



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

OCTOBER 2023

DELIVERED FREE

Plans to close the Tolsey Surgery and relocate patients and staff to Malmesbury



You're most likely aware that, over many years, we've been trying to get the go-ahead to build a new site for our doctor's surgery in Sherston that is more modern, accessible and fit for purpose.

After a long and frustrating process, the Tolsey Surgery finally received a response to its new-build proposals. The document from the Primary Care Network Services and Estate Strategy department of the local Integrated Care Board suggested that instead of moving Tolsey Surgery to a new and improved site in Sherston, it should close and all services and patients should be relocated to the Primary Care Centre in Malmesbury.

This plan was made without the involvement or consultation of the community or the Tolsey Surgery team. It makes no reference to our Sherston Neighbourhood plan, of which the new surgery building is a major part, or the many business cases submitted by the Tolsey Surgery since 2012 in support of a new surgery.

The Tolsey Surgery, Sherston Parish Council and our local Wiltshire Councillor do not support this decision. We think it's important to have a local surgery that is accessible for elderly and vulnerable members of our community who are not able to get to Malmesbury - and we're sure you do too.

What can we do about it?

The plan is a draft proposal at this stage, with the final decision being subject to a feasibility study, which is likely to conclude by the end of October. Even though we have been asked not to make this public, we feel that we need to make the community aware, so that you can make your voices heard before then.

Martin Smith (Wiltshire Councillor) has escalated the situation to James Gray MP to gain his support and we are working to get representatives from the Integrated Care Board and NHS to a consultation in the Village Hall, so they can explain to us how and why this suggestion has been made.

What we need from you:

- Spread the word - help us make the community aware of the plans.
- Write a letter to the Tolsey Surgery Practice Manager (Sadia Chant) - this can then be passed onto the Integrated Care Board. Sadia has said if you drop your letter off at the surgery she will send the batch together; or email to Bswicb.tolseysurgery@nhs.net

- Write to James Gray MP at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA or email jamesgraymp@parliament.uk

A statement has since been received from the Integrated Care Board apologising and retracting their proposal to close the Surgery. This followed the public reaction to the news about the proposed closure of the surgery, the engagement of the local press and James Gray MP coming out in support of patients to 'save' the Surgery - thanks must go to all of you who reacted so speedily to our plea!

Despite the retraction, we should not rest on our laurels. We are concerned that there remains a real threat to the future of the Tolsey Surgery, as such will be mounting a full campaign to ensure its future, the main objective of which is to obtain confirmation from the Integrated Care Board that they will support the proposed New Surgery Build detailed within the Sherston Neighbourhood Plan.

**A PUBLIC MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT
7.00PM ON THURSDAY
5 OCTOBER IN
SHERSTON VILLAGE
HALL - COME ALONG,
GET INVOLVED AND
HELP US SAVE 'YOUR'
LOCAL SURGERY.**

Thank you for your help.

Cllr Tanya Burgess
Chair of Sherston Parish Council

Cllr Martin Smith
Wiltshire Councillor for the Sherston Division

Dr Simon Watkins
Senior Partner at the Tolsey Surgery



**Sherston
Parish Council**

Eco theme at Holy Cross Café



Holy Cross Café is open to all every Thursday between 10.00am and 12.00noon. On the first Thursday of each month there will be an eco theme, including recycled cards and plants for sale plus a few Traidcraft goods.

On 5 October, 2 November and 7 December, we will have a selection of Traidcraft/Fairtrade Christmas cards and gifts for sale - all very reasonably priced.

Holy Cross is a Fairtrade church, meaning we only use Fairtrade coffee, tea and sugar and we also encourage our volunteer bakers to use Fairtrade products. Please look for the logo when shopping to help farmers around the world achieve a secure and sustainable future.

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 at
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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for 12 months:

1/4 page £310; 1/8 page £169; and 1/16 page £79.

For one month:

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Please remember the Cliffhanger is delivered free to every home and business in the parish – approx 1000 copies. This and all previous editions are also available online at www.sherston.org.uk

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Head Owl needed

Would you love a rewarding community role full of fun, learning and adventure?

1st Sherston Brownies are looking for one or two adults to join the team of volunteers and leaders (Owls) who currently run this very successful pack of 24 girls from local villages.

Our amazing leaders, Kirsty and Helen, have understandably moved on after running the pack for many happy years and two more of our wonderful Owls will be stepping down at Christmas when their daughters leave Brownies.

We are lucky to already have a number of volunteer parent helpers, willing to give time during sessions every week to support the running of the group, but we really need someone (or two!) at the helm to take it forward and coordinate the planning, activities and parent helpers. Our regular sessions take place from 5.30pm until 7.00pm on a Wednesday evening (term-time only) and we have an Owls' meeting each term to plan and organise activities.

If you are reading this and are new to the Girl Guiding and Scout movement:

'Brownies welcomes all girls from 7 to 10 years old for nonstop fun, learning and adventure.

'It's full of firsts: she might grow her first plant, cook her first cake, put up (and take down) her first tent, light her first fire, go on her first fun-packed weekend away with guiding friends. With a helpful hand from our encouraging volunteers, she'll explore her creative side, get out into the great outdoors, and start learning to look after herself, others and the world we live in. There's something for every girl at Brownies, and plenty of moments she'll never forget.'

As a current Owl, I can tell you that being part of 1st Sherston Brownies is great fun. The girls are enthusiastic, caring, fun-loving and great company. We love craft, games, new experiences and I have had the opportunity to try new things and meet new people from our fantastic community who have given their time to support us: children's authors, drama workshops, Guide Dogs for the Blind, paddleboarding, cricket and football. We also have annual events, such as the Brownie Café on The Rec and the Remembrance Day parade, and of course, work towards Brownie badges, all of which is supported by the Girl Guiding community who have a raft of ideas and activities on tap to help our Brownies 'do their best'.

If you are ready for an adventure and are interested in this rewarding community volunteer role, please email 1stsherstonbrownies@gmail.com or telephone 07714 379962.

Thank you

The Owls (1st Sherston Brownies)

Sherston Panto tickets now on sale

**SHERSTON
DRAMA
GROUP**



Panto is back! Oh yes it is!! Sherston Drama Group is excited to perform 'The Elves and the Shoemaker', written and directed by Katie Skeffington. Join two brave elves, Twix and Curly, as they arrive at King Nitwit's Palace on an important mission. Can they hide their identities from the evil baron and his wife, get past the smelly-footed goblins and end a decades-old feud? Meanwhile Dame Dolly struggles in her new job as governess to two obnoxious princesses, King Nitwit causes chaos wherever he goes and Dolly's son Joe falls deeply in love with a palace maid. With plenty of laughs and audience participation, the adventures in our tale will be enjoyed by all ages.

Performances will take place every evening from Wednesday 25 to Saturday 28 October, 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall, as well as a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 28 October. Tickets (£10/£8.50 concessions) are on sale now from Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque) or on TicketSource (ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group, booking fee applies).

Get that warm buzzy feeling: donate unwanted medlars to help bees!



This autumn, as part of its commitment to being environmentally friendly, local condiment-maker Tricklements is calling for the local community to donate their unwanted medlar fruit. Tricklements turns this peculiar fruit into delightful aromatic medlar jelly, with 50p from the sale of each jar going towards helping the bees; 25p will go towards purchasing bee-friendly medlar trees, which blossom later in the year, when other blossoms have faded, providing an invaluable source of pollen; and 25p will be donated to the British Beekeepers Association, a charity committed to promoting the importance of and protecting the British honeybee.

The project is now in its 13th year and has helped plant almost 200 beautiful bee-friendly medlar trees across Britain and donated over £3,000 to the British Beekeepers Association last year alone.

If you have any unwanted medlars you'd like to donate to a bee-rilient cause, all you need to do is drop them off at Tricklements HQ (SN16 0RD) between 1 October and 29 November. For full details on the project and on how to win a tree, visit www.tricklements.co.uk

No medlars? No worries! You can still support the project by buying a jar of this sweet, aromatic jelly after it's made in November - just in time to enjoy with warming roasts and cheeseboards!

