



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

JANUARY 2012

DELIVERED FREE

A happy and prosperous new year to all our readers, advertisers, contributors and distributors. In fact, everyone!

Beech Class brings Christmas cheer to Old School



After endless hours of preparation, Beech class of Sherston school descended on the post office at the Old School to transform the front window into a magical wonderland winter freeze. You can see this for yourself by simply visiting the post office and looking through the window anytime up to Saturday 7 January. Well done Beech Class!

Seasonal veggie boost

A big thank you to Nigel Freeth for kindly donating the lovely fresh Brussels sprouts and swede for Sherston Primary School's Christmas dinner which was enjoyed by all!

Meeting of the parish council

The parish council meets on Thursday 12 January 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 email clerk@sherston.org.uk. You can also contact the council via the response form on www.sherston.org.uk where minutes of meetings can be read.

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

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

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

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

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Inserted leaflet drop £75

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

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Father Christmas visits Sherston Baby and Toddler Group



Father Christmas took time out of his busy schedule to pay a special visit to Sherston Baby and Toddler Group on 13 December. For many of the little ones, it was their first encounter with Santa and there was much excitement as his arrival brought a brief halt to the festive gluing of sequins, cotton wool (and fingers!) to home-made Christmas cards.

Join the mums, babies and toddlers for fun, play and craft activities each Tuesday, 10.00am-11.30am at Sherston Scout Hut. Next meeting 3 January.



Clem's Club

Clem's Club will meet every other Tuesday, on 3, 17 and 31 January. All friendly fellas welcome for simple chat and chat, from 2.30pm to 4.00pm (alternating with the Senior Club) in the British School Room, Cliff Road.

Ahoy there, it's Captain Christmas!

Mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters filled the school hall at Sherston yet again in December for the Key Stage 1 Christmas show.

Sue Wild skillfully edited down the 60-page script of Captain Christmas to suit the KS1 pupils – and every pupil from Oak, Ash and Birch class had a part to play. A massive amount of time went into the production and the KS1 staff worked incredibly hard to make it all happen.

Everyone who attended one of the three performances was impressed. It was a fun show and the children clearly had a fantastic time performing to their appreciative audience.

We were entertained by songs, dances and jokes from pirates, monkeys, royalty, soldiers, cooks, market sellers, maids and Dr Doolittle's kid sister. And just when we thought our voyage across the pirate waves was over, we were treated to a real nativity scene ... and then there wasn't a dry eye in sight!



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References available

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Mob: 07531 057016



Storytelling kicks off Christmas



Sally Clayton, Gemma Waldron, Alan Dickenson

A huge team effort made the Sherston Primary School Storytelling evening on 8 December a great success, raising over £400 for the Friends of Sherston School.

A total of 17 people provided the entertainment to a packed house, and everyone got involved in planning, writing and performing.

The first half featured Snow Pat, Cinderella, Turkey Song, Dancing Elves, It's Christmas, Get me Out of Here, the Mint Spies and a fantastic rendition of Bob Dylan's 'Must Be Santa'.

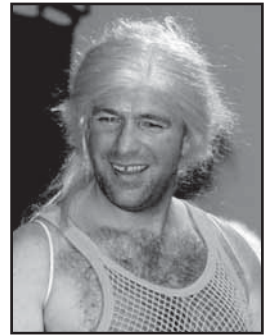
After the interval, the audience was treated to a visit from Jake the Peg (with special guest appearance from Lorcan Purser and Adam Tappin on euphonium), Kev and Harry singing a Beastie Boy rap to advertise the school Christmas disco, a surprise appearance by Ollie Cadle as the Christmas Fairy (so surprising his own children didn't know he was doing it), Mint Spies and then a specially written panto 'The Mangold Maid of Sherston' by John Picken, with musical recitatives from a rapid wig-changing Lady Gaga redesigned by Laura and Gemma).

There was plenty of audience participation (so much so that, at one stage, the Wicked Witch of Westonbirt couldn't be heard), and a good time was had by all.

Of course, none of it would have been possible



Laura Gould and Linda Tate



Ollie Cadle



Two brave competitors battle out the Bushtucker Trial

without the fantastic effort of Dave Shepherd on sound, expertly providing music and sound effects, and the creative enterprise of Laura Gould who managed to make a huge array of props and costumes with a miniscule budget and an enormous amount of imagination.

Thanks to all the team: Steve Harvey, Alan Dickenson, Caroline Dickenson, Margot Holland, Kev Smith, Pat Starke, Kirstie Blair, John Pettit, Harry Stevens, Linda Tate, Laura Gould, Dave Shepherd, John Picken and, new to the cast, Jonathan Gould, Sally Clayton, Gemma Waldron and Ollie Cadle



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The future of the old war memorial

by Sue Robinson

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is considering the possibility of moving the old war memorial from the lychgate to another position, possibly inside the church. The reason for this is its deterioration. Despite being repaired not that long ago, penetrating damp is lifting the inscription from the memorial and soon parts of it will be illegible. It does not seem likely that it will be able to remain in its current position without regular repair to damage caused by damp. This then raises questions of organising and paying for such work as it appears that no group actually bears responsibility for the memorial.

The PCC would like to hear from anyone who wishes to put forward a view on this issue. Do you know of any group that is responsible for the memorial? Should the war memorial be moved? If so, where should it be placed? Or should it be repaired again and left in situ? If so, how can it be maintained in the long term?

Please send any comments in writing, on paper or by email, to the Churchwarden, Sue Robinson, at jimandsue4@btinternet.com or 15 The Tarters.

The next meeting of the PCC is on 23 February when all views received will be considered.

Village hall 300+ club

November Draw

1st	£12	188	G Hayman
2nd	£11	207	M Yeend
3rd	£10	245	Pam Hicks
4th	£9	202	R Langdan
5th	£8	56	A Dryden
6th	£7	287	Martin Evans
7th	£6	246	T Hicks
8th	£5	113	Gwenda Evans

Collectors: G Mason, M Goulding, J Glead, M Thacker, J Platts, M Yeend, A Andrews.

Whist Drive

The next whist drive will be held at the village hall on Friday 13 January, starting at 7.15 for 7.30pm prompt. £1.50 including refreshments.

G Mason, M Goulding, J Glead



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Police News

by PC Steve Humphries

Just a short message as we all look forward to the New Year. Remember, we are still being targeted for scrap metal, 4x4s and machinery/tools in the north of Wiltshire, the season of good will now being behind us. Please ensure outbuildings and vehicles are left secure when not in use.

