THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER

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OCTOBER 2009 —

DELIVERED FREE



Some Sherston residents may have been woken in the early hours of Sunday 6 September by a rather unsteady but very welcome rendition of Queen's 'We are the Champions'. This was in joyous celebration of the cricket team's seven wicket victory away to Chedworth the previous afternoon, which meant that Sherston Magna finished the season top of the first division of the Cotswold District Cricket Association. Given that the team only won promotion to the top league in 2008, this was an outstanding achievement.

Although it was the win at Chedworth that secured the title, thanks in no small measure to another fine knock by Richard Cartwright, captain Andy Tremellen was keen to emphasise that Sherston's success was the product of a strong team effort throughout the summer. 'Some guys may have taken glory with wickets, runs and stunning run outs from backward point, but everyone who played – even if it was just one game – played their part,' he said.

True enough. But sparing Andy's blushes, he chipped in with 29 wickets during the season, at 18.2 apiece, with Alan Dickenson (27 at 11.8) and James Harmer (15 at 14.4) also making very notable contributions with the ball. Richard Cartwright and Ollie Cox, meanwhile, both averaged close to 50 with

the bat, while the ever-dependable Kevin Smith took nine catches behind the stumps.

Congratulations were received from a number of Sherston's competitors, including the captain of the runners-up, Oakridge. 'I would think it has been a while since a team has had back-to-back titles in the CDCA,' he wrote. 'It is, or has been, quite a step for many clubs, including us, to compete in division one.'

As Andy was quick to point out, it is not just the players who deserve thanks for their contribution to the summer's success. 'Thank you to all the guys who put their hands up for other duties, such as the teas, the mowing of the outfield, Richie Cartwright for the tracks, and all those who drove to various grounds without getting a penny back in fuel costs,' he said.

	Р	w	1	С	BatP	BowlP	Pen	Pts	Ave
Sherston Magna CC	18	12	3	3	58	60	0	238	15.87
Oakridge CC	18	11	4	3	55	65	0	230	15.33
Great Rissington CC	18	12	4	2	63	60	0	243	15.19
Adlestrop CC	18	9	5	4	44	58	0	192	13.71
N.A.T.'s CC	18	7	8	3	45	47	0	162	10.8
Cricklade CC	18	8	9	1	42	60	0	182	10.71
South Cerney CC	18	7	8	3	33	53	0	156	10.4
Chedworth CC	18	6	9	3	44	45	0	149	9.93
Windrush Valley CC	18	4	12	2	32	42	0	114	7.13
Coates CC	18	1	15	2	18	30	0	58	3.63

Happy birthday to us

Say it loud and print it bold: Cliffhanger is one year old.

Twelve months – every issue burstin' With what's happening in Sherston; Sporting fixtures, Soul Destroyers, Canine capers that annoy us, Bonfire smoke and 'vive le sport!' And dodgy callers at the door, Busy Hands and dancing feet, Parking problems in the street, Footpath walking, mangold hurling, Salsa dancing, New Age Kurling If you've got a tale we'll tell it So let's not be shy, let's yell it –

Yell it loud and print it bold : Cliffhanger is one year old.

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. 400 words would be a maximum but the shorter the better and less editing would be needed.

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

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

Sherston 10K Run

Contributed by Caroline Dickenson

The Sherston 10K Run took place on Sunday 20th September, once again in beautiful sunshine.

99 runners set off from Sherston Cricket Club at 10am and the first two were back in 36 minutes.



Paul Gillham from Chippenham Harriers beat fellow clubman Matthew Marshall into second place by 1/10th of a second with a time of 36.01 minutes. Third place went to Paul Key, also from Chippenham Harriers in 37.22. John Lambert, otherwise known to many as Mr Lambert the PE teacher from Malmesbury School, was fourth in 39.00.



The Ladies competition was won by Nicola Denning from Cirencester AC in 43.00, Second was Sue Stewart-Tanner from Chippenham Harriers in 43.41 and Sherston's Carla Moulder was third in 44.05. Carla therefore

won the First Sherston Ladies prize.

The much fought over First Sherston Men's prize went to Robin Outlaw who came home in 41.19.

The Husband & Wife prize went to Nicola and Martin Denning from Cirencester AC.

Congratulations to everyone who entered from Sherston, especially to Sarah Cadle and Jackie Thomas who took 7minutes and 5 minutes respectively off their times from last year.



A big thank you to our sponsors, DPS Relocation for sponsoring the numbers, medals and prizes, Props Forward for producing the banners and fluorescent jackets and Sherston Post Office Stores for donating the much needed Mars bars at the end of the race.

Dog-gone

We are delighted to report that since we drew attention to the problem of dogs fouling the sports field there has been a tremendous improvement. Dog-owners have responded to our pleas and the footballers can now throw themselves into their sliding tackles and daring dives with only the referee to fear. Maximum points all round.

Brenda hits the target

Sherston resident Brenda Llewellin wants to say a very big thank you to all who have helped with her fundraising for multiple sclerosis research. This includes those who have donated tombola prizes, bought tickets, made cash donations, labelled and folded thousands of tickets and supported her efforts in various ways.

Brenda has just reached her target of £70,000 thanks to the generosity of many people, both in our own locality and in Hertfordshire, where the family lived before moving here.

When her daughter Sally was diagnosed with MS, Brenda decided to start raising money to put into research so that a cure might eventually be found. Since coming to Sherston she has concentrated on tombolas, the most recent of which was at the village party.

Every penny raised has gone directly to Professors Wraith and Scolding at Frenchay Hospital for their stem cell research into MS. No administration costs have been involved. Professor Scolding's work is now at the safety trials stage and Brenda is one of many people hoping and praying for a major breakthrough to benefit the thousands who suffer from this very distressing illness.

Although trying to slow down a little, Brenda will continue fundraising as long as possible, and hopes she may even reach £75,000.

Let there be lights

Last year's low-energy white Christmas lights were such a hit that the parish council may buy more.

The parish council supplies the lights to High Street properties. So High Street householders wishing to be included in the scheme should let the council know as soon as possible.

Contact either Cilla Liddington on 01666 840128 sherstoncilla@tiscali.co.uk or the clerk Sarah Wood on 01666 840351 clerk@sherston.org.uk.

Cliff Road chapel graveyard

As it is more than 60 years since a burial took place here, Health and Safety dictates that falling headstones be re-sited. The intention therefore is to create instead a garden of remembrance with parking facilities. An inventory has been made of all the stones (which will be preserved and displayed), plus inscriptions. This is available to anyone who may be interested (phone 07778 934742). A copy has also been sent, on request, to The Wiltshire History Centre for archive storage.

Remember, remember, the seventh of November

Sherston's bonfire and fireworks extravaganza will take place this year on the evening of Saturday 7 November.

