



Eco Success



Sherston School EcoTeam have recently been presented with the Silver Award, and are now one step (but a large step) away from securing the prestigious Green Flag Award.

The year five team have excelled in their efforts to encourage re-cycling. Under their watchful eye, each class has been encouraged and routinely monitored on paper, card, and plastics collections. Paper re-use is encouraged throughout the school and is becoming more commonly practiced. The team reports back to school management and parents. They are hoping that a recent collection of old ink cartridges and mobile phones will net a reward of £50 from Recyclool. A few months ago, they successfully lobbied Wilts Council to provide black re-cycling bins for collecting glass bottles, jars and tins from the kitchen. Well done the EcoTeam.

Only 300 schools in the country have achieved Green Flag status. New projects will be undertaken and externally assessed, including projects for monitoring and reducing energy use and provision for green energy.

Thank you

FARM-Africa would like to thank all the kind people of Sherston who filled up FARM's green charity box at the Post Office during January. You raised £30 to help poor African farmers. So thank you very much. Please make a note in your diaries as we are planning another Plant Sale on Saturday 7 May in the village hall with lots of interesting and unusual plants for sale.

Thank you and best wishes, Kena Magee for FARM-Africa.

Venerable visitors



Photo: Nick Holland

A flock of Waxwings has been seen feeding on the apple tree in Sopworth Lane by the school wildlife area. Commonly seen in the North-East, they are rare visitors to the South-West. It is thought that shortage of food and heavy snow has driven the birds further south this year. They are distinctive with their crest and red tipped wings. The Sopworth Lane tree has held onto its fruit much longer this year, making it a welcome food source. And they don't seem too perturbed by noisy school children. Must be hungry!

A Redpoll was sighted on the bird feeder within the school wildlife area. Native of the Arctic Circle, they too come to the UK in search of winter food; and in large numbers. A well stocked feeding station is most likely to attract these quite tame little finches characterised by a red patch on top of the head.

2011 Census

Just a reminder that the 2011 census will be undertaken on 27 March by the Office of National Statistics. Wiltshire Council is keen to hear from any individuals or groups of people that could be hard to reach and may not be picked up through the normal channels to ensure it is as comprehensive as possible. The council is particularly keen to hear about people who may not have a registered postal address such as travellers, migrants, narrowboat dwellers and people who may have difficulty filling out the form. Please contact research@wiltshire.gov.uk if you are aware of any such people.

The council has also placed a range of background information, including a set of frequently asked questions, on the census on its website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/2011census

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

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

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

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

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

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Trees on the move

After all the fantastic work done by the Grove Wood group, and the Payback team supporting them, the children of Sherston School (past and present) will be heading for the woods themselves! The 'Tree for Life' saplings they planted 2 years ago in the then newly created allotment area, are now ready to take their places in the community. Some are destined for the churchyard, some for the Rec; most for Grove Wood.

Planting work will hopefully be completed in March; current children in weekday afternoons, and by ex year six (from 2009 and 2010) at weekends. Every child will take their tree from the school grounds to its destination and fix a label with his/her name. And thereafter to visit, watch over and care for their own tree, as they grow up.

If anyone can help staff and the 200 children in this exercise, please contact the school. Like Grove Wood itself, this venture is a true community project for now and the future. If you have any spare time, and can help the children, your help would be much appreciated.

To celebrate this month-long event, Birch class are spending a day at Westonbirt, to learn more about trees; and catch up with the school's millennium tree. Oak class will be checking to see if the acorns and beech nuts they planted in the autumn have germinated after the long cold winter. The school's caterers, ABM, are planning a food festival at the end of March with a special tree theme.

Boules & Carnival - don't delay

Entries for this year's Boules competition are coming in thick and fast so make sure yours is in by the deadline of 30 April. You can apply either via www.sherston.net or by a paper form available from Sherston Post Office Stores.

If you're interested in taking a stall on the day itself – Saturday 16 July – contact Sharon Doyle on 841233 email sharon.doyle@sjpp.co.uk.

Stalls are £40 for businesses £20 for charities or voluntary groups.

Sherston 1016 Book Sale

Don't forget that the first of our popular book sales for the year is set for Saturday 26 March in Sherston Village Hall from 9am to 12 noon – free entry. For those that haven't been before we can guarantee you'll be amazed at how reasonable our prices are. If you have any books, videos, CDs or DVDs to donate these may be left with Mike Tarrant at Grays of Sherston. All proceeds from the sale go towards the senior citizens Christmas vouchers.

Sherston W.I.

by Ann Wilcox

The recent workshops under the Paws Scheme which took place in the Village Hall were very successful. 18 members and friends took part in three sessions learning the Art of Mosaics. A great variety of designs were produced from fruit, flowers, birds etc. We were under the tutorship of Anita Andrews and as a result we all went home well pleased with our designs. The recent A.G.M. on 3 February was well attended. Reports were given on activities of the past year.

President Maureen Jolliffe thanked Secretary Sue Hewitt for all her hard work in the past three years. She also thanked Helen Quirk and Brenda Llewellyn for their contribution as Committee members over a number of years. All who had helped to contribute to a successful year were thanked.

The new President Sheila Harris will be taking the next meeting on 3 March. The speaker will be Tristan Cork who will talk on 'The Life of a Newspaper Reporter.' The competition will be a Newspaper Cartoon.

A Jumble Sale is planned for 19 March in the Village Hall 10am - 12noon. A variety of stalls, including an Easter Stall, Nearly New, Bric-a-Brac etc. will be there for thrifty shoppers to view and buy. We meet on the first Thursday of the month. We are always pleased to see new faces.

Good Friday Workshop

This year the event will take place on Friday April 22 in Hullavington at St. Mary Magdalene Church, in the main street. There will be activities, songs, games, art and craft with delicious refreshments. The contact number for further information is Henny Metters 837778.

However, there will be a Good Friday Children's Service at Sherston Church at 2pm followed by the walk to Luckington as usual. We would love children to take part in the service and anyone wishing to do it this year would be very welcome. Please contact Marjorie Morgan on 837670 for further details.

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Free books

Saturday 5 March is World Book Night when one million books will be given away free. Sherston is to get 48 copies of Margaret Attwood's Booker prize winning novel 'Blind Assassin'. Copies will be distributed and left in places where you can pick them up, take them home, pass them on, share them with family and friends. If you would like a copy contact suemckechnie@hotmail.com or 840601. Happy reading.

Read all about it at www.worldbooknight.org.

Sherston Ladies Swimming Club

We will welcome new members for the next session of the Club, which swims at Westonbirt Leisure Centre (on Wednesday evenings), starting on 16 March. We are hoping to return to swimming for 90 minutes (we had to reduce our swimming time to one hour over the winter months due to fewer members). We have a separate lane for more serious swimmers.

The Club is open to any ladies living in the area, of any swimming ability. Please phone for further details – Annabel 840592, Maggie 840969 or Heather 840375.



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Police News

PC Steve Humphries

My colleague PCSO Durry Maule and I are continuing to try to patrol Sherston and other villages as much as possible this year after it was agreed at the Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership meeting in January that high visibility patrolling should be our priority.

We are endeavouring to complement this with advertised quarterly street meetings throughout the year. The most recent of these was on Wednesday 9 February in the High Street, and the next will be advertised soon.

Additionally we work to deter antisocial behaviour and to detect crime.

