

THE SHERSTON —



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2011

DELIVERED FREE

Open for business



Sherston turned out in force on Saturday 26 November to celebrate the official opening of our new Post Office Stores. Nearly seven years after the last pupils and teachers decamped to the new site, Sherston Old School has become the buzzing heart of the community again. Who cared if the dip in temperature meant a chilly wait for everyone outside? Doris Cooper, our fantastic nonagenarian who is the oldest resident to have attended the Old School, stepped up to the red ribbon and cut with a flourish. The moment was captured by ITV West and photographers from the local press.

Mindful of the weather, Councillor John Thomson, whose support for the project has been critical, kept

opening remarks brief. Parish council chairman John Matthews compressed "seven years of history" into as many minutes, whilst the chairman of SOSCIC, Peter Sidebottom, paid tribute to the hard work of the SOSCIC board. He pointed out that the completion of Phase One on time and to budget boded well for the second and final phase that will begin before Christmas and continue throughout 2012. Much fundraising work lies ahead and success can never be guaranteed. But, judging by performance to date, Sherston looks a winner.

Villagers and invited guests then got busy shopping, finally dropping into the village hall where hot cups of coffee restored feeling to the extremities.

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

Anonymous letters

The parish council receives a regular flow of correspondence from residents on a number of local issues which it works on to resolve either directly or via other agencies and authorities that are involved in a particular matter. From time to time however, anonymous letters are received which are almost impossible to deal with. Further details cannot be sought and verified nor can possible solutions be properly explored; in reality, little (if anything) can be done with such letters. Some matters are, of course, both sensitive and personal and, if residents wish to raise such matters but do not wish their details published in parish council minutes or otherwise made known, they should simply mark their correspondence 'In confidence'.

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.

To advertise, contact: advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk John Mackison 841197 Beryl Clampton 841201

Advertising rates: for 12 months:

1/4 page £200; 1/8 page £100; and 1/16 page £50 for one month:

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

Inserted leaflet drop £75

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of advertisements contained in this publication, Cliffhanger cannot accept any liability for errors and omissions. Inclusion of an advert should not be taken as an endorsement by Sherston Parish Council.

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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Amazing win for Sherston Short Mat Bowls Club team

On Saturday 22 October, the Woodpeckers Short Mat Bowls Club hosted the inaugural Rosemary Fuller Memorial Cup short mat bowls competition at Lea Village Hall. Six villages in the Malmesbury league were invited but Sherston Short Mat Bowls Club was in danger of being embarrassed as only a handful of people regularly attend the club night on Wednesdays. However, we managed to put together a scratch team by borrowing a player from the hosts.

To the surprise of everyone, including ourselves, with little pre-match practice and in the face of some serious opposition, we came away with a shock win.



Phil, Anne, Paul and Ken from Lea, the victorious Sherston SMBC Team Photo by Gail Mather

The venture to create a Sherston Short Mat Bowls Club is at risk of folding after less than a year as we desperately need more members. If you are interested in playing, it's not difficult and all the equipment is provided so you don't need any kit or personal bowls.

We normally meet to play at 7.30pm on Wednesdays in the village hall and the next session will be on Wednesday 4 January 2012. So why not come along and give it a go – there's no joining fee or subscription, we just pay a contribution towards the cost of the hall. You never know, you could end up with one of these coveted medals!

For more information, contact Phil Andrews on 840941 or by email: philip.r.andrews@btinternet.com.

Clem's Club

Clem's Club will meet every other Tuesday on 6 and 20 December. All friendly fellas welcome for simple char and chat from 2.30pm to 4.00pm (alternating with the Seniors Club) in the British School Room, Cliff Road.

December Notebook



Sherston Old School

COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPAN

Working on the chain gang

When Paul and Gail were handed the keys to their new domain on 7 November, they had precisely 17 days before opening. There's nothing like the pressure of deadlines to get the job done. Somehow, they managed to keep the old post office and shop going whilst transferring stock across the street and stacking the new shelves and units. Thanks to the sterling efforts of their staff and a small army of village stalwarts, they pulled it off. The village welcomes them to their new premises and wishes them well.

SOSCIC Members hear it straight

Peter Sidebottom, chairman of SOSCIC, welcomed over 50 villagers to the Members' Meeting in the British School Room on 7 November. The aim of the evening was to update members on the progress of Phase One and to preview the second phase of construction. Each member of the SOSCIC board gave a presentation on their area of specialism within the project. The chairman also launched a special appeal for personal donations by members towards the cost of Phase Two, to be followed by a public appeal to the whole parish. He said that our efficiency at raising so much cash already was a fantastic achievement. Finding the remaining £75k during the next 12 months would involve more appeals for individual and business donations, applications for grant funding and a special programme of events and activities that is currently being prepared. There was time for members of the audience to ask questions and offer suggestions for the campaign.



Tuesdays - Saturdays Late Opening and Reduced Rates for Senior Citizens on Thursdays

Shear Class and Serenity would like to wish all their customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

'Big Ideas' wanted...

Our fundraising committee may be bristling with ideas but we need more thinking out of the box. The challenge is to identify events or activities that raise a lot of money quickly, helping us achieve our target of £75k to complete Phase Two. When we complete the leasing of the new units, the Sherston Old School project becomes self-financing and a wonderful tribute to joint endeavour. So, who is the creative genius who will dream up the big idea? A bottle of bubbly will be awarded to the best submission for next year's big push.

Ice Skating – blind auction to raise funds

Fancy some family fun with a difference this Christmas? You can win an ice-skating session for two adults and two children at the Whitehall Garden Centre, Lacock, to be taken before 6 January 2012, by bidding by email. All you have to do is send one or more emails to sherstonoldschool@gmail.com with your name and how much you want to bid. The auction will close at noon on Friday 16 December. Thanks to John Burgess of Stage Electrics for kindly organising this great opportunity. Watch out for another superb offer next month.

Looking for Tenants...

With high ceilings and big windows, the new units will make ideal offices, studios or workshops. There may be other uses so everything is open for discussion. The proposed rents are as follows:

Unit 1a - 12.58 sq metres (135 sq feet) £2100.00 per annum.

Unit 1b - (ground and first floor accommodation) 30.5 sq metres (327 sq feet) £3750 pa

Unit 2 - 40.7 sq metres (435 sq feet) £4500 pa Unit 3 - 42.62 sq metres (499 sq feet) £5000 pa N.B. these two units could be combined to form one. Unit 4 - 30.5 sq metres (326 sq feet) £3250 pa

Anyone interested in further information should please contact Joe Williams at Graham Singer & Co. 01454 238600 email mail@grahamsinger.com

Further information on SOSCIC fundraising (and to send big ideas), please contact Irene Johnston on 841273 or email: ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk



WAAA 2012 diaries



Wiltshire Air Ambulance Appeal (WAAA) 2012 diaries are now available from both Sherston and Luckington post offices, as well as direct from Noel Banks on 07976 307296 or via email: nerbanks@talktalk.co.uk. At only £2 each they represent amazing value for money, and all profits go to help support the WAAA.

Cribbs trip

Tony Weedon has kindly volunteered to drive the Cartmell Community Bus on Wednesday 7 December. The bus will leave the High Street at 10.00am and Cribbs at 3.00pm.

There is a maximum of 16 passengers. To reserve your place, please sign up at Sherston Post Office Stores and make a donation towards the cost – £4 is suggested.

Moviola

Moviola and Grittleton Village Hall Committee would like to wish all our supporters in 2011 a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Our next film screening will be in January 2012. January's Cliffhanger will have all the details.