Normally I give an email address for contacting my team if you have any concerns but I am taking this opportunity to let you know of another team of officers working specifically to target criminals preying on isolated farms and livestock - the Rural Crime Team. If you are still not a member of Farm Watch or Horse Watch and would like more information or to join please contact the Rural Crime Team on ruralcrimeteam@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or 101 to receive free txt and email alerts.

Happy Christmas!

Queen's jubilee

With the start of the year work on the parish celebrations is now well underway. All are welcome to attend the next planning meeting on Tuesday 17 January at 7.30pm in the village hall. If you are unable to attend but have any suggestions or wish to get involved please contact Cilla Liddington on 840128 or email sherstoncilla@tiscali.co.uk

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Pin money pay out

Both PROPS and Sherston 1016 are extremely grateful to have received a magnificent £570 each from the proceeds of the 12 hour Skittles marathon held in the Rattlebone Inn. Many thanks are due to the marathon team of Kenny Outlaw, Rob Punter and Jock Walker as well as to Lynette Willetts and all who made this such a success.

Cribbs trip

Some 12 passengers enjoyed the Christmas shopping trip to Cribbs Causeway in December organised by the parish council. Thanks are due to Tony Weedon who kindly volunteered to drive the Cartmell Community Bus. It is hoped to have some trips to other destinations in 2012.



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January Notebook



Sherston Old School COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Congratulations to Paul and Gail for a successful first month in the new Post Office Stores. Now that Phase One is over, it's a good time to reflect on how far we've come and look at what we still have to do to complete the conversion of Sherston Old School during 2012. Let's begin at the beginning:

Why was SOSCIC (Sherston Old School Community Interest Company) set up?

After the new primary school opened in 2005, Sherston Old School became redundant. There was one application to develop the site for commercial purposes but it fell through. To avoid the building being converted to residential use (an application roundly condemned by residents), the Parish Council intervened to purchase a 999-year lease on the premises from the Diocese of Bristol. It then looked for a method by which everyone in the community could become directly involved. The intention was to form a team of people with appropriate professional knowledge to run the project and bring it to a successful conclusion on the PC's – and the community's – behalf.

The Sherston Old School Community Interest Company (SOSCIC) was set up in 2010. It is not a charity because the aims of our CIC, to 'convert the building for commercial use', does not qualify as a charitable objective for registration with the Charities Commission. It has been the task of the SOSCIC

board of volunteers to achieve these aims, at the same time preserving the character of the High Street and providing increased employment opportunities and services

What is the legal basis of SOSCIC and what happens to any profits?

SOSCIC is a Community Interest Company (CIC) registered at Companies House and limited by guarantee. It has a legal requirement to file accounts and accord with Company Law. One of the particular features of a CIC is an 'asset lock', designed to make sure that no individual member is allowed to make any money out of the company; any assets and possible future profits have to be used in the service of the community

Membership of the company is available to all members of the community subject only to them being prepared to pay £1 if the company fails. Membership includes the right to attend and vote at general meetings of SOSCIC and, at those meetings, to appoint and remove members of the Board of SOSCIC. (In short, all the usual powers associated with a limited company). SOSCIC members are thus directly involved in the progress of the project and have a stake in its success. Thanks to an on-going membership drive, there are currently over 270 members of SOSCIC, making it probably the largest community interest company in the UK.

How are we going to achieve financial targets this year?

The actual objectives for 2012 are to complete Phase Two, making all of the building capable of being let, and to find tenants for these remaining areas. If we can do all of this, the entire project can look forward to a self-sustainable future. The capital cost is estimated at £175,000 and we have been so successful with fundraising this year that we are currently just £68,000 short of our target.

How do we raise the shortfall?

We plan to raise the remaining funds by means of a comprehensive and varied programme of fundraising. Our hardworking committee has put together a schedule for 2012 that includes special events, grant applications and personal appeals to individual residents for donations. A special results board in the foyer of the post office will give an accurate account of how successful these attempts are and how close we are getting to our targets. With your help and support, we shall pull it off and the prize will be a self-financing village asset for current and future generations of residents to enjoy.

For further information on SOSCIC fundraising, please contact Irene Johnston on 841273 or email: ie_johnston@yahoo.co.uk.

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New Year new sport?

Why not keep that New Year resolution about getting fit or trying something different by popping along to Sherston Short Mat Bowls at the village hall? The next session is on Wednesday 4 January at 7.30 pm. It's very reasonable – just a contribution to the hire of the hall. The necessary equipment is all provided. For more information, contact Phil Andrews on 840941 or by email: philip.r.andrews@btinternet.com.

Sherston church bazaar

by Heather Martin

The Christmas Bazaar was held in the village hall on 26 November. We tried a different format this time, with seating and entertainment in the large hall. There might be a few 'wrinkles' to iron out for next time, but it was a very sociable and successful occasion, raising £1,000 to go towards the upkeep of our lovely church. After an enjoyable lunch of homemade soup and bacon rolls, spending some money on stalls, tombola and raffles, we were entertained by Roger Whitehouse's group of singers 'End of the Track'. Thank you to them and to all our many helpers and visitors, especially Father Christmas who found time to call.

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SHOCC (Sherston Occasional Community Choir)

Having had a break after Christmas, the choir rehearsals will commence once more on Wednesday 1 February. We shall meet in the British School Room in Cliff Road at 7.00pm each Wednesday up to Easter. If you enjoy singing, do come along to join us - we are a friendly bunch and you will have a chance to meet the members and have a chat over a cup of tea during the evening. We sing a variety of music, usually in three parts, under the direction of Nicki Heenan. We would love to have some more men in the choir - do give us a go! Subscriptions are £30 for the term, with reductions for the 'older' and 'younger' members.

For more information, contact Jill Woodward (Secretary) on 840578 or jillwoodward222@btinternet.com or Nicki Heenan on 840883 or nicki.heenan@btinternet.com.

Moviola presents Jane Eyre

On Wednesday 25 January, Moviola presents Jane Eyre (12A) at Grittleton village hall starring Judi Dench, Mia Wasikowska and Michael Fassbender. Doors open at 7.00pm and the show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 (in advance) and £5.50 on the door. For tickets please contact Lesley Palmer on 01249 783157 or L_Palmer@btinternet.com. More details at www.moviola.org.

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PROPS Christmas bash



PROPS Chairman, John Tasker, receiving his award from David Rees

The PROPS Christmas bash took place at The Rattlebone Inn on Saturday 10 December. PROPS is a charity providing opportunity and support to children and young people with physical and learning disabilities. A crammed restaurant saw John Tasker, Matt Eccles and James Power receive outstanding contributions awards. Of course, these awards are representative of the many PROPS supporters who give their time freely, and we offer our most sincere seasonal greetings to all our supporters.