SHERSTON



VILLAGE HALL

Sherston Village Hall 300+ Club

The Draw 8 winners of £20 were:

10 Eric Meanwell, 45 Pauline Locke, 79 Victoria McNicol,
160 Marion Gee, 166 Jennifer Tullberg

Christmas Bonus currently £180

I/We* would like to join/renew membership of the 300+Club for 2023 and enclose £10.00/£20.00 cash/cheque* (made payable to Sherston Village Hall), being the subscription for 2023.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

*Delete as appropriate – You may have more than one Membership

For help/queries contact Eric Meanwell (07789 280058) or Goug Wilcox (07788 558035)

Thank you for your continued support.

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



SHERSTON GARDENING CLUB

Next meeting

Tuesday 3 October. Lucy Bowles-Lewis (Head gardener Whatley Manor). 'Understand Your Garden - The Habitats You Have and How to Manage Them'.

Cuttings

We enjoyed a return to the monthly meetings on Tuesday 5 September, with an enlightening demonstration of the complicated business of professional propagation (but made to look so easy!) by Penny Jones - Head Propagator at Westonbirt.

Visitors are always welcome to join us and our growing membership. The cost remains the same for this year: £15 single, £25 joint, U18s free.

For more information or a membership form, contact sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com

Club meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at the British School Room, Cliff Road, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Tasty refreshments, test your plant knowledge with plant identification, plant sales, raffle and gardening questions and queries answered.

Connections

The Sherston Gardening Club Facebook group is another forum for showing your garden photographs, asking questions and finding answers to gardening queries. Post your hints and tips, and any news of meetings and events. Open to all.

Community

We aim to place a bulk order of spring bulbs for planting this autumn. If you would like to see spring colour in any general areas (not private gardens), please apply for the free bulbs for you to plant to enhance the cheerfulness of the village at: sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com



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Calendar

Tuesday 3 October:

Lucy Bowles, Lucy Bowles-Lewis, Head gardener, Whatley Manor: 'Understanding your Garden Habitats'

Tuesday 7 November:

Garden Designer, Laura Holmes on 'Creating your own space'

Tuesday 5 December:

Julia Armstrong leads a wreath-making workshop

Visits

Just to whet your appetite, the following visits are in the planning stages and details will be confirmed next month. However, please feel free to register your interest by emailing us at sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com and we will keep you informed.

Autumn 2023

Wisley Gardens:

Craft Fair and Garden visit.

Spring 2024

Highgrove Spring flowers.

Sherston Senior Club

Our mystery trip was blessed with sunshine which was lucky as the previous day had been wet, as was the day after. We had a lovely ride around Avebury standing stones and surrounding countryside in spite of road closures which made the ride a mystery to our driver as well! However, he got us back on track for a welcome cup of tea in Devizes.

At our next meeting, Michael Lees told us the story of the sinking of the Greek ship Lakonia in 1963. He related one family's experiences of the fire and subsequent rescue from a lifeboat. The family were separated from the father, as women and children were rescued first. Fortunately, the father was a strong swimmer as he spent several hours in the water before rescue. The mother, disabled grandmother and the rest of family - including a small boy of ten years old - were in the lifeboat. The mother proved to be a very resourceful woman, having found life jackets for all of them from a locker on the deck of the ship. They were picked up by different ships so had no idea what had happened to their loved ones for some time. Michael had a picture of the small boy from the ship. He then said the small boy was himself and it was his family who were rescued! What a climax.

We had our harvest auction on Tuesday 19 September, and we have another mystery tour scheduled for Tuesday 3 October, this time stopping for lunch. Leaving at 10.00am returning early afternoon.

Visitors are always welcome - £2.00 includes refreshments. Further information from Helen Quirk on 840516.

Looking up and looking ahead at the Church of the Holy Cross



We are able to start the repairs to the ceiling of the North Transept in the Holy Cross Church in October. Parts of the ceiling collapsed last year, probably due to old age. After careful consideration and taking advice from specialists and the requirements to protect this Grade 1 listed building, we have decided that all the ceiling panels in the transept will be removed, new lathes installed and the ceiling replaced with lime plaster. The ceiling will have to dry before it can be redecorated. After the ceiling has been made secure, renovation works can start on the pipe organ below. At the time of writing, we have received a grant from the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, with other grant applications still pending. If you can support us, please get in touch (email sherston@gauzebrook.org) or go to our Parish Giving weblink: www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/sherston-malmesbury/. Obviously, this major project will take some time to complete, but the church continues to be open, not only for our services, but also for visits during the day and private prayer.

We will be pausing works at the beginning of November, so that the Sherston Arts Festival in November can hold the Art Exhibition in Holy Cross Church and the much-anticipated Blaenavon Male Voice Choir can sing on 4 November (please see details on page 21).

Our church has also been awarded Fairtrade status, and the Holy Cross Café, open every Thursday morning will be serving Fairtrade refreshments. Use of Fairtrade products is one of the criteria used to assess our qualification as an Eco Church, we already have Bronze Eco Church Status and we want to progress to the Silver Award, by making improvements in the churchyard, inside church and in our church activities. The first Thursday café each month will have an Eco theme (see page 2), so come and join us.

Unfortunately, with the ceiling works this year, we will not be able to host our Christmas Tree festival during Advent, but the Church will still be open throughout Advent, and Christmas. We might not look our best during the current phase of work, but we would love to see you.



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Drop in or contact
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Apple Day



Sherston Village Hall, Saturday 7 October
10.00am-3.00pm

Note the extended opening hours for our Apple Day activities, so we can welcome you in the morning or the afternoon!

We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday 7 October to witness our large and small apple presses at work, making Sherston Apple Juice. Pasteurised, bottled apple juice will be on sale on Apple Day, also later in October in Sherston (see announcements on our Facebook page and on posters). For Apple Day only, we can offer unpasteurised juice if you bring your own (clean) bottles! The delicious juice can be kept in the fridge for three days, or frozen. The pasteurised juice will last more than a year and is great as a mulled juice in winter or a thirst-quencher in warmer weather.

P.S. Please bring your surplus apples for pressing! There will be a big builders bag between the village hall shed and building from Sunday 1 October. We will mix them up. Cooking apples work just as well as eaters.

Sustainable Sherston tests the water



Water quality is in the news nationally and there is a lot of concern about sewage being dumped in our rivers. But what about our own river, the Sherston Avon? Following a Parish working group in 2020, Sustainable Sherston has started a monthly survey of water quality in the river from Luckington to Easton Grey, using funds from our activities to buy the water-sampling kits. These enable us to build on the Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) annual RiverBlitz survey (see results at <https://bristolavonriverstrust.org/riverblitz/>). We will keep Cliffhanger readers updated.

Public meeting restart: Friday 17 November



Sustainable Sherston's popular public meetings in 2019 and early 2020 were cut short by the Covid pandemic. However the Steering Group is now working on a new season of open meetings, aimed at explaining the contributing factors to climate change and its wider effects.

The first, entitled 'Water in Sherston - Clean Water, Sewage and the Sherston Avon' illustrates the problems we are seeing on a national scale. How we use our water in Sherston and dispose of our waste products makes a fascinating story, going back to mediaeval times.

The lecturer is Sherston resident Richard Skeffington, who spent 20 years at the University of Reading researching water quality and teaching Environmental Science. He will cover our use of water and the effects on the river, past, present and future. This will include not only what we know about the river, but the political decisions that got us where we are today, and what we could do to make things better. After the lecture, there will be a discussion, and refreshments will be available.

Ticket details in the November Cliffhanger. Save the date: Friday 17 November, 7.30pm, British School Room, Cliff Road.

Everyone is welcome to contact Sustainable Sherston by emailing: sustainablesherston@gmail.com

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Christmas Advent House Trail - back again?



It started off as a 2020 lockdown project and it has snowballed into a lovely Sherston tradition since then. Lots of people have been asking if the Sherston Arts Festival can help organise the Advent Trail again. Absolutely - if we have enough interest and people fancy creating a window or garden - we can put a map together for 2023! But we need everyone to sign up, if you would like this event to go ahead.

As a quick recap, it's like an advent calendar but for houses. You decorate a window(s) or a garden with a Christmas theme and make it look all sparkly. Each night from 1 December, a different house (or a few houses if we get lots of takers) lights up their numbered scene until 23 December when everything is lit and we can take a stroll around our magical village for the full Sherston Advent House Trail. Number 24 will be at Holy Cross Church.