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Kidderminster

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Sherston Seniors' Club

by John Venning Tel. 840195

First, I must record our thanks to Sherston Boules Day Committee for their kind donation of £325 to our club funds.

On 4 October, we had a half-day outing to Moreton market. This was followed by a successful autumn sale on 18 October, which raised £174 towards club funds. Before the sale began, we welcomed Jenny Plummer, the Wiltshire Good Neighbours coordinator for our area, who explained how she can assist people to improve their individual lives. I know she has already assisted some of our members and I hope she will be a regular visitor to our meetings.

Nick Bowditch, head teacher of Sherston primary school for the last 20 years, came on 1 November and described with pictures the history of the school and its move in 2004 - by the time you read this the old school will be the post office. Mary Clements reminded us that Operation Christmas Child (OCC) has also been in operation for 20 years. A video made in the 1990s was shown following the process of packing boxes, thousands of them in the British School Room, for OCC.

On 13 December we are holding our Christmas lunch at the Old Ship in Luckington followed by entertainment by End of the Track. The cost to members will be £10 so, if you have not yet booked your place and would like to attend, speak to our treasurer, Liz Bell (841 411), asap.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 2.00pm on Tuesday 10 January 2012 at the usual meeting place, the British School Room.

On behalf of myself and the club, I take this opportunity to wish all readers a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2012.

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New number

Parish clerk Sarah Wood has a new telephone number for parish business: 840197. Email remains the same (clerk@sherston.org.uk).

Fly-tipping

Unfortunately, reports continue of incidents of fly-tipping in the parish. Field gateways seem to be particularly popular with people who appear to be incapable of taking their rubbish to the household recycling centre at nearby Stanton St Quintin.

Clearing up the mess caused by fly-tipping costs everyone through their council tax so, if you see any fly-tipping taking place, please report it immediately to Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0100. A note of the registration number of any vehicle involved is particularly useful to help find and successfully prosecute the culprits.

Should the problem persist it is possible that covert cameras will be employed.

Christmas vouchers

This year's delivery of Sherston 1016 vouchers to senior citizens in both Sherston and Easton Grey will take place on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 December, weather permitting. If anyone who is expecting a voucher has not received it by Tuesday 20 December, please contact Eric Thacker on 841344.

Sue's strolls

Although there won't be a village walk in December, be sure to enjoy an exhilarating New Year walk with Sue McKechnie on Sunday 8 January. The walk will start from the village hall at 10.00am, with a return to The Rattlebone Inn around 12.00noon in time for a complimentary snack. As ever, children and wellbehaved dogs on leads are very welcome.



Village hall 300+ club

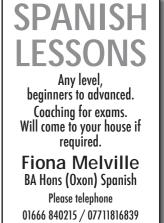
October Draw

1st	£12	41	Maggie Towle
2nd	£11	95	Joan Weeks
3rd	£10	163	Tony Jolliffe
4th	£9	242	M East
5th	£8	65	Helen Freeth
6th	£7	249	S Carrs
7th	£6	37	Don Bremner
8th	£5	233	Y Knight

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council will meet on Thursday 15 December 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 840197 or by 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 also be read.





email: fionamelville2003@yahoo.co.uk





Police News

by PC Steve Humphries

In the run up to the end-of-year festivities, we all have a lot of things on our minds and it is easy to put things off. Contacting the police is one of these things. I don't mean in an emergency situation; it is second nature to all of us, I hope, to dial 999 if we witness an accident or a fight. Rather, I mean those small things that don't seem quite right and you wonder whether to let the police know or not.

Quite often I will hear of incidents that were never initially reported to the police but that come to light when our excellent Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) coordinators let me know. I recall a householder who was burgled a couple of years ago and did not report it to us but mentioned it to the local NHW coordinator who then alerted me. When I asked the burglary victim why they hadn't reported it, they explained that they had reported something once before but the police didn't seem bothered so why would the police bother investigating the burglary? If you have heard, or maybe even used, similar negative words to describe police response to a report about something, then I can completely understand. However, please don't base it on the false assumption that we really aren't bothered; we are but we aren't able to show it. Being a police officer, people often give me snippets of information about things that I'd like to know more about. The trouble is if, for example, I say something

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obvious like, 'Well, if you see them again, please get the registration number for me', then that member of the community becomes an official police informant and a whole host of rules and regulations come into play. As a result, that person regrets ever speaking to the police and possibly never does so again. Therefore, to keep it simple, most officers just thank the member of the public for letting them know and move on to another subject - an action that is often misinterpreted as meaning that the officer isn't interested in what the member of the community said.

However, what I am allowed to ask you for is your views on what my team and I should be concentrating on tackling in our area. Currently, we are addressing antisocial driving but if you think we should be focusing on something else, please let us know via email: malmesburynpt@wiltshire.pnn. police.uk .We try to reply to all emails within 24 hours.

In addition, don't forget that for non-emergency calls to the police, you can now dial 101, but if you prefer you can still use 0845 408 7000 for a few more weeks yet.



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Sherston W.I.

October was a busy month for W.I. members. We celebrated our birthday with a dinner in the village hall, followed by entertainment from Nikki Heenan. It was a most enjoyable evening.

The next week was our open evening. President Sheila welcomed an audience of over 70 people. Our guest speaker was Sarah Champier who, as the former personal florist to HRH Prince Charles for 11 years, was able to show us a large number of slides of some of the arrangements she had done for many of the royal palaces. She explained about her training in garden design and floristry and how she came to start at Highgrove. We were all amazed at the scale of some of her creations, yet most had simple colour schemes. She then demonstrated several floral arrangements which were raffled with two hampers. Refreshments were then served and all agreed it had been an excellent evening.

November saw us in the British School Room for an afternoon meeting. Maureen Hinton was the speaker and her theme was 'Victorian Christmas'. We were shown her collection of Victorian memorabilia, from cards to crackers and decorations for the tree. She then demonstrated a variety of Christmas floral arrangements, from table posies to door hangings. We were also given many tips on preparing flowers and foliage for use. Christmas preparations must now begin.

We are trying afternoon meetings in the winter months for the convenience of our members.

The December meeting will take the form of an afternoon tea followed by entertainment from local singers.

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Sherston Busy Hands Pre-School quiz night

The Busy Hands Pre-School quiz night will take place on Saturday 21 January 2012 at 8.00pm in the village hall. Busy Hands Pre-School is run as a charity and the annual quiz night is our biggest and most important fundraiser. Each year we rely on the support of the local community to help fundraise, which helps make the preschool a wonderful learning environment for local children - the preschool has recently been granted an 'Excellent' rating by Ofsted which recognises the fantastic work that the teaching staff are doing.

Tickets will be available from 12 December from Joey Ross (0776 8947693) and Annie Llewellen Palmer, and from the post office - but be quick, they sell like hot cakes!

Rumour has it that the auction and raffle prizes are looking really exciting this year - details will follow in the January edition of the Cliffhanger.

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Win £100 for Christmas plus other prizes and raffle -Community quiz

A local group of Malmesbury residents is holding a Christmas-themed community quiz night at the Kings Arms, High Street, Malmesbury on Wednesday 14 December. The quiz starts at 8.00pm and costs £10 for a team (maximum of four).

Proceeds from the evening are being donated to the very worthwhile Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP). MVCAP is a community area voluntary group that works tirelessly with a range of community partners to deliver projects that benefit the wider community.

Why not come along to the event and support us so that we can help this group do even more for the community.

If you want to know more about MVCAP, visit www.mvcap.org.uk.





Doyle's Dolls calendar



Thank you to everyone who came to the launch night of the Doyle's Dolls calendar at The Rattlebone and bought not only calendars but individual prints. The night was a great success.