Recently there have been complaints of bad parking outside the school and nearby streets. Mr Bowditch and his team have kindly allowed me to address parents about this in a letter sent home with the children around Christmas time but the problem continues. I have no option but to respond to these complaints unless you think the police should be concentrating on issues other than parking. Please contact us to let us know what you think.

I am also investigating a spate of antisocial behaviour occurring between Sherston and Pinkney along the main road where property is being damaged. This behaviour is not only disruptive for those who live in the area but also uses up valuable police time and resources to investigate. Again, if you have any information about this or any queries then please contact us, either on 0845 408 7000 (ask to be put through to either Durry or myself) or better still (as we try to be out working in the community as much as we can) email us on malmesburyruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk. We pledge to try to answer all emails within 24 hours of receipt.

Looking forward to hearing from you about matters that concern you.

Pinocchio

Grittleton Village Hall with Rural Arts Wiltshire present a magical retelling of this well-known children's tale. Using two performers, incredible acting and puppetry, the show explores the fantastical adventure of a naughty little puppet on his quest to become a real child.

Friday 11 March 2011 at Grittleton Village Hall, doors open 6.00pm for 6.30pm start for a one hour performance time.

Tickets in advance from Jan on 01249 782798 Adults & Senior Citizens £5.50, Children (under 16) £3.50, Families (2 adults & 2 children) £16.00. RAW recommended target audience children 6+ and families.

Clem's Club

Clem's Club is meeting 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, 15 and 29 March.



Letter from America

The Cliffhanger was delighted to hear from a reader from Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA last month. We make that a distance of 4094.8 miles.

Hi, my name is Margaret and I'm one of sherston.org.uk readers.

I'd like to thank you for the excellent information I've found on sherston.org.uk, It's always a great pleasure to read your articles and I count to become a loyal reader.

Where I live I try to increase the awareness about dog training among my family and friends.

Thanks for reading and keep posting your excellent information on sherston.org.uk

Margaret Clay

Sherston Living Churchyard

Work will start again in the churchyard after the winter on Saturday 12 March from 10am to 12 noon, weather permitting. By then the snowdrops and primroses planted last year should be flowering and we will be able to assess the success, or otherwise, of last year's work and decide on a plan of action for 2011. For those who are not familiar with the Living Churchyards and Cemeteries Project, it is a national movement designed to maximise the potential of churchyards as havens for all types of wildlife, while at the same time respecting their original religious purpose. Volunteers from previous years will be most welcome to come and join in again, while new people are always needed to keep up the work. I hope to see you on 12 March.

Sue Robinson 841263

Sherston drama group

On Friday and Saturday April 15 and 16, for two nights only Sherston Drama Group will present the classic one-act romantic comedy, *Pastiche* (or 'Lady Alex's Anniversary'), by Nick Hall.

The show will be an informal café-style presentation in the Village Hall. And in addition, to warm you up, there will be a first act of individual comedy sketches and additional performances by members of the Drama Group and others. There is still scope to get involved with this – if you have some material you want to present, or would like to try your hand using one of our scripts, come along to a trial evening in the British Schoolroom at 7.30pm on Thursday 10 March, or contact Richard Skeffington (840092) or Graham Instrell (840978) in advance. Tickets will be on sale from late March.

Village hall 300+ club

January draw

1st	£12	33	Enid Beaman
2nd	£11	103	Doris Saunders
3rd	£10	262	Margaret Smith
4th	£9	148	Angela Stanley
5th	£8	228	J Welch
6th	£7	237	Iris Hadland
7th	£6	179	M Johnson
8th	£5	77	Carole Andrews

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

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British Heart Foundation thanks Malmesbury shoppers



The Malmesbury Branch of the British Heart Foundation (BHF) held a collection outside the Co-operative store on February 4 and shoppers generously donated nearly £300 to the UK's biggest heart charity.

This was hot on the heels of a successful meeting in the Town Hall to launch the 50th Anniversary year of the BHF, and to publicise its exciting new research programme.

Some of the donations received from Co-op shoppers will go to the Sherston Parish Council, and be put towards the purchase of a defibrillator.

The next BHF fundraising event will be in April when Peter Lambert and Marion Jackson will be undertaking a walk across England, from St. Bees Head in Cumbria to Robin Hoods Bay in North Yorkshire, covering a distance of 200 miles in 15 days. They are looking for sponsors, and the proceeds will be split between BHF research and the Parkinson's Disease Society. For more information or to make a donation please contact Peter Lambert on 825415.

This year the BHF is launching its most ambitious project ever - the Mending Broken Hearts Appeal - to help beat the UK's biggest killer. The goal is simple: to fund the research that could begin to 'mend broken hearts' in as little as 10 years and save and improve the lives of millions within decades.

Why not join your local BHF branch and help raise funds to give hope to millions?

To volunteer to help or run a fundraising event please contact Ann Lawrence on 823685.

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King's Speech in Grittleton

Moviola, the touring Rural Cinema scheme, comes to Grittleton Village Hall. On Wednesday 23 March the show is *The King's Speech*, Certificate 12A.

Tickets are £5 in advance or £5.50 on the door. For advance bookings, contact Lesley on 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com. Doors open at 7.00pm.

Christmas thanks

Thank you to all who contributed to the Five Loaves and Two Fishes project in St Paul's, Bristol. A total of £129.00 was raised at Christmas between the Carol singers and contributions from counter box in the post office. This money has gone towards providing food for those who arrive at the door of the Community of Sisters of the Church during the week which are mainly families and children. Also a total of £195 was raised by the generosity of those who donated their 1016 vouchers. Through the kindness of Paul and Gail Mather the money was used very carefully to buy as much as we could from the distributors. We asked the Sisters what would be needed and we purchased shampoo, soap, rice, cup-soups and dried milk as well as tin openers which are invaluable for those on the street. It is remarkable how so many of you are willing to give freely to those who are in need, my grateful appreciation for all your generosity. *Susan Harvey*



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Golden humming bird flies in

A series of events in Sherston, Malmesbury and Tetbury last year raised no less than £4,766.30 for the research charity Diabetes UK. The fund raising was carried out by St Aldhelm Masonic Lodge, Malmesbury and the cheque has been handed over to Diabetes UK at the Old Bell Hotel, Malmesbury by the Rev Richard Maslen, Immediate Past Master of the Lodge.

He said events included an open-air classical/semi classical concert at Halfway Bush, Sherston, a concert at Tetbury Parish Church, a carol service at St Aldhelm's Church, Malmesbury, the St Aldhelm Ladies' Festival, as well as other collections in the lodge. 'It is a magnificent total and I am very grateful to all who supported our 2009/10 nominated charity so well.'

The lodge has a certificate and photograph to hang on the wall and a gold Diabetes UK humming bird badge, which was created last year to mark 75 years of improving the lives of people with diabetes.

The St Aldhelm Lodge nominated charity for 2011/12 is the British Heart Foundation.

Grays of Sherston

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TREEtalk

MARCH 2011

by Sue McKechnie

Grove Wood

Coppicing and clearing is now completed for this season. Tree and hedge planting is underway. The snowdrops planted by the river last spring have done well and more will be planted this spring. The Community Payback Team is doing a great job with the paths. Go and see! More details on the management of the wood next month. Don't forget that if you spot any notable 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.