The windows/gardens don't need to be complicated and, since many of us will be putting up fairy lights anyway, adding a few festive decorations to your house would be easy. You can even do the same as last year!

Simple is beautiful too but here are some ideas for you if you would like to add a bit of fun ... get the toys out and create a little scene, mess about with tissue paper and make a picture in your window or add some extra sparkle to your garden with baubles from trees. From raving reindeers to whirling ballerinas, it's been fun to see Sherston in a whole new light. It definitely makes leaving the house in December much more fun. Taking part is the key - every window is special - and the more, the merrier. You only have to light up on your night or, if you fancy keeping them switched on every night, that's fine too!

Please email kirsty.strachan@icloud.com ASAP along with your address to sign up so we know the idea can go ahead again and we can get you on the map. Last entry date will be Friday 3 November. (but please email ASAP so we can start getting organised). We had over 80 houses and businesses take part last year - bringing a little Sherston community magic to December - and we would love as many houses to take part as possible. There are lots of photos on the Arts Festival website from previous years - see www.sherstonartsfestival.com

Sherston Taters, Reserves and Vets

Keeping Sherston grassroots football firmly on the map, read on for the latest results from our three active teams - Sherston Taters, Sherston Reserves and Sherston Vets.

Since September's publication, the Sherston Taters have followed up on the success of their opening match with four more impressive wins, YES, that makes five wins out of five and, much to the delight of myself and team manager Adam Salt, secures them second place in Stroud & District Division 2. Not only that but the lads have so far amassed 37 goals and conceded a mere seven which gives them a staggering goal difference of 30! Special mention must go to Jamie Packer, our star striker, who has 'rattled the old onion bag' no less than nine times so far! This achievement puts Jamie just one behind the leading goal scorers in our division but we remain hopeful that he duplicates his 21/22 Golden Boot achievement (47 goals) and goes on to score many, many more.

On the subject of goal scoring, the Taters recorded a 16-0 win at last Saturday's home game against Quedgeley Wanderers Reserves. This was a huge result, with goals from: Jamie Packer (4), Marcus Toop (aka Marlon) (3), Clint Walker (2), Sam Connor (2) (on his senior debut), Danny Pike (2), Tim Fry (1), Charlie Martin (1) and Gavin MacQueen (1).

After their first four games in Division 5, our recently formed Tater Reserves have yet to record their first win of the season but manager Jay Martin remains confident and maintains that, with their continued grit and determination, a 'purple patch' is imminent, so watch this space! To date, they have lost three and drawn one, scoring nine goals and conceding 18 along the way.

The Bristol Corinthians League enables the over 35s to enjoy competitive league football in a 'Corinthian Spirit' so our enthusiastic Sherston Vets recently joined its Division 4 ranks. Although their pre-season training was hampered by numerous cancellations, their league campaign got off to a winning start on Sunday 10 September, with an impressive 7-2 victory over the Reclinosaurus. The following Sunday saw them beat Blackwell Athletic Vets 4-1 in the BCL Junior Cup so things are definitely on the up for this 'motley crew'. When it comes to goal scoring, is it a matter of 'anything you can do, I can do better' from Nick Stavri who already has an impressive tally of seven goals after only two games?

Harry Andrews

sherstontownfootballclub@gmail.com

Sherston Magna Cricket Club: That's stumps

So another season comes to an end. There have been runs, wickets, sunshine and rain. There has been laughter and a few tears but most importantly a lot of fun. We have seen players from five to 85 all participating during the year, with a range of ability proving everyone is always welcome at Sherston Magna Cricket Club (SMCC)!

Ladies' softball

Sherston Magna Ladies finished the season off with a three-match win at the Calne Festival on Sunday 3 September. It was a tight first game against Malmesbury where Sherston won by five runs, followed by a rather more convincing win over Bradford on Avon in the second match, which saw Penny Robinson hit a six over the pavilion. The final game against Calne was hard fought, with some fantastic fielding including a direct hit run out by Rachael Stinchcombe and a one-run penultimate over bowled by Amalie Gray saw Sherston get the win. Overall, it has been a hugely successful year for the ladies and we want to build on that next year. For those of you who might like to give softball cricket a go or wish to revisit it, we will be running some taster sessions at the beginning of next season, more details in the New Year.

The Club

The Club held its Presentation BBQ on Sunday 10 September. A rainy morning didn't stop the U11s playing their final game against Goatacre in the morning, and in the afternoon our Sunday side played against The Bristol Venturers.

U11s

Player of the Year - Alfie Pugh

Ben Gray award – Ollie Knight

U13s

Most Improved players –

Luca Holman and Ben Parsons

Ben Gray award – Oli Kutchera

Champagne Moment – Harris Heathcock for his 100, the youngest centurion at the club.

Overall Ben Gray Award – Oli Kutchera

Ladies' Champagne Moments – Penny Robinson for hitting 70 runs (in three overs) at the Calne Festival and Sarah Wilkinson for five wickets and two catches at the Box Festival.

Sunday Champagne Moment – Oscar Power for his maiden 100 against Grittleton in August

Saturday player of the year – Ben Dickenson

Clubperson of the Year – Caroline Dickenson for her outstanding and continuous work most of which is behind the scenes, most significantly with fundraising. Watch this space to see what her latest endeavours bring to fruition – it might be enlightening!

Thanks were given to John and Matilda Matthews for their continuing support of the club.

Thanks to all the coaches and parents for getting so many junior games on this season.

Thanks were also given to Andrew Jarvis and Mark Howell for all their work on the ground and to James Kutchera for his endeavours in managing, scheduling and reorganising over 100 fixtures.

If you are keen to get involved next year as a player, coach, administrator, or just as a friend of the Club. Please do get in touch - we would love to hear from you: Cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk





Sad season's end for Sherston Magna

Sherston Magna gave themselves a fantastic chance to avoid relegation by winning their final two home matches, against Beehive Southwick and Purton. By beating Beehive, they dragged their rivals into the relegation battle and then came the 'must win' match against Purton. Sherston duly delivered a tense, but emphatic victory to take the relegation battle into a deciding last day.

Captain Chris Fisk must have kept it a secret that he broke a mirror on the morning of the match, but it was slightly unfair that seven years' bad luck would all be used up in one match.

Arriving at Keevil to play the bottom of the league, Fisky found a cricket ground quite unlike anything he'd ever experienced before. There was no need to worry about moving the side screens, there weren't any. The overnight rain hadn't got under the covers because there were no covers. The wicket itself consisted of lightly rolled mud and some dead grass, but the broad-leaf weeds were thriving.

A quick look at the clock, revealed an old clock face, with no hands or mechanism, stylishly nailed to a tree.

This all made the Captain require a nervous wee. But, of course, there were no toilets. A spectator, mum to one of the Keevil players, advised that the toilets were a bit of a walk away from the ground or 'you can just go in the bushes like everyone else does'.

Fisky dropped his bag off in the soggy tent that was supposed to be a changing room and went out for the coin toss.

All he had to do was win the toss; invite Keevil to sample their own mud heap first, and bowl them out for something like the 49 they had mustered on the same ground, two weeks earlier.

'Tails' was the call. The coin splashed into the mud and the late Queen was staring up at our skipper, with a wicked glint in her eye. The rest, as they say, is history. A series of unlucky dismissals followed and Sherston were dismissed for 100. Keevil giddily slogged their way to victory and relegation is the punishment for Sherston.

It was in many ways a perfect storm and a fitting end to a season that has been plagued by injuries and general lack of availability.

Nevertheless, the spirit in the camp has remained excellent all season, a couple of exciting new players have been recruited and some solace was found later that evening in the Rattlebone.

As a final post-script to the tragedy, 'The Hat' has gone missing. Has anyone seen Andy Lea...?

Sherston Footpath Group ... some good news!

Over the course of two nights in September, work was undertaken to widen and resurface the Public Right of Way along the riverbank in Grove Wood. It was hot work, and somewhat back-breaking but certainly worth it ... I am sure you will agree, it looks amazing!

Thanks go to:

- Nigel Freeth (for organising the workforce and providing heavy lifting equipment and his time);
- Stephen Leonard (Wiltshire Council Footpath Officer, for providing the materials);
- Andrew (Wallis) Hibberd (for his amazing driving skills and providing heavy lifting equipment and his time); as well as:

- Nic Riley;
- David Hancock;
- Keith Savage;
- Martin Smith;
- Tanya Burgess; and
- Richard Morgan

for their time, shovels and wheelbarrows!