The firework and bonfire event, organised by Sherston 1016, is held on land generously lent each year by the Hillier family at Lower Farm. Members of Sherston 1016 have attended specialist courses on fireworks and public safety, and pride themselves on getting all preparatory works done to a very high standard, with safety being uppermost in their minds. There will be increased stewarding, and a dedicated first aid post.

The event, starting at 6.30pm, is always held on the nearest Saturday evening to 5 November, to enable families to attend together. There will be a barbecue and hot and cold drinks on sale.

Please wear sensible footwear, with wellingtons being preferable, especially if it's wet underfoot. It's also advisable to wear older clothes, just in case you spill tomato ketchup down your front. It's not a high-fashion event, and after all you'll be in a farmer's field.

Sparklers are not permitted at the display for safety reasons, but safe light-sabres and light-ropes will be on sale.

Entrance charges (non-refundable) are the same as last year, at £5 per adult and £3 per child on the gate, or £12 for an advance family ticket for 2 adults and 3 children, available from the post office.

If you can spare a few hours to help set up the field during the daylight hours of Saturday 7 November, please phone 01666 840728 (daytime) or 840112.

Combustible material should be taken to the site during the week leading up to the Saturday, and put over the wall into the bonfire field, which is on the right as you approach the farm buildings.

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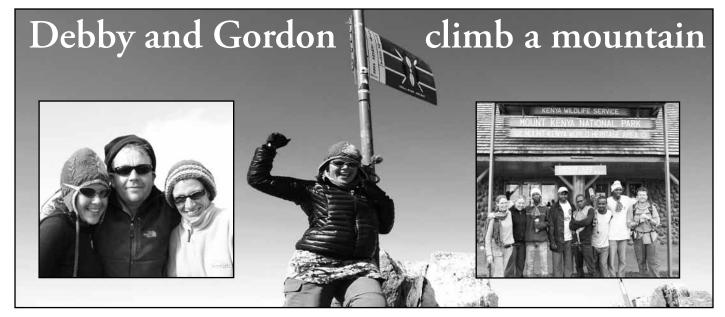
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Sherston School has special links with a school in Kenya which has renamed itself Sherston Musul.

Sherston School deputy head Mrs Debby Liddle and her husband Gordon climbed Mount Kenya in August to raise awareness of Sherston Musul School and to raise funds through sponsorship and donations. Images have been posted on the web site www.sherstonmusul.com.

Debby and Gordon were accompanied by Gill Elias, a supporter and friend of Sherston Musul, together with porters, cook and guide. They also visited the school and learned about other community projects. They had meetings with the school committee members and with Maasai elder Erik Ole Kasana which enabled them to gauge needs and priorities and also see solutions in the field as they look at increasing their efforts in support of the school and community. They also met many children, families and people who use the schools and clinics, largely staffed by volunteers.

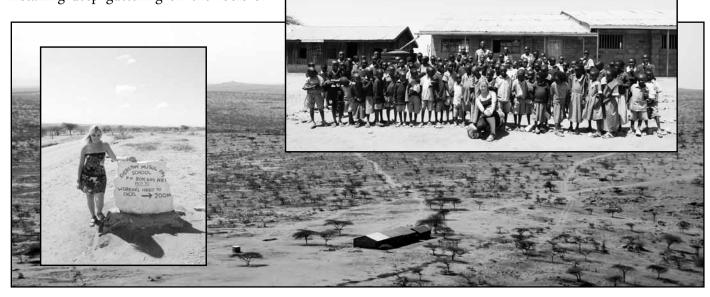
This part of Kenya has suffered from two continuous years of drought. Donations already raised in Sherston School this year will go towards a water preservation and collection scheme for the school building and installing deep guttering on the roofs of

three classrooms and a nursery and supplying an additional 6000 litre water tank.

The next priorities are: school resources (books, toys, teaching aids, sports equipment), additional classrooms, food store and kitchen, toilets, four-room building for government teacher accommodation, fencing to keep wildlife out of school, and a long term goal of developing a sand dam reservoir and other community schemes to make the community self- sufficient.

Debby and Gordon are still taking donations, payable to D.Liddle c/o Sherston CE School, Knockdown Road, Sherston SN16 0NJ. Alternatively, if you are interested in longer term support or larger one-off donations or even monthly donations contact Gordon Liddle, c/o Sherston Musul School, 58 High Street, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 0HF or email him at gordyliddle@hotmail.com. You can also donate online at www.sherstonmusul.com.

Finally, if there are any commercial airline pilots or indeed RAF who think it might be possible to piggyback on spare or donated capacity to Kenya in order to deliver school resources to the school please contact Gordon.



Sherston Living Churchyard

As the autumn arrives the pace of life in the churchyard is slowing down, so the exciting wildlife discoveries of earlier in the year are not being repeated now. That does not mean, however, that nothing is happening in the Living Churchyard project.

Our stall at the village party on 31 August raised a lot of interest, from people as far away as Yorkshire as well as from villagers. The result has been the recruitment of quite a number of new volunteers and, I believe, news of the Living Churchyard project being taken home to several congregations around England. I hope that they are already planning to follow the lead of Sherston and many other churches and their communities, and are going to start their own Living Churchyards.

Now that more people have offered to work in the churchyard, I hope to start regular meetings when work can be planned and carried out. The first of these, on 19 September, will be over by the time you read this but watch out for details of further ones. More help will always be welcome, so do please come along whenever you can. I will also be reporting on what we achieve in the churchyard as we try to make it a real wildlife haven.

On 18 or 19 September the Sherston Living Churchyard project will have taken part in National Moth Night, weather permitting. As I write this we are experiencing an Indian summer which I hope will last long enough to bring the moths, and lots of interested people, to the churchyard that night. The information about types of moth collected is going to form part of an annual national survey that will help efforts to understand and conserve moths.

Moths may not be as attractive and immediately noticeable as butterflies, but there are very many more varieties of them than of butterflies. I know that at least one type has been attracting attention in Sherston recently, as several people came and asked me to identify it at the village party. After looking at

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Contact Busy Hands on 07766 714544 Registered charity no. 296903 a mobile phone picture and listening to descriptions I was able to name the spectacular hummingbird hawkmoth which, as its name suggests, hovers like a hummingbird to take nectar from flowers.

Please keep reading the news and supporting the project. All offers of help are welcome.

Sue Robinson 01666 841263

LBT in the village hall

This is not about a lettuce, bacon and tomato sandwich.

The initials stand for 'Legs, bums and tums', a fitness class suitable for all ages and all levels of fitness, taking place in the village hall on Wednesday evenings.

The class starts with 30 minutes of easy aerobics designed to burn calories, and is followed by an all over body work-out and relaxing cool down. The session leaves participants feeling invigorated and well worked.

There's no need to book, just turn up on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. The class costs £4.50. For more information call Ruth King on 07734 886275.