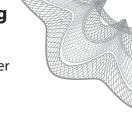
Just to remind you that the calendar is now on sale in all local shops and at The Rattlebone, priced at £8. A great Christmas present for yourself, family and friends.

All funds raised from the calendar will be used to buy children's/youths' play equipment for Sherston recreation ground, so the gift you give now will be a gift for a lifetime.

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School feature in Gazette and Herald

In November, Sherston primary school featured in a double-page spread in the Gazette and Herald. The 'Schools in Focus' piece described how the school has a close connection to the surrounding community as well as a very strong international status — with links to Kenya, Gambia and France. The write-up was accompanied by some lovely photographs of smiling pupils in a variety of settings, from digging to playing the recorder.

If you didn't manage to pick up a copy of the paper, you can check it out on the noticeboard in the school foyer. You can also view and order copies of the photographs used in the feature on the Gazette and Herald website: www.gazetteandherald.co.uk.





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1st Sherston Brownies

Hi from everyone at 1st Sherston Brownies. At present we have 29 girls attending our weekly brownie meetings. This would not be possible without the continued commitment from Megan, Lauren and Ella, so a big thank you to them.

As a follow on to the Royal Wedding, we made sure that our memories of the special day would be remembered through a very long, very artistic story board. Every detail from before the service to the balcony kiss were carefully painted and decorated.



Two sunny evenings in June saw the brownies being expertly led in the skills of orienteering by Jane Milne and her daughters. As you can see by the pictures, this activity was a great success with everyone.







For some though, it all got a bit much!



Our 'thinking of others' and 'doing a good turn' involved sending parcels to Camp Bastion, to be enjoyed by the soldiers sharing a tent with Cpl Dave Hayden. Dave is my daughter Sara's boyfriend who was on a seven-month tour of duty. In a letter to the brownies from Afghanistan, Dave thanked everyone and said how much the parcels had brightened up everybody's day. Many thanks for the support shown by all the parents. A special mention to Paul and Gail at the post office who gave us postal envelopes free of charge, thank you.



The girls packing the boxes

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All ready for posting and on their way

The brownies came up with a camping theme for our party as we broke up for the summer. Unfortunately, rain forced us indoors, but great fun was still had by all.





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The girls have been busy on various badges. As a unit this term, we have completed our Out and About Badge and Finding Your Way Badge. These involved walking round the village, setting a map using landmarks, packing a daysack, and giving clear directions on how to get to some local places.

The leaders and brownies would like to thank Lyn Prior for her kind donation to our funds from the proceeds of the sale of her homemade preserves, and also to Mrs Yeand who generously donated the First Prize that she won in this year's Boules Duck Race. We are planning to use the money to buy some new equipment for our brownie meetings.

For any names not already on the waiting list, please phone Liz Walker on 840216.

Best wishes, Snowy.



DYB DOB Corner

by Kirstie Blair, with thanks to Nick Holland for the photos.

Remembrance Day parade



A bright sunny November morning saw what may well have been one of the largest Remembrance Day parade turnouts we have seen in a few years.

All scout sections - from cubs to explorers - attended, along with Sherston Brownies and Westonbirt Guides, and were accompanied by 84 Medical Supply Squadron RLC as they marched from the scout hut to the church. Such a great attendance left us with standing room





only in the church, where a two-minute silence was observed and the names of all of those fallen in Sherston and Easton Grey since 1939 were read out by Niamh Andrews.

After the service, our new scout leader Stuart Young renewed his promise and received his Sherston necker and badges, Olly Sneddon-Jenkins was invested into the cub pack and a handful of explorers renewed their promises to join the Whitewall explorers.



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

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

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WE HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE MALMESBURY AREA FOR 20 YEARS ASA SWIM SCHOOL MEMBER www.maryderrickswimming.com

This and all previous issues are available to view and download at www.sherston.org.uk

Help wanted

As some of you may have noticed, the explorer scouts carried the Union flag at the Remembrance Day parade as we did not have our own flag. This is due to the huge cost (£150+) of getting a flag with our name - Whitewall Explorer Scouts - on it. As a group, we can afford the base flag (as pictured below) but, due to our lengthy name, we can't afford to have it personalised.

If any local group could help with the appliqué of the letters it would be greatly appreciated; explorer scouts may be good at a lot of things but sewing is not one of them. We will happily provide the material and letter templates. If you are able to help us, we are more than happy to return the favour in any way we can.

Please contact Darren Walsh on 841043 or Ewan Blair on 840096.



Tickets please

Members of the Sherston Scout Group will be outside the post office, Tucks and the Sunday papers during December weekends selling raffle tickets for the Christmas Hamper Draw and stamps for the Scout Post, both of these are important fundraisers for the group so your support is greatly appreciated.

Scout hut hire

There has been a birthday party covering all ages nearly every weekend recently so, if you fancy holding a birthday celebration, engagement party, event

rehearsal or group meeting at the scout hut, please call Kirstie Blair on 840096

Adopt-a-Pig

Have you always wanted a pig but haven't got the space or time to look after it?

Sherston Rare Breeds is offering the opportunity to own a piglet, let us care for it and then take home beautifully succulent, rare breed pork.

It's a great way for kids to learn about food and the importance of happy animals.

For more information or to come and visit give Paul a ring on 07887 486853 or email Paul@jarvis2.co.uk



Sherston & Luckington Poppy Appeal 2011

by Derek Tilney, PAO Malmesbury & District, 823944

I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Sparrow for their many years organising the Poppy Appeal in the village and for passing on their valuable knowledge to me so I could make sure poppies were on sale again in Sherston in 2011.

Of course, everyone wants to know how much the appeal raised and when the final totals are available they will be published in the Cliffhanger. At present, your team of house-to-house collectors - Mrs K Evans, Mr M Poole, Mr I Price, Mr Hillier, Mr Waite and Mr Thacker - collected a grand total of £853.19. The collections in the school, Tucks, the surgery, the two village pubs and the post office totalled £500.34.

The total collected in Luckington was £244.73.

My thanks to the collectors who knocked on doors. Thankfully the November weather wasn't too bad, but these days collecting is hard, especially when many villagers get their poppies at work or even in Malmesbury.

You will realise that the welfare work of the Legion is a year-round commitment - if anyone would like to remember us throughout the coming year, I would be happy to let you have a little poppy-shaped collecting 'tin' to put your odd coins in.





Wiltshire Council: Help to

Wiltshire Council and the NHS have been talking to people to find out what help and support they may need to help them to stay living in their own homes. The two things people are most concerned about are maintaining their independence and what would happen should they have a problem at home, with no one around. In response, Wiltshire Council is currently implementing the Help to Live at Home project - offering the extra support and help needed to enable people to stay safe, well and happy in their own homes.

Another priority is to protect the project's workforce and ensure committed and able staff continue to provide the service and feel valued. As such, Help to Live at Home will ensure staff are employed on a contracted rather than hourly basis, offering employment security, and will provide ongoing training.

Help to Live at Home will offer a number of services, available to everyone in Wiltshire:

Care and support service

Four care organisations have been appointed to offer care, support, advice and services, such as help with bathing, personal care, getting dressed, getting out and about, and managing household finances.

Specialist equipment service

Sometimes just having the right piece of equipment can make a person's life so much easier, so the Council and the NHS are appointing an organisation to ensure people get the equipment they need to make their homes more accessible. Available equipment



will include aids, such as grab rails, specialist seating and pendants (lifelines). The appointed organisation will offer a retail outlet displaying equipment and will be available to offer advice and to help customers to improve their home, making it more comfortable and practical.