Our guest of honour was David Rees, Bristol, Sale and England Rugby International, who presented the awards – a fitting tribute to the personnel working so hard on behalf of PROPS.

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Subs time

January is an important month for the village hall as that's when all the 300+ club members are asked to renew their subscriptions for the coming year. The proceeds from the club are a vital part of the hall's finances for whilst hire charges are set to meet all the day to day running costs any improvements to the hall are dependent on fund raising.

After completing the work to the interior walls of the main hall the hall committee is moving forward with other possible improvements. Now that the hall has a 125 year lease of the field it is hoped to make a vehicular access from the front of the hall so that the setting up of events on the field is made easier than by using the rather too steep Noble Street entrance. At the same time an additional area of hard play for the Pre School will be put in place to make up for the loss of part of the yard for access to the rear of the Old School. Other works on the wish list include new internal doors for the main hall, redecoration of the main lobby and a complete refurbishment of the kitchen. To help all this become a reality please renew your 300+ membership. For as little as £6 a year, with 50% of the proceeds being returned in prizes, it's a great way to help the hall. The club is marvellously organised by Mary Goulding, Joyce Gleed, Gwen Mason, Janet Platts, Margaret Yeend, Margaret Thacker and Ann Andrews. Thank you one and all.

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WEA Courses in Sherston

We have just completed one of our most successful Sherston courses ever, with over 40 enrolled for four weeks looking at contrasting plays of the 20th century. Now we look forward to something quite different under the title 'History in the making or do historians make up history?' Tutor Richard Henderson has been running his popular history courses in Sherston for many years and is guaranteed to produce a thought-provoking and informative series, starting on Friday 20 January.

Be prepared for such questions as:

- Why are we so fascinated by the past?
- How much does our perception of the past influence the way we think about the present?
- Can we really discover what happened in the past or do we construct stories about the past which merely reflect our understanding of the present?

The course will look at the way different societies have approached their recording and interpretation of their past. We will examine:

- the role of some of the earliest myths known to us,
- some theories of history, and
- the way recent history has been subject to conflicting interpretations.

No detailed knowledge of any period of history is required for this course – just an enquiring mind and a sense of curiosity.

The course will run for eight weeks, finishing on Friday 9 March and will be held in the British School Room, Cliff Road, from 10.00am to 11.45am each week. The cost is £45, enquiries and bookings through Tony Wood on 840558 or Carolyn Hewitson on 840295.

Precept

The parish council has set its budget for 2012/2013 which has resulted in a precept figure of £22,400. This will be the third year running that the precept has been that sum. In order not to increase the amount the parish council will be calling on reserve funds to complete some long standing projects as well as seeking appropriate grant finance. The precept will be collected by Wiltshire Council in April as part of residents' council tax demands.

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Budgeting: knowing how much money you have got coming and going out of your household is the first step to controlling debt. It helps to prioritise your spending, making sure the most important bills are paid first. Other suggestions include:

- looking at ways to cut down on your everyday living expenses (for example, shop around for cheaper fuel or electricity tariffs)
- considering how you might increase your income (are you getting the benefits and allowances that you are eligible for?)
- if you are thinking about borrowing or taking out a loan, finding out which is most suitable to your needs, as some forms of borrowing are very expensive and can put you further in debt.

There are a number of agencies that can give you free advice about finance and debt. You do not need to pay for debt advice.

I am the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator for Sherston, Hullavington, Sopworth, Luckington and Easton Grey and I aim to help elderly and vulnerable people stay in their own homes longer by providing information about services in the community.


Contact me with regard to any of the above and I will do what I can to provide information and put you in touch with the right people.

By Jenny Plummer, Good Neighbour Coordinator, Tel. 07557 922028, email: gnc17@communityfirst.org.uk

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A load of boules

The Rattlebone Boules League

Last year's event was a great success. Over 150 people in 48 teams battled it out on the three pitches at The Rattlebone Inn throughout last summer; all for the exorbitantly expensive and totally tacky prizes.

A few take it quite seriously, but the majority are there for the booze, the camaraderie, and just to have fun. There are some vacancies so if you fancy taking part in 2012, please get in touch with Shaun Scott on either 840845 or shaunscott@aol.com. Skill is not a requirement, rather a wish to meet new people. It is an ideal way to get involved if you are new to the village, or have ever wondered what those strange people are doing at the Rattlebone on lazy hazy summer evenings.

The prize-giving will take place at the Rattlebone on Tuesday 17 January at 8.00pm, please arrange to be there a bit earlier, so that we can start on time. The prize-giving will be followed by a free buffet as all the prizes and the buffet are paid for by the subscriptions.

The winners are:

League 1

- 1st James Pyle, and his team 'Norfolk & Chance'
- 2nd Jim McKelvie, and his team 'Buffs'
- 3rd Tommy Dryden and his team 'Tommy's Tigers'

League 2

- 1st Huw Bowles and his team 'Les Oeufs'
- 2nd Tony Towle and his team 'Sherston Antiques'
- 3rd Bob Morris and his team 'The Thirtyniners'

League 3

- 1st Paul Bailey and his team 'Bad Manors'
- 2nd Lynette Willetts and her team 'Rag Tags'
- 3rd Ivor Purser and his team 'Les Rustres'

Since the league commenced, there has been a continuing problem with unplayed games. For 2012 we are looking at rectifying this with a system of penalty points. Quite what the system will be depends

on long and frequent discussions over several pints at the Rattlebone. The final decision will be unveiled at the prize-giving.

The Mark Doyle Trophy

The Mark Doyle trophy is normally played for at the end of the season between the winners and runners-up of the three leagues in memory of Mark Doyle, who was one of our most popular team captains. It did not take place last year, as a lot of the people involved could be seen (if you knew where to look) at various places in the locality without their bras and knickers, and with several of their similarly un-attired very attractive friends. All this alfresco shenanigans has resulted in a calendar, priced at £8, available from the post office and the Rattlebone in aid of The Mark Doyle Foundation. The trophy will now be played for at the opening of the season sometime in May, details will be announced in due course.