Beans aplenty

The first crop of climbing French beans, picked at the start of term at Sherston School in the new allotment area within the school grounds, were cooked and eaten for lunch on the same day. Grown by Year Four children in Chestnut Class, pictured planting the seed back in June.



New wall for school

Contributed by Crispian Huggill, Sherston School Environment Area group



Head teacher Nick Bowditch leads a group of children as they watch the new dry stone wall taking shape on Sopworth Road.

Noel Banks and his team of volunteers have been able to show their skills to many of the children. We are very grateful to them, to Knockdown Stone for generously supplying all the Cotswold stone, and to Peter Bishop at Wildlife World, Chavenage for donating special 'bee bricks' to encourage both bumble bees and solitary bees to take up residence in our superb new wall.

An application for grant funding has been submitted to Wessex Water. If successful, we hope soon to begin work constructing a pond, with a dipping platform and boggy area. This will mark the beginning of phase

Community speedwatch

Sgt Martin Alvis of Malmesbury police recently demonstrated this scheme to some members of the parish council one weekday morning between 8am and 9am at Easton Town. Not surprisingly a number of drivers were found to be exceeding the speed limit. The demonstration used what are referred to locally as 'Thomson guns' to indicate a vehicle's speed. A fully operational speedwatch scheme will require a more sophisticated piece of equipment to meet the necessary legal requirements.

Parish council has agreed to take forward the establishment of a scheme for Sherston and is now exploring the funding situation for the equipment. This may best be done by sharing the speed gun with other local communities. It is known that both Luckington and Malmesbury are interested in the scheme.

Community speedwatch needs at least five volunteers to be successful. We have four to date. If you are interested please contact the clerk Sarah Wood on 01666 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk for further details. Some may say this is a job for the police alone but with 49 local communities to cover, the majority of which report speeding as a major concern, they will never be able to tackle the problem effectively without help from those who complain.



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Sherston Women's Institute

Contributed by Ann Wilcox

Sherston W.I. members had a busy day on 3 September, with an outing in the morning and an evening meeting. A coach took us to Highgrove for a garden visit with several members of Minety W.I. joining us. We were given a very comprehensive tour of the garden. Some of us had been on earlier visits so it was interesting to see the development and growth which had taken place in different areas. The arboretum, southern hemisphere garden and stumpery were particularly good. The last part of the tour took us into the Islamic garden which was an enchanting mixture of colour and scents. The vivid dark colours which picked up the colours in the mosaic tiles were wonderful. It was a real oasis of peace and perfume. A welcome cup of tea followed and a chance to browse in the shop completed a great visit.

The evening meeting was a talk given by Jenny Tidman of Nurden's Garden Centre on 'Border colour in the garden'. She had brought a large selection of plants and showed us that placing a plant in the right position was important. Height, colour and habit must be considered. Tips were given for pruning and protection of vulnerable plants. She showed new types of plants and emphasised the importance of scent. Many questions were asked at the conclusion of the talk and she was warmly thanked by Brenda Llewellin.

President Maureen Jolliffe told members that Joyce Butler was now home from hospital and making a good recovery. She also reminded members of the next meeting on 5 November at the village hall when there would be a talk on British butterflies by Derek Remington.

Our next meeting will be a lunch at The Rattlebone Inn on Thursday 1 October to mark our 69th birthday. There will not be a W.I. meeting in the village hall that evening.

The Group Meeting on 5 October is at Charlton village hall when there will be a demonstration of flower arranging with the theme of a Victorian Christmas. The competition for this is a homemade Christmas card.



New head for Rose Hill

Rose Hill Westonbirt Preparatory School has recently acquired a new head teacher. Mr Neil Shaw, pictured here with some of this term's new pupils, was formerly headmaster of Kingswood Preparatory and Nursery School in Solihull.

Details of a forthcoming open morning at Rose Hill are to be found in our What's On section, where you will also find details of several events that are being hosted by Westonbirt School.



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TREEtalk

Oct 2009

Contributed by Irene Johnston

With work starting now in Grove Wood, here is a 'beginners' guide' to coppicing.

Coppiced woodland contains standard or mature trees that should be well-spaced and block out the minimum of light on the shrubs and plants below. The shrub layer is managed by cutting back discrete blocks of trees every 15-20 years to leave stumps (known as stools) that then produce long shoots (known as poles). The woodland becomes a mosaic of different stages of growth from recently cut back areas to mature ones about to be cut. The continual opening up of areas allows sunlight to penetrate and woodland plants, such as bluebells and primroses, to flourish. These in turn attract insects, particularly butterflies.

You can tell if a woodland has been coppiced before because trees like oaks that normally have only one trunk have several and you may see the old stump or 'stool' at the bottom. Nowadays there is little economic incentive for coppicing, though many woods are managed in this way specifically for wildlife. When coppicing is re-introduced to a wood after a long break, it is vital to proceed carefully. In the intervening years, it may well have developed a new and significant wildlife interest dependent on the conditions of more mature, high forest. This type of woodland will have many features missing from coppice systems, such as old trees with cracks and fissures that are good for bats and dead wood which is an important resource for invertebrates. Rest assured, 'best practice' will be followed in Grove Wood.

Is it always best to plant native trees in a community wood?

Just to complicate matters, sometimes the trees you plant may not be as 'native' as you think! Very few, so-called British native trees are entirely British. For hundreds of years, alien plants have been brought into the country for all sorts of reasons. For instance, the English elm was imported by Neolithic farmers for fodder and cattle bedding.

And finally,

There are an estimated 4 billion trees in Britain, of which about 123 million grow outside of forests and woodland.

The Wollemi Pine from Australia is the latest non-native tree to be introduced (2004).

A 'tree hugger' is a slang term for environmentalists. It originated in 1973 when villagers, opposed to commercial logging, hugged the trees in a remote Indian valley.

Contact Sherston's Tree Warden, Irene Johnston on tel: 01666 841273 or email: Ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk

Sherston Drama Group panto

Contributed by Richard Skeffington

Sherston Drama Group kick off the pantomime season at the end of October with Beauty and the Beast by Andrew Hawcroft. Rehearsals have featured some amazing dancing by our young performers, remarkably exaggerated characterisations by our older ones, and a large stuffed pig. In other words we have been having great fun rehearsing this traditional panto and would like to share it with you. Performances are in the village hall at 7.30pm on 27-31 October, and there is also a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 31st. Tickets are on sale from the beginning of October from Sherston Post Office Stores or the box office on 01666 840092. Prices (unchanged from last year) £6.00 for adults, £4.50 OAP/children.

Sherston Arts Festival 9 – 18 October

A reminder that there's an opportunity not only to enjoy performances in the village by first-rate professional artistes, but also to set your own creative juices flowing. Whether you fancy painting, photography, making music, singing songs, weaving the willow, scaring the crows or feeling the felt, here's your chance. It promises to be a week to remember. You can find full details in the festival leaflet and also in our What's On section.