The equipment service will be available from spring 2012.

Response service

Should someone have a minor accident and would like some help, but does not require a doctor or ambulance, Help to Live at Home will be offering a new service, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and accessible from an in-home alarm system (pendant, lifeline, etc).

This 'telecare' system will be available from spring 2012.

What if you don't want to stay at home?

For some people, staying at home is not the right option. The Council is working with companies to develop new sorts of housing that will be available to buy or rent. Extra-care housing is one such option where there is on-site support 24 hours a day; for example, Florence Court which recently opened in Trowbridge. An alternative to extra-care housing is sheltered housing that provides independence combined with support and companionship.

For further information on housing options, contact Homes 4 Wiltshire on 01380 734734 or visit www.homes4wiltshire.co.uk.



Live at Home

Why are these services right for you?

The Council has designed the new services around the needs of the people who will use them. The organisations providing these services will be monitored closely by the Council, which will work with the people who use them to ensure it has a realistic view of the services.

How can you access these services?

If you are currently receiving a social care service from Wiltshire Council, or are supported by the NHS, it is recommended that you talk to your key worker. If you are currently a self funder for care and would like to make your own arrangements to receive these services, please contact the care providers directly. Full details and profiles of the successful organisations will be published in the New Year.

If you would like further information on Help to Live at Home, please phone 01225 712553.



French fête success

by Jenny Lawrence-Smith



On behalf of all of us who enjoyed the successful French Fête evening, we would like to thank Sue Shortridge and her many helpers.

The food, which fed 108 guests, was scrumptious, the service bright and friendly, and the hall looked lovely.

Thank you all for your hard work and for giving us all such an fun evening, as well as contributing to our future enjoyment by raising more funds- a total of £2,200 - for the Old School. A great time was had by all.

Debbie Cox

Senior, accredited, (BACP), counsellor

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Seasonal safety From Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Fires happen when candles are in use because:

- they are left unattended;
- we fall asleep without putting them out;
- we don't use the right kind of holders; or
- we put them too close to clothing and furnishings.

These simple tips will help you to use candles safely:

- Tealights and nightlights in foil containers need to be placed in another suitable holder as they can melt through plastic materials. Tealights burn for four hours, nightlights for about eight hours, increasing the amount of heat given out. Be careful not to use nightlights in oil aromatherapy burners.
- Never leave a burning candle or oil burner in a child's bedroom.
- Keep candles out of draughts and away from furnishings and clothing.
- Keep candles and matches or lighters out of the reach of children
- When re-lighting candles trim the wick and extinguish it if it starts to smoke.
- If using more than one candle allow 100mm between each one.
- Never burn a candle right down into the holder.
- You increase the risk of fire or injury if you move a candle while it is lit.

- Always put votive and scented candles in a glass or metal holder as they liquefy to release their fragrance.
- Be aware of the risk to clothing when celebration candles are in use.
- In the garden, keep children and pets away from garden candles and lanterns.

Whatever the occasion, whatever the time of year, enjoy using candles safely.

Chimney fires

With the onset of the colder weather, those with open fires, solid fuel or wood-burning stoves should make arrangements for chimneys and flues to be cleaned. Chimneys for wood-burning fires should be swept every three months when in use. If you burn smokeless fuels or bituminous coal, the chimney should be cleaned at least once a year. An annual clean is sufficient for oil and gas fires.

Other safety tips include:

- Have the chimney properly swept using a vacuum cleaner alone is not sufficient.
- Make sure your fire receives enough air to allow the fuel to burn properly.
- Burn only suitable fuels.
- Do not overload the grate or appliance.
- Maintain your appliance in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use a fire or spark guard to prevent accidental fires.
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly in the roof space. Make sure that it is sound and that the sparks or fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks.
- Make sure you are not at risk from carbon monoxide poisoning by having appliances installed and serviced by competent engineers. Fit a carbon monoxide detector and never block air bricks, vents or flues.
- Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house.

For further information on home fire safety, call 01225 756500 or visit www.wiltsfire.gov.uk.





Wiltshire Warm and Well – Keep your home warm and stay well



Wiltshire Warm and Well offers the opportunity to improve the energy efficiency of your home, reduce the cost of your fuel bills and reduce associated health problems caused by the cold. This will mean you are more comfortable in your home this winter and you don't have to worry about trying to stay warm.

The Warm and Well scheme offers free advice on saving energy and can help you claim a grant towards the cost of insulation. If you are aged over 60, on a low income or in receipt of a qualifying benefit, it may even be free. If you do not fall into one these categories, there are grants available for everyone, with cavity wall insulation available from £99 and loft insulation from £149. Please note that all grants are subject to survey and availability. To apply online, visit www.warmandwell.co.uk. For free, impartial advice about this and other energy saving grants and offers, call 0800 512 012.

Wiltshire Council and the Warm and Well scheme now have the use of the Green Room, a mobile advice centre that will be attending community and Council events in the coming months. If you see us, come aboard for advice on renewable technologies, insulating your home, installing energy efficient heating systems or simply to have a chat.

The Wiltshire Warm and Well scheme is funded and managed separately from the Energy Saving Trust Advice Service by the Severn Wye Energy Agency.

Why not take part in the European Citizens Climate Cup? The Severn Wye Energy Agency is involved with a competition to help you monitor your home energy use, reduce your carbon emissions and save money on your energy bills. Take part, save and win. Make the largest energy saving and you could win £1,500. Call 01452 835060 or visit www.swea.co.uk for more information.

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Identifying housing needs in Sherston

Wiltshire Council is working with your parish council and we need your help. We are asking all residents to complete a housing needs questionnaire, which will be delivered to your home soon.

The information will be used to:

- identify local housing needs;
- inform housing and planning policies;
- appreciate local residents' current housing situation; and
- find out what aspirations people have.

Your views matter.

For more information, please contact:

Wiltshire Council, Housing Strategy, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 1ER

Tel: 0300 456 0100 Email: housing.strategy@wiltshire.gov.uk



Tel: 07967120169

TREEtalk

DECEMBER 2011 by Irene Johnston

Off to a good start...

We got off (quite literally) to a cracking start at Grove Wood on 20 November. Noel Banks and his Cotswold volunteers had cut down so much wood during the weeks beforehand (thanks, Noel!) that our bonfire, after a slightly hesitant start, suddenly took off. No matter how far back we stepped, we still felt roasted. At one stage, there was slight concern we might have overdone the stoking; it really is a bit early in the season to attempt arson. It burned itself out eventually. Many thanks to all 16 or so adults and children who joined in. It was great to have such a good turnout and let's hope the enthusiasm is maintained when the weather gets really cold. Oh well, we'll just bank up the fire again and enjoy Sue's delicious homemade French onion soup.

We'll be meeting every Sunday from 10.00am to 1.00pm until just before Christmas, so do please join us. New faces are always welcome and everyone seems to get a real sense of achievement. Many passing walkers comment favourably on our efforts (shame they don't stop to help!) and it does feel good to be involved in something of lasting value to our village. If that doesn't shame you into volunteering, then I don't know what will ...

To the Manor born(e)

Yes, it may be hard to believe but the arrival of the new cherry tree is imminent. The residents of Manor Close will soon have a lovely Prunus Amanogawa to brighten up the grass area at the entrance to the estate. Just a shame that Maggie Instrell, who was the first to suggest the idea, is leaving the village before she has the chance to enjoy it outside her

windows. You'll just have to come back to see it next spring, Maggie.