An even greater load of boules

Boules Day 14 July 2012

A very few people are currently organising the 2012 Boules Day. A lot of people assume that it just happens. It takes a lot of planning and a lot of hard work to achieve the final result. We are looking for volunteers to do the humping and dumping on the day, and to supervise or help run various events. We also require people to organise some of the aspects of the many and varied activities that take place on the day. If you feel that you can help to keep this vibrant and hugely successful annual event going, please contact Caroline Moore on 841405 or caroline@carolinemoore.co.uk

by Tony Towle, Tel.840574, email: atowle@btinternet.com

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Community safety

The next MVCAP (Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership) quarterly community safety forum will be held at Malmesbury town hall on Tuesday 10 January 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 their work since the last forum was held in September. The community through those present at the forum are encouraged to question these priorities and to raise their 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 telephone 390110.

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

Speed limits

Following a review and consultation Wiltshire Council has now determined to reduce the speed limit on the B4040 from Malmesbury to the county boundary at Acton Turville from the national limit of 60mph to 50mph. The formal advertising of this intended change will take place shortly with the new limit and appropriate signage likely to be in place by early autumn.

Area Board

The next meeting of the Malmesbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council is now to take place at Malmesbury town hall on Wednesday 18 January 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. This is an opportunity for residents to see their area board in action and to participate in discussions. All welcome.

Agenda items include: Jane Scott, Leader of Wiltshire Council; Reduced Night Lighting - in Malmesbury & St Paul Malmesbury Without PC; 2012 Year of Celebration ; Your Community Issues ; Area Board Funding.

Waste and recycling

Residents who currently have a garden waste bin can put their real Christmas tree out by the side of their bin for collection on their normal scheduled garden waste collection day during January. Alternatively trees can be taken to a household recycling centre for recycling.

During inclement weather waste and recycling collection services may be affected. If this happens on the day residents' collections are due, they should keep their bins out at the usual collection points and they will be collected as soon as possible. Residents are also advised, where possible, to check the council's website for more information at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Walk into 2012

Sue McKechnie's first walk of the new year will be on Sunday 8 January – a great chance to start shedding the extra pounds from all that Christmas fare. Please assemble at the village hall for 10.00am with a return to the Rattlebone Inn just around 12noon in time for a complimentary snack – non fattening of course. As ever children and well behaved dogs on leads are very welcome.



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Wiltshire Horsewatch

What is Wiltshire Horsewatch?

Wiltshire Horsewatch was set up in April 2009 by the Wiltshire Police Rural Crime Team and is the equine version of Neighbourhood Watch. The aim of the scheme is to connect with horse owners and riders with the intention of improving equine and property security by promoting the sharing of information, providing real time news via text message or e-mail alerts, plus crime prevention advice and services.

It is about horse owners working in partnership with the Police to help prevent and reduce equine/rural crime. As part of the National Horsewatch Alliance, information of criminal/suspicious activity is shared across the counties allowing a broad distribution of knowledge to be shared and acted upon.

Wiltshire Horsewatch is a non-profit making scheme with free membership.

Why Join Wiltshire Horsewatch?

Equine crime can be soul destroying and it's not just about the financial loss, there is also emotional distress...

PCSO John Bordiss (Rural Crime Team) said: 'As a horse owner myself, I am very aware of the hard work and ongoing expense horse ownership brings. The last thing anyone wants is to be a victim of crime. By working together, being vigilant and sharing information, we can help prevent future rural/equine crimes'. Open to individual horse owners, large professional/competition and business yards; by joining Wiltshire Horse Watch, members receive updates on County wide equine related thefts and suspicious incidents, therefore being quickly alerted to potential threats. Members also have access to crime prevention advice, which could help to prevent 'you' becoming a victim of equine crime!

Wiltshire Horsewatch membership allows us to pass on to you the advice and help that you need to help you prevent crime: Advice on horse and yard security ; Tack marking sessions; Crime prevention advice

How Does Wiltshire Horsewatch Work?

Wiltshire Horsewatch member's details are entered on to the Rural Crime Team's (RCT) database and from this system, members receive local alerts and county wide updates via text messages and/or email.

Wiltshire Horsewatch has ongoing information on www.facebook.com/pages/Wiltshire-Horsewatch/124761100905641 \t "_blank" Facebook and Twitter ; keeping you up to date with news and events.

How Do I Join Wiltshire Horsewatch?

To join Wiltshire Horsewatch go to www.wiltshirehorsewatch.co.uk or contact one of the following:

Police Co-ordinator: PCSO John Bordiss john.bordiss@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk t: 101 ext 739817 m: 07968 942116

Civilian Co-ordinator (Westbury based): Tracy Barthram e: tbarthram@hotmail.com t: 07980 502087.

Rural Crime Team (RCT) e: ruralcrimeteam@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Footpaths

The next Sherston footpath group meeting takes place on Thursday 5 January at 7.30 pm in the village hall. Amongst the items for discussion will be additional routes for the popular booklet 'Sherston Walks' published by the group in 2010. The meeting will also discuss an application to Wiltshire Council in respect of part of footpath SHER 14 at Ladyswood. The application made by the landowner seeks to extinguish the right of way. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in learning more about the work of the group contact Maggie McKenna on 841047 email maggie.mckenna@harriespartnership.com

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Public Footpath to close?

Wiltshire Council has received an application under s.118 of the Highways Act 1980 from Mr. C M Meade seeking to extinguish part of footpath Sherston 14 where it leads through Ladyswood Farm.