Next parish council meeting

This will be on Thursday 8 October in the village hall at 7.30pm. The meeting is open to all and there are opportunities for you to raise questions and issues of concern. If you cannot make the meetings but have something to raise please contact the clerk Mrs. Sarah Wood on 01666 840351 or email clerk@sherston. org.uk. You can also contact the parish council via the response form on the website www.sherston.org. uk where minutes of meetings can be read.

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Blackberry push

Contributed by Cilla Liddington

It would seem that back in 1918 Sherston had not enjoyed the best of late summers. A report in the North Wilts Herald dated 1 November 1918 told the story of the 'Blackberry Push'.

The total weight of blackberries gathered and despatched in the district for the Ministry of Food was 4 tons 1 quarter 23lbs. This was made up as follows.

Luckington School 3,062lbs Sherston School 2,325lbs Alderton School 1,829 lbs Sopworth School 1,040lbs

Easton Grey Parish 676lbs Foxley School 79lbs.

Mr W Halcombe, head gardener at Easton Grey House, was the central agent for the scheme. The local agents were Miss Dear, Luckington, Mr Greenhill, Sherston, Miss Etherington, Alderton, Mr W Bloombe, Easton Grey, and Miss Vincent, Foxley.

The school children and head teachers who superintended the gathering of the fruits are to be congratulated on the result which was excellent considering the unfavourable weather which prevailed during the whole of the time.

Blackberries were gathered in huge quantities during the First World War for processing into juice and jam to provide an extra source of vitamin C for those serving in the armed forces. The school children would have been allowed time away from their studies to help gather the fruit. It was also common practice at the time to be absent from school to collect nuts and other fruit to help provide sustenance through the long winter months.

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Small ads

A number of readers have suggested a small ads section in the Cliffhanger where services such as gardening and babysitting could be offered as well as items for sale. This seems a good idea but help would be needed to run it. If you feel you have some spare time available to join the Cliffhanger team and take this on, please email editorial@sherstoncliffhanger. co.uk or phone 01666 841405.

Churchyard clearance

Sherston churchyard is very overgrown and in urgent need of some clearance.

Have you got a chainsaw or are you able to help move cut branches from the churchyard to the village bonfire?

A working party is being organised for the afternoon of Saturday 24 October from 12.30 onwards to clear overgrown trees and bushes from the churchyard and to take them to the site of the village bonfire at Lower Farm, Sherston. This work will greatly improve the somewhat neglected appearance of the back of the churchyard and will enable the work of the Living Churchyard project to go ahead in that area. Getting the work done by volunteers will save a lot of money.

This initiative has the support of the parish council. If you think you can help please get in touch with Sue Robinson, Living Churchyard project coordinator tel. 01666 841263.

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Olympic hopeful needs your help

Contributed by Crispian Huggill, Sherston School Environment Area group

Preliminary judging of the children's garden design competition, organised jointly by the London 2012 Olympics and the Royal Horticultural Society,



has resulted in the news that Hannah Clegg, one of the five entrants currently in Sycamore class at Sherston School, has been shortlisted to go forward

for the final judging. This will be a UK-wide public vote hosted on the RHS website www. rhs.org.uk where the six finalists from over eighty entrants nationwide will have their designs on display for three weeks starting 29 September. Voting will close on 21 October. The result will be announced on Saturday 31 October. Details are available on the website, at the school, www.sherston.wilts.sch.uk and at Sherston Post Office Stores.

This is a wonderful achievement. Hannah's design included a wishing tree and some imaginative ways to celebrate famous British medallists. Copies of the five entries are on display in the school entrance foyer. All our entrants put in such a lot of hard work in a very short space of time at the start of the summer holidays. Now we need to spread the word far and wide and get voting for Hannah.

The winning finalist will join an RHS and London 2012 team to design a garden that will be built in the Olympic Park; a garden recognisably British, that celebrates the 2012 Games, our heritage as a nation of gardeners, and British Olympic achievement. It will seek to represent the principles of the modern games and the original Victorian Much Wenlock games, and 'to create a space that visitors will feel that they are walking through someone's garden'. There will be press and media coverage and site visits while the garden is under construction.



Village party

A full report on the village party will appear in the November Cliffhanger. But we couldn't let this issue go by without saying what a splendid occasion it was.

In response to a request from some of our readers, we'd like to say that although many people worked hard to make the village party a success, we're sure none of them will begrudge our singling out Martin Rea who gave unstintingly of his time and energy to bring it all together. And no doubt will do it all over again next year. Many thanks, Martin.

If you have any good photographs of the party, please email them to us for our November article. By then we may need them to remind us of a jolly day spent outdoors.

A thank you to all advertisers

As this is our first anniversary issue we would like to use the opportunity to thank all the companies and organisations that have taken advertising space in the Cliffhanger. Your continued support will help ensure the publication's ongoing success.

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MATRIX

CALIFORNATAN

THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

With October comes 'mangold mania' as members of the Order commence a whirlwind of hurling matches both within the parish and further afield. There is no doubt that the traditional cry of 'E be placed!' signifying the commencement of a hurl will be heard far and wide this autumn. Whilst most of these matches are still closed affairs the Sherston Hurl on Sunday 4 October at 2pm on the Great Field (adjoining the village hall) is open to all.

Indeed this ancient hurl has attracted a record entry of teams including one from Cardiff. 'Numbers are definitely up but we have plenty of room on the village hall field for more' said the Keeper of the Challenges Paul Ormiston. There are also competitions for individuals, children and for the longest hurl. Entry for teams of 3 is £5, individuals £1. To register an entry contact Paul Ormiston on 01666 840694 or pa.ormiston@homecall.co.uk Children's competition free. Entries accepted on the day. For your enjoyment there will be a bar, food, music and stalls with free entry for spectators.

If you're new to mangold hurling please visit www.mangoldhurling.co.uk/html/rules.html . You should note however that certain local rules apply to the Sherston hurl which are somewhat at odds with those of the Mangold Hurling Association. In particular the Sherston Order dissociates itself completely from Rule 4.9 – the so called 'Equal Opportunities Policy'. For the avoidance of doubt Sherston welcomes all participants regardless of race, creed or gender.

This season's crop looks set to be one of the best both in size and quantity. Sid Young, the Keeper of the Crop, is already making plans for the lifting



Selecting a mangold for hurling

and transport of the mangolds well in advance of the hurl with assistance from Sherston Scouts. 'Some of the plants are enormous despite the recent dry weather,' said Sid 'and there certainly won't be any problems on the day in supplying enough plants for hurling.'

To deal with what looks like being a glut of mangolds, villagers are producing ingenious recipes to take full advantage of the crop. A delicious mangold soup has already been produced by Bill





Tulberg, the founder of Tracklements, and Rob Strong of the Rattlebone Inn has made marvellous mangold crisps. Other culinary delights include mangold pie, lasagne and torte as well as the traditional chutney. So large is the crop that plans are afoot for mangold wine and even beer.