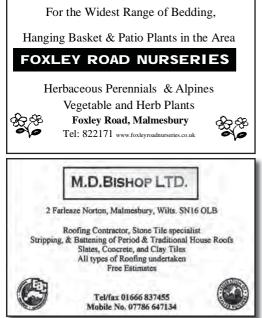
Jubilee Wood Project 2012

The Woodland Trust is behind the project that plans to create 60 special woods, one for each year of the Queen's reign, throughout the UK. Communities are also being encouraged to plant their own Jubilee Woods, anything from an acre upwards. Of course, we have our own two-acre wood already and will be applying for a free tree pack (economy size, 105 trees; jumbo packs, 420 trees) that are themed to help us choose the best mix for the local area. All packs also include a special royal sapling, grown from tree seeds collected on royal estates such as Sandringham and Windsor. What a nice way of celebrating next year's Diamond Jubilee.

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

Malmesbury Christmas cards

Hilary Cox, wife of Malmesbury Mayor Steve Cox, has produced a set of six cards from her seasonal paintings of the town. They are on sale at the Malmesbury Tourist Information Centre at only £3 a pack. All profits will go towards the Mayors Appeal Fund which will be used to support the publication of two local walk guides: 'Bridges of Malmesbury' and 'White Walls Way'. The latter will describe a series of looped walks from Malmesbury to Luckington, taking in Foxley, Easton Grey, Norton, Pinkney, Sherston and Alderton.





Grants up for grabs for young people in the Malmesbury area

Funding of £6,000 has been made available for youth projects in Malmesbury and the surrounding area.

The area board want to hear from young people aged 8 to 19, who have innovative ideas on how to improve their village or town and engage more in their community.

It is hoped that young people and adults will be able to work together to discover they have similar aspirations for their community, and produce some really good outcomes.

The application process is now open and it is hoped the scheme will create an opportunity for young people to learn new skills, be creative and have fun with groups of people they might not normally mix with. Projects could involve helping others, carrying out conservation work or working alongside adults on an arts project.

Malmesbury Area Board chairman John Thomson said: 'After the success of our previous scheme, the area board are looking forward to seeing what great new ideas our youngsters have to improve their environment and engage more with their neighbours. By presenting their projects to us it will allow them to experience how local democracy works.'

Funding will be allocated to the projects by public vote at the Malmesbury Area Board on Wednesday 7 March 2012 following short two- to three-minute presentations given by young people about their ideas.

For an application form, criteria and guidance, visit the Council's website for young people, Sparksite, at www.sparksite.co.uk. A bid of up to £2,000 can be applied for each project by the deadline, Friday 13 January 2012.

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

Community safety

The next Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership (MVCAP) quarterly community safety forum will be held at Malmesbury Town Hall on Tuesday 10 January 2012, at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. All are welcome and refreshments will be available.

At the forum, Malmesbury Police will set out their priorities for policing the area over the next three months and also give an overview of the their work since the last forum was held in September. The community, through those present at the forum, is encouraged to question these priorities and to raise its own policing issues.

If you can't attend the forum but have an issue you would like raised please either email info@mvcap.org. uk or phone 390110.

For further information about MVCAP, visit www. mvcap.org.uk.





Jack and the Beanstalk

A fun time was had by all – audience and actors alike – during the last week of October when Sherston Drama Group performed Jack and the Beanstalk in the village hall. Directed and choreographed by Sue Lehrer, this traditional tale (written by Toby Bradford and Tina Webster) had everything that a good panto

needs: the hero, Jack (played by Lauren Kiddell) and his sweetheart Jill (Milly Pettit), the dippy Dame (Kevin Smith) and the moaning Mayor (Richard Warren) on the receiving end of many a custard pie!

There was the evil fairy Grotviler (Kristy Andrews), pitted against the good fairy Haricot Vert (Sue Ormiston) and some hilarious comic characters including John Pettit as Simple Simon, Kirstie Blair as the incredibly snooty Lady Lotsadosh and Mark and Harry Andrews as tax collectors Grabbit and Leggit.

Sherston's young performers put on a terrific show with a variety of dancing styles that ensured the

performance went with a swing. Jack and the Beanstalk wouldn't be complete without a pantomime cow so Rory













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Calland and Finn Burden put everything they had into their portrayal of Buttercup – even dancing the Hokey Cokey!

Photos: Paul Ormiston and Gunter Coventry















If you would like to get involved with the drama group, please contact chairman Richard Skeffington on 840092.

Sherston 1016 fireworks weekend

There's no doubt that the period around bonfire night is by far the busiest for all in 1016 as we undertake not one but three firework displays over three days. Our first was at Didmarton on the Friday evening which went very well indeed and was much drier than last year when we suffered almost monsoon conditions.

Our own display at Lower Farm Easton Town on the Saturday attracted a very large number of spectators with some travelling quite some distance to be with us.

As always many contributed to make the evening a success especially our sponsors - Grays of Sherston, Noah's Ark Nursery, PMB Builders Ltd and Tolsey Surgery. Holland Handling's provision of a skip was also very welcome. The Hillier family once again generously allowed use the use of the field with neighbours Pat and Stan Bunce together with Phylip Harries and Maggie McKenna providing electricity on the night and refreshments during the build up. Martin Ward, Alex Joyson, Brian Littlejohns, Crispian Huggill, Alice Ormiston, first aiders Andy and Rosie as well as the formidable 1016 ladies division plus stewards ensured a great time was enjoyed by all. Enormous thanks are due to everyone who helped out.

Sunday brought no let up as after clearing away the debris from the previous evening we were then off to set up a display at Westonbirt School. All went well and we tucked in at the finish to beef burgers, iced buns and mulled wine all kindly provided by the organisers.

2012 will see us back at it again although hopefully we will also be putting on an additional display in June to celebrate the Queen's jubilee.

Doctor's Bag

by Judy Sharp, Practice Manager, The Tolsey Surgery

We wish all our patients a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

The surgery will be closed on Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 December for Christmas, and Monday 2 January 2012 for New Year.

If you need a doctor in an emergency while the surgery is closed, please call the out of hours service on 0300 111 5717.

Flu

Flu is a highly infectious viral illness spread by coughs and sneezes.

It is especially common in winter, which is why it is also known as 'seasonal flu'. It causes a sudden high temperature, headache and general aches and pains, tiredness and sore throat. You can also lose your appetite, feel nauseous and have a cough. Flu symptoms can make you feel so exhausted and unwell that you have to stay in bed and rest until you feel better.

If you are otherwise fit and healthy, there is usually no need to see a doctor if you have flu-like symptoms. The best remedy is to rest at home, keep warm and drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration. You can take paracetamol or ibuprofen, to lower a high temperature and relieve aches.

You should see a doctor if you have flu-like symptoms and you:

- are 65 or over;
- are pregnant;
- have a long-term medical condition, such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, kidney or neurological disease; or
- have a weakened immune system.

This is because flu can be more serious for you, and your doctor may want to prescribe antiviral medication.

For further information, look up 'flu' on NHS Choices online (www.nhs.uk).



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Patient survey 2011

Thank you to everyone who completed our patient survey. We had a huge response and are now busy collating the results. The findings will be published on our website in the New Year.

Surgery Opening hours

Please note the dispensary opening hours were incorrect in last month's Cliffhanger.

Reception

Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 6:30pm.

The telephones are not attended between 12.30pm and 1.30pm each day.

Dispensary

Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 2.00pm and 3.00pm to 6.30pm.

Extended hours on Thursdays (see staff for further details).

Early appointments from 7.30am-8.00am. Late appointments from 6.30pm-7.30pm.