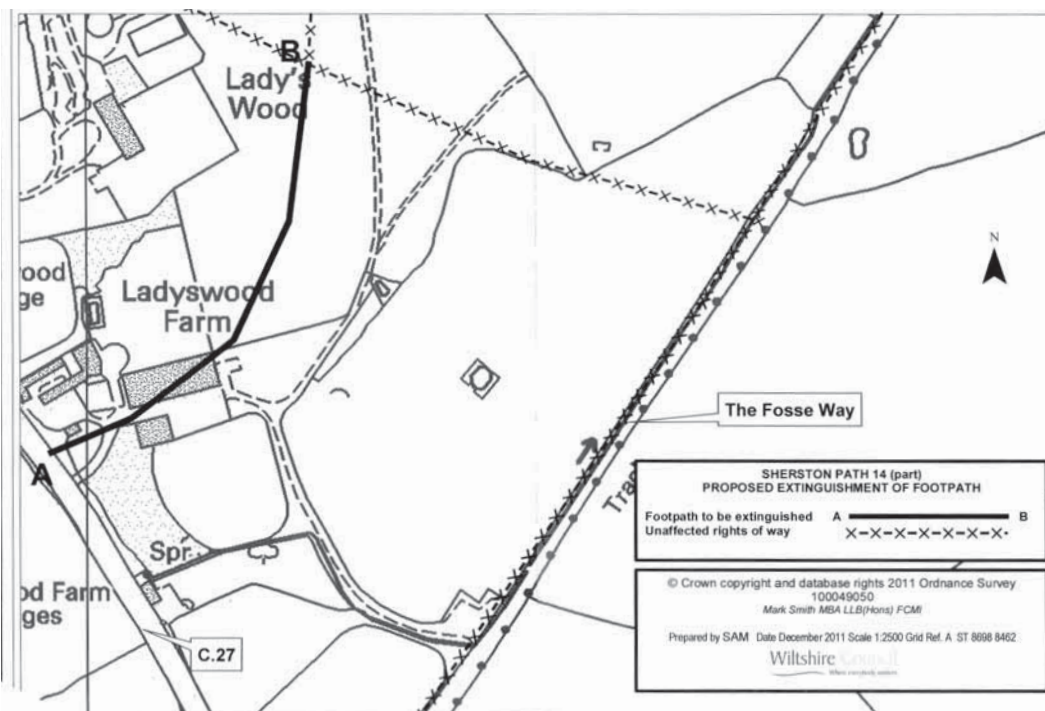
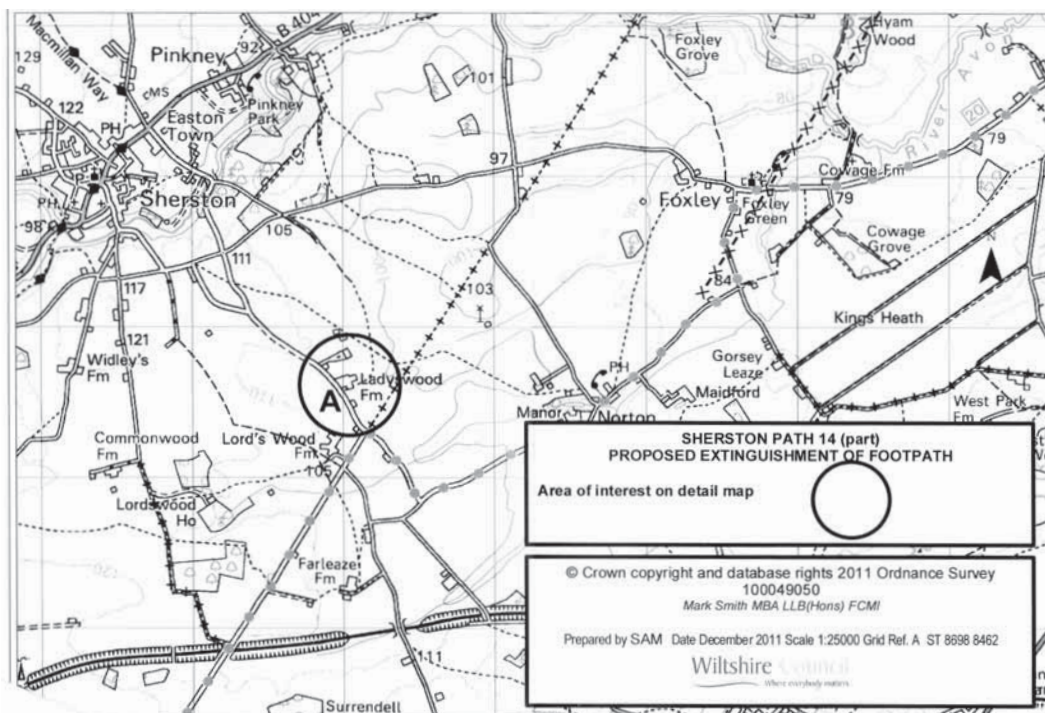
The reasons given for the application are

- i) that the property is a stud farm breeding racehorses and the path passes between buildings housing mares and foals,
- ii) that there is danger to the public, who may be kicked or knocked down,
- iii) that the path is also a security risk for the stud as users stray off the path to have a closer look at the stock and
- iv) that there is a traffic hazard with the movement of farm machinery in this area.

A map showing the general rights of way network around the application area and a plan showing the extent of the extinguishment applied for are reproduced below.

Comments on the application need to be made by 30 January to Wiltshire Council. They should be sent to Sally Madgwick, Rights of Way Officer, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JN. Email Sally.madgwick@wiltshire.gov.uk

In deciding whether to make an order, Wiltshire Council must be satisfied that the path is not needed for public use. To confirm the order the Council (or Secretary of State) must also have regard to the extent that the path is likely to be used.



Busy Hands quiz

By Annie Llewellyn Palmer

It's that time again! Dust off the Christmas cobwebs and get your brain cells buzzing for the Busy Hands Quiz Night. This year's quiz is taking place at the village hall on Saturday 21 January.

Apart from the fiercely contested quiz itself, once again there will be a fabulous auction and raffle on the night. The Busy Hands team have gathered together a huge range of prizes, including:

- two tickets to Wales vs Italy at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff, in March;
- a three-day people and car pass for the Gatcombe Horse Trials;
- an overnight stay at the Old Bell in Malmesbury;
- a Whatley Manor Spa Evening;
- a £100 Anna Lizzio voucher;
- bed and breakfast at Carriers Farm;
- two tickets to the Wizard of Oz at the Bath Theatre Royal;
- a Neil Forster Print;
- a Calcot Manor Twilight Spa;
- dinner for two at the Royal Oak;
- a family photography shoot;
- a three-course dinner for two at the Rattlebone;
- a Dyson handheld vacuum; and
- dinner for two with wine at The Vine Tree.

Doors open at 7.30pm and the quiz starts at 8pm.

Wiltshire Council suggests solar panel caution

Wiltshire Council is encouraging homeowners to consider carefully the long-term implications before agreeing to install solar panels on their homes.

Sue Wilkin, senior public protection officer at the Council said that, although solar panels could bring about savings, homeowners need to be aware of the long-term commitments. There would be a legally binding lease agreement with the company who carried out the installation. Homeowners with a mortgage must advise their mortgage companies of their intentions, because not to do so would be a breach of the terms of their mortgage.

Once agreed, the panels must stay, even when the homeowner wants to sell. Anyone wishing to purchase the property would do so subject to that lease. Leases for solar panels are not always the same. Gains to be made from the scheme are not the same with each supplier and small print should be read carefully. Some leases do not provide for repairs which then became the liability of the homeowner.

Some solar panels are self-cleaning and others require professional cleaning at regular intervals to remain effective. Some are extremely heavy and unsuitable for certain roof structures.

Sue Wilkin advised 'Schemes such as grants for insulation, solar panels or any other home improvement should be properly looked into before agreement. The companies offering the schemes are businesses, and their primary concern is to make money, and salesmen will not necessarily give people the best advice. If people are unsure, they should talk to Consumer Direct on 08454 040506. If they are thinking of solar panels, and have a mortgage they should talk to their mortgage company before signing up.