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Ancient Sherston

Back in July, as part of the Wiltshire Archaeology Walks 2023 programme, Wiltshire Assistant County Archaeologist Tim Havard hosted a walk and talk based around Sherston.

After a brief talk on the more recent history of the High Street the party headed down Brook Hill and across the Cliff towards Sopworth Lane. We had access to the earthworks by Sopworth Lane opposite the school. When you stand on the top you realise how substantial they are. Detailed dating has been yet to be carried out so their age has yet to be established.

The earthworks that were flattened on the Rec appear to have been a lot shallower and, as not many records exist of their construction, these would be more difficult to age. The image below is one of the few that



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exist. If anyone has any photos these would add to any evidence already held in the department's archive.

We then visited the site of the Roman villa (nothing visible on the surface). It was noted that a more detailed excavation would be useful in the future but no plans currently exist.

Lastly we visited the site of the abandoned medieval village marked 'Easton Town' on older maps. The site is between Home Farm and Easton Town Farm.

The archaeologist was very interested to hear about the caves under the southern end of The Cliff as they have never been excavated for evidence of early or later human occupation. If anyone has any information regarding these or images of the Rec earthworks, please contact Paul Ormiston (840694) who will pass on any relevant details for assessment.

Plants for sale


The new name for Send a Cow



Young plants will be for sale from a stall outside 6 Cliff Road, Sherston, from 1 October to 8 October. In addition, the garden will be open on Sunday 8 October from 2.00pm until 5.00pm, so you can see plants in situ with more plants for sale, along with tea and cakes. All proceeds will go to supporting communities in rural Africa fight hunger and the climate crisis.

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Rural Arts Touring & Grittleton Village Hall bring you CarmenCo, a pocket opera

On Saturday 25 November at Grittleton Village Hall, join the trio that is CarmenCo for a fun-filled evening of fantasy, comedy, drama and tremendous Spanish and Spanish-inspired music

Tickets cost £10 and are available from Michelle on 07876 355119 or Miche.lang@me.com. No tickets at door, pre-booking essential. Doors open 7.00pm for pre-performance social and 7.30pm start. Bring your own drinks and tapas! Seating cabaret style.

Hawkesbury at Play: Christmas shopping evening



On Friday 1 December, Hawkesbury at Play is once again holding its Christmas shopping evening which is now open for booking from any interested stallholders.

This well-established and popular event is held in aid of Hawkesbury at Play, a charity which successfully raised funds for the complete refurbishment and installation of a playpark at Hawkesbury Upton village hall. This annual shopping evening helps to raise funds for ongoing maintenance and insurance costs for the park. The event is well supported by the village and the Hawkesbury at Play committee are aiming to make this year's the best one yet by advertising extensively in nearby villages and towns and on social media to ensure maximum footfall.

The event typically attracts independent local crafts people, producers and small businesses.

This year, the Christmas shopping evening will be on Friday 1 December, from 6.00pm until 9.00pm in Hawkesbury Village Hall.

The cost will be £20 and a contribution of a raffle prize. Your cost will include your stall, and tea and coffee vouchers.

If you would like to have a stall, please email Hawkesburyatplay@gmail.com

Movies@Malmesbury:

Programme for October

Mon	2	2.00pm	Haunted Mansion *
Thur	5	7.15pm	L'Elisir D'Amore **
Fri	6	8.00pm	Haunted Mansion *
Mon	9	2.00pm	Golda *
Fri	13	2.00pm	And then come the Nightjars
		8.00pm	Golda *
Mon	16	2.00pm	Maigret or Equalizer 3 *
		8.00pm	And then come the Nightjars
Fri	20	8.00pm	Maigret or Equalizer 3 *
Mon	30	7.30pm	Klimt and the Kiss ***

NB * To be confirmed.

Please check with Malmesbury Town Hall (Tel. 822143) before booking.

Tickets available from Malmesbury Town Hall or online at <https://cinema.malmesbury.gov.uk/>. Please note: Tickets may be purchased on the door via credit card, subject to availability.

2.00pm and 5.30pm: £5 & £4

8.00pm: £6

Except ** £12 and *** £10

For all of the latest information, schedules, synopses, trailers, etc. check out our Facebook page at: MoviesatMalmesbury

Didmarton Rural Cinema: Friday 13 October

Empire of Light (2022) – Drama

Cert: 15 – Run time: 1hr 59min.

Rotten Tomatoes audience rating: 74%

Starring: Olivia Colman, Colin Firth

Director: Sam Mendes

Set in an English seaside town in the early 1980s, Empire Of Light is a powerful and poignant story about human connection and the magic of cinema from Academy Award winning director Sam Mendes.

Trailer: www.filmbankmedia.com/films/archive/details/33772-empire-of-light#/video

We will be showing it on Friday 13 October. Doors open at 6.30pm for the bar, with film starting at 7.30pm.

If you can let us know if you're coming beforehand it helps with chairs

jenny.body1@gmail.com

01454 238358

Carers' Rights Expo :**Tuesday 21 November,****10.00am-6.30pm, Civic Centre, Trowbridge**

Unpaid carers are facing profound challenges – a struggling social care system and NHS, increasing financial pressures because of the cost-of-living crisis and an increasing number of hours caring.

For Carers' Rights Day this year, Carer Support Wiltshire is bringing together experts from across local government and the voluntary sector to share their expertise and guidance with carers. Through workshops and an information hub, the expo aims to empower carers with the knowledge to help them live their lives well and help them to feel supported in their caring role.

Sessions will explore what support is available to carers, including:

- When you're new to caring
- How to navigate the benefits system
- How to manage your own wellbeing
- Carers legal rights
- How to prepare for an emergency
- How to build your support plan
- Preparing for the end of your caring role
- Getting back into work

This one-day event will attract unpaid carers from across Wiltshire, local government, the NHS, private and voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. To register your interest, email admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk or call 0800 181 4118.

Carer cafés

Our cafés are a great way to make new friends and enjoy a cuppa, cake and a chat with others in relaxed, friendly surroundings. Come when you can and stay for as long, or as little as you like.

Chippenham – third Monday of the month

Venue: The Angel Hotel, 8 Market Place, Chippenham, SN15 3HD

Time: 10.30am-12.00noon

Dates: 16 October, 20 November, 18 December, 15 January, 19 February, 18 March

Chippenham creative carers' group

Venue: Kind Alfred Hall, St Andrew's Church, Market Place, Chippenham, SN15 3HT

Time: 11.30am – 1.30pm

Dates: 20 October, 17 November, 15 December, 19 January, 16 February, 15 March

Corsham

Venue: The Methuen Arms, High Street, Corsham, SN13 0HB - third Thursday of the month

Time: 10.30am-12.00noon

Dates: 19 October, 16 November, 21 December, 18 January, 15 February, 21 March

Kindly funded by Corsham Town Council and Co-op Local Causes

Venue: Dandelion Coffee House, Portal Avenue, Corsham SN13 0LQ - 4th Thursday of the month

Time: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Dates: 26 October, 23 November, 21 December, 25 January, 22 February, 28 March

Malmesbury – fourth Thursday of the month (except December)

Venue: Malmesbury Abbey Cafe, Gloucester Street, Malmesbury, SN16 9BA

Time: 10:30am – 12:00pm

Dates: 26 October, 23 November, 21 December, 25 January, 22 February, 28 March

Kindly funded by St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council, Co-op Local Causes and Malmesbury Area Board

Carer cafés also take place in Amesbury, Bradford on Avon, Broadchalke, Calne, Marlborough, Melksham, Mere, Pewsey, Tisbury, Warminster, Westbury.

Bereavement help points

This is a community-based drop-in service where all people who are bereaved are welcome. It's a space to meet and talk with others who may be experiencing similar thoughts and feelings, in an informal and supportive setting.

Chippenham

Venue: Angel Hotel, Market Place, SN15 3HD

Time: 10.00am-12.00noon

Dates: Second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

Run in partnership with Dorothy House Hospice

Corsham

Venue: Three Brewers, 51 Priory Street, Corsham, SN13 0AS

Time: 1.30pm-3.30pm

Dates: Second and fourth Thursday of each month

Run in partnership with Dorothy House Hospice

Malmesbury

Venue: Kings Arms, 29 High Street, Malmesbury, SN16 9AA

Time: 2.00pm – 4.00pm Dates: Every Monday

There are also help points in Calne, Devizes and Marlborough.