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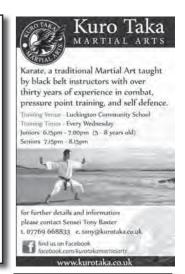
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Children wheelie keen on recycling! by Richard Langley



Proud members of Sherston school's eco-team take delivery of their new recycling bin for plastic bottles and cardboard, presented to them by Councillor John Thomson, deputy leader of Wiltshire Council and councillor for Sherston (Pic: Tom Langley)



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For some time now, Sherston school's ecoteam, which heads up the school's recycling effort, has been concerned about having to throw away plastic bottles and cardboard boxes after other children and staff have finished with them.

When all the families at the school recently received new blue-lidded wheelie bins at home for recycling plastic and cardboard, due to the change in the recycling policy at Wiltshire Council, the children thought the school would receive a new bin too. But it transpired that the new bins were being delivered only to private premises. The ecoteam swung into action, drawing on all their skills of persuasive letter-writing, they fired off a letter to Wiltshire Council, asking if they could have a bin anyway.

The eco-team was delighted to receive a reply from John Thomson, deputy leader of Wiltshire Council, saying not only would he arrange for a bluelidded recycling bin to be delivered, but also that he was so impressed by their ecological spirit that he wanted to come along, meet them and present them with their shiny new wheelie bin. The presentation took place on Wednesday 16 November.

The eco-team also helps to collect empty printer and copier cartridges and make jotter pads out of scrap paper, as well as helping with gardening in the school's allotments.

Beautiful two bedroom holiday cottage for rent in Cornwall

The Boathouse is an idyllic cottage on the spectacular Fowey River Estuary, just two miles from Fowey and a step away from the water's edge.

A converted boathouse and lime kiln, the cottage is one of the oldest buildings in the picturesque village of Golant.

Comfortable and welcoming with magnificent views across the river, there is a log fire for cosy winter holidays and a private terrace ideal for spring and summer barbecues.

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or alternatively call / email +44 (0)7980 014 471 info@theboathousecornwall.co.uk

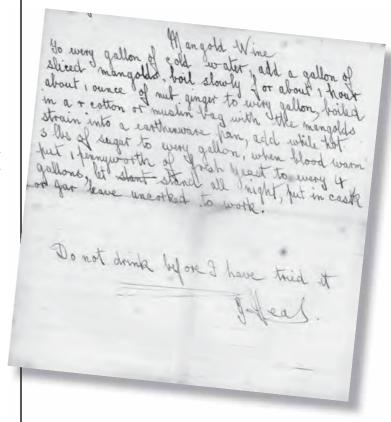
THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Many people have wondered as to the fate of all those mangolds after the Hurl in October. They certainly didn't go to waste as Paul Jarvis took custody of them for the benefit of his rare breed pigs. By all accounts they went down a treat.

After the Hurl the Order received a number of recipes for mangold wine including a particularly fine one from Sue Squires although I am not sure if Sue can yet personally vouch for the end result. Another most interesting recipe was provided by Hazel Jarrett which is reproduced opposite. The recipe was found in an old atlas belonging to her late mother Betty Rickards of Park Farm Brokenborough. Hazel has no knowledge of the writer G.Heal (or could it be Neal?) and if anyone has any information on the identity of him or her she would be most grateful to hear from you.

Our Keeper of the Archives, Cilla Liddington, is beginning to amass quite a number of interesting recipes which contain mangolds as a major ingredient. Indeed so many are now coming to light that the Order is considering publishing a booklet of the best so far received. All will recall Rob Strong's wonderful mangold crisps of a few years ago and who could forget Penny Forster's magnificent mangold muffins. If you have a recipe to add to our collection please let us know at your early convenience.

Yarp! The Keeper of the Quill



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Queen's jubilee

The initial meeting to coordinate the parish's celebrations for this event produced a number of good ideas which are now being worked on. A clear favourite was some form of street party for everyone to enjoy. A further meeting will take place in January so look out for details in next month's edition. If in the meantime you have any suggestions or wish to get involved please contact Cilla Liddington on 840128 or email sherstoncilla@tiscali.co.uk





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New supplier caters for all your smallholder needs

Mark Self and his wife Kate moved their family-run business, Ascott Smallholding Suppliers, to units 21/22 at Whitewall in Easton Grey in autumn 2010. Mark explained: 'As well as being a web-based business, we also have a showroom and counter sales at our premises. We heartily welcome local customers wishing to buy chicken feed and all they might need for their back garden poultry or Grow Your Own (GYO) projects. We also cater for smallholders and people with small farms.'

Its new warehouse counter is now open for business and stocks everything for chickens and small animals, such as incubators and feed, plus jam, cheese and cider making items.

Mark added: 'We have thousands of customers and they vary from professional smallholders, earning a living from the land and the animals they tend, to urban dwellers who keep hens in their gardens for pleasure.'

Mark continued: 'We offer good old-fashioned, friendly, customer service, free expert advice and assistance, experienced and knowledgeable staff and provision of support online or via the telephone.'

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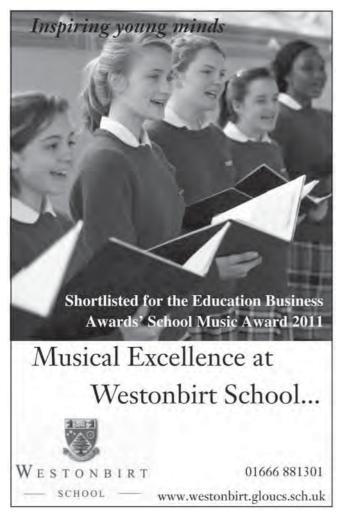
Tim Hibbard

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In two years, the largest new urban park in the UK for more than a century has been completed. Blue Peter gardener, Chris Collins, marked the milestone by lending a hand to put in place the last plant in the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Great British Garden on 9 November.

Set within the south of the Olympic Park, with its design focusing on retaining the spirit of the Games, and co-designed by Hannah Clegg, aged 12, and adult winner Rachel Read from the 2009 RHS competition, the Great British Garden celebrates the unique qualities of the British garden in themes of gold, silver and bronze - all integral parts of Hannah's winning entry design.

The quarter-of-an-acre riverside garden overlooks the Olympic Stadium, and will be retained as part of the Olympic legacy after the Games.

'The whole experience has been amazing. Working with the design team and actually seeing the garden come along has been great. I'm really pleased as to know how much I've had to do with the garden, and I'm really excited about seeing the finished thing', said

Some 250 acres of new parklands have been created from industrial property, derelict and contaminated wastleland and polluted waterways, and will provide a colourful and festive atmosphere for the London 2012 Games and afterwards.



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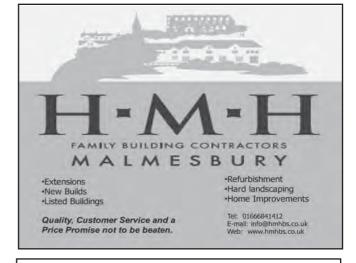
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Foot Health Care

www.foot-health-care.co.uk

Corns - Nail Trimming - Verrucae Hard Skin – Athlete's Foot – Ingrown Toenails Nail Infections - Cracked Heels (Fissures)

Sina Ohms MCFHP MAFHP Home Visits Foot Health Practitioner

Tel: 01666 838683 Mob: 07593 324 128

Corsham Chioropractic Clinic (87 Pickwick Road) Tel: 01249 716 683

The Chippenham Natural Therapy Centre (above the Lodge Surgery) Tel: 01249 443 390

Nail Cutting Service available (reduced prices at clinics only)

Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church The Coffee Shop -

Fair Trade tea and coffee with homemade biscuits Open Thursday mornings 9.30 am - 12 noon till end of

Sunday services 8.15am from 6 Nov for 6 months Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist (3rd Sunday 9.30am Family Service); 6pm Evensong (3rd Sunday Evening Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer) See the Parish Life for more details

Congregational Church

Services each Sunday 11am - 12.00 noon Please note services held in the British School Room from Oct 23 - March For further details see the Parish Life or phone 07778 934742

Methodist Church

Services every Sunday at $10.30 \mathrm{am}$ apart from $3 \mathrm{rd}$ Sunday in the month when service is held at Luckington. For further details 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. Contact Ness Whiffin 840185.