Please be sure not to miss the Anointment of the Normans by a bevy of Mangold Maids past and present at the Rattlebone Inn on Friday 2 October at 9pm. The ceremony is however not suitable for those under 16.

Whilst many of you have been patiently awaiting further revelations on the Alderton Altercation of 1934 you will have to curb your thirst for knowledge on this fascinating event for some time yet. The official historian and archivist for the Order Mrs Cilla Liddington has been inundated with information on the subject. Indeed such is the amount of material received that a special chapter on the Altercation is being considered for inclusion in Cilla's forthcoming biography of Lobber Jenkins.

Good hurling and good luck to all on the 4th. May you hear the shout of 'Willow ee!' as your root hits the ground to next the Norman.

Yarp! The Keeper of the Quill

8 ounces of peeled potatoes 3 ounces of chopped onions two cloves garlic salt and pepper two tablespoonfuls of olive oil dessert spoon of vegetable stock powder 2 pints of water

Jennifer and I both found it excellent.

one pound of peeled Mangold.

Made from one of Lobber Jenkins' purple mangolds,

this soup will give strength to your hurling arm!

Mangold Soup

half a pint of milk.

Ingredients:

Method: sweat the onion and garlic in the olive oil for a few minutes, then add the chunked mangold and potatoes and sweat for a few more minutes. Then add a little salt and pepper, the vegetable stock and 2 pints of water. Simmer for half an hour, then liquidise in two batches. At this point I add half the milk to each batch. Check the seasoning, return to the boil then serve.

The above recipe makes approximately 3 1/2 pints of soup, six normal or four generous servings. I sprinkle a little chopped parsley or chive on top before serving.

William Tulberg September 2009

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The Sherston Mangold Hurl 2009 Sunday 4 October at 2pm The Great Field Sherston (adjoining the village hall)

Order of play

2.02 Sounding of the Great Horn of Moyne and the Horn of Bone

2 09 Arrival of the Mangold Maid Miss Amelie Smith

2.13 Entry of the Mangold Cart

2.19 Ode to a Mangold Hurl

2.23 Opening Speeches

2.24 Lighting of the Brassica Bowl

2.29 A Mangold Song

2.33 Mass Hurl in the 'Agincourt' style

2.37 Placing of the first Norman by the Mangold Maid

2.42 Commencement of the Hurl

The time for the prize giving at the end of the hurl is entirely dependent on the number of entrants taking part and the time taken in settling disputed hurls. Please note the above times are purely approximate.

Village hall 200+ club

August Winners

1st	M.McKenna (no. 251)	£11
2nd	Joan Butler (no.54)	£10
3rd	Jill Ashley (no.64)	£9
4th	Martin Ward (no.120)	£8
5th	Brenda Moulder (no.212)	£7
6th	Gwen Waddington (no.23)	£6
7th	Shirley Wood (no.61)	£5

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



Mangold Hurler possibly at the Much Wenlock Olympic Games 1850



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Michaelmas walk

The first of the parish footpath group's occasional walks on seasonal themes based around the quarter and cross quarter days takes place on Sunday 4 October starting at 10am from the village hall and returning to the Rattlebone Inn shortly after 12 noon. The quarter day celebrated is Michaelmas and Jason Read at the Rattlebone will be kindly providing a complimentary seasonal dish for all those taking part. The event is free with no need to book - just turn up with stout footwear and clothing suitable for the weather on the day. Children accompanied by adults are particularly welcome, especially as there is an opportunity to collect tree seeds for the Grove Wood project along the way. Well behaved dogs on leads can come too. For further information contact SueMcKechnie on 840601 or suemckechnie@ hotmail.com.

Michaelmas Day is the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, celebrated on 29th September and one of the four quarter days of the year. St. Michael is the patron saint of the sea and maritime lands, of ships and boatmen, of horses and horsemen. He was also the angel who hurled the devil down from heaven for his treachery. Folklore holds that he landed in a bramble bush. He cursed its prickly fruit, scorching the berries with his fiery breath, stamping on them, spitting on them and generally making them unsuitable for human consumption.





Telephone: 01666 841 346

Legend suggests he renews his curse annually on Michaelmas Day and therefore it is very unlucky to gather blackberries after this date. Michaelmas Day is traditionally the last day of the harvest season.

For more information about Michaelmas as well as other feast days and festivities visit www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/year/index.htm

If you're interested in the work of the footpath group, come along to its next meeting on Wednesday 7 October at 7.30 pm in the village hall. Minutes of past meetings can be viewed at www.sherston.org.uk



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Thursday 9.30 -11.00 at Chedworth 12.30 - 2.00 at Tetbury

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT Susan (BWY Teacher) 01285 651150

Sherston Football Club

Contributed by manager Pete Brock

The team is doing very well with three wins from three games in the league, 18 goals for us and only two against, one of which was by Chaz Parkes while I was keeping goal. This was quality but just at the wrong end of the pitch. Once we pointed him in the right direction he scored another great goal at the right end.

We had another great win in the charity cup and are awaiting the next round draw.

The boys are playing really well, with Joe Neale in goal making a huge difference for us and in front of him is Gavin Thompson, a master at reading the game. We have a few injured players at the moment like Greg Hughes who after scoring his first goal for the club with a great header pulled up with some kind of muscle tear (I assume he must have been celebrating too much) but he is on the mend. Rob Outlaw is still flying up and down the line like a man half his age (I just wish he would take the ball with him). Tommy and Trim Bourne are truly great athletes. The midfield line up includes Kev (Ting Tong) Bridgeman who looks too heavy to run but is very mobile when he gets going and we would struggle without him (the only trouble we have is when he falls over, it takes three of us to pick him up). Up front we have had a few different combinations but at the moment it is great with Andy Wicks, Benny Wright, Chaz Parkes all scoring, with Mike Ward scoring the odd goal and working hard for the team as are the Salt boys Adam and Chris.

Everyone involved with the club is an asset. JoJo is still doing her thing with the boys and her sponge (I think I may have to look into that one) and Ady Mynes is directing from the side lines. It's good to see local lads like Mike Ward coming back to his hometown club. He says he will stay till the rest of his hair falls out, so we may get a couple more games out of him yet.

On a different note, I would like to pass on thanks from my family for the support from friends and players at a difficult time after the sad loss of my mother.

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Sherston Youth FC

Contributed by manager Owen Fitzpatrick

Our season is now in full swing. Our first game was cancelled due to the opposition not registering their players in time. The next game was against GOAN of Swindon. At one stage we were 2-1 down, our goal scored by our new captain, Jake Fortune. In the second half we equalised with a well-taken goal by Ross Mynes. With minutes to go Jake Fortune came from nowhere to pop in a thoroughly deserved winner. As a team they all worked very hard but there were a number of players who stood out. Sam Thomas, Ross Mynes, and Ollie Clifton all had very good games, Jake Fortune scored two credible goals but the man of the match was Tom Williams who was a stalwart in defence.