'Even though people may have legal rights to change their mind for a short time, if they signed up when the salesman called, people may still end up paying some charges if they later don't go ahead. If people succumb to the salesman's chat and are then worried, they should take advice immediately before their rights expire.'

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Painting in oils and acrylics with artist Nicki Heenan

Painting helps us to see the world with a different perspective and gives us a way of expressing ourselves through colour, texture and form.

Painting classes for 2012 start on Thursday 2 February at the Horse Guards Pub, Brokenborough, and run for eight weeks, finishing on 23 March.

In the spring term, we will be studying the artists Monet, Gauguin and Degas and their use of colour and techniques. The advanced class will also have the option to develop portfolio work.

- Beginners painting: 2.00pm-4.00pm
- Advanced painting: 10.30am-12.40pm (though the advanced class usually stay on through the afternoon to complete work)

Each class is limited to six people. Classes are very social, and we often have partners dropping in for lunch.

If you are unsure about 'how to' or think 'I can't', why not try a free painting workshop day (all materials provided), which I will be holding in March, so register now for a space.

By Nicki Heenan, Tel. 840883, email: nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

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.

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Charity cook book – 'Recipes from the Heart'

Wiltshire Council is pleased to be supporting 'Recipes from the Heart', a cookbook created by the Wiltshire Phoenix Group, a survivor's forum for domestic abuse victims. The foreword to this cookery book has been kindly written by Mary Berry, one of the UK's best-known and respected cookery writers. Members of the Phoenix Group thought the idea of producing a cookbook would be an exciting project to work on together, as well as an opportunity to fundraise for future victims.

The Phoenix Group are 'excited and very thankful to all those who have donated their recipes and for the positive response to their project.' The cookbook was launched during Wiltshire's Domestic Abuse Awareness Week and can be purchased for £5 (plus p&tp). If you would like a copy, please email Alison Crook: alison.crook@wiltshire.gov.uk

If you are or know someone who is living with the affects of domestic abuse, please speak out and seek support, call the National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247 (freephone in partnership with Women's Aid and Refuge) or go to www.speakoutwiltshire.com. In an emergency, please call 999.



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TREEtalk

JANUARY 2012

by Irene Johnston

Happy New Year!

A very happy New Year to all our volunteers at Grove Wood. We're looking forward to another busy season that will continue throughout January, February and most of March. Why not make one of your resolutions for 2012 to get some fresh air and exercise on Sundays between 10.00am and 1.00pm? We warmly welcome new people of all ages who are prepared to roll up their sleeves in a good cause. There's plenty to do, so join us for more productive and enjoyable sessions at Sherston's very own wood right on our doorstep.

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

Trees from the Woodland Trust

By Jill Woodward

To commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, the Woodland Trust is hoping to plant six million trees in the UK and, as part of the project, the Trust is offering free packs of 105 trees for planting by community groups. The scheme is being promoted by the WI, and Sherston's Tree Warden, Irene Johnston, has been contacted with the idea of planting some trees in Grove Wood.

It is also possible for residents to purchase a native British sapling to plant in their private garden or land at a cost of £6.95. Just contact the Woodland Trust via their website (www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) or by email (communitytrees@woodlandtrust.org.uk).

Drawing classes in Sherston

by Heather Martin, Tel. 840375, email: heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

Drawing classes for all abilities are held in the British School Room, Cliff Road, every Wednesday during term time. Tuition is given in the use of all drawing media, in monochrome and colour. Subjects include still life, and natural objects, eg fruit, vegetables and flowers. There are currently a few spaces in the afternoon class (1.30 to 3.30pm). Newcomers of all standards, including beginners, are very welcome.

The spring term starts on 18 January, so please get in touch to find out more if you are interested.

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29th - PRAISE SERVICE in Schoolroom.



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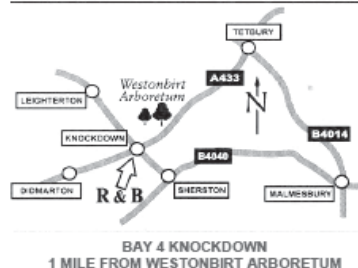
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Inspiring local children through the 'Forest School' experience

by Niki Walden, Independent Forest School Leader

Following its successful launch at Sherston Primary School last September and at Luckington Community School in November, Forest School Club has already presented more than 60 local children with the opportunity to experience a unique educational, creative approach to outside play and learning.

This is not simply an outdoor pursuits venture, but an ethos that encourages individual's self-worth and confidence. We may not have a 'forest' in Sherston but neither is it necessary, because the Club has offered an opportunity to further utilise the school's wonderful environmental area and outside classroom, which I have now complemented with a specially created fire pit and outdoor working area.

This is not just a fair weather experience either; we are outside whatever the elements throw at us (as the Swedish saying goes, 'there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.') Well-equipped, the children love being outdoors and are usually so engrossed in activities that they don't even notice if it is raining or cold! Simply being in the open air, in a green space and interacting with nature also offers massive health benefits, both physical and mental, giving us all that 'feel-good' factor.

Whilst endeavouring to complement the children's daily learning in a traditional classroom, a friendly, witty approach to the Forest School philosophy presents activities that aim to motivate individuals through wide-ranging outdoor experiences. This allows children of all abilities to develop key skills, transferable to their everyday lives. The children are inspired to adopt

positive attitudes to challenge and adventure, to gain personal confidence and self-esteem, and to develop their social skills and appreciate the contributions and achievements of both themselves and others. Communication, problem-solving, leadership and teamwork are all greatly enhanced in a safe, stimulating and creative environment. The children's appreciation of their natural surroundings and understanding of the importance of conservation and sustainable development is also strongly encouraged.

To date, the children have been involved in numerous challenging but, importantly, achievable activities that have provided them with opportunities to make choices, use their initiative, take calculated risks, and to be imaginative and inventive. This has included using full-size tools to produce items from wood, working on craft projects using various natural materials, learning to cook safely over an open fire, close exploration of the environmental area, learning how birds survive in the winter and about camouflage, constructing bug hotels for the winter and playing exciting team-building games.

Sherston school has also been host to pupils from Luckington Community School and children aged seven to 11 have joined together for extended Forest School events during the school holidays. Further fun activities have included team problem-solving to build stable effective shelters, sculpting with willow, creating pea-shooters and kazoos from greenwood and, most popular, cooking a sausage casserole and caramelised fruit and marshmallow kebabs over the campfire.