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 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

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.

Boules at The Bull

Meet every Thursday at 7.15pm April till Sept at The Red Bull Inn, Malmesbury Rd. Further details from Sue McKechnie 840601or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Busy Hands Pre-school

Meets 9.10am - 12.10pm everyday in the village hall for 3 - 5 year olds. Further details call 07766 714544

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. December Date: 2 Dec

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 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 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 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 840197 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 2.00pm in the British School Room every other Tuesday alternating with Clem's Club.

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 2012

Any new ideas and offers of help in planning or just on the day gratefully received. Caroline Moore caroline@ carolinemoore.co.uk or Louise Osborne louise.osborne@ networkrail.co.uk or call Caroline on 841405.

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 1/2 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 $10 \frac{1}{2}$ to $13 \frac{1}{2}$. 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 1/2 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 Drama Group

The Drama group puts on plays and pantomimes in the Village Hall. If you are interested in taking part or helping out contact Richard Skeffington (Chairman) richard.skeffington@virgin.net Tel. 840092 or Graham Instrell (Vice Chairman) ginstrell@ hotmail.co.uk Tel. 840978

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's Living Churchyard

Please help maintain the living churchyard on the second Sunday of the month from 10am to 12 noon or 2pm till 4pm, weather permitting. Please check with Sue for timings each month. Church of the Holy Cross

Further details contact Sue Robinson on 841263

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 Tennis Club

Sherston Tennis Club play on two hard courts off Knockdown Rd. Fees for the 2011 are the same as 2010: Family £80, Adult £45, Senior citizen £20, Junior (18 and under) £15. As ever, there will be coaching for children, adults too if enough people ask. Speak to

Helen McLeish (840992) or Harry Stevens (840602). A men's team has been entered into the Chippenham & District Leagues, matches are on Wednesday evenings, and match captain Jeremy Nabarro (07973 517655) will be delighted to hear from anyone interested in playing. Club night is Thursdays, starting 5 May from 6.30pm. Louise Osborne (841238) is keen to see you at the courts. Further details contact Nic Riley 840682, Helen McLeish 840992, Louise Osborne 841238 (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 babies, toddlers and their parents to meet and play. We meet at 10 -11.30am each Tuesday in the Scout Hut with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music and snacks for all, not to mention a much-needed cup of tea/coffee for the deserving parent. Further details contact SherstonToddlers@gmail.com, or Kate on 841205 or Clare on 840120

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. 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 300+ Club

Monthly draw with eight prizes ranging from £12 down to £5 for a £6 annual stake, plus a quarterly £5 bonus for seven 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.

Yoga in Sherston

Mondays: 5.45pm Pregnancy Yoga. 7pm Beginners adults yoga class. All welcome, no experience necessary. 8.15pm a more dynamic class for those with some yoga experience. £45 per 6 week term. Monthly Family Yoga classes, Saturdays 10am. Booking essential. Scout Hut.

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

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 2012 Dates for your diary

January

Busy Hands Annual Quiz

Queen's Jubilee

Boules Day

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.

HAT'S

Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

Curry Quiz Night Sun 4 Dec 2 Course Christmas menu available every day in Dec for £12.50 Take away fish and chips available daily £5.50 Steak night every Tuesday in December Music Night Fri 23 Dec Further details contact 840665

The Rattlebone Inn

Monday Quiz Nights Every Monday at 7:30pm Free entry and prizes for the winning team

Live Music - Nobody's Business Sat 10 Dec from 10pm Live Music with Ian Gould (formerly Killertones) Sat 17 Dec Christmas Party with carol singing Accompanied by the Doddington Brass Band, with mulled wine and a hog roast Enter the famous raffle in aid of 1016 - first prize Apple iPad2 Thurs 22 Dec

Live Music from Nobody's Business Post Christmas Day Party Boxing Day

New Year's Eve Fancy Dress Party Theme: TV stars and characters Music, games and space hopper racing See boards for more details of events

Further details contact 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

Friends of Sherston School

Christmas Fair

Craft stalls & festive cheer and even an early visit from Santa

Fri 2 Dec 4 - 6.30pm free entry Sherston School For further details call 840237 or visit www.sherston.wilts.sch.uk/fss.html

Busy Hands Cake Sale

Sat 3 Dec 9-12 Tucks' Yard All proceeds in aid of Busy Hands Pre-School

Grove Wood Sunday Clearing Please come along and help clear, coppice and then plant

trees and hedges in Grove Wood Starts from Sunday 20 November 10am - 1pm finishing with hot homemade soup Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Rock, Rhythm & Rhyme

Malmesbury Children's Centre is offering free music groups for the under 5's in Sherston Village Hall for a 6 week period starting in November. Children can learn action songs, play musical instruments and just have lots of fun. The sessions take place on Fridays from 1.30pm to 2.15 pm on 4,11,18,25 November and 2, 8 December.

Further details contact 825566

Village Hall Christmas Whist Drive Raffle & refreshments

Fri 9 Dec 7.30 for 7.45 £2 Village Hall

Sherston's Living Churchyard

Please help maintain the living churchyard on the second Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon or 2pm till 4pm, weather permitting. Please check with Sue for timings each month. Church of the Holy Cross For further details call Sue Robinson on 841263

Community bus shopping trip Christmas Shopping at Cribbs Causeway day trip

Wed 7 Dec -10am - 3pm 16 places available on the bus - book your ticket at the post office in advance to avoid disappointment. £4 return donation suggested. Under 14s must be accompanied by an adult

Sue's Strolls

Next one Sun 8 Jan starting from the village hall at 10am returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 12 noon

For further details call Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Busy Hands Pre-School Annual Quiz Night Raffle and auction

Sat 21 Jan Bar opens 7.30pm Quiz starts at 8pm £20 for a team of up to 4 All proceeds to Busy Hands Pre-School. Sherston Village Hall

For further details call Tickets are available from Mon 12 Dec onwards from Joey Ross (07768 947693) or Annie Llewellen Palmer and from the Post Office - but be quick, they sell like hot cakes!

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

None in December, next in January £5 in advance £5.50 on the door Grittleton Village Hall For further details call Lesley 01249 783157 or email l_palmer@btinternet.com or visit

Westonbirt The Arboretum

and Sunday evening till 18 Dec 5.00 - 8.30pm (last entry at 7.15pm). The Enchanted Christmas returns with a new illuminated trail route through the Old Arboretum and more exciting festive activities, foods and stalls onsite. The hard paths

are accessible for wheelchairs and electric scooters and these can be booked in advance. On Fridays, Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum members will receive a 50% discount on the full ticket price. Children (under 19s) accompanying parent/ guardian FOWA members go free

Workshop: Willow decorations Mon 6 Dec $10.30\text{--}3.30\,\mathrm{pm}\ \pounds60$ - incl all materials and tools

Specialist Wood Sales 2nd Saturday and Sunday every month 10am-1pm in aid of FOWA

Reindeer Trail Family event Thurs 1- Sat 24 Dec 10-4pm Family Events: Christmas Traditions. 4-5 Dec 11-4pm All free after entry

Autumn Admission £9 adult /£8 concs/ £4 chd under 5s free Further details contact 880220 or www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School

Community Celebration of Carols and Readings by Candlelight in the Great Hall Thurs 8 Dec 7.30pm Coffee and mince pies will be served afterwards. Admission is free, but tickets must be reserved and are likely go quickly!