Our most recent match was at home to Fairford. At half-time score was 0-0. In the second half, when Jake Fortune broke through and had his shot saved by their goalkeeper Nick Farrow was there to score from the rebound. Again everybody worked hard but the player who stood out and took the man of the match award (again) was Tom Williams.

October fixtures:

4 October, time to be confirmed. Wroughton Youth (away)

11 October, 10.30am Wootton Bassett C (home)

The Mark Doyle trophy

In memory of Mark Doyle, the Rattlebone Boules League is to introduce a commemorative trophy which will be played for each year by the winners of Leagues 1 and 2.

The leagues are now virtually finished, with just a few stragglers bravely battling the elements to finish their games. The winners of League 1 are Jock Walker and his team, The Hoose. The League 2 winners are Tony Weedon and his team Les Renards Argent. The match should provide an exciting finale to the season, as they have both lost only two games so far. The contest will take place at the Rattlebone on Sunday 4 October at 3pm. The more people who come to cheer them on the better, and afterwards spectators can continue cheering in support of the mangold hurlers on the school field.



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Sherston Magna junior cricket

Contributed by Neil Forster

Leaves on the grass and the evenings closing in, sadness at the end of the season. Monday evening is for beginners and for great fun but based on the foundations of the game and its etiquette. Their bowling develops its own host of directions but there is one that hits the stumps and the joyous face is well worth the wait. Much progress is made.

Mark Howell was able to take the more advanced 'Mondayers' onto the square and we saw the encouraging results on our closing evening. Many thanks to him. We hope to see those boys on Tuesday next season.

Tuesday's under thirteen side worked well. We had the luxury of three years building and working with our under fifteen team but breaking that large bracket this year forced us to disband and the boys now play for the men's sides.

There were some pretty quaint interpretations of under thirteen in the matches we played, but when we finally met our own ages group, we won by more wickets, aided by the all round skills of Ewen Kenny. The team came together encouragingly well and quickly. Will Horrocks captained well for his first experience as skipper. In a twenty over format good bowling and sound fielding are obvious imperatives. We did both well. Will and Jack Rea produced a penetrative and accurate attack backed up by Will Thomas and Ben Kavanagh. Hugo Shipsey took wickets when he remembered to flight his spin. Harry Andrews, Will Wild and Yannick Purser all improved enormously. Ned Iliffe-Moon kept wicket admirably and both he and Fred Finlay were reliable

boundary hitters given anything on their legs. Ben and Will Thomas are impressive stroke players and with Will Horrocks and Hugo making runs we should build good scores next year. As obviously only eleven can represent the village, it is disappointing for those not chosen, but we tried to give everyone a match game.

The club have to thank John and Matilda Matthews for our idyllic setting. Thanks too to Jo Lawrence-Mills for keeping us all together and to the lovely mothers and patient fathers for their loyal support and encouragement – often shivering in the dusk.

I shall miss everyone through the winter wait.

Sportsfield possibilities

The parish council's decision to purchase Knockdown Park some 30 years ago provided the village with a great asset. The sportsfield currently provides a pitch for our two football clubs as well as a pavilion, two tennis courts and a skateboard park.

For some time thought has been given as to making further use of this facility. There is certainly room to make increased provision for a number of sports and other outdoor activities. With this in mind and with help from Councillor John Thomson enquiries have been made of Wiltshire Council officers who are responsible for sports development in the county. Following a successful initial site visit it has now been agreed to hold a public meeting on Wednesday 21 October at 7.30pm in the village hall. The aim of the meeting is to gather ideas for increased use of the field as well as to discover what level of funding is available from a number of sources to ensure that any 'wish list' becomes a reality. Sports development officers from Wiltshire Council will be in attendance to give the benefit of their experience and knowledge. Whilst all the existing sports clubs in the parish are invited to the meeting it is important that the meeting hears from individuals as to any other sports or training facilities they might like provided. So if you have an interest in a particular sport or perhaps just in keeping fit please come along on 21 October. If you are unable to make the meeting but have an idea or comment please contact the clerk Sarah Wood on 01666 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk



Regular events in Sherston

Holy Cross church

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

Pause for prayer Church of the Holy Cross is now open from 7.30am until 8am every Wednesday for silent prayer or quiet reflection. All are welcome for all or some of the time. For further details see the Parish Life.

Congregational church

Services each Sunday 11 am - 12.00

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

Church bell-ringing
Practices are every Wednesday 7.30 - 9.00 pm. Bell-ringing is challenging and fun. New members are always welcome, churchgoer or not. Call Geoff Martin 840375 or just come along on the night.

Clem's Club

Clem invites 'cheerful chaps for a chair and a chat' in the British School Room every other Tuesday 2.30 – 3.30pm, 13 and 27 Oct.

Footpaths group

The group is a sub-committee of the parish council and consists in the main of interested residents, rather than councillors. Its remit is 'to promote the use by all of the rights of way in the parish, ensuring they are in good condition and free from obstruction'. Currently the main task is the publication of a new walks booklet for the parish. If you would like to become involved, join the next meeting on Wed 7 Oct at 7.30pm at the village hall.

For further information contact Maggie McKenna on 841047 or maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

Ladies' swimming club

The Club is open to any ladies from Sherston or the surrounding area. It is sociable and friendly and non competitive. We swim at the pool at Westonbirt School on Wednesday evenings between 8 and 9.30pm. The cost is £37 for 15 weeks. Shorter summer memberships may be possible. To join please phone Annabel Clifton on 840592 or Heather Martin on 840375.

Legs, bums & tums

Aerobic and stretch class with Ruth King every Wednesday at 7.30pm in the village hall. £4.50. No booking needed. Further details contact Ruth on 07734 886275

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 8 Oct 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

Salsa @ Sherston

Salsaflex salsa classes every Monday from 7.30 pm in the village hall. Experienced instructors teach both absolute beginners and improvers. There is no booking required - just turn up. Classes cost £5 for the evening (around 2 hours) To find out more visit www.salsaflex.com or call Fitz on 07950 711405

Senior Club

Meets at 2.30pm in the British School Rooms every other Tuesday – – 6 and 20 Oct. For further details contact Cyril Hoskin on 841143

Sherston Badminton Club

We play every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the Village Hall from September to May. All standards welcome. For more information contact Ray Clifton on 840592

Sherston FC

The club was revived in 2008 winning promotion in its first season in the Stroud league. All home matches are played at Knockdown Park Sherston usually on Saturday afternoons spectators welcome. Training every Wednesday evening - pop along if you are a new player. For more details contact Pete Brock on 07912 777647 or peter.brock666@btinternet.com

SHOCC – Sherston's Occasional Community Choir

Will meet again every Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm in the British School Room during October and November leading up to a concert at the Parish Church on Sun 29 Nov. Contact Mary Clements 840688 or Nicki Heenan 840883 for more details.