Carer café facilitator volunteers wanted

Carer Support Wiltshire is currently looking for carer café facilitator volunteers to help run the carer cafés in Chippenham and Malmesbury (and also Tisbury, Devizes, Melksham and Salisbury). Volunteers will need to be able to commit to a minimum of two hours per month, as well as initial and face-to-face training sessions. The aim of this role is to create a safe and supportive group environment for unpaid carers at a local venue, providing them with a much-needed break from their caring responsibilities. Applicants will need good interpersonal and verbal communication skills and have the ability to listen and be empathetic with people who may, at times, be distressed, without feeling a need to 'fix things'.

For further information about this role, visit <https://carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/get-involved/volunteer/> or email volunteer@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk / call 0800 181 4118.

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Highlights for October

Sunday 1 October

Gardeners' Questions: Come and put your horticultural hassles over your autumn garden to our panel of experts. 2.00pm-4.00pm. Tickets £5.

Saturday 7 October

Rock The 70s: Back in 2022, Ragged Company guitarist Nigel Dean and bassist Pete Willey put together a new project – a tribute to some of the greatest rock hits of the 70s, entitled 'Rock the 70s'!! 7.30pm-10.00pm. Tickets £16.50, under 25s £10. This is an all-standing event.

Friday 13 October

The Bristol Ensemble: In a programme specially arranged for a piano and strings quintet, Viv McLean joins the Bristol Ensemble to perform Gershwin, Glass, Copeland and Bernstein. 7.30pm-9.45pm. Tickets: £20, under 25s £15.

Sunday 15 October

Cotswold Comic Con: Stalls, cosplay, exhibition and artwork, with more special guests to be

announced nearer the time. Comic book dealers, artists, writers, creators and individual unique items. Cosplay for every age and every level. 10.30am-4.00pm. Tickets £5, under 18s free.

Saturday 21 October Comedy Club:

We welcome the return of our regular Goods Shed Comedy Club with October comedic delights being delivered by Ben van Der Velde, Jason Neale and headlined by Juliet Meyers! 8.00pm. Tickets £12.50, under 25s £10.

Saturday 28 October

James Morton's Groove Den: James is one of the most exciting saxophone players of his generation. This project features new material drawing on his influences from soul, jazz, hip-hop and tough, grooving beats, hence the name Groove Den. 7.30pm. Tickets £15, under 25s £10.

To buy tickets and for further details of our talks, exhibitions, afternoon concerts and films, visit our website: www.shed-arts.co.uk



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Malmesbury & District u3a

Retired? Semi-retired? Looking for new interests? Why not join us? Check our website for an up-to-date list of groups and other information: www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk. Monthly meetings take place on the fourth Thursday of the month (10.00am-12.00noon) at Malmesbury Town Hall. Non-members welcome, 50p donation.

If you would like to find out more, we have an open day on Saturday 7 October, 9.30am to 12.30pm at The Hub (renamed now as The Old School Room) in Malmesbury Town Hall. Find out more about our various interest groups, our monthly meetings and how to join us. We look forward to meeting you!

Our October monthly meeting details are below:

Thursday 26 October:

The ancient, mysterious and spooky origins of Halloween - John Hammond

John has provided some popular talks over recent years, sharing his extensive knowledge of archaeology. Prior to retiring, John worked for the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and as an Associate Lecturer at the University of Kent. This talk will explore origins of Halloween; a festival that in modern times has gained increasing attention around the world.

In recent decades, thanks to American cultural influences, Halloween has become little more than an evening of spooky 'trick-or-treat' fun for children. The real meaning has been all but lost. Even the Catholic Church's All Saint's Day, which has been marked on 1 November every year since 835CE, thus making October 31 All Hallow's Eve, is not where it all began. The true origins are far more ancient. We need to delve deep into western prehistory and look to the heavens for clues as to how this mysterious otherworldly annual celebration began.



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North Wiltshire Villages Flower Club: Dates for the diary

Wednesday 18 October

Club competition and workshop

Wednesday 15 November

Open Meeting with Elizabeth Graham demonstrating at Malmesbury Town Hall. Not to be missed! Tickets available from the website.

Please check the Club's website <https://northwiltshirevillagesflowerclub.co.uk/> for further information. Any notifications of events from other Clubs will also be posted on the website. We normally meet every third Wednesday at Crudwell Village Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start (unless it's an outside trip). Tina 07484 705308.


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Local recycling and zero waste outlet information

Recycling Facilities:

Kerbside Collection - check the Wiltshire Council website for up-to-date information of what they do and do not take

The Household Recycling Centre at Stanton St Quinton - take a look at their website to see what they take, you no longer need to book in advance!

Soft plastics and batteries:

Tesco Tetbury and Tesco Yate - collection points available in the stores.

Sherston Co-op has a soft plastic collection scheme. A list of all the packaging they can accept can be found here: www.coop.co.uk/environment/soft-plastics/packaging-list

PLEASE ... NO compostables, NO hard plastic, NO plastic bottles and NO plastic trays and please make sure all the plastics are clean.

Batteries/low-energy light bulbs

Sustainable Sherston Collection Point at Dog Leg House, 19a Church St. Small batteries are now part of the council's kerbside collection - place in a transparent sandwich bag on top of blue-lidded bin.

Medicine blister packs

Unfortunately, the Superdrug/Terracycle scheme has changed and Superdrug will now only accept small amounts of medicine blister packs from individuals so Sustainable Sherston has had to close its collection scheme. Please take to Superdrug in Bath or Stroud.

Clothes and Shoes Collection Point :

Wiltshire Air Ambulance - Sherston Village Hall Car Park

Ink Cartridges:

Sherston High Street Telephone Box

Dental items:

(toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, electric toothbrush heads) Barley Mow Dental Practice, Malmesbury

Zero-Waste/Eco Shops:

The Sherston Market on Thursdays, 10.30am-1.30pm, in front of the Village Hall - a selection of artisan stalls (including The Loaf Shack) selling meat, fish, cheese, chutneys and vegetables.

The Loaf Shack - a community pop-up micro bakery specialising in small batch artisan bread and baked goods which comes to Sherston every Thursday morning, 10.30am-1.30pm.

Bennett's (Vending) Farm Shop, Tetbury Lane, Lighterton (GL8 8UP) - a self-service retail outlet open 7 days a week 8am-7pm.

Lucy Tom Interiors, Noble Street, Sherston - refills of cleaning materials, beauty products, shampoo and conditioner as well as reusable water bottles, keep cups, second-hand book exchange.

The Wild Food Company, High Street, Malmesbury

- large selection of zero waste and plastic-free goods, liquid refills and loose dry foods, and loose milk

The Greenshop, Holbrook Farm, Calf Way, Stroud GL6 7BX - a whole group of businesses dedicated to providing sustainable goods and services. See www.greenshopgroup.co.uk

Loose, 33 High Street, Stroud GL5 1BB - selling unpackaged foods and other household and personal care items in a largely plastic-free environment. Remember to take your own packaging!

Hobb's House Bakery, Malmesbury and Tetbury - take your own bags!

Allington Farm Shop, Chippenham SN14 6LJ - all manner of fruit and vegetables, butchers, deli counter and a huge set of freezers where you can scoop frozen fruit/veg/pastries/yorkshire puddings/fishcakes into your own containers/plastic bags

Abbey Farm, Burford Road GL7 5HF - brilliant organic farm, farm shop and cafe and a large selection of zero waste and plastic-free goods and liquid refills

Zero Waste online services:

Milk and More (www.milkandmore.co.uk) : milk, cheese, yogurt, fruit and veg boxes and zero waste groceries delivered to your door! Easy online ordering service.

