Now we have received planning permission, we can really move forward with our fundraising to deliver this much needed development as soon as possible.' The Welcome Building will provide visitors with a more joined-up arrival to the arboretum; providing admissions and facilities such as toilets and mobility scooters from one location.

For further details of the Westonbirt Project and to read the appeal decision and costs decision notices in full, visit www.westonbirtproject.co.uk.

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13th - Speaker Trevor Brain, of "Operation Mobilisation".

20th - Speaker Barry Emerton from Bath.

27th — Service taken by members. (Informal, occasional, attendance accepted and understood)

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Sherston Timeline - Wiltshire Community History

Compiled by the Wiltshire Libraries & Heritage section of Wiltshire Council.

More information and reference can be found at: www.history.wiltshire.gov.uk/community

Contact: localstudies@wiltshire.gov.uk

or Wiltshire Studies, Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre, Cocklebury Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3QN

C.350 Large Roman villa built C.577 Saxons arrive in Sherston

896 First mention of Sherston, then known as Scorranstone, by Eathlered, Earldorman of Merica

1016 Battle of Sherston

1086 Church of the Holy Cross held by the Abbey of St. Wandrille

Baron Robert de Harcourt is Lord of the Manor

C.1170 A new Church is built

1170-1241 Borough planted by a landowner

Early 1200s Sherston moves from being a small village to a new borough

1200s The Church is expanded with the addition of the tower and north ailse transept

1241 Tuesday weekly market granted to Matthew Bezill

Bezill granted a yearly fair on the eve, day and morrow of St. Cyrus

1252 Bezill permitted a fair on St. Matthew's Day 1333 Edward de Bohun is Lord of the Manor 1340 Hugh de Despencer is Lord of the Manor

1300s Records of 221 tax poll payers in Sherston Magna, 20 in Sherston Parva

Mid 1300s Balcony House built

1400 Henry Crichele appointed the Rector of Sherston (later Archbishop of Canterbury 1414-1443)

1511 Widespread fire destroyed much of Sherston, consequently the Friday market stops

Early 1500s Court House built

Late 1500s The Swan Inn and The Angel Inn established

1600s Rebuilding of Balcony House after the fire, Church lych-gate installed
Late 1600s The Carpenter's Arms, The Rattlebone and The Bell established
1630 First game of Stoolball (game resembling cricket) played in Sherston

1640 Sherston Magna and Sherston Parva abolished and combined to create Sherston

William Waller attacked Royalist horsemen in Sherston; killing 15 and taking 25 prisoner

The Angel Hotel owned by Mrs Winifred Goodcheap
Charter officially naming Sherston a borough is created

1700s-1800 Housing built in the south-east of Sherston

1705 Queen Anne stays at Balcony House on her way to Bath

1710 The Foresters' Arms opens

1723 Elizabeth Hodge leaves a bequest for a school in Sherston

1730-1733 Thomas Sumison rebuilds the church tower

1747 Thomas Eastcourt Cresswell, owner of Pinkney Park, is exposed for committing triple bigamy

Early 1800s Church House let out as a poor house by church wardens
1814 Crosses marking Sherston boundaries are removed
1822 A Sunday School is established in Northend, Back Lane

Congregational Church created from a barn in Back Street (now Cliff Road) by a Farmer Cook

Sherston returns to village status

1837 Baptist Chapel erected in Back Lane (now Grove Road)

1840 Mixed primary school built

The house of John Bressingham is licensed for Primitive Methodist worship

British Schoolrooms opened in Back Street

Barn behind The Rattlebone Inn demolished to give land to the school
A mixed school is built in replacement of the barn behind The Rattlebone Inn

Mid 1800s Zachariah and Susan Satteley start a watch and clock making business in Back Street

The Styles and Miles Grocery Shop opens at the bottom of Easton Town

The Primitive Methodist Church opens

1856 Henry Pugh becomes the Minister for the Baptist Church

East end of the church house built

1860 Bakery behind the Tolsey ran by the Hill family
Late 1860s The school is separated to form girls' and boys' schools

1869 A second bakery is opened on the top of Brook Hill by Mr J Elsip

1872 Silk Mill built and run by Joseph Davenport & Sons on Brook Hill; Sherston Temperance Movement meeting

1878 Reverand Morgan begins the Methodist Church Sunday School at the chapel

1880 Clement Palser makes the court house a general warehouse

1883 George Dear becomes Master of the school



Ralph Goulding becomes the owner of the Angel Hotel; Thomas Andrews begins the Station Horse Bus from Sherston to Badminton
Silk mill passes from Davenport & Sons to Daniel Darling & Co.
Church House ran as a blacksmith's by Edmund Merchant; British Schoolrooms transfer to the C of E School
C of E School closes for 5 weeks due to a measles epidemic
Jubilee Tree erected to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, both planted and donated by Sir George Holford
C of E school closes for 4 weeks due to a diptheria epidemic