Tree diseases

New diseases have been brought into Britain on large 'instant' trees, packaging materials etc. mainly from Asia. Phytophthora ramorum, is an infection known as 'sudden oak death' although it is attacking Japanese larch trees. Millions have already been felled, as a result of the infection or to stop its spread. Other woody shrubs such as rhododendrons can be infected. You will have noticed the horse chestnut trees affected by the chestnut leaf miner, a moth that makes the leaves turn brown and conkers fall early. This does not kill the trees but weakens them so that if they then are affected by other diseases, such as bleeding canker, they succumb. Oak trees now face acute oak decline with thousands already affected. Forest Research, a branch of the Forestry Commission, is working on the prevention of these diseases. It will be sad if so many of our native trees go the way of the elms. The Forestry Commission is urging the public to report diseased plants and walkers to clean boots between visiting forests.

More information from Sherston's Tree Warden, Irene Johnston on 841273 or ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk or Deputy Tree Warden, Sue McKechnie, on 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Next meeting

The parish council meets on Thursday 10 March 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.

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Daffodils for Cancer Awareness

The three youngest classes in Sherston School planted up pots of yellow daffodils as part of the Marie Curie Trust cancer awareness campaign. Lots of fun was had by the 60 children. There will be competitions for painting their own flower, and decorating a pot cover, both within the school and the best to go onto a national competition. And who knows, they may just be in flower and at their best to bring home for Mothers Day.

Clematis clinic

If you missed Sherston Parva Nursery's Clematis clinic in February don't worry as it will be repeated on Saturday 6 March - again commencing at 2.30pm.

The clinic will consist of a talk explaining the mysteries of pruning clematis with practical demonstrations followed by questions. It 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 (or two) 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.

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

Area Board

The next meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council takes place at Ashton Keynes village hall on Wednesday 16 March 6.30pm for 7pm start. All welcome. Topics under discussion will include how Community Services will be provided by Great Western Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and consultation about End of Life Care.



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Wanted: Pancake gobblers

Sherston 1016 is organising its annual Pancake Eating Competition on the evening of Shrove Tuesday, March 8, from 7.30pm at the Rattlebone Inn. Entries will be welcome in advance or on the night, and the competition has senior and junior classes.

The competition will take place in heats, with each competitor paying a mere £2 entry fee for the whole evening. Each entrant will have 4 delicious freshly-cooked pancakes to eat in the first heat. Entrants will have time to add lemon and sugar to their taste, then the clock will start, and the first heat will be under way.

The winner of each heat will be the first to finish eating all the pancakes on their plate. These winners will then go on to the next heat, again with four pancakes each, and so on until the championship round. The winner will have their name engraved on a 1016 commemorative engraved frying pan. There will also be runners-up prizes.

The competition is a revival of one that took place in the area around 25 years ago, with great success. Local organisations are encouraged to take part, and individual entries will also be welcomed. Any entrant not feeling able to continue at any point will not be pressured into continuing.

Sherston 1016 spokesman Richard Langley said, 'We came to the conclusion that so many people would not be able to join in with a normal pancake race in the street. With our competition, people will be able to join in the fun in the evening, and will not need to worry about the weather.'

'Where possible, all ingredients are sourced locally, with eggs coming from Sherston Free-Range Eggs, flour from Shipton Mill at Long Newnton, and lemons from Tucks greengrocers and butchers, although of course, the lemons are not grown in Sherston, or even in Luckington!. All three companies very kindly donate their products for the competition', adds Richard.

If you would like more details of this fun competition, or would like to book your entry, please contact Richard Langley on 840112 or 07879 612776.

Sherston 1016 strongly advises all entrants not to eat a meal before coming to the competition!

Call-IT! - Volunteering support line for Wiltshire

Anybody seeking to help out in their local community can Call-IT! 0845 521 6224 to find out what volunteering opportunities are available in the area. We currently have over 900 volunteering opportunities throughout the county with more being added every day, so there's something for everyone!

Call IT! is a telephone line, set up last September, as part of Volunteer Centre Wiltshire, a service of GROW. GROW Enhancing Community Support (GROW) is a charitable service that has been commissioned by Wiltshire Council. GROW offers support & information to individuals, voluntary organisations and community groups across Wiltshire.

Call IT! will be answered Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am – 2pm, at other times an answerphone gives information about the other ways you can find out about volunteering in your community.

People volunteer for a number of different reasons, ranging from a desire to learn new skills, increasing employment chances, to try new experiences, or to have fun and make a difference in the community.

The range of volunteering opportunities is enormous. Volunteers can befriend an older person, support a young person, get physical restoring Wiltshire's canals and waterways, DIY in care homes or even a spot of gardening. You can volunteer to get experience in administration, fundraising, event organising, working with children or in the media. Volunteering can be for as many or as few hours as you can spare, some opportunities require as little as an hour a month, others a day a week. Our team can help you find the right opportunity to fit with you.

Lesley Bennett, Chair of the Board of Directors said 'The Call-IT! telephone number means that anyone can speak one-to-one with a volunteering advisor about local opportunities. This handy one volunteering number has never been possible before in Wiltshire.'

Call-IT! now to find out how you can help out in your community on 0845 521 6224. Or visit the volunteer centre wiltshire website www.volunteercentrewiltshire.org.uk

Rec repairs

Residents will have noticed that a substantial piece of dry stone wall collapsed recently on the western boundary of the recreation ground. Rebuilding is now in hand but parents are reminded to please ensure that their children do not remove stones from any of the walls. This not only weakens the walls but can also bring extremely dangerous results.

The parish council is expected to agree the repair of some the playground equipment this month having received estimates from three contractors. It is hoped that the repairs can be undertaken in good time for the Easter holiday period.

Another classroom

Work started in February on the next project for Sherston School's wildlife area. An outdoor classroom, with tiered timber seating on the mound taking shape near the pond area. There will be a stage finished in bark chips, a willow hedge suitable for sculpturing, a path and an archway leading onto the next project area; a shady chill out zone. And beyond that, will be a nature trail.

We will be looking for about 30m² of turf in April, preferably meadow turf. Can anyone help?

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Pastures new

March sees a first for Sue McKechnie's popular Sunday walks – a visit to the Vine Tree at Norton. Walkers from Norton are joining in and Dave Reeves from the charity PROPS has very kindly agreed to transport people from the Vine Tree at 10.30 am to Sherston Village hall for an 11am start. He will also return those Sherston walkers from the pub who don't fancy the walk back at around 1.30 pm. Donations to PROPS will be greatly appreciated! Tiggi and Charles at the Vine Tree are generously providing a complimentary snack for all those taking part so giving the Rattlebone a welcome break.

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.

February's walk, despite teeming rain at times, was enjoyed by an enthusiastic group of seven plus one very wet dog who retired tired but happy to the Rattlebone Inn for a bowl of delicious tomato, aubergine and goats cheese soup – apart from the dog.

Vacancy

As the necessary 10 electors did not request an election for the position of councillor due to the recent resignation of Geoff Martin the parish council intends to co opt a suitable person. If you would like to be considered please apply in writing either by letter or email to the Clerk Sarah wood by Thursday 31 March at 23 Cliff Road Sherston SN16 0LN email clerk@sherston.org.uk All applications should please include a brief CV. Applicants will be invited to attend the council meeting on 14 April when a decision will be made. If you wish to know more about what the position entails please speak to any councillor or telephone the Clerk on 840351.