Riverford (www.riverford.co.uk) : organic fruit & veg boxes - zero waste - and lots more delivered to your door (on Wednesdays)

Abel & Cole (www.abelandcole.co.uk) - organic fruit, veg, zero-waste groceries & household goods delivered to your door with very low plastic use

Local Food Growers

Home Farm, Highgrove, Tetbury - veg stall and loose organic milk

The Goods Shed, Tetbury - locally grown veg sold on Friday mornings

Shipton Mill Flour - locally grown and excellent online shop www.shipton-mill.com

Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Sherston

Regular Groups and Events in Sherston

Parish Council Meeting

2nd Thurs each month (except August) at 7.30pm in the village hall. Minutes of meetings can be read online at www.sherston.org.uk. Contact clerk@sherston.org.uk

Weekly farmers market at Sherston Village Hall

Thurs 10.30am-1.30pm Stalls include meats, fish, cheese, sourdough and bakes, chutneys, dog treats etc.

Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events, parties etc. For details contact Margot Holland 841019 mplholland@btinternet.com

Village Hall 300+ Club

For an annual subscription of £10 support the Village Hall enter to win one of the four £20 prizes awarded in 10 draws each year. Contact: Eric Meanwell (07789 280058) or Goug Wilcox (07788 558035)

Sherston 1016

Fundraising for local good causes and charities. Contact sherston1016@gmail.com or 07717 424619.

The Hygiene Bank

Drop-off location in The Co-Op in Sherston and The George Vets, Malmesbury. The Hygiene Bank collects donations of new and unused hygiene products for local charities e.g. women's refuges and young person's hostels www.thehygienebank.com.

Wiltshire Council Mobile Library

Every fortnight on Saturdays 10.30am – 12.45pm Sherston High Street mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk or visit <https://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/Library/Stop/65>

Link - (Malmesbury and District)

Link is a charity run by volunteers to provide transport for people living in the Malmesbury area to hospitals and other health related appointments. Volunteers always needed. Helpline: 840861 or coordinators@malmesburylink.co.uk

Children's Groups

Sherston Baby and Toddler Group

The group is a fun way for babies, toddlers and their parents to meet and play. Meets every Mon 10-11.30am . British School Room with toys for all stages from wrigglers to toddlers, craft activities, music. Contact sherstonbabytoddlers@gmail.com or regular updates on www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers

Sherston Brownies

Meet Weds 5.45–7pm in term time Scout Hut. All girls are welcome to join after their 7th birthday, but there is a waiting list. Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the parents link to register your interest, for all other queries contact 1stsherstonbrownies@gmail.com

1st Sherston Guides

Meet Wed 5-6.30pm in term time - Village Hall. Girls are welcome to join after their 10th birthday, no waiting list. Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the parents link to register your interest, for all other queries contact Fi Picton via fi.picton@outlook.com

1st Sherston Beaver Scout Colony

Beavers is open to both girls and boys aged between 6 and 8 years old. Meet Mon 5pm to 6.15pm in term time - Scout hut. There is a waiting list for Beavers, email join@sherstonscouts.org.uk for an application form.

1st Sherston Cub Scout Pack

Open to both girls and boys aged between 8 and 10 ½ years old. Meets Fri 6.30-8pm in term times - Scout hut. There is a waiting list for Cubs, email join@sherstonscouts.org.uk for an application form

1st Sherston Scout Troop

Open to both girls and boys aged between 10½ to 14 years old. Meet on Tues 7-9pm in term times - Scout hut. There is a waiting list for Scouts, email join@sherstonscouts.org.uk for an application form

Sherston Whitewall Explorers

Explorers is open to both girls and boys aged between 14 and 18 years old, you don't need to have previously been a member of Scouts or Guides to join us. Meet Fri nights 8.30- 10pm in term times – Scout hut. Email join@sherstonscouts.org.uk for an application form

Church and Faith Groups

Holy Cross Church

Sunday services 8am Holy Communion; 1st and 4th - Holy Communion, 2nd - Worship Together - a service for all age groups preceded by breakfast at 9am, 3rd - Family Service preceded by breakfast at 9am See the Parish Life for more details.

Holy Cross Café Morning coffee every Thurs 10-12noon – small children's play area

Book the Church The church is often used for community events including concerts, lectures, exhibitions, pop-up cafes and so on. We also have groups (e.g. choirs) which use the space for rehearsals. To book, contact the Church Warden via sherston@gauzebrook.org

Sherston Congregational Church

Sunday Service, 9.30am except last of the month, which is a communion service at 4.30pm. All services can be joined in person in the British Scholl Room, Cliff Rd. or via Zoom. Please contact Rev Andrew who will send a Zoom link.

Bible Study or Prayer Group, alternating Mondays 7.30pm, also via Zoom. Contacts: Minister - Rev Andrew Williams Tarling - awtcharfield@hotmail.co.uk or 07921 390878

Methodist Church

Sunday Service at 10.30am apart from 3rd in the month when service is held at Luckington. For further details see the Parish Life

Music, Culture and Social

Church Bell Ringing

Practices are every Wednesday 7.30 – 9 pm. Tower correspondent Graham Morris 07484 838330 or Jim Bartlett 07980 119320 or come along.

Sherston Community Choir

Meets at 7.30pm each Wed in term time in the British School Room on Cliff Road. £3 per session. All welcome. Contact Sheila Cutcher sheilacutcher28@gmail.com or 840067, or on Facebook.

Sherston Drama Group

The Drama group puts on plays and pantomimes as well as smaller dramatic and social events in and around Sherston. If you're interested in taking part or helping out contact Katie Skeffington (Chairperson): katie.skeffington@bristol.ac.uk.

Drawing Classes in Sherston

Classes Weds either 10am-12noon or 1.30-3.30pm British Schoolroom during term time. Contact Heather Martin heather@geoffmartin.plus.com or phone 840375

Footpaths Group

'Sherston Walks - a guide to local Rights of Way', featuring 10 local walks is on sale at the Post Office. If you would like to learn more about the Footpaths Group contact Tanya Burgess on 841498 or smythtanya@hotmail.com or visit www.sherstonwalks.org.uk

Sherston's Gardening Club

Meets 1st Tues each month apart from Jul & Aug, 7pm for 7.30pm start in the British School Rooms, bring and buy stall, quiz, refreshments, £15pa £25 joint, under 18s free. Contact sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com for more details.

Sherston Probus Club

Meets first Mon each month at 11am at the Rattlebone for

interesting talks followed by lunch with 30 retired business and professional men in Sherston and the surrounding villages. Contact Secretary Alan Pugh pughaandg@btinternet.com

Senior Club

Meets at 2.30pm during summertime 2pm during winter in the British School Room, contact Helen Quirk 840516.

Sherston Sewing School

Beginners' Sessions in the British School Room on the 2nd Sat of each month, 10am-4pm £65 per day Phone Goug Wilcox on 07788 558035

Sherston Theatre Club

Excursions with a Sherston High Street-to-venue return coach service. Annual fee £20. <https://sherstontheatreclub.co.uk> or contact Helen Quirk on 840516 or helenandjim@thequirks.plus.com

Fitness

Exercise for over 60s with Synchronicity

Exercise and Movement for over 60's on Wed 10am Sherston Village Hall. All abilities, men and women. No exercises performed lying on the floor. First class always FREE. Contact Emma to reserve a place 07843 256081, emmacopec@synchronicity.me.uk, FB: @exercise60plus.

Fresh Air Fitness

Total body outdoor workout for all levels (beginners to advanced) on Sherston Rec Mon & Fri 9 -10am. Info: www.pulse4life.co.uk Stuart 07986 003602 or stuart@pulse4life.co.uk

Sherston Nordic Walking classes

A gentle full-body workout, accessible for people of all ages and abilities. Contact Kate 07792 064438 or katemchardy@hotmail.co.uk

Sherston Pilates

Daytime and evening classes held in the village hall. Run by Saara Sharman, Chartered Physiotherapist. All ages and abilities welcome. Contact Saara on 07739 552336 or sherstonpilates@gmail.com

Ashtanga Yoga class

A strong flowing practice for mind and body (beginners to advanced) Fri 10.30-11.45am Sherston village hall. Contact Stuart 07986 003602 stuart@pulse4life.co.uk or www.pulse4life.co.uk

Hatha yoga class

Small breath driven relaxing Hatha yoga class Tues 6.45-8am and Wed 6-7.15pm. Support for anxiety, depression and quitting smoking offered. Please contact Russ on 07710 170081 or russellhtownsend@gmail.com

Yoga for All

Mon evenings 7.30pm to 8.45pm in the village hall. Drop in rate £8 educing to £7 if you take up the course. More details contact 07779 600786 after 6pm or leave a message.