As we start a new year, I am looking forward to more Forest School fun and activities that will continue to draw on the children's interests, imagination and further develop the skills they are learning.

If you are interested in further information or would like your child to join us, please contact me at nikiwalden-forestschool@hotmail.co.uk.

Niki would like to express her heartfelt thanks to Nick Bowditch and all the parents and governors at Sherston school who have been so supportive. Thanks likewise to Julia Hind, Sarah Kirk and Ann Dicks at Luckington Community School.

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Doctor's Bag

by Judy Sharp, Practice Manager,
The Tolsey Surgery



Research Studies

The Tolsey Surgery is taking part in a number of research projects again this year. We think this is an important activity to be involved in as there are many benefits for both the surgery and our patients, for example:

- participants in trials have better outcomes, even those in the control arms, than similar patients not in trials;
- patients can participate in studies of new therapies for common illnesses or new ways of preventing illness in primary care that may not be routinely available; and
- as clinicians, it is educational and interesting to work closely with academic primary care colleagues from the universities and the NHS, answering clinically relevant research questions.

Some of the research projects you may be invited to take part in are:

- 3C – Cough Complications Cohort study – aims to find out what symptoms, measurements and characteristics can be used to predict which patients will go on to develop further complications. Doctors recruit from surgery.
- TARGET – This is another study about cough complications but in children aged 3 months to 16 years. Doctors recruit from surgery.
- AIRS – a study into the treatment of glue ear in children from 4 to 11 years attending school. Recruitment is by invitation.
- PRIMIT – This is a study in infection control, reducing the incidence of colds and flu within households. You may be randomly selected to be invited to take part in this study. If you have not been asked, and wish to take part, please ask for details at the surgery.

The decision as to whether or not to take part in any study you are invited to is entirely yours. If you do not wish to participate, it will not affect the care and attention you receive from the surgery.

Thank you

We would like to say a huge thank you to Malmesbury League of Friends which has very kindly paid for some much-needed new diagnostic equipment for the surgery worth over £3,000.

We would also like to thank the families and friends of some of our patients who sadly passed away last year, who have made generous donations in memory of their loved ones.

We collected £16.55 for the Poppy Appeal last year, and £15.19 in the Noddy box for ARC, a charity supporting the search for a cure for arthritis and rheumatic diseases.

Surgery Opening Hours

Reception Monday to Friday 8:30am to 6:30pm
The Telephones are not attended between 12.30 and 1.30pm each day

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

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Housing needs survey

Sherston Parish Council is working with Wiltshire Council to identify the housing needs of local people and would be grateful for your help.

All households in the parish are being asked to take part in a survey undertaken by Wiltshire Council that will give up-to-date information about local housing circumstances and aspirations. This information will be used to help the council develop its housing and planning policies to best meet these needs, including whether there is a local need for affordable housing in Sherston parish and, if so, of what size and type. Your help is needed to find out what is important to you. The survey forms will be delivered by early January together with a pre paid envelope for reply by 23 January.

The parish council would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete the survey. All of the information that you give will be treated as strictly confidential and will not be linked with your name or address, nor to any other database; nor will any information be passed on to other agencies or market research organisations.

We are interested in getting the views both of households in Sherston parish and of households that may live elsewhere but require affordable housing in the parish. If you know someone who does not live in the parish, but is in need of housing within the parish, please let them know about the survey.

Once the results have been received, a report will be produced to show the results and a copy provided to the parish council. It is intended to publish the highlights of the report in the Cliffhanger. Discussions will then be held to decide if any further action is required. The survey results will be particularly important in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Sherston under the recently passed Localism Act.

Extra copies of the survey will be available from Sherston Post Office Stores or by contacting Claire Pullen at Wiltshire Council on 01249 706614. The survey can be completed on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/housingneedssurvey for those that wish to do so.

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info@theboathousecornwall.co.uk

Cricket *by Chris Lovell*

It may seem the most unlikely time of year to play cricket, unless you are in the southern hemisphere, but Sherston Magna have entered a team in a Wiltshire indoor cricket league for the first time.

The six-a-side format is a short game of only 10 overs per side but provides welcome competitive practice at good facilities at Sheldon School. The early results have also been welcome:

Date Scores

- 17 Oct Marshfield A 84-4
Wickets Cartwright (1), Lovell (1).
Run outs Cartwright (2)
SMCC 85-2 (7.0 overs) Cartwright 29*,
Harmer 21, Lovell 13*, Goodwin 10
Sherston won by 4 wickets
- 31 Oct Marshfield B 70-5
Wickets Cartwright (1), Gould (1),
Harmer (1). Run outs (2)
SMCC 71-1 (7.1 overs) Cartwright 25*,
Goodwin 25* **Sherston won by 5 wickets**
- 13 Nov Sutton Benger 53ao
Wickets Harmer (2), Moore (1), Lovell (1).
Run outs (2)
SMCC 54-0 (6.4 overs) Lovell 27*,
Goodwin 19* **Sherston won by 6 wickets**
- 27 Nov Spy Park 85-5
Wickets Moore (2), Lovell (2), Cartwright (1)
SMCC 87-2 (9.1 overs) Goodwin 27*,
Lovell 12*, Harmer 10, Cartwright 7, Moore 4*
Sherston won by 4 wickets
- 11 Dec Golden Fleece 65-5 Wickets Harmer (1), Gould (1).
Run outs Cartwright (3)
SMCC 66-0 (4.2 overs)
Goodwin 25*, Cartwright 25*, Lovell 9*
Sherston won by 6 wickets

Malmesbury cinema

Unfortunately the fortnightly film shows at Malmesbury Town Hall have had to cease temporarily due to difficulties with the suitability of the equipment used. The Town Council is working hard to overcome the problem, for which it is not responsible, and it is hoped that this popular service can recommence shortly.

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Christmas vouchers

Vouchers to the value of just over £3,000 were delivered to senior citizens in Sherston and Easton Grey by members of Sherston 1016 just before the festivities began. The vouchers are to be spent locally in either Sherston Post Office Stores or Tucks Farm Shop.

The vouchers, in the sum of £15 each, are made available to any household in Sherston or Easton Grey parishes where a person who is 65 or over resides. Those widowed who are under 65 are also covered. Anyone who may be eligible but has not yet had a voucher should contact Eric Thacker on 841344. All vouchers must be redeemed by 31 January.

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THE ANCIENT ORDER OF SHERSTON MANGOLD HURLERS

Whilst Saturday 6 October 1934 is engraved in the collective memory of all in the Sherston area could Sunday 13 November 2011 become equally well known?