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Party on

The parish council is financially supporting the royal wedding party on 29 April with part of the profits made from the Cliffhanger over the last 30 months. This will help cover a number of outgoings including children's entertainment, music and decorations as well as insurance and licence fees. The village hall is pitching in with free provision of the hall and field together with helping out with the all important catering aspect. A number of village organisations and individuals have already come forward to offer their assistance but more are required. Please contact Cilla Liddington on 840128 if you can lend a hand.

Don't forget that entries for the under 11's poster competition have to be in by Wednesday 23 March. Entry details are available from Sherston School and from Sherston Post Office Stores as well as on line at www.sherston.net. For adults and children there will be a best hat and best decorated cake competition on the day itself. There will also be a best decorated window competition for all to take part in during the week before the big day. For further details plus the full programme see next month's Cliffhanger.

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Christian Aid Week 2011



Christian Aid Week this year is 15-21 May. This may seem a long way ahead, but by starting to organise the envelope collection early, the hope is to be able to improve on last year's arrangements and on the amount we are able to collect to help move poor people throughout the world out of poverty. Anyone who is interested in helping this year is invited to come to a meeting at the coffee shop at Holy Cross Church, Sherston on Wednesday 20 April at 10am. Anna Potts, regional Co-ordinator for Christian Aid in Wiltshire, will be coming to the meeting to talk to volunteers about the work of Christian Aid and how they can help. People are needed to carry out door-to-door collections in Sherston, Pinkney, Easton Grey, Luckington, Foxley and Alderton during the week. It would also be very helpful to have someone who is willing to co-ordinate the collection in Luckington and possibly a treasurer to empty all the envelopes, count the money and bank it. The more people who come forward to help, the less each one will have to do, so whether you are offering to carry on doing something which you have already done before or are a new volunteer, please come to the meeting. While you have a coffee you can meet up with other people who are involved in this very worthwhile cause and find out what you can do to help in 2011.

Sue Robinson, churchwarden, Holy Cross Church, Sherston. Tel: 841263

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Church for Children

Children are welcome at all the services which are held in the Gauzebrook Group churches but there are some occasions which are particularly for them: Family Service is held at Holy Cross Church in Sherston at 9.30am on the third Sunday of each month. Junior Church is held at Court House, Hullavington at 11.00am on the second Sunday of each month, except for August. This is for children from 3 to 11+. Any children under three need to be accompanied by an adult.

Little Lights is an informal service and meeting, with play, squash and biscuits, for pre-school children and their parents/carers at Hullavington Church 10.30am – 11.30am every other Thursday. In March the dates are 3, 17 and 31. Contact Chantal Bryan for more information on 837522.

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

Malmesbury Luncheon Club

Every Wednesday members (60 years of age and over) meet at noon in the Wesleyan Room of Malmesbury Town Hall to meet friends and enjoy a two course lunch followed by tea or coffee. The cost of the lunch is £3.

Anyone wishing to join should contact Mrs Helen Churchill on 840080.

Volunteers are needed by the Malmesbury Luncheon Club to help serve the over 60's members with lunch.

Minimum amount of cooking required. Being a member of one of four teams you would only be needed once every four weeks. Time runs from approximately 10.30 – 2.30 on a Wednesday in Malmesbury Town Hall.

If you could help please contact Mrs Helen Churchill on 840080.

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WEA complete early 2011 programme

Malmesbury and District WEA round off their early 2011 programme with two interesting day schools and one short course about a famous painter.

Top of the bill has to be the day school on Saturday 2 April at Malmesbury Town Hall on the local Wessex monarch King Alfred. The popular medievalist Tim Porter is difficult to tempt to Wiltshire. His programme is full of prestigious commitments to places like the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and a number of residential adult education colleges, as well as guiding commercial cultural tours.

Malmesbury branch is therefore delighted to have Tim presenting a comprehensive look at King Alfred - Fact and Fiction. Alfred was an extraordinary figure for his time – military leader in difficult times, law-maker, scholar and social leader. Inevitably such a man also gave rise to some myths – like the burning of the cakes. Such an inspiring man is worth a closer look. Come on 2 April from 10.00am and learn about this local hero. Pre booking is essential and should be made to David/Muriel Bridge on 502729. The cost is £18 including tea/coffee/biscuits during the day.

Turning from history to appreciation of painting, another old friend of Malmesbury WEA, Jennifer Sheppard, is returning to Hullavington Village Hall on Saturday 19 March to look at Johannes Vermeer – the master painter. Although frugal in his output he is extraordinarily influential. This day school runs from 10.00am to 4.00pm and costs £15 including refreshments. An optional cold plated lunch is also available. Pre booking is essential.

Also at Hullavington Village Hall there is a short painting appreciation course about Gustav Klimt and the Vienna Sezession group. This is being run by Paul Chapman for five weeks on Thursday mornings (10.30am -12.30pm) from 3 March. The cost is £35. The booking contact for Hullavington courses is Paul and Linda Hadley 837096.

by David Bridge

Personal Training Systems

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High Street trees

Funding is now being sought by the parish council for the intended improvements to the area around the tree and STOP sign opposite the Post Office. Once that has been secured residents will then be consulted on the detailed plans. Deputy Tree Warden Sue McKechnie is now progressing grant finance to replace the tree in front of the Tolsey and has in mind this being completed in the autumn.

Tip Top

Sheila James and Lin Prior

Thank you to all the stall holders and the many who attended the table top sale in the village hall in January which raised £293 for hall funds.

We are most grateful to John Burgess, Margot Holland, Irene Johnston, Sue McKechnie and Martin Rea for help in running the event as well as Caroline and Phil Moore for donating some fascinating sale items for the hall's own stall.

We must also thank all those who provided raffle prizes particularly Tucks for the wonderful basket of fruit.

Apparently such a good time was had by all that many are asking for another one – watch this space!

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Malmesbury Embroiderer's Guild

The local branch holds monthly meetings at Little Somerford Village Hall. On alternate months there are Saturday workshops on a wide range of topics, and on the intervening dates there is a Tuesday evening talk at 7.30pm. We always welcome newcomers and occasional visitors, although pre-booking is essential for the workshops.

The next few meetings are as follows –

Saturday 12 March Workshop –

‘Pointillist Surfaces’ – hand or machine stitch

Tuesday 5 April Talk – ‘Hand dyed felting’

Saturday 14 May Workshop – ‘Creating felt’

Tuesday 14 June Talk – ‘Bath Fashion Museum’

Saturday 16 July – ‘Beginners Lace’

For further information please phone Heather Martin 840375

Well done girls

Enormous thanks are due to Sheila James and Lin Prior for all their hard work in organising the very successful table top sale in January which raised £293 for hall funds. Whilst the weather outside was cold and miserable there was a great atmosphere in the hall being enjoyed by all. Who knows, perhaps they'll organise another?

The money raised by the sale has gone towards the ongoing renovations of the hall. Both interior end walls of the large hall have now been repointed by Roger Whitehouse and work continues on the rest. It is likely to take until the summer to complete the repointing as Roger has to work around the various hall bookings. There's no doubt how worthwhile the project is as the hall already looks so much better and the exposed stone walls seem to have made it much lighter than before.

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Sportsfield

By Martin Rea

February's meeting to consider possible development of the field to provide additional and improved facilities brought support from the football, tennis and cricket clubs as well as from local netball players, Sherston School and the charity PROPS. In addition a number of individuals have shown interest in the project. Our MP James Gray has also kindly added his support and interest.