BB Barre

Barre fitness classes at Sherston Village Hall & Hawkesbury Home Studio. Full weekly timetable across most days. Suitable for all ages, and abilities, pre & post-natal. Visit <https://www.bbbarre.com> or @bb_barre on Instagram.

ABEL Pilates

Monday evening classes held in Sherston North Building (former pre-school building on the Rec). Fully certified BODY CONTROL teacher. All ages, bodies and abilities very warmly welcome. 6pm Mixed Ability Class, 7:10pm ABSOLUTE Beginners' Course. Contact Kate: 07957 313109 or kate@abelpilates.co.uk www.abelpilates.co.uk

Sports

Sherston Badminton and Table Tennis Club

Play every Tues evening from 7.30-9.30pm Village Hall from Sept to the end of May. New members welcome – mixed ages (over 18) and abilities. For more information, contact. David Boyle 841587, 07740 188882 or email djboyle@hotmail.com

Rattlebone Boules League

48 teams playing in 3 Leagues weekday evenings at the Rattlebone's boules pistes Apr – Aug. Contact Graham Hayman Grahamandgail@btinternet.com

Sherston Magna Cricket Club

See website / facebook for fixtures. If you'd like to get involved with local cricket please email cricket@sherstonmagnacc.co.uk or visit the website <https://sherstonmagnacc.co.uk>

Sherston Velo Cycling Club

Rides and social events for cyclists of all experience levels from beginner to advanced, including families. Regular road, gravel, MTB and virtual rides. Regular ride timetable: Tues- Castle Combe circuit (in season) or Zwift racing Thurs Gravel ride or chain gang (alternate weeks, in season) or Zwift/ RGT social ride (winter months only) Sat- Club A, B and cafe rides starting from 8am. Sun- Group ride, cafe ride and beginner rides. More info sherstonvelo.cc or email secretary@sherstonvelo.cc

Sherston Town FC

The First team plays in the 2nd Division of the Stroud & District Football League, the Second team plays in the 5th Division at Knockdown Park on alternate Sat afternoons at 2.30pm. Sherston Veterans play on Sun mornings. Spectators and new players welcome. Please check socials or contact sherstontownfootballclub@gmail.com or 07771 515489.

Sherston Netball Club

Training every Thurs at SWR School Tetbury, between 7-8.30pm. All ages and abilities welcome. £3 per session. Contact Lauren (07885 597429), Saara (07739 552336) or Kate (07792 064438).

Sherston Short Mat Bowls

Meet every Thurs 2.30-4.30pm & 7.30 – 9.30pm Village Hall. Bring flat shoes, we have the woods. Contact Tony Weedon 841377 or Anne Andrews 840941

Sherston Tennis Courts

The courts are available to the village at no charge, at own risk. The courts can be slippery when wet. Please look after the courts and nets, take away any rubbish. A men's match team will have priority on Wed evenings over the spring and summer. Knockdown Road, next to the football pitch.

Outside Sherston in brief

Luckington Mobile -PO Service

outside The Old Royal Ship (SN14 6PA) each Tues 1.30 - 2.30pm

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

see www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard

Malmesbury Concert Band

www.malmesburyconcertband.org.uk

Malmesbury Community Choir

www.malmesburycommunitychoir.org or www.facebook.com/MalmesburyCommunityChoir.

Malmesbury Morris

www.facebook.com/malmesburymorris
www.malmesburymorris.org.uk

Malmesbury Singers

www.malmesburysingers.co.uk

Malmesbury Film Society

www.malmesburyfilmsociety.org.uk

Tetbury Art Society

<http://tetburyartsociety.org.uk>

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

Check in the main section of the Cliffhanger, their website / facebook/ contact details for dates and times.

Weekly market at Sherston Village Hall

Every Thurs 10.30am-1.30pm Stalls include locally produced meats, cheese, Home Farm veg, sourdough and bakes etc. Organised by Holly from The Loaf Shack Bakery theloafshackbakery@gmail.com

The Angel Café with Rooms

Hot and cold drinks, breakfast, brunch, lunch and freshly made cakes daily 8am – 5pm summer (8am to 4pm winter), takeaways and bike parking in courtyard, accessed via Cliff Road (the gate is by the big red refuse bin). www.angel-sherston.co.uk/menu and rooms www.angel-sherston.co.uk/your-booking or 841627 for more details.

The Bridge Restaurant

Indian cuisine to eat in or take away daily from 5pm-10pm on the site of The Carps. Call 840665 or info@thebridge.restaurant www.thebridge.restaurant/sherston/

The Rattlebone Inn

Indoor & outdoor dining with delicious country cuisine restaurant menu and pizzas from the wood fired oven at weekends. Quiz & Burger Night Quiz starts at 8pm Mon
Check boards for more details, 840871, Twitter or visit [/www.therattlebone.co.uk](http://www.therattlebone.co.uk)

The Courtyard Café @ Lucy Tom's

Illy coffee, tea and herbal infusions and homemade cakes in Tucks Yard with covered seating – takeaways available. Bicycle parking. 841433 or <https://lucytom.com>

Wiltshire Council Mobile Library

In Sherston Every fortnight on Saturdays 10.30am – 12.45pm
Sherston High Street For further details call clerk@sherston.org.uk or mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk or visit <https://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/Library/Stop/65>

Events at the Church of the Holy Cross

Holy Cross Café Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits, every Thurs 10am-12 noon. There is a play area for small children – proceeds to the Church upkeep. 1st Thurs each month will have an Eco theme, with recycled cards, plants, fairtrade items for sale.

Sherston Harvest Supper

This will take place after the 6pm Harvest Service in early Oct and all are welcome but we would like to know numbers in advance. Please sign the list in church to say if you coming and if you are bringing a contribution – we need salads, puddings or savoury dishes like quiches. We supply cold meats, cheeses and jacket potatoes, as well as all crockery, glasses and cutlery. Please bring your own drinks. If you are a single person, maybe share bringing a dish with someone else or just bring yourself! £5 per person, pay on the night.

Sherston Congregational Church – Activities in The British Schoolroom

Brick Club: 3.30-5pm every Thursday during term time. Free entry. All are welcome

Toddlers Club 10– 11.30am every Mon including holidays and half terms except Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Admin/Bookings - Alicja Clark - alicjaclark076@Qmail.com Brick Club - Please register your interest with Alicja by email or find us on Facebook.

Churches Together 'Warm Space Initiative'

The Congregational Church, Methodist Church and Holy Cross Church invite people to join together on the first Monday of each month. It is a joint initiative, and everyone is welcome. No charge nor booking. Soup bread, pudding, cake and coffee will be served as well as companionship. 12 till 2pm in the British School Room and each month will support a different charity. Lifts are available on request.

For further information: Candi Williams Tarling, Revd Janet Evans, Revd Susan Harvey 840 696

Sherston Drama Group

Pantomime - The Elves and the Shoemaker

written and directed by Katie Skeffington
Wed 25 to Sat 28 Oct, 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall, and a matinee at 2.30pm on Sat 28 Oct.

Tickets (£10/£8.50 concessions) are on sale now from Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque) or on TicketSource (ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group, booking fee applies)

Sherston's Gardening Club

Talk: Lucy Bowles-Lewis (Head gardener Whatley Manor) 'Understand Your Garden - The Habitats You Have and How to Manage Them'. Tues 3 Oct
Laura Holmes: 'Using your garden design to Create your unique space' Tues 7 Nov

Julia Armstrong: Christmas decoration workshop Tues 5 Dec

Bring and buy stall, quiz, refreshments, first Tuesday of each month, British School Room, doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. £15pa £25 joint, under 18s free. Connections to: Our Church garden, Sustainable Sherston and Sherston Allotments. sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com for more details.