For further details call Laura Reid on 880333 or lreid@westonbirt. gloucs.sch.uk or visit www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

Tetbury

Christmas Events in Tetbury
Christmas market & switching on of Christmas

Illuminations 5 - 10 Dec 40 beautifully adorned stalls - Toys, Clothing, Jewellery, Artworks, Festive Foods and Mulled Wines, with the background of festive music, brass bands and local choirs. Tetbury Market Square

For further details call Tetbury Tourist Information 503552 or visit www.tetburychristmasmarket.co.uk

Brokenborough

Painting classes with Nicki Heenan Oil and Acrylic Painting classes

Register your interest for the new clases staring in February 2012 10am - 1pm Advanced (2 Years painting or more)/ Lunch / 2pm - 4.15 Lessons for absolute beginners 2012 timings: Thurs 10.30am - 12.45pm advanced 2.00pm - 4.15pm beginners. £10 per session The Horseguards Pub, Brokenborough For further details call Nicki Heenan 840883 or email nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

Malmesbury

White Horse Pictures - Digital movie screenings Movies on Mondays

Check website for this month's listings £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

Malmesbury Community Quiz Night In aid of Malmesbury and Villages Community Area partnership

Wed 14 Dec 8pm £10 per team of 4 The King's Arms

MP's Surgery Local MP surgery with James Gray MP

Sat 3 Dec 12 noon - 1pm Hobbes Parlour, Malmesbury Town Hall

For further details call www.jamesgray.org for information on surgeries or for online surgeries or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk

Wotton-Under-Edge The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community This month: We need to talk about Kevin; Midnight

in Paris; The new adventures of Tintin; The Help; Arthur Christmas; World Cinema: Of Gods and Men

Further details contact 01453 844601 or www.wottoneph.co.uk

Lacock

Special Events at Lacock Abbey & Village

Christmas Tree Fest 4-18 Dec - Over 20 decorated trees in the cloisters 11am - 4pm £7.70 for adults / £3.80 chd

Homemade Christmas 8 Dec 11am workshop on giftmaking

A Christmas Carol 20-Dec 4pm / 7pm £12/£6

Dog Walking at Lacock well behaved dogs on leads welcome in the grounds November - 31 March Lacock Abbey

For further details call 01249 730459 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lacock

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

Professional football only 20 minutes drive from Sherston. Home matches: Tues 6 Dec 7.45pm v Tamworth; Sat 10 3pm v FA Trophy, and Sat 17 3pm v Lincoln City Adults £15/£13, Concessions £10/£8, under 16s £2
The New Lawn Forest Green Nailsworth
For further details call 01453 834860 or visit
www.forestgreenroversfc.com

Swindon

Meet the railway workers - the stars of steam age

Evening Star and Caerphilly Castle 3,17 and 31 Dec £6.40 / £4.25 /Family ticket (2+2): £17.00 (2+3)£21

Christmas stalls @ Steam 3-4 Dec 11-4pm £2 adult £1 child and entry to whole museaum at this price

Christmas Trail 24 and 27-31 Dec

For further details call 01793 466646 or visit www.steam-museum.org.uk

Cirencester

Sundial Theatre at Cirencester College

Wind in the Willows 6-9 Dec 1pm £4 and 7.30pm £7/£8 Elefteria Kotzia in concert Classical guitar Fri 11 Nov 7.30pm 13 Stalag Happy Thurs 24 Nov 8pm £13 Further details contact 01285 654228 or www.cirencester.ac.uk/sundial

Avon Valley Steam Trains

Santa Express - meet Santa on a 1 hour train ride through the Avon valley

Every weekend in Dec 6 departures from 10.30 am till 4.30pm £9 Avon Valley Railway

For further details call 0117 932 5538 or visit www.avonvalleyrailway.org

Stroud

Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet @ The Apollo

Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty LIVE 15-Dec

Stroud Apollo Cinema

Further details contact 0871 220 6000 or www.roh.org.uk/cinema

Bath

Bath Christmas Market

123 wooden stalls between Bath Abbey and York Street till 11 Dec 10am - 7pm / 9pm at weekends Further details contact or www.bathchristmasmarket.co.uk

Theatre Royal

Disney's Beauty and the Beast till 4 Dec $7.30 \, \text{pm}$ / $8 \, \text{pm}$ £15 - £33 0 Season's Greetings Mon 5 - Sat 10 Dec $7.30 \, \text{pm}$ / $8 \, \text{pm}$ mat $2.30 \, \text{pm}$ £16.50-£33.50

Dick Whittington Thurs 15 Dec - Sun 22 Jan 7.00pm mat 2pm £9.50-£22

Moscow City Ballet present Swan Lake and the Nutcracker Wed 16 - Sun 20 Nov 7.30/8pm mat $2.30 \pm 17-\pm 35$

All the fun of the fair - David Essex Mon 21 - Sat 26 Nov Book ahead for: Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Season's Greeting Further details contact 01225 448844 or www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Bristol

The Soul Destroyers live

Sat 17 Dec £8 in adv - contact Dave if 10+ tickets Fiddlers in Bristol

For further details call Dave Shephard 07860 448438 or email ds@ oldbellhouse.com or visit www.soul-destroyers.co.uk

SmallAds

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.

whatley, manor

Christmas Eve Dinner - £83 per person

Champagne and canapé reception, four-course menu in candlelit surroundings with coffee and petit fours

New Year's Eve Dinner - £150 per person

Champagne and canapé reception, six-course gala dinner with live jazz

Bank Holiday Lunches - £28 per person

27th December and 2nd January
A three-course table d'hote lunch will be served

29тн January - Sunday Cinema Screening - £39 per person

'Pirates of the Caribbean – On Stranger Tides' starring Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz and Geoffrey Rush Includes a three-course lunch or dinner, film and popcorn

Special event room rate applies when attending the Sunday cinema screening. Rooms from £240 and Suites from £440

Call Events on 01666 834 026 or email events@whatleymanor.com

Easton Grey Malmesbury Wiltshire SN16 oRB
Telephone +44 (o) 1666 822 888 Email reservations@whatleymanor.com

www.whatleymanor.com



AA Inspectors' ****

Useful Numbers

BT fault line 0800 800151

CLARENCE (Highway complaints) 0800 232323

Cllr John Thomson 01666 840785

Malmesbury Activity Zone 01666 822533

Malmesbury Library 01666 823611

Malmesbury Police 101 (emergency 999)

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 840197

Sherston Post Office 01666 840202

Sherston School 01666 840237

Sherston Village Hall (bookings) 01666 840633

Tolsey Surgery 01666 840270

Wiltshire Council 0300 4560100



Starfish Enterprise

The Mobile Village Fish & Chip Shop We fry like no other has fried before...

We land our catch at Sherston Village Hall every Thursday from 5.30pm to 8.30pm

All our fish is sustainable caught daily & delivered to us from Wing the Cornish Fish Merchant in St Mawes, often within 24 hours of being landed, now that's fresh!

We can also take pre paid weekly orders if you would like a specific fish for your supper cooked by us or if it is just for you to take home & cook yourself we can supply you on our next visit to your village.

207719 326 236

☐ Starfish.co@btinternet.com www.starfishenterprise.info.co.uk