We are now liaising with Wiltshire Council over the next stage which will involve a bid for grant finance from Sport England which is running the People Places Play fund for the National Lottery. In the meantime Dennis Parsons has generously volunteered to draw up some plans incorporating our initial ideas.

Consultation with residents in both Sherston and neighbouring parishes will be an essential part of any funding application and advice on how best to undertake that is in the process of being obtained.

If you have any ideas for improving the Sportsfield including provision for a new sport or fitness activity there is still time to put them forward by contacting me either by email martdrea@aol.com, phone 840348 or in person.

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Mark Doyle Fund

Members of Mark's family and the parish council are working hard to provide a lasting memorial for Mark in the form of specialist playground equipment for young people aged 11 to 18 with a view to encouraging their physical fitness. A number of suppliers are providing details of suitable products to be installed on the Recreation Ground. Once those are to hand the young people of the village will be consulted as to what they would like to see available for their use. It is hoped that the consultation will begin next month.

For those new to the area the fund was set up in Mark's memory following his death in a motor accident in July 2009 from donations made in lieu of flowers.

www.sherston.net

Sherston's own community web site has never been so busy since application forms for Boules Day were made available on line last month. An astonishing 80 applications have already been submitted electronically with more expected as the deadline of 30 April approaches.

With the increased traffic on the site now's the time to ensure details of your local event, voluntary group or business are up on the site. It couldn't be easier just contact sherston.net@gmail.com

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Seasonal donation

Sherston 1016 would like to thank Paul and Gail at Sherston Post Office stores and all those that bought the post office Christmas cards and Sherston 2011 calendars. A total of £133.80 has been donated from the profits.

Stag & Hen

Both Jason Read and Rob Strong at the Rattlebone Inn seem to have gone Royal Wedding crazy in their preparations for Will and Kate's party on the night of Saturday 2 April. With a fancy dress theme of 'Royalty and their followers through the ages' already in place the pair are now ensuring that there will be 'appropriate' musical entertainment available - whatever that may entail! In the meantime local decorator and well known regular Chris Gough is said to be extremely excited at the possibility of him being commissioned to paint a mural of the happy couple on the outside of the pub.

Marching on

At its February meeting members of the Sherston Footpath Group were joined by representatives from Luckington & Alderton and Norton & Foxley parishes when the possibility of a series of connecting walks from Malmesbury to Sherston and then on to Luckington was discussed. Malmesbury's Deputy Mayor Steve Cox is keen to encourage this initiative and has arranged a meeting for all those interested in taking it further to take place in Malmesbury Town Hall on Wednesday 9 March at 7.30 pm. The meeting will explain the process involved in planning the routes, ensuring they are in good condition and producing a booklet to promote them.

Crimestoppers Property Protect

Crime-fighting charity, Crimestoppers has launched its first ever product – Crimestoppers Property Protect. This is a clear liquid solution which contains a combination of micro-particles to provide a unique code number. Simply dab it onto valuable items to give them their own coded fingerprint. This code is registered exclusively to the owner via a property registration database. If the items are lost or stolen there is an increased chance of them being returned to their rightful owner.

Michael Laurie CBE, Crimestoppers' Chief Executive said; 'this is an exciting development for the charity not only will the product help people to protect their property but at the same time it will raise vital funds for the charity.'

Crimestoppers Property Protector is priced at £34.99 and if you buy online at www.crimestopperspropertyprotector.com you will receive a £7.50 discount, just quote the voucher code CS175. The offer ends 31 March 2011.

Crackling

James Morton's Porkchop gave an absolutely tremendous performance in the village hall last month and received a greatly deserved standing ovation.

The musicianship of James Morton (alto saxophone), Denny Ilett (guitar), Dan Moore (Hammond organ) and Ian Matthews (drums and percussion) was quite breathtaking. It was interesting to learn that Ian Matthews is also the drummer for the band Kasabian.

Porkchop were brought to Sherston by Rural Arts Wiltshire which provides high quality art events for rural communities. The next event will be in the autumn hopefully as part of Sherston Arts Festival 2011.

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Don't tell I, tell 'ee!


The Sherston Timeline compiled by the Wiltshire Libraries & Heritage section of Wiltshire Council which was published in last month's edition brought an excellent response from readers and it is clear that there is great interest in the history of the parish. For those who have queries and comments on the contents of the Timeline or additional information to be included please email localstudies@wiltshire.gov.uk or phone 01249 705500.

Small Ads

Room wanted for young couple on Boules Day weekend (15th & 16th of July)
Please contact Tony Towle on 840574

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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PAWS

The Participatory Art Workshops Scheme or PAWS as it is better known, provides arts workshops for community groups at their own locations in Wiltshire and is run by Wiltshire Council.

Who can apply?

PAWS are open to any group, formal or informal, based in the villages and towns in Wiltshire which are interested in taking part in creative activities. Groups do not need any arts experience to take part in the scheme. They can include: youth groups, older people's clubs, disability groups, uniformed groups, homelessness projects, community associations, environmental groups, holiday play schemes, school groups, with priority given to out-of-school activities, family clubs, day centre groups, Women's Institutes.

Courses cost the group just £30 plus materials. This is a great opportunity to try a range of art forms, with tuition from experts. For further information go to www.participatoryartswiltshire.co.uk

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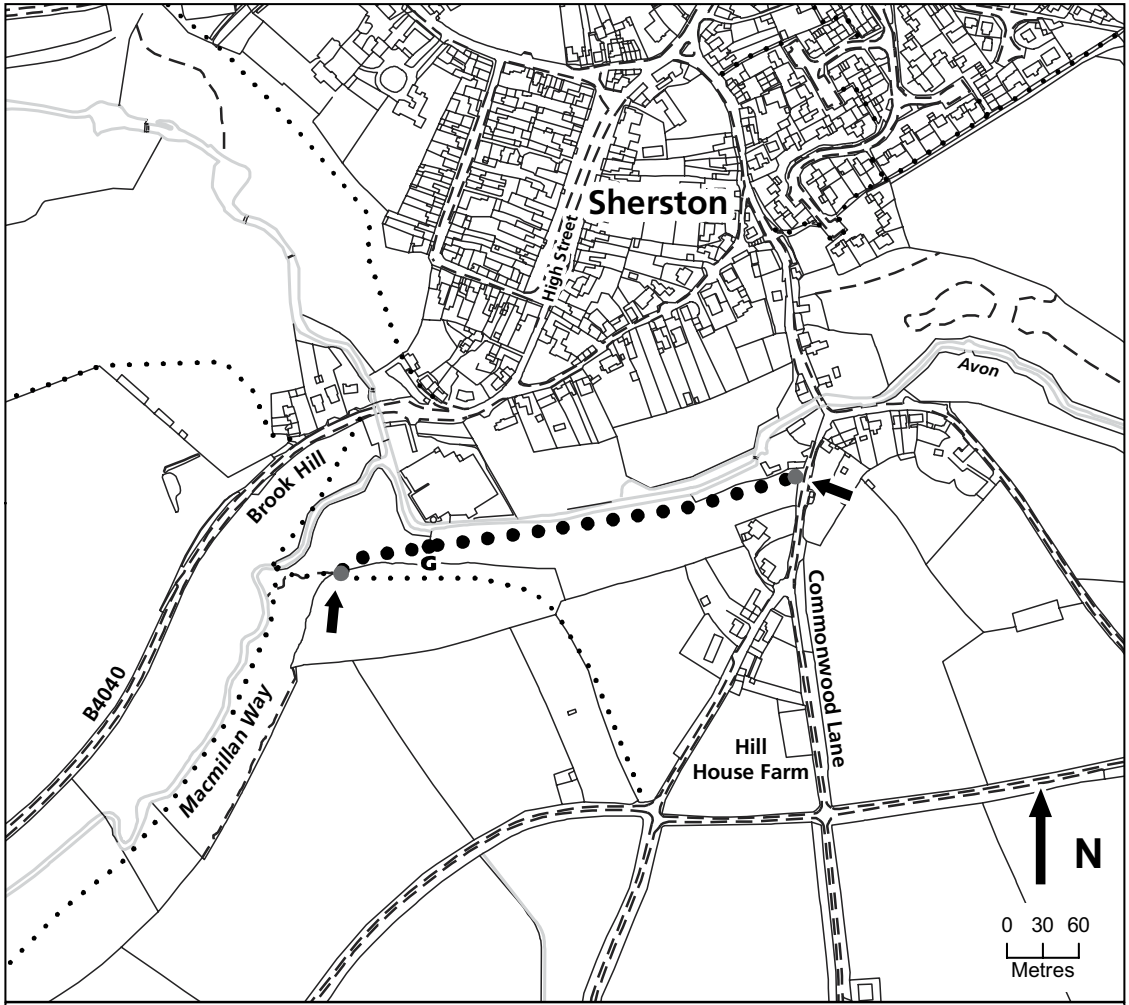
Keen walkers may have spotted the notice reproduced below which has appeared on the gateway from Thompsons Hill which leads to the fields running alongside the river to the Grove Wood.






Landowner Richard Smith, who leases Grove Wood to the parish council, has very kindly agreed to provide a permissive access through the fields full details of which are set out below in the notice drawn up by Natural England. No doubt many readers will have noted the one mistake – the reference to chalk grassland when it should of course be limestone grassland!

The granting of this access is greatly welcomed as it officially opens up a lovely walk which can be enjoyed by all.

PERMISSIVE ACCESS

This permissive footpath, to the south of picturesque village of Sherston, crosses land which is being farmed by extensive grazing without the use of chemicals or fertilisers to conserve and enhance the wildflower and invertebrate interest of the chalk grassland. It also provides a circular route for members of the public to enjoy.



Grid Ref ST 852 855 Ref Nos AG00298111 34/423/0001	  	Entry/exit point You Are Here Gate	 	Permissive Footpath Public Footpath
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This access has been provided under the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' farm conservation schemes as managed by Natural England, which help farmers and land managers protect and improve the countryside, its wildlife and history. It is permissive access and no new rights of way are being created. Existing rights of way are not affected. Please follow the Countryside Code and observe any other requirements shown above. Do not disturb wildlife, livestock or other visitors and in particular keep dogs under control. This is working farmland so please take care; people using this site do so at their own risk. Access ends on 30th September 2019.


For access related queries please call the Environmental Stewardship Permissive Access Team on 0300 060 1114 (Office Hours).
For all other Defra related queries please contact the Defra Helpline on 08459 335577 (Office Hours).

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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

With the arrival of spring heralding the start of the mangold growing season there is a palpable air of anticipation around the parish or as some would say a whiff of brassica.


Later in the month supplies of Yellow Eckendorf seed will be available from Sherston Post Office Stores. In addition, and with luck, a small quantity of the much coveted variety Long Red Mammoth should be to hand. Please note however that the supply of this seed will only be available on personal application to the Keeper of the Technique Miss Jennie Lamont. As yet her criteria and indeed methods, for assessing an applicant's suitability to receive a portion have yet to be announced. It is understood that she already has a large number of members craving her attention.

March also means a busy month for Mr Graham Hayman in his capacity of Keeper of the Lists who already has a heavy schedule of prospective Mangold Maids to put through their entrance examinations before he is able to whittle them down to three of the calibre required for this exciting and rewarding post. It is of course for the members of the Ancient Order at the Choosing to determine this year's Mangold Maid. By tradition this takes place at the

AGM which as readers know always takes place on the nearest Saturday to the anniversary of the disappearance of Lobber Jenkins in the Australian outback – 4 April. This year's meeting will therefore be on Saturday 2 April. As usual and to avoid any interference by the legal authorities, the exact time and venue will not be announced until the April edition of the Cliffhanger.

Many will recall the recent comments on the inadequacies of Mr Jason Read in his role as Keeper of the Maids. With it becoming increasingly clear that he can only just be expected to handle the Mangold Maid herself the task of meeting the demands of previous and prospective maids must now fall to another. Naturally there has been much interest in this position from far and wide – even Brook End. Accordingly Miss Jo Richardson, one of our finest recent maids, has been set the enviable task of determining who should have the honour of this exacting task. Should you wish to know more of what is expected of you please do not hesitate to approach Miss Richardson direct.

Yarp!

The Keeper the Quill 



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- *The Times*, 3rd December 2010.

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www.rhwestonbirt.co.uk

Cricket

Sherston Magna Cricket Club is continuing with senior winter cricket nets at the Activity Zone, Bremilham Road, Malmesbury from 7pm to 8pm every Sunday in March and on 3 April. New players are more than welcome. The club collects £3 per person for the hour to cover the cost of hiring the hall.

If you want to keep up with all the latest news of the cricket club, such as early season fixtures or statistics and averages from seasons gone by, then there is a dedicated website for Sherston Magna Cricket Club at www.sherstonmagna.play-cricket.com

	FOREST GREEN ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB	
	MARCH	
	at The New Lawn	
	Tuesday 1st - k.o. 7.45pm LUTON TOWN	Admission Prices: Adults: £15 Seated £13 Standing Conc: £10 Seated £8 Standing ALL KIDS £2 (under 16 years of age) For further details on any of these or future fixtures call 01453 834860 www.forestgreenroversfc.com www.fgrtrust.com
	Saturday 12th - k.o. 3pm BARROW	Bring a Mate - Double the Gate!
Saturday 19th - k.o. 3pm NEWPORT COUNTY		
<small>Forest Green Rovers F.C., The New Lawn, Smiths Way, Nailsworth, Glos. GL6 0FG</small>		

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Sherston helps Malmesbury-A Under 10s Finish Top



In alphabetical order: Peter Ashcroft, Jack Bather, Angus Booth, Joe Chivers, Ben Corbett ('Big Show'), Max Hill-Palmer, George Luckett, Charlie Martin, Findlay McLeish, André van Rooyen, Dan Smith, Ryan Spall, Samuel Tasker, Jack Wall, Jack Williams, Sam Watling,

The boys have worked really hard this season as a team and have really enjoyed the challenge. We came up against some strong teams, but the boys just kept battling on. It's been a fantastic season for the boys and all involved. To top things off they have remained undefeated. It's been our first season in the mid Wilts youth and minor league, division [red] under 10s and we finished top. Great team work boys. Many of the squad are from Sherston.

Many thanks to the coaches Jason Martin and Barry Spall of Sherston.



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Playing for high steaks at the Rovers?

By Tim Barnard

Well, yes, as usual.

Chairman Dale Vince's decision to stop offering red meat for sale at Forest Green Rovers raised eyebrows both nationwide and locally with the story being a hot topic in papers ranging from 'The Sun' to 'The Independent', as well as BBC TV and at least three national radio stations.

It's now down to the chefs at FGR to come up with dishes for match days and events that will tickle taste buds, and be in keeping with Dale's principles. A Green menu for Forest Green?

Will there be something that you will enjoy getting your teeth into? The proof won't be in the pudding, it'll be the main course.

But... if you are going up for one of the big matches this month, don't worry, chips and curry sauce will be there; a vegan specialty.



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Saturday 5th March
10.30am - 1.00pm

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brasserie, wines by Castello Banfi, coffee and petit fours

15th March

SPRING ARRANGEMENTS WITH RACHEL WILSON

£85 includes demonstration, three-course lunch, a glass
of wine and your own spring basket to take home

27th March

SUNDAY CINEMA SCREENING 'KNIGHT AND DAY'

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3rd April

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Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop -

Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade cakes

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 Church for Children

Children are welcome at all the services which are held in the Gauzebrook Group churches but there are some occasions which are particularly for them:

A Family Service is held at Holy Cross Church in Sherston at 9.30am on the third Sunday of each month. There are Family Services at other churches in the Group on other Sundays – see The Parish Life for details
Junior Church is held at Court House, Hullavington at 11.00am on the second Sunday of each month, except for August. This is for children from 3 to 11+. Any children under 3 need to be accompanied by an adult

Little Lights is an informal service and meeting, with play, squash and biscuits, for pre-school children and their parents/carers at Hullavington Church 10.30 – 11.30am every other Thursday. Contact Chantal Bryan for more information on 01666 837522

If you would like there to be more provision in Sherston for your children, the PCC and ministry team are looking for people who would like to help organise and run this. If that could be you please contact Revd. Christopher Bryan on 01666 837522 or Christopher.bryan123@btinternet.com or Sue Robinson, churchwarden on 841263

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.

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 Embroiderer's Guild

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

Malmesbury Luncheon Club

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

Malmesbury Netball Club

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

Malmesbury & Villages Community Partnership

For details contact Sue Webb 824620

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. There is a lane reserved for the more serious swimmers. 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:

Tues evenings 7pm onwards - contact Belinda Robinson on 840316
Fri 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@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

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

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

April

- 2 Will & Kate's Stag & Hen
 15-16 Sherston Entertainment-Drama Group
 21-25 Badminton Horse Trials
 29 Royal Wedding

May

- 7 Plant sale

June

- 5 Woodland Frolic
 Luckington Open Gardens
 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
 26 Church Bazaar

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 Mar
 Pancake night Shrove Tuesday 8 Mar
 St Patrick's Night Guinness Promotion
 Thurs 17 Mar
 Live Music 25 Mar
 Chinese Night Wed 30 Mar 3 courses £9.95
 Check boards for more details of events
Further details contact 840665

The Rattlebone Inn

6 Nations Rugby all major matches shown on a big screen
 Monday Quiz Nights Every Monday at 7:30pm
 Free entry and prizes for the winning team
 Gourmet food and wine tasting Thurs 10 Mar
 Wine expert Sarah Joll will guide you through the wines accompanying a 5 course tasting menu £45
 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, coppice and then plant trees and hedges in Grove Wood
 Every Sunday 10am - 1pm finishing with hot homemade soup
Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Sherston's Living Churchyard

Please come and join in the work in the churchyard on Saturday 12 March from 10am to 12 noon, weather permitting. Continues every Saturday till Winter
 Church of the Holy Cross
Further details contact Sue Robinson on 841263

SHOCC

Sherston Occasional Community Choir

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*

Clematis clinic

Sat 5 Mar at 2.30pm 40 minute talk followed by Q&A with Martin Rea's legendary mulled wine Sherston Parva Nursery
Further details contact 840348 or email:sherstonparva@aol.com

World Book Night

Sat 5 Mar - Sherston is to get 48 copies of Margaret Attwood's Booker prize winning novel 'Blind Assassin'. Copies will be distributed and left in places where you can pick them up, take them home, pass them on, share them with family and friends.

Further details contact If you would like a copy contact suemckechnie@hotmail.com or 01666 840601 or www.worldbooknight.org

1016 Pancake Eating Competition

Shrove Tues 8 Mar from 7.30pm £2 entry - all proceeds to the seniors' Christmas vouchers The Rattlebone Inn

Further details contact Richard Langley on 840112 or 07879 612776

Sherston's Got Talent, Have You?

Auditions and rehearsals for the big show in April
 Thurs 10 Mar 7.30-9pm 7.30pm
 Village Hall

Further details contact Richard 840092 (evenings) richard.skeffington@virgin.net or Graham 840978 (evenings) ginstrell@hotmail.co.uk

70s night with the Village People and Liquid Colour Disco in aid of Sherston Primary School

Dig out those platform shoes and hot-pants for a night of glam-rock and disco in the village hall all in aid of Sherston Primary School

Sat 12 Mar 8pm - midnight Fully licensed bar
 Tickets £8 from the post office or Rattlebone Inn.
 Village Hall

Further details contact Emma 840317

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

Sue's Strolls – special link up with Norton

Sun 27 Mar starting from the village hall at 11am, (minibus from Norton at 10.30am for those wishing to join in) walk to Norton. Complimentary snack at the Vine Tree. Either walk back via a different route or take the minibus provided. Suitable for all, including children and dogs on leads.

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

Junior Choir Mothering Sunday Celebration Performance

Sun 3 Apr 11 - 12 noon Community Church, Cliff Rd
Further details contact Mary Clements or clementsmary@tiscali.co.uk

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Walks: Breakthrough Breast Cancer Crocus Walk
 Sun 6 Mar 11am Cost of walk £5.00. Free admission for walkers Please wear pink

Workshops: Beginners Digital Photography
 Fri 18 Mar 10.30-3.30pm £55 - limited to 10 places
 Booking essential: contact Graham Light on 01285 653069 or email consult@abbey-studios.co.uk

Willow Structures for the Garden

Fri 1 Apr 10.30-3.30 £60 . Bring your lunch or use the cafe Spend an enjoyable day creating your own willow structures to support and enhance your garden. You can expect to make three or four large structures so leave plenty of space in your car for the journey home. All tools and materials supplied.

Booking essential contact Norah Kennedy on 01453 751010 or email norah.k@virgin.net

Specialist Wood Sales

2nd Saturday and Sunday every month in aid of FOWA
Summer Concerts - tickets now on sale

Simple Minds Fri 17 Jun; **Erasure** supported by **Sophie Ellis-Bexter** Sat 18 Jun and **Scouting for Girls** Sun 19 Jun; **Texas** Sun 17 Jul (15 and 16 July artists TBA) Tickets £28-35 plus booking fee from 03000 680400 or www.forestry.gov.uk/music
 Spring / Summer (till 30 Sep) Admission £8 adult /£7 concs/ £3 chd under 5s free

Further details contact 880220 or www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School

Westonbirt School's Got Talent Music Ensemble Extravaganza Thur 3 Mar 1.30pm

Spring Fashion Show Fri 4 Mar 7pm Prosecco reception, 2 course supper with coffee and a local fashion show £20

School Production - a popular colourful musical
 133 cast members and a live professional band Fri 25 and Sat 26 Mar 7.30pm £5 / chd £3.50

Further details contact 880333 or breid@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

Didmarton

Duke of Beaufort's Hunt Point to Point at Didmarton

First Sat in March – 5 Mar First race starts at 12.30. Countrywear tradestands, refreshments. Wrap up warm against the wind as course very exposed. £10 entry to the racecourse. Parking on site (chargeable). Off A433, GL9 1EA.