Young plants for sale – 1-8 Oct

from stall outside 6 Cliff Road, Sherston to help communities suffering from drought & climate change in AFRICA www.rippleeffect.org Garden will be open Sat 8 Oct 2 - 5pm to see plants in situ & more plants for sale and TEA & CAKES! All proceeds to the Ripple Effect, supporting communities in rural Africa fight hunger & the climate crisis. Details tricia.lawrence@outlook.com

Sherston Apple Day

Sat 7 Oct, 10am-3pm, Sherston Village Hall and Field. Free entry! A proper village day out with apple-pressing demos on our small and larger presses. Plus local producers - and apple-themed games and refreshments from the Friends of Sherston School in the main hall. Bring your bottles and fill up with fresh apple juice straight from the press! Pasteurised, bottled Sherston apple juice will also be on sale on the day. Pasteurised juice lasts at least a whole year and can make a great mulled drink for the winter. If you have an apple tree with ripe September apples, please bring your surplus (ideally, in good condition) in bags to the VH on Sun 1 Oct

Sustainable Sherston

Water in Sherston - Clean Water, Sewage and the Sherston Avon' Richard Skeffington Fri 17 Nov 7.30pm, British School Room. sustainablesherston@gmail.com

Sherston Arts Festival 2023

The Festival runs from 3 to 12 Nov including two main events, the Blaenavon Male Voice Choir on 4 Nov in the church and the Packhorse Ceilidh Band on the 11th in the Village Hall.

At the heart of the Festival is the Art Exhibition which runs every day in the church, starting with the preview evening on Fri 3 Nov. Anyone is welcome to submit up to 5 works which must be 2D and be framed or appropriately presented. We include work

by professional and amateur artists, who come from the local area or have a Sherston connection. Please see website for more details www.sherstonartsfestival.com Scarecrow Trail – Theme: Toys, Books and Games - Remember, it's free to enter a scarecrow on the trail - last entries are Mon 24 Oct kirsty.strachan@icloud.com

Scarecrow Workshop, Sat 14 Oct, 1.30pm-4.30pm at Sherston Village Hall (£15 per group including all help and materials) We have teamed up with scrapstore again to put on a special workshop to give you all the materials and expert help so you can build a scarecrow in an afternoon. It is always a lot of fun! There are only 15 spaces so send me an email back ASAP to reserve a spot and you can decide on your scarecrow later. This year the theme is "Toys, books and Games". As in previous years - if we let Scrapstore know what you are making - they can usual bring specific colours, faux fur and foils.

Packhorse Ceilidh Band

Save the date! Sat 11 Nov. Sherston Arts Festival is delighted to have the Packhorse Ceilidh Band back in the village hall for a brilliant evening of barn dancing to live music. More details www.thepackhorseband.co.uk Children's Art Exhibition is in the British School Room 11 & 12 Nov

Christmas Advent House Trail – call for windows

Please email kirsty.strachan@icloud.com ASAP along with your address to sign up so we know the idea can go ahead again and we can get you on the map. Last entry date will be Friday 3 Nov. There are lots of photos on the Arts Festival website from previous years www.sherstonartsfestival.com

Knockdown

The Holford Arms - <https://theholfordarms.com> or call 01454 238669

Luckington

The Old Royal Ship - www.oldroyalship.co.uk or 840222

Didmarton

Flicks in the Sticks

Empire of Light (2022) – Drama. Fri 13 Oct. Doors open at 6.30pm for the bar, with film starting at 7.30pm. Cash bar. Didmarton Village Hall. For further details call Jenny Body 01454 238358 or jenny.body@btconnect.com

Westonbirt**The Arboretum**

www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt

Malmesbury**Athelstan Museum**

Talks and Exhibitions

www.athelstanmuseum.org.uk

Movies@Malmesbury

Movies@Malmesbury is run entirely by volunteers with new tiered seating in the Town Hall or Facebook page: MoviesatMalmesbury or www.malmesbury.gov.uk/cinema.html for schedules, synopses, trailers etc.

Malmesbury Artisan and Farmers' Market

Market Cross every Fri from 9am to 3pm with an enticing array of local, fresh and organic produce

Malmesbury Live Arts

Comedy and music each month:

www.malmesbury-live-arts.org.uk/whatson

The Big Malmesbury Craft Fair

Last Sat every month 11am-3pm - meet unique creatives, creators, makers, designers, producers and bakers. The Hub www.facebook.com/TheBigMalmesburyCraftFair/

Malmesbury Library

Rhyme times for babies and toddlers every Tues and Fri

Tuesday's Public Living Room is an opportunity to pop in and share a cup of tea and a chat

Reading group meets 3rd Wed each month

Repair Café Malmesbury are here to fix your household items on 3rd Sat each month

The Summer Reading Challenge for 4-11 year-olds takes place in all libraries from 16 July – 10 September. The Library offers free wifi, computer and scanner access, daily newspapers to read in the library, plus printing for a small charge, as well as latest bestselling fiction and a wide range of books to borrow. www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries or follow Malmesbury Library on Facebook.

Malmesbury & District u3a

The ancient, mysterious and spooky origins of Halloween - John Hammond Thurs 26 Oct 500+ members and 40 different interest groups including history, gardening, dancing, languages, walking, book groups etc. Monthly meetings take place on the 4th Thurs of the month (10.00-12.00) at Malmesbury Town Hall. No meetings during July and Aug. Non-members welcome 50p donation. www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk

Tetbury**Tetbury Goods Shed**

Ros's Organic Vegetables every Sat 11-1pm Daily picked locally grown seasonal vegetables

Exhibitions, talks, concerts, cinema - <https://shed-arts.co.uk>

Cotswold Comic Con: Sun 15 Oct Stalls, cosplay, exhibition and artwork, with more special guests to be announced nearer the time. Comic book dealers, artists, writers, creators and individual unique items. Cosplay for every age and every level. 10.30am-4.00pm. Tickets £5, under 18s free.

The Whistle Stop café open for takeaway coffees and takeaway food on Tues to Sun 10am-4pm www.shed-arts.co.uk

Long Newnton**Beaufort Christmas Fair**

Tues 21 Nov 9.30am-8pm £7.50 children under 16 free. Wide selection of tasteful stalls and café Newnton Dairy Farm SN16 9SR www.beaufortchristmasfair.co.uk

Hullavington

Weekly Zoom French clubs for children contact Anna-Kate on admin@clubs4kids.com for more details.

Grittleton

Rural Arts Touring & Grittleton Village Hall bring you CarmenCo, Sat 25 Nov at Grittleton Village Hall, fantasy, comedy, drama

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Chippenham

Neeld Community and Arts Centre
www.neeld.co.uk or 01249 446699

Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House -
www.wottoncinema.com

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers

Cirencester

The Barn Theatre

I'm Sorry, Prime Minister, I Can't Quite Remember world premiere 25 Sep will be at The Barn continuing till 4 Nov. Box office: 01285 648255 or boxoffice@barntheatre.org.uk or visit <https://barntheatre.org.uk>

Malmesbury, Stroud, Wotton-Under-Edge, Bath, Bristol

Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet

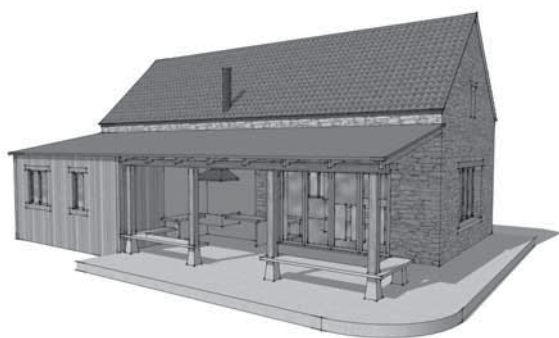
Live and encore screenings at local cinemas

www.roh.org.uk/cinemas

National Theatre Live

Live and encore screenings from The National Theatre at local cinemas

www.ntlive.com



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Bath

Theatre Royal Bath

New Season Sep 2023 – 2024 David Suchet returns following his previous sell-out visit with **POIROT AND MORE: A RETROSPECTIVE** (Tues 23 Jan) Opera della Luna make their Theatre Royal Bath debut with **HMS PINAFORE** (24 - 27 Jan); One of the greatest ever stage thrillers, **SLEUTH**, is given an extraordinary revival (12 - 17 Feb); Bath Operatic and Dramatic Society present the smash-hit Dolly Parton musical **9 TO 5** (27 Feb - 2 Mar); Gary Barlow and Tim Firth's **CALENDAR GIRLS THE MUSICAL** returns to Bath with an updated script and new music! (5 - 9 Mar); and direct from Broadway, the unforgettable stage adaptation of the international bestselling novel **THE KITE RUNNER** (18 - 23 Mar). Plus check out lots of incredible new casting for on sale productions including **Farewell Mister Haffmann**, **2:22 A Ghost Story**, **A Voyage