Word has reached me of an incident nay Altercation in Sherston which though by no means rivalling the events of 1934 at Alderton in terms of violence and subsequent court appearances shows that passions still run high between rival Orders of Mangold Hurlers.

Although details of quite what occurred on 13 November are as yet far from clear it seems certain that at around 4.22pm some senior and most respected members of the Sherston Order almost came to blows with members of a still to be identified other Order. Eye witnesses report residents and visitors alike looking on agog as the two Orders squared up to each other in Church Street over what appears to have been a disagreement concerning the parking of a number of mangold carts.

My detailed enquiries continue so as to ensure this event is fully recorded for posterity. Although the names of those Sherston members involved have been obtained the method by which that was achieved means they cannot presently be revealed for fear of my being called to appear before the ongoing Leverson enquiry.

Yarp! *The Keeper of the Quill* 

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Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Holy Cross Church

The Coffee Shop -

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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 10.30am apart from 3rd 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 840601 or 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.

Drawing Classes in Sherston

Classes for all abilities are held in the British Schoolroom every Wednesday during term time. Tuition is given in the use of all drawing media, in monochrome and colour. Subjects include still life, and natural objects e.g. fruit, vegetables and flowers. There are currently a few spaces in the afternoon class 1.30 to 3.30pm. Newcomers, of all standards including beginners, are very welcome. The Spring term starts on 18th January - to find out more contact Heather Martin on 840375 or heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

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

1st Sherston (John Rattlebone) Scout Troop

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

Sherston Whitewall Explorers

You don't need to have previously been a member of scouts or guides to join us, just be aged between 13 ½ and 18 and free between 8.30 and 10pm on a Friday night during term time; for further information please contact Darren Walsh - 841043 or Ewan Blair -840096 – whitewallexplorers@googlegmail.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 – 9.00pm. £30 for 10 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 contact Heather Martin on 840375 or heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

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

Short Mat Bowls

Short Mat Bowls is played every Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall from 4 Jan. All are welcome to come along and give it a try. For further details contact Philip Andrews on 840941 or philip.r.andrews@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 7.15 for 7.30pm. 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

21 Busy Hands Annual Quiz

June

2-5 Queen's Jubilee

July

14 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.

WHAT'S ON Sherston

The Carpenter's Arms

Curry Quiz Night Sun 8 Jan
Check boards for details of events
Further details contact 840665

The Rattlebone Inn

New Year's Eve Party Jan 31
Gourmet Burger & Quiz night – every Monday
Pizza night – every Sunday 5.30-8pm
Live music with Gouldie Sat 28 Jan
See boards for more details of events
Further details contact 840871 or www.therattlebone.co.uk

New Year Walk

Walk off the mince pies Sun 8 Jan starting from the village hall at 10am, returning to the Rattlebone Inn for complimentary seasonal victuals at around 12 noon (no more mince pies) Free and suitable for all, including children and dogs on leads. Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

Grove Wood Sunday Clearing

Please come along and help clear, coppice and then plant trees and hedges in Grove Wood 10am - 1pm finishing with hot homemade soup
Further details contact Sue McKechnie 840601 or suemckechnie@hotmail.com

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

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 Joey Ross (07768 947693) or Annie Llewellyn Palmer

S H O C C

(Sherston Occasional Community Choir)

Rehearsals will commence once more on Wed 1 Feb in the British School Room at 7pm each Wednesday up to Easter. We sing a variety of music, usually in three parts, under the direction of Nicki Heenan. Subscriptions are £30 for the term with reductions for the "older" and "younger" members.

For more information call or email Jill Woodward (Secretary) 840578 jillwoodward222@btinternet.com or Nicki Heenan 840883 nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

WEA courses

"History in the Making or Do Historians Make Up History?" with tutor Richard Henderson The course will run for eight weeks from Fri 20 Jan till Friday 9 Mar in the British Schoolroom from 10.00am until 11.45 each week. The cost is £45, enquiries and bookings through Tony Wood on 01666 840558 or Carolyn Hewitson on 840295

Westonbirt

The Arboretum

Winter Admission £5 adult /£4 concs/ £2 chd under 5s free
Summer Concerts - tickets now on sale
June 2012 – Acts confirmed so far Will Young Fri 22; Plan B Sat 23; Tickets £28-35 plus booking fee from 03000 680400 or www.forestry.gov.uk/music
Specialist Wood Sales
2nd Sunday every month in aid of FOWA
Further details contact 880220 or www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Westonbirt School

Burns Night – Sat 21 Jan 7.30pm £30 – libe music
Lecture: 'Life on a TV Rostrum' – James Braxton, antique auctioneer
Fri 27 Jan 7.30pm. The Orangery Free. Bookable post lecture supper £15 book by 12 Jan
For further details call Laura Reid on 880333 or leid@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk or visit www.westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk

Grittleton

Moviola - the Touring Rural Cinema Scheme

'Jane Eyre' Wed 25 Jan £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

Malmesbury

MP's Surgery

Local MP surgery with James Gray MP Thurs 5 Jan 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

Brokenborough

Painting classes with Nicki Heenan

Oil and Acrylic Painting classes

Classes start Thurs 2 Feb 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 – 8 weeks. If you are unsure, why not try a FREE painting workshop day (all materials provided) which I will

be holding in March so register now for a space.
The Horseguards Pub, Brokenborough
For further details call Nicki Heenan 840883 or email nicki.heenan@btinternet.com

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers from the local community

Check website for listings

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

Nailsworth

Forest Green Rovers F.C.

matches: Mon 9 Jan 7pm v AFC Bournemouth ; Mon 16 Jan 7pm v Crawley Town 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

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07919410064

lynnie1000@hotmail.com

Bath

Theatre Royal

Dick Whittington Thurs 15

Dec - Sun 22 Jan 7.00pm

mat 2pm £9.50-£22

Theatre Royal For further

details call 01225 448844 or

visit www.theatreroyal.org.uk



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Corsham Chiropractic
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(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)



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



Westonbirt House & Gardens

Guiding & Volunteer opportunities for 2012

Training provided & travel expenses offered

No experience necessary

For further details please call: 01666 881373

Email: aparr@westonbirt.org

Grittleton House School

An Independent Day School for boys & girls aged 2-16



Scholarships & Bursaries

Senior Bursaries – Tuesday 7th February

Senior Scholarships – Thursday 9th February

Junior Scholarships – Thursday 8th March



Open Morning

Tuesday 13th March 2012

For more information & details of Open Door

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www.grittletonhouseschool.org

5 mins J17 M4 - Transport available



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