Highgrove House

Tetbury Art Society Annual Public Lecture

Roy Baker Memorial lecture by Nicky Philipps (portrait painter of TRH Princes William and Harry) Wed 16 Mar 2.15pm £25 includes tea & cake. All proceeds to the Prince's Charities Foundation. Advance booking only
The Orchard Room, Highgrove House
Further details contact Gill Ashley 840993

Easton Grey

Whatley Manor

Jazz Sundays with The Solent City Jazzmen
3 course menu in Le Mazot from 12-3.30pm £39

Spring arrangements with Rachel Wilson

The in-house florist will help you create your own spring basket Tues 15 Mar 10am for 10:30 start £85 includes demonstration, materials, 3 course lunch with a glass of wine and refreshments throughout the day

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner

'Knight and Day' starring Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz Sun 27 Mar £39 includes film, popcorn and either a 3 course lunch or dinner

*Further details contact 834026 or
www.whatleymanor.com*

Malmesbury

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

*Further details contact
Nicki Heenan 840883 or
nicki.heenan@btinternet.com*

Discover Health Event

Sat 9 Apr 12pm-3pm
Different health therapists offering free checks, advice and information including chiropractic, chiropody, nutritional therapy, yoga, personal training and more including free teas and cake for donation to Bath Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
PD Fitness, Stainsbridge Mill, Malmesbury
(behind the fire station)

*Further details contact
Emma Newby 01666 841402
emma@mctimoneychiro.co.uk*

White Horse Pictures -

Digital movie screenings

Movies on Mondays - Town Hall

Mon 14 Mar

Black Swan (15) 2pm and 8pm ;

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 5pm £6 at 8pm / 2pm and 5pm £4 / £3 chd

*Further details contact 822143 or
www.whitehorsepictures.co.uk/venues/wiltshire-north/
malmesbury-town-hall.htm*



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Malmesbury Abbey Music Society

Concert to start the stunning 40th Anniversary Programme

Malmesbury Singers are opening the 2011 programme with a wonderfully passionate performance of the Verdi Requiem conducted by Iain Duffin with soloists Lesley-Jane Rogers – Soprano, Penelope Davies – Mezzo, Richard Roberts – Tenor, Paul Reeves – Bass
Sat 9 Apr 7.30pm Tickets from the Abbey Shop or Joy Smith £12, members £10, chd/student £5
Further details contact Joy Smith on 840865

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

'The King's Speech' Wed 23 Mar 7pm

£5 in advance £5.50 on the door

Grittleton Village Hall

Further details contact Lesley 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com

Grittleton, Hullavington & Castle Coombe

Rural Arts Wiltshire

Vamos Theatre: Nursing Lives

A mask theatre production alive with visual inventiveness, evocative music and 1940s dance sequences, celebrating nurses at work and play during World War II Fri 4 Mar 7.30pm Hullavington Village Hall Box office 837569

Pinocchio - a Family Show

Fri 11 Mar 6pm for 6.30pm start (1 hour long) £5.50 / £3.50 chd / Family ticket £16 (2+2) Call Jan on 01279 782798

Barb Jungr: The Men I Love

Britain's most acclaimed song stylist presents a collection of some of the most beautiful songs to have been written on the theme of love. Interpreting songs by Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Neil Diamond Sat 12 Mar 7.30pm Castle Combe Village Hall - Box Office 01249 783403

Further details www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

Hullavington

Children's Good Friday workshop

There will be activities, songs, games, art and craft with delicious refreshments. Fri 22 Apr 10.30am - 2.30pm

St. Mary Magdalene Church

Further details contact Henny Metters 837778

WEA courses

Art course - Gustav Klimt and the Vienna Sezession

5 week course £35 starting Thurs 3 Mar 10am Hullavington village hall

Art Day school - Johannes Vermeer

Sat 19 Mar 10am - 4pm £15 Hullavington village hall
Further details contact David or Muriel Bridge on 01666 502729 or bridge.de@virgin.net

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: **The King's Speech**; 127 Hours; Black Swan; Tangled; The Social Network
Further details contact 01453 844601 or www.wottoneph.co.uk

Cotswold Rural Skills

Dry Stone Walling for beginners

7-8 May Long Compton, 21-22 May Tetbury
2 day course £99

Book ahead to avoid disappointment

Blacksmithing - Taster day 21 May Northleach £99

Further details contact David Molloy on 01451 862000 or david.molloy@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Bath

City of Bath Choir

The City of Bath Bach Choir perform

Mendelssohn's Elijah

The City of Bath Bach choir start the New Year with an absolute masterpiece, Mendelssohn's magnificent oratorio Elijah, with the Wessex Sinfonia leader Adrian Eales & soloists: Roderick Williams – Elijah, May Plazas – soprano, Wendy Dawn Thompson - mezzo
Sat 19 Mar at 7.30 pm Tickets £25, £20, £18, £12.50, £8 concessions and under 16s

Bath Abbey Box Office 01225 463 362

Theatre Royal

Yes, Prime Minister Mon 28 Feb - Sat 5 Mar 7.30pm / 8pm £15-£33.50

The History Boys Mon 7 - Sat 12 Mar 7.30pm / 8pm mat 2.30pm £16.50-£33.50

Corrie! Mon 14 - Sat 19 Mar 7.30pm mat 2pm £9.50-£22

Jeffrey Bernard is Unwell starring Robert Powell Tues 22 - Sat 26 Mar 7.30/8pm mat 2.30 £17-£35

Book ahead for: The Reluctant Debutante; Derek

Jacobi in King Lear; Journey's End; To Kill a Mockingbird; Guys and Dolls; Evita

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

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of Malmesbury



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01666 840060
www.optimummobility.co.uk

Bath Literary Festival

26 Feb - 6 Mar 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

Further details contact 01225 463362 or www.bathlitfest.org.uk

Bath Comedy Festival

1 - 10 Apr Various events throughout Bath city centre including Jo Caulfield, Arthur Smith and Phil Cool Tickets vary from £1-£17

Further details contact 01225 463362 or www.bathcomedyfestival.co.uk/whats-on

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Home matches: Mar 1 7.45pm v Luton Town, Sat 12 3pm v Barrow and Sat 19 3pm v Newport County Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2

Further details contact 01453 834860 or www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Stroud

The Soul Destroyers in concert

Stroud Subscription Rooms Fri 4 Mar £10 advance sales (for parties of 10+ contact Dave for a discount)

Fiddlers Bristol Sat 9 Apr

Further details contact Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or email ds@oldbellhouse.com or www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

The Cotswold Playhouse

Broken Glass 22-26 Mar 7.30pm £11

Further details contact Box Office at Stroud Tourist Information Centre 01453 760960 or www.cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk

Cheltenham

The Gold Cup Festival

Tues 15 Centenary Day - 100 years of the racing festival; Wed 16 Ladies' Day; Thurs 17 St Patrick's Day; The Gold Cup Fri 18 Mar from £18 (except Gold Cup Friday from £30)

Cheltenham Racecourse

Further details contact 0844 579 3003 or www.cheltenham.co.uk/racing/fixtures/the_festival.html



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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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