Sherston Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club is a friendly, family-orientated club with two hard courts off Knockdown Rd in Sherston. Men's and other teams (when we have the players!) participate in the Wiltshire Summer League. Coaching is available in summer for adults and children. New members of any ability are welcome. Fees for the 2009/10 are: Family £80, Adult £45, Senior citizen £20, Junior (18 and under) £15. For more information, please contact the club secretary, Ashley Stopforth, on 01666 840825

Sherston W.I.

Meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall – 1 Oct. A warm welcome awaits visitors and new members. For further details contact Maureen Jolliffe 01666 840867

Sherston Young Craft Group Mondays 6.45 – 8.15pm in the village hall (9 years and over). £2.50 (incl all materials) per evening paid in advance of each half term. To join, please contact Sue Ormiston on 840694

Splash Dance

Dance classes for 2 to 12 year olds including ballet, modern and tap. Prices are £35.00 per term with the first lesson free. Every Wednesday at in the village hall. For more details contact Charlotte on 01453 886632 or charlotte@splashdance.co.uk.

Sherston Toddler and Baby Group

The Sherston Toddler and Baby group meets at 2.30pm each Tuesday in the village hall. The group is a fun way for children and their parents to meet and play, and to have a drink and a snack. Toys, craft activities, cooking and singing with occasional special activities. Coming to the group helps young children get used to the village hall in preparation for Busy Hands Pre-School. Further details contact Alex on 841095 or alex@stickyfingerscookery.co.uk

Village hall 200+ club

Monthly draw prizes ranging from £11 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake, plus a quarterly £5 bonus for 7 non-winners. If any new members of the village would like to join, contact either Mary Goulding on 840794, Joyce Gleed 840744 or Gwen Mason 840660.

Whist drive

A whist drive is held in the village hall on the second Friday in the month, Fri 9 Oct 7.30 for 7.45pm. Admission £1.50 including refreshments. All profits to help maintain the village hall.

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

Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

Karaoke night Fri 2 Oct 9pm

Curry Quiz Night

Sun 4 Oct 7.30pm £5 pp entry including all you can eat curry buffet / £1 quiz entry only

New cabaret act: Ian Scott as

'Tom Jones' for reviews see www.alias-diamondandjones.com/tom-jones-tribute.htm Thurs 22 Oct 8pm food served from 6.30pm-early booking advised due high demand Further details contact 840665 or www.deliciousmonster.co.uk

The Rattlebone

Annointment of the Normans Fri 2 Oct Michaelmas walk and the Mark Doyle Trophy Boules Match Sun 4 Oct - see individual listings below for more details Further details 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Talk on Ancient Pond Complex at Lower Farm by Roger Ashley and Noel Banks

Fri 2 Oct 7.30pm £5 including a glass of wine. Tickets on the door or from the Post Office. All proceeds to the North Wiltshire Ponds Group at the British School Room

Ancient Order of Sherston Mangold Hurlers

Anointment of the Normans

Fri 2 Oct 9pm Free entry to the preparations of the sacred Normans for the hurl. Not suitable for under 16s. Rattlebone Inn Further details 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Harvest Supper

Sat 3 Oct 7.30pm at the Church of the Holy Cross BYO drink - see church board for food to bring. £4 all proceeds to Christian Aid.

Tickets on sale at PO or the church

The Soul Destroyers in concert with The 'Sherston' Village People

Charity fundraiser in aid of a number of local causes by "Bristol's best party band", support act The 'Sherston' Village People Sat 3 Oct 7.30pm in the village hall SOLD OUT check for returns with Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or email ds@oldbellhouse.com or www.soul-destroyers.co.uk. See Bristol concert listing for another chance to see the Soul Destroyers live.

Michaelmas Walk

Sun 4 Oct starting from the village hall at 10am, returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 12

noon. Free entry. Suitable for all, including children - there will be tree seed gathering for the Grove Wood project, and dogs on leads. Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Annual Mangold Hurl

Sun 4 Oct from 2pm at the village hall and the field. Bar, music, barbecue, and stalls. Teams of 3 (£5 per team) individual competition (£1). To enter call Paul Ormiston 840694 or pa.ormiston@homecall.co.uk

Mark Doyle Trophy – Rattlebone Boules League

Come and watch the winners of League 1, The Hoose, play the winners of League 2,Les Renards D'Argent in honour of Mark Doyle. Rattlebone boules pitch A Sun 4 Oct at 3pm.

Sherston Arts Festival

Pre-festival event

Scarecrow making workshop Sat 3 Oct 10am-1pm in the village hall Free entry.

9 - 18 Oct

Art Exhibition Preview evening 7.30pm £5 including a glass of wine.

Art exhibition and flower displays continue till Sun 18 Oct Mon -Sat 10am - 5pm Sun 11am - 5pm free entry

Felt Making workshop Sat 10 Oct 10am-4pm in the village hall £25 plus small charge for materials Young Artists Exhibtion Sat 10 & 17 Oct 10am-5pm Sun 11 & 18 Oct 1-4pm free entry British School Room.

Young Musicians' Concert Sat 10 Oct 7.30pm in the village hall £5 (under 16s free) BYO bottle. Scarecrow Trail Sun 11 Oct starting at the British School Room at 1pm. Trail maps £1. Teas from 2pm. Abbey House Gardens lecture by Barbara Pollard Sun 11 Oct 7.30pm in the village hall £6 including a glass of wine

Afternoon concert with Nicki Heenan Tues 13 Oct 2.30pm at the Church of the Holy Cross £4 incl tea & biscuits

Concert by the Eberle String Quartet Thurs 15 Oct 7.30pm village hall £6.50/£5.50/£3.50

'Putting on a song' workshop 10am - 12 noon in the British School Room £2 incl coffee

Folk at the Carpenters Arms - busk along with the Packhorse Band Fri 16 Oct from 8pm

Willow weaving workshop Sat 17 Oct 10am-4pm £30 incl materials British School Room

Photographic exhibition and competition Sat 17 11am-5pm Sun 18 Oct 11am - 4pm in the village hall. Free entry, teas available

Concert: Johnny Coppin with Paul Burgess Sat

17 Oct 7.30pm in the Church of the Holy Cross £8 in advance £10 on the door

Thanksgiving service Sun 18 Oct 6pm at the Church of the Holy Cross

Further details contact Heather Martin 840375 or or www.sherston.net. Tickets also available from the PO

Knockdown sports field public meeting Wed 21 Oct 7.30pm at the village hall. If you are unable to make the meeting but have an idea or comment please contact the clerk Sarah Wood on 01666 840351 or clerk@sherston.org.uk