Early 1900s Village noticeboard displayed on The Carpenter's Arms door; Baptist Church closed

1902 Alfred Parkinson and Alfred Lister run the silk mill

1904 Sherston suppplied with piped water, Court House name changes to Court House Store

The Bell House closes until the 1930s, owned by Alfred Rice; Maurice Powell is the licensee for the Foresters' Arms

1912 Sherston Brass and Reed Band begin playing at local events

1914 J Elsip's bakery on Brook Hill closes; Mrs A Cooper is the landlady of the Carpenter's Arms

C.1918 Sherston branch of the Workers' Union begins

1920s New Inn opens for M Wilcox's beer retailing business; first movies shown in Sherston at the Angel Hotel

1920 Sherston Mens' Club starts in the British Schoolrooms

1921 Bert Compton, registered fishmonger and carrier, begins business

1922 Silk Mill closes

1923 Organ purchased for the Congregational Church

1925 School visited by the County Domestic Cookery and Laundry Class

1926 Rifle Range is left to the village by Sir George Holford for recreational use (now the Village Hall)

1927s-1970 Bakery behind the Tolsey run by the Vinings family 1929 Scout and Cub movement introduced to Sherston

1930s Jack Amos becomes landlord of the Angel Hotel; cricket pitch built in Pinkney Park

1931 Arthur Goulding becomes landlord of the Foresters' Arms

The Primitive Methodist Chapel becomes the Methodist Church due to the union with the Wesleyan Methodists Swan Hotel is closed to the public; Pennymead is bought by Mrs Bert Compton to be the recreation ground

1934 Recreation ground opens

Pennymead's walls rebuilt by volunteers; Billy Thompson sets up 'The Lourds' greengrocers in the High Street

1936 Upkeeping of Pennymead passed from the Recreation Ground Committee to the Parish Council

Parochial Church Council of the Holy Cross, Sherston, writes to the Bishop of Bristol asking for electric lights in the Church Sherston Mens' Club moves to the High Street; British Schoolrooms needed for National Service; Balcony House ran as a guest house

1940 Local defence volunteers are called in to being by Anthony Eden

Dinner held at Rifle Range to celebrate the end of the war, and as a symbolic farewell for the Home Guard

Late 1940s New silk factory established by the Plant Engineering Co. of Birmingham; Mr and Mrs Cooper become the owners of the Foresters' Arms

1950s Beaufort Hunt Race Day Fair and sideshow on the High Street

Early 1950s Corn Mill closes 1950 Foresters' Arms closes

1952 Trinity Fair moves to the recreation ground; sewerage system built and completed

Parades in the High Street to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's coronaton
C of E School converts from an elementary school to a junior school
Late 1950s
Lourds greengrocer moves to Back Lane; Doctors moves to Swan Barton;

British Schoolroom used as the primary school's dining room; Court House Store closes

1960s-1970 Housing estates built in Sherston

1961 Houses of Noble Street unexpectedly collapse

1967 Opening ceremony for the Scouts and Guides headquarters takes place on Sandpits Lane

Tubb's Elastic Factory is established and occupies the former silk mill

1970s-1980 Eccentric socialite Lady Edith Foxwell resides in Sherston

1981 Sherston Wine Company is established

1983 Sherston Software Company is set up by teachers Bill and Lou Bonham

1985 Whishire Tracklements is established and set up in Sherston 1986 First of Sherston's annual boules tournament begins

1987 Roman villa (350AD) discovered near Vancelettes Farm; Tolsey Surgery founded in the High Street

1991 Sherston Software becomes a limited company 1994 Sherston Software moves to the Angel House

2000 Sherston school is ranked in the top 250 schools in England
2001 Sherston school achieves the DfES School Achievement Award
2002 Sherston School is placed 14th in the national table of schools
2003 Sherston Software is sold and Sherston Publishing Group is formed

2003-2006 New primary school built and opened

2006 Post Office is refitted

2007 Wiltshire Tracklements outgrows its premises and moves from Sherston

2008 Sherston School is granted international school status; Post Office named 'Best Wiltshire Store'

2009 BLi Education Ltd. relocates its headquarters to Sherston

2010 Prince Charles becomes the Patron of the campaign to restore the Church roof



Malcolm remembered

The village hall has received two very kind donations in memory of Malcolm Jarrett. These total £700 and are made up of £350 being part of the collection taken at Malcolm's funeral together with a further £350 from Sherston Drama Group. Malcolm was a great stalwart of the group and is remembered with great affection.

These donations will be put towards put towards the cost of the present programme of renovation works to the hall and is very much appreciated. It is hoped that in due course a suitable plaque commemorating Malcolm's contribution to village life can be placed in the hall.

A right royal Stag & Hen

On the evening of Saturday 2 April the Rattlebone Inn will be hosting a Stag & Hen party in celebration of the forthcoming nuptials of Will and Kate. Everyone is on the invitation list so make sure it's in your diary now. With a fancy dress theme of 'Royalty and their followers through the Ages' it's not to be missed. As you can imagine rumours abound as to what characters certain regulars should portray including Landlord Jason Read who some say would make a fabulous Prince Regent. Who could be his father Mad King George? More details next month.

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Dogs

Complaints are often made to parish council regarding dog fouling or dogs being out of control.

These are forwarded on to Wiltshire Council's dog warden for action. Whilst parish council is happy to do this it is perfectly possible for residents to complain direct. Simply call 01249 706111 and ask to speak to the dog warden for this area or email publicprotectionnorth@wiltshire.gov.uk Your personal details will be treated in strict confidence and you will be informed of the outcome of the complaint. Please note that complaints regarding aggressive dogs should be made to the police.

More grit

Wiltshire Council has informed the parish council that the grit bin requested for the bridge at Forlorn has been turned down due to the road being on a secondary gritting route. This is despite Wiltshire Council having previously approved the bin. As a new bin had already been ordered by parish council for the middle of Tanners Hill, the other proposed site for the one additional bin allocated, Wiltshire Council has now agreed for the new grit bin to be placed in Willesley. There are currently no grit bins at all in Willesley.

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Litter

February is a great month to do your bit for the countryside. When out walking - hopefully enjoying the first signs of spring -why not pick up some of the litter which seems so obvious at this time of year on verges, footpaths and bridleways? Act quickly though for in no time at all spring growth will hide all the unsightly mess away until next winter.

Defibrillator fund

There's still time to make donations to this excellent cause. Cheques made payable to Sherston Parish Council or cash can be left at Sherston Post Office Stores in an envelope which should please be marked 'Defibrillator Fund'. It is hoped that with the help of further fundraising and grant monies it will soon be possible to proceed to purchase the equipment.

Historic Inn for sale

The freehold of the former Angel Inn in the High Street is on the market. A great deal of interest is apparently being shown in this extensive property which has been used as commercial offices since the closure of the Inn some 15 years or so ago. The present business operating from the premises is unaffected by the sale.

Flower, Vegetable and Produce Show 2011

With spring just around the corner many of you may be thinking of your entries for this year's show to be held on Bank Holiday Monday 29 August. Before doing so however please give a thought to helping organise and run the event. It isn't that demanding as all the basics are in place but on the day itself many hands really do make light work. If you want to know more or even volunteer please contact Martin Rea on 840348 email martdrea@aol.com

Come on down

Work by BT to remove overhead telephone lines is continuing this month at the Tolsey end of the High Street and in adjoining Silver Street. There's no doubt that this line removal greatly enhances the historic centre of the village.

Planning for Will & Kate's big day

Cilla Liddington and Jill Cainey together with Martin Rea are spearheading the village plans for celebrating the royal wedding on Friday 29 April.

With the wedding ceremony at 11.00am a party is being put together to take place in the village hall from around 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Everyone will be invited to this free event which will have attractions for all age groups. Live music, bouncy castles and other entertainments are all being organised as well as best decorated cake and hat competitions. More details to come next month.

As well as the party it is hoped that the High Street can be suitably decorated with perhaps a village-wide best dressed window competition.

It'll be vital to publicise the party as much as possible and to that end all children under 11 are being asked to design a poster. Entry details will be available during February at Sherston School and from Sherston Post Office Stores as well as on line at www.sherston.net

If you've any other ideas for the celebrations please let Cilla know as soon as possible – time marches on. Any offers of help would also be greatly appreciated. Cilla can be contacted on 840128 or email sherstoncilla@tiscali.co.uk

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Thanks Geof

At the January parish council meeting Geoff Martin announced his resignation as a councillor in order to concentrate on his position as board member of the Sherston Old School Company. 'Geoff has been a tremendous asset to the council' said Chairman John Matthews 'and through his hard work and dedication particularly on financial aspects has brought great benefits to the parish. The whole council thanks him for all that he has achieved and is certain he will help guide the Old School project to success'.

As to filling the vacancy now existing on the council if by 17 February, 2011 a request for an election to fill vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer Returning Officer of Wiltshire Electoral Services at Monkton Park Chippenham Wiltshire SN15 1ER by TEN electors from the parish, an election will be held to fill the vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option. Should no election be held details of how to apply for co-option will appear in next month's Cliffhanger. If you would like to know more about being a parish councillor please contact the clerk Sarah Wood on 840351 or email clerk@ sherston.org.uk



Juiz result

Annie Llewellen Palmer

This year's Busy Hands Pre School Quiz night on January 15 was a resounding success. Compered by quiz master Phil Moore 25 teams were tested to their cerebral limit with an entertaining ten rounds. Out in front from the start, Uncle Bryn's Fishing Trip trounced the other teams for the second time in three years. Well done to team members Laura Gould, Natalie Langer, Helen McLeish and Katie Tappin who scored an outstanding 65. Dave Shepherd egged on the bidding at auction time which resulted in this year's Quiz Night raising a record £2,095. Many thanks to all those that came, the mums and dads that helped on the night and to the many local companies who contributed raffle and auction prizes.

All you quiz aficionados - remember to make a note of the Boules and Carnival Quiz Saturday 9 July in the Village Hall with all proceeds going to Boules and Carnival. Same formula but maybe with different questions!

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Back pain by Emma Newby

Did you know that four out of five adults experience back pain at some point peaking between the ages of 35 and 55? Did you know that the total cost of back pain corresponds to 1-2% of GDP (gross domestic product) costing employers up to £624 million and the NHS £1 billion, with the private healthcare sector spending £565 million?

There are hundreds of causes ranging from a sprain or strain to arthritis and disc herniation. It all paints a rather stark picture, but prevention is better than cure and there are some simple things you can do to help minimise the chances of getting simple back pain.

Here's a short and sweet guide to some of them:

- 1. Stay active take regular exercise, particularly walking and swimming
- 2.Flexibility regular stretches will help maintain flexibility and strength in the back
- 3. Reduce stress levels
- 4.Bend from the knees and hips and not your back, particularly when lifting
- 5. Posture good posture will minimise strains think of this whilst watching TV, working on your computer and driving.
- 6.Healthy eating and drinking excess weight adds to the strain on the back and keeping hydrated will help the discs stay hydrated and do their job of shock absorbing for the spine

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- 7. Never bend and twist at the same time
- 8. Carry heavy objects close to the body
- 9. Carry loads in a rucksack using both shoulder straps rather than a one sided sling style of bag
- 10.Sleep on a supportive mattress not too soft or too firm

If you do get back pain there are a range of treatments available from self-management with pain relief and hot or cold compresses to seeking out a professional such as a chiropractor or physiotherapist.

You should always see your GP or healthcare professional if, in addition to the back pain, you also suffer from a fever, redness or swelling in the back, pain down your legs and below your knees, numbness or weakness in one or both of your legs or loss of bladder or bowel control.

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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Clematis clinic

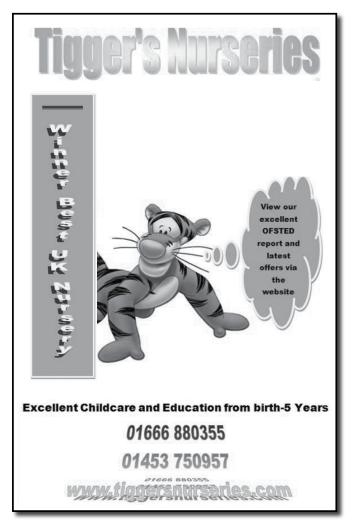
Many gardeners find one particular aspect of growing clematis something of a nightmare – pruning. When to do it? Which type to prune? How much to prune? These are just some of the questions which will be answered at Sherston Parva Nursery's annual clematis clinics to be held on Saturday 26 February and on the following Saturday 5 March, with both sessions commencing at 2.30pm.

The clinics will consist of a talk with practical demonstrations followed by questions. They will last around 40 minutes in total and be under cover in a polytunnel. Please come suitably clothed should the weather be cold. There will however be a complimentary glass of mulled wine on hand to warm you up! The event is entirely free and there is no need to book – just turn up on the day of your choice.

For further details call 840348 /07887 814843 or email sherstonparva@aol.com

Well done lads

The parish council has written to Wiltshire Council praising our local household waste collecting team for their sterling work during the recent appalling weather when not one collection day was missed.

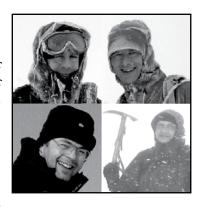


Ben Nevis

By Andy Osborn

As some of you know, I quite often climb Ben Nevis around this time of year with a group of friends, normally just for fun.

This year's climb in March is to raise money for Life Cycle UK, the charity I help with, cycling with visually impaired adults and kids on tandems.



cycling Andy Osborn, Bruce Cameron, mpaired Mike Durran and Geoff Carss

Funding is rather scarce in the current climate and so we need to raise some money to keep this project going. I promise you the climb will be long, hard and very cold, and evidence of genuine suffering will be provided!

I'm using Just Giving's website. Please visit www. justgiving.com/BenNevis2011 and feel free to donate if you are able.

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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Although Mangold Maid Making is not until Sunday 12 June, as Whit Sunday falls so late this year, preparations for the Choosing are already well underway with Mr Graham Hayman, the Keeper of the Lists, busily accepting propositions from a host of excited applicants. It couldn't be simpler to apply just stand at the bar in the Rattlebone Inn and shout 'Yarp' as loudly as you can and Mr Hayman will quickly attend on you. Please note that all applicants must be 16 or over. To the delight of Mr Hayman, who will be administering the applicants entrance examinations during March, there is no longer an upper age limit – something which he has personally campaigned for over many years.

Such were the number of maids applying last year that Mr Jason Read had difficulty and indeed some embarrassment in adequately fulfilling his role as Keeper of the Maids to the obvious and sometimes very vociferous disappointment of many an unsatisfied maid. Unfortunately Mr Read can no longer offer as many positions as in the past to those maids who are unsuccessful in becoming the Chosen. Accordingly the Order is considering a new appointment so that Mr Read can be assisted in his duties. It is expected that many will be interested in this position and so a rigorous series of practical tests are being devised to assist in the appointment process which will be conducted by



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The Old Cake House, The Dairy, Pinkney Park, Sherston, Malmesbury Wiltshire SN16 0NX Mangold Maids past and present. The faint hearted need not apply. More details to follow next month.

As spring approaches seed is at the forefront of many a members mind. Indeed some members become so excited at the prospect that they can suffer from early sowing syndrome which can be very distressing. Rather than rush too early to opening your seed packet time is far better spent on proper bed preparation which can bring greatly more satisfying results. A number of instructive web sites are available which can help with the techniques to be employed.

So as to help members avoid early sowing syndrome seed will not be available this year until March. It should be remembered that the optimum time for sowing outside is April although to be fair an earlier indoor sowing does have its attractions. Outdoor sowing in May on warm ground is also popular with many members especially on allotments.

Last month's article singing the virtues of the variety Long Red Mammoth brought great interest and to the delight of many it appears that we may have secured a supply. They will hopefully be available next month alongside that traditional Sherston favourite Yellow Eckendorf.

Yarp!
The Keeper of the Quill





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Rose Hill Westonbirt is located in 210 acres of grounds and parkland - a safe and stimulating environment for education. As well as academic success, great emphasis is placed on music, sport, art and drama.

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Listed as one of the 'Best Schools' in the area - The Times, 3rd December 2010.

Rose Hill Westonbirt School • Tetbury • Gloucestershire • GL8 8QG www.rhwestonbirt.co.uk

Sherston Football Club

by Pete Brock

Hi everyone, well things are slowly getting back to normal but still the weather is causing a few problems with both games cancelled last Saturday due to waterlogged pitches but both the teams had a great win the week before with the firsts winning 7-3 and the reserves 3-1.

Matt Neal has brought in four new players in the form of Will Barrass, Alex Scott, Phill Watts and last but by no means least Dave Shepperd who despite being the wrong side of 40 and the wrong side of 18 stone made a huge difference to the confidence in the side. Phill Watt is another who is the wrong side of 40 but held the defence together with ease. Alex Scott has huge talent and as a young lad in midfield played beyond his years while Will scored one of the best goals I have seen all season from an impossible angle. Knocker has had his transfer to the Horfield XI put on hold for a while but we think he is secretly trying to get in because he will get fed and have a room.

The first team are rocking again and they have a great chance of winning the league with Andrew Wicks back to his scoring ways and the defence as solid as ever under the stewardship of Gavin Thompson and Greg Hughes with the super fit Mark Lester helping to hold it together. Ting Tong has been told to move around the pitch a bit more as the whole pitch wants rolling - not just the middle. Trimmer had some mud on his top lip and was mistaken for Freddie Mercury during the last home game as it was so mucky and someone thought Greg had had a hair transplant until he came out of the showers, we had to wash the mud off of Ting Tong on the pitch otherwise there would be no pitch as his over sized frame was covered in mud. Well that's about it for this month but I am sure there will be a flurry of activity over the next few weeks as we try to catch up on our games, so thanks again for your support.



Cricket

Club AGM

Sherston Magna Cricket Club AGM will be held on Monday 7 February at 8.00pm in The Rattlebone Inn. Everyone welcome.

Winter cricket nets

Sherston Magna CC will be starting their senior winter cricket nets at the Activity Zone, Bremilham Road, Malmesbury on Sunday 6 February between 7.00pm and 8.00pm and then every Sunday at the

same time until the end of March. New players are more than welcome and should contact Club Captain Andrew Tremellen on 07979 388208 for details. The club collects £3 per person for the hour to cover the cost of hiring the hall.



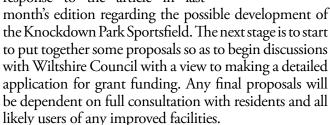




Sportsfield

By Martin Rea

There has been an encouraging response to the article in last



All are invited to a meeting to consider suggested improvements and increased uses of the facility on Tuesday 8 February at 7.30pm in the village hall. Please note this is a meeting for everyone and not just the established sports clubs in the parish. Please come along if you have an idea for a new sport to be provided for or even if you just want to keep fit. We are looking at fitness trails and outdoor gyms which can be used by all at anytime of the day. If you can't make the meeting please let me have your thoughts either in person, email martdrea@aol.com or on 840348.

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 Centre 01666 825825

Malmesbury Secondary School 01666 829700

Malmesbury Youth Centre 0799 0908550

MP James Gray 01249 652851

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Sherston Parish Council 01666 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 and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church The Coffee Shop -

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Open Thursday mornings only during winter Sunday services 8am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (3rd Sunday 9.30am Family Service); 6pm Evensong (3rd Sunday Evening Holy Communion) See the Parish Life for more details

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. Locations – The Skittle Alley, The Rattlebone Inn, Sherston or Court House Hullavington. Please contact Sarah Slarke on 07971 090740 for any further information.

Easton Grey Parish Church

See Parish Life for details of services

Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

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

Busy Hands Pre-school

Meets 9.10am - 12.10pm everyday in the village hall for 3 - 5 year olds. Further details call 841118

Charity Bingo

In aid of a different local charity each month on the 3rd Friday at 7.30 for 8pm start in the village hall. 50p entry and 30p a book. Light refreshments available. **None in February.**

Church bell ringing

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

Clem's Club

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

Eudo Tae Kwon Do

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

Footpaths group

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

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

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

Malmesbury Netball Club

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

Malmesbury & Villages Community Partnership

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

Malmesbury Rangers

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

Parish Council Meeting

Takes place on the 2nd Thursday each month at 7.30pm in the village hall. Minutes of meetings can be read online at www.sherston.org.uk. Further details contact Sarah Wood on 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk

Patchwork & Quilting Classes

1st Thursday of each month from 10am - 2pm in The British Schoolroom

Further details from Anne Chapman on 01249 782842.

Senior Club

Meets at 2pm in the British School Rooms every other Tuesday alternating with Clem's Club.

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.

For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592.

Sherston Boules and Carnival 2011

Please come forward and be part of the committee for 2011 – we are still looking for a new chairperson. Any new ideas and offers of help in planning or just on the day gratefully received. For more details contact the secretary Gwen Knight on 840731 or mommaknight@hotmail.com

Sherston Brownies

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

1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

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

1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

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

Sherston Whitewall Explorers

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

Westonbirt Guides

Meet in Querns Hall, Rosehill School, Westonbirt 5.30 – 7pm every Wednesday.

Sherston Brownies tend to come along if they don't join Scouts. Details from Helen Price 503187 or email retreatcottage17@btinternet.com

Sherston FC

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

Sherston Ladies' Swimming Club

Swim at Westonbirt Leisure on Wednesday evenings from 8 – 9.30pm. £38 for 15 weeks, open to any ladies, of any swimming standard, from Sherston and surrounding area. To join, please phone Annabel on 840592 or Maggie on 840969.

Sherston Martial Arts Club

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

Sherston Short Mat Bowls Club

Meets Wednesday from 7.30 pm in the village hall. £2 an evening (£1 for under 18s) all are very welcome.

Sherston Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club play on two hard courts off Knockdown Rd. Fees for the 2011 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 - 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.communigate. 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@ 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. Further details contact Maureen Jolliffe on 840867

Sherston Young Craft Group

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

Splash Dance

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

Tetbury Chess Club

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

Village Hall 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 second Friday in the month at 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.

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

What's on in 2011 Dates for your diary

March

8 Pancake Race

April

15-16 Sherston Entertainment-Drama Group

21-25 Badminton Horse Trials

29 Royal Wedding

June

5 Woodland Frolic

12 Mangold Maid Making

25 Church Fete

25-26 Garden Trail

July

9 -17 Boules & Carnival –Sat 16 Boules Day

August

27 Lobber Jenkins Boules Competition

29 Village Party including Flower Vegetable and Produce Show

October

2 Mangold Hurl

November

5 1016 Fireworks Party

December

9 Anglo Saxon Christmas Market

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.

Barn Marq

Reclamation & Recycling Centre

North End Ind. Estate Luckington 01666 840321

TIMBER - TILES - STONE - BLOCKS ETC

WHAT'S ON

Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

Curry Quiz Night Sun 6 Feb 6 Nations rugby on the big screen Valentine's night specials 14 Feb Indian Night Wed 23 Feb Live Music Fri 25 Feb Further details contact 840665

The Rattlebone Inn

6 Nations Rugby Starts Fri 4 Feb – all major matches shown on a big screen Valentine's Day specials Sat 12 and Mon 14 Feb Menu will be complimented with Valentines specials (including fresh Lobster) and special offers on Cava, Prosecco & house Champagne Live Music from Gouldie Sat 26 Feb Check boards for details of events Further details contact 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Grove Wood Sunday Clearing

Please come along and help clear Grove Wood Every Sunday 10am - 1pm with hot homemade soup at midday

Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Sherston Ladies Swimming Club jumble sale Village Hall

Sat 5 Feb 10am 9am - 12 noon Free admission - cake stall - all proceeds to the Ladies Swimming Club Further details contact Annabel 840592, Maggie 840969, Heather 840375

James Morton's Porkchop in concert

Funk and boogaloo band with hints of gospel and jazz - all in aid of the Village Hall Sat 12 Feb 8pm Licensed bar Tickets Adults £6.50 Senior citizems £5.50 Children £3.50 Family (2+2) £16 from the post office or box office. Box office 840348 Further details contact the box offices or www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

Sue's Strolls

Sun 13 Feb starting from the village hall at 11am, returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 1pm Free and suitable for all, including children and dogs on leads. Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Clematis clinic

Saturday 26 February and Saturday 5 March at 2.30pm Sherston Parva Nursery Free entry and refreshments.

Further details contact 840348 or email:sherstonparva@aol.com

Yoga in Sherston

Beginners adults yoga class. All welcome. No experience necessary. Mondays from 7-8pm or 8.15-9.15pm. Next course starts on Monday 28th February. £45 per 6 week term. Booking essential. Scout Hut

Further details contact Kathryn Chandler: 0790 380 2985 / 0117 902 4832 or email: yoga_in_sherston@hotmail.com

SHOCC

Sherston Occasional Community Choir

Advance notice: 8 week singing course begins on Wed 2 Mar 7.30pm £2 a session / £1 for under 16s

British School Room

Further details contact Nicki Heenan 840883/Jill Woodward 840578 or 07817 264071 or nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

Pancake Race

Advance Notice: Shrove Tuesday 8 March 7.30pm Rattlebone Inn Further details contact 840348

70's night with the Village People and Liquid Colour Disco

Advance notice: Dig out those platform shoes and hot-pants for a night of glam-rock and disco in the village hall in aid of Sherston Primary School. Sat 12 Mar 8pm - midnight Fully licensed bar £8 from the post office or Rattlebone Inn.

Further details contact Emma 840317

1016 Book Sale

Advance Notice: 1016 Book Sale

Sat 26 Mar 9am - 12 noon village hall - free entry. Donations of books, videos, DVDs and CDs gratefully received. Please deliver to Mike Tarrant at Grays of Sherston.

Further details contact 840611

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Dog Days Scruffts, guided walks, stalls, demos and expert advice on all matters dog related Dog Olympics Dog Days Admission £7 adult /£6 concs/ £3 chd under 5s free

Workshops: Advanced Digital Photography
Fri 18 Feb 10.30-3.30pm £105 - limited to 6 places
Booking essential: contact Graham Light on 01285
653069 or email consult@abbey-studios.co.uk

Family event : Wildlife of the forest

In partnership with the RSPB discover out native woodland wildlife on a family activity trail, give them a helping hand by making a feeder or a home and then take part in our wildlife crafts and microscope challenge. Free after admission 22-24 Feb Free after admission

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Sunday every month in aid of FOWA

Summer Concerts - tickets now on sale

Simple Minds Fri 17; Erasure Sat 18 and Scouting for Girls Sun 19 Jun Tickets £28-35 plus booking fee from 03000 680400 or www.forestry.gov.uk/music Winter (till 28 Feb) Admission £6 adult /£5 concs/ £2 chd under 5s free / Further details contact 880220 or www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School and the Holford Trust House & Gardens

Music from 4-MALITY

Highly acclaimed percussion quartet Fri 4 Feb 7.30pm £16/£6

Further details contact 880333 or for the gardens Jo Egerton on joanne_egerton@hotmail.com or www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk and www.holfordtrust.com for the gardens

Highgrove

Tetbury Art Society Annual Public Lecture

By royal artist Nicky Philipps Wed 16 Mar £15 includes tea & cake. All proceeds to the Prince's Trust. Advance booking only The Orchard Room, Highgrove Further details contact Gill Ashley 840993

Malmesbury

British Heart Foundation -Malmesbury branch

Wine evening to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the British Heart Foundation

Hosted by the Malmesbury branch of BHF also marks the public launch of the 'Mending Broken Hearts' appeal. Lots of new fundraising events coming up in 2011 - New volunteers are very welcome. Some of the funds raised so far are going to support the Sherston Cardiac Defibrillator appeal Tues 1 Feb 6.30pm

Mayor's Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall Further details contact Ann Lawrence, Chair, telephone 01666 823685, email ann@annpeter.com

Painting classes with Nicki Heenan

8 week art course (landscapes) begins on Thurs 3 Mar 2.30- 4.15pm £10 a session / £70 whole course of 8 - booking essential as limited to 8 places. St Mary's Hall, Malmesbury Further details contact Nicki Heenan 840883 or nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

Battle of the Bands

Bluez 'n' Zuz event promoted by Malmesbury School, Wiltshire Police and Westlea Housing

£100 top prize for the best of the bands. 11-18 year olds perform Fri 11 Feb 6.30-10pm Tickets £2 from Malmesbury School

White Horse Pictures -Digital movie screenings Movies on Mondays

Mon 7 Feb- The King's Speech £6 / £3 chd Further details contact 822143 or www.whitehorsepictures.co.uk/venues/wiltshire-north/malmesbury-town-hall.htm

Cotswold Rural Skills

Hedgelaying courses

5-6 Feb Northleach 12-13 Feb Castle Combe £80 Further details contact David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk.

Whatley Manor

'Letters to Juliet' Sun 27 Feb £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner Further details contact 834026 or www.whatleymanor.com

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by the community This month: The King's Speech; Tron Legacy check website for details Further details contact 01453 844601 or www.wottoneph.co.uk

Nailsworth Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Home matches: Feb Sat 5 3pm v Hayes & Yeading, Sat 19 3pm v Darlington and Sat 26 3pm v Tamworth Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2 The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth Further details contact 01453 834860 or www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Bath

Bath Literary Festival

26Feb - 6Mar Various events throughout Bath city centre by many authors and actors including Timothy West, Polly Toynbee, Alexander McCall-Smith, David Starkey, Louis de Bernieres, Will Hutton, Jane Shilling and the Book Show

Tickets vary from £4-£17 Bath Festivals Box Office, Further details contact 01225 463362 or www.bathlitfest.org.uk

Theatre Royal

Avenue Q Wed 2 - Sat 12 Feb 8pm / 8.30pm mats 4pm 7.30pm / 8pm

Life of Riley Mon 14 - Sat 19 Feb 7.30pm / 8pm mat $2.30pm \pm 16.50 \pm 33.50$

Family Musical - the Nutcracker Tue 22 - Sun 27 Feb 7.30pm mat 2pm £9.50-£22

Yes, Prime Minister Mon 28 Feb - Sat 5 Mar 7.30/8pm mat 2.30 £17-£35

Book ahead for: The History Boys; Corrie!; Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell; The Reluctant Debutante; Derek Jacobi in King Lear; Journey's End; To Kill a Mockingbird; Guys and Dolls; Evita £15-£33.50

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

The Soul Destroyers in concert

Si Cox Tribute at the Globe Cardiff Sat 19 Feb Stroud Subscription Rooms Fri 4 Mar Fiddlers Bristol Sat 9 Apr

£8-£10 (for parties of 10+ contact Dave for a discount)
Further details contact Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or
email ds@oldbellhouse.com or www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