Boules & Carnival 2010 committee meeting

Anyone who wants to help with the organisation of next year's Boules and Carnival week is welcome at the first meeting at 8pm on Thurs 15 Oct at The Rattlebone. This can be on the committee, running one event or helping on the day without needing to attend committee meetings. If you would like to help but can't attend the meeting please contact the secretary, Caroline Moore on 841405 or caroline@ carolinemoore.co.uk

Drama Group Pantomine production of Beauty and the Beast

27 - 31 Oct 7.30pm with a matinee on Sat 31 Oct at 2.30pm £6 adult £4.50 children / OAP Tickets on sale at the post office or from Richard Skeffington 840092 or richard.skeffington@virgin.net

Sherston 1016 Bonfire & Fireworks

Extravaganza: Lower Farm, Sherston

Date for your diary: Sat 7 Nov 6.30pm Tickets on entry £5 adult, £3 child. Advance family ticket £12 including 2 adults & 3 children on sale at the PO

Westonbirt The Arboretum

Fungal Foray Sat 3 Oct & Sat 31 Oct 10.30-12.30 & 2-4pm £5 after admission £8 adult /£7 concs/ £3 chd

Seed spectacular - family event Collect and plant your own tree seed to take away Sat 3- Sun 4 Oct 10.30am -4.40pm free after admission

FOWA Craft Fair Sun 4 Oct

Autumn Fruits & Berries guided walk Sat 10 Oct 11am - 1pm. Free after admission booking essential.

Natural Autumn Colour Family Event Mon 26 - Thurs 29 Oct. Art activities included. Free after admission.

Art exhibitions and sales

Sue Townsend - local artist Tues 6 - Sun 11 Oct 505301 or www. suetownsendart.co.uk

Creative Coterie 13-18 Oct - more details to follow on Westonbirt website. Helen Crawford 20 -25 Oct. Sarah Howard - A year in the life of Westonbirt 30 Oct - 8 Nov

Workshops - Make a Windsor Chair workshop Mon 5 - Sat 10 Oct to book a place contact Paul Hayden on 01373 836051. Digital Photography workshops -Autumn Colours with Sarah Howard All levels though would suit advanced more £120 (max 4) booking essential, call Sarah on 07760 498112

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

Rose Hill Westonbirt Prep School

Open morning Tues 6 Oct 9am - 12noon
Further details contact Pat Davis 881375 or pdavis@rhwestonbirt.co.uk

or www.rhwestonbirt.co.uk

Easton Grey Whatley Manor

New lands, new gardens' - talk by David Howard Former head gardener at Highgrove. Mon 19 Oct 10am - 4pm £45 including welcome refreshments and a 3 course lunch in Le Mazot Jazz Sundays Sun 4 Oct 12 noon - 3.30pm £37 includes 3 course lunch in Le Mazot

Sunday cinema screenings with lunch or dinner 'Sunshine Cleaning' Sun 25 Oct £37 includes 3 course lunch or dinner, film & popcorn

Further details contact 834026 or www.whatleymanor.com

Malmesbury

Malmesbury Abbey Music Society present A concert by Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Oxford

including works by Lambe, Taverner, Weelkes, Purcell, Handel, Verdi, Rossini, Grieg, Tippett and Walton Sat 17 Oct 7.30pm Advance tickets £10 or on the door if still available Further details contact David Barton tel 824924

Malmesbury NCT Nearly new sale
Maternity, nursery and children's clothes and toys Sat 24 Oct 10.30am -12noon £1 entry. Activity Zone Leisure Centre Further details see www.malmesburynct.org.uk

Nailsworth Forest Green Royers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston. Home matches: Sat 10 Oct 3pm v AFC Wimbledon; Sat 31 Oct 3pm Eastbourne Borough. Ticket prices, see advert page 16 or contact Further details contact 01453 834860 or www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Corsham The Pound

Gonzo Moose - Is that a bolt in your neck? Sat 3 Oct 7.30pm £10 (£9 concs)
The Petty Concerns of Luke Wright Sat 10 Oct 8pm £8
Cscape Dance Company - When the shops shut Sat 17 Oct 7.30pm £10
Daby Balde - singer from Senegal Sat 24 Oct 7.30pm £11
Further details contact Box Office 01249 701628 or www.poundarts.org.uk

Bath Theatre Royal

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Tues 6 - Sun 11 Oct 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £17-£35 Dial m for Murder Tues 13 - Sat 17 Oct 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £10-£35

Mrs Warren's Profession, with Felicity Kendall Tues 20 - Sat 31 Oct 7.30 / 8pm mat 2.30pm £17-£35

Book ahead for: The Caretaker with Jonathan Pryce; English
Touring Opera presents Alcina and Teseo both by Handel;Rambert Dance Company; The Pitmen Painters: The Black Album; Beauty and the Beast; Pride and Prejduice; Sleeping Beauty Further details contact 01225 448844 or www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Lacock Special Events at Lacock Abbey & Village

Sat 10 Oct 11am - 4pm free after admission

Photography Surgery with the museum curator Sat 10 Oct 11am -4pm free after admission

Apple Day - discover all things apple orientated, hog roast also available Sun 18 Oct 11am-4pm

Autumn Trail 24 Oct - 1 Nov 11am - 5.30pm free after admission Witches and Wizards 29-Oct 11am - 4pm free after admission
Further details contact 01249 730459 or www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lacock

Kington St Michael & Hullavington Rural Arts Wiltshire

Inu Music from Ireland, Britain and the East Sat 17 Oct 7.30pm Kington St Michael village hall. For tickets call 01249 463873
Michael Lunts presents his one man performance as Chopin in 'The Last Ballade' Sat 24 Oct 8pm Hullavington village hall For tickets call 837569 Further details contact or www.ruralartswiltshire.org.uk

Swindon

Great Western Railway Museum

Lego show 3 -4 Oct 10am - 5pm £24 family tickets / £7.50 adults / £5.50 Children/ under 5s free

Exhibition: Glamourous GWR - travel during the interwar years till 31 Dec 2009 £17 family / £6.40 adult / £4.25 child Further details contact 01793 466646 or www.steam-museum.org.uk

Wyvern Theatre

The Searchers 1 Oct 7.30pm £17 Alistair McGowan Mon 12 Oct 8pm £15 An evening with Pam Ayres Thurs 15 Oct 7.30pm £17.50 Further details contact 01793 524 481 or www.wyverntheatre.org.uk

Bristol Soul Destroyers in concert

Sat 17 Oct 9pm till late at The Fleece, St Thomas St. £8 For tickets contact Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or email ds@oldbellhouse.com or www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

Cheltenham

The Times Cheltenham Literature Festival 2009 Varied programme of talks and events featuring all types of

9 18 Oct Average £8-10 Various locations in Cheltenham Further details contact 0844 576 7979 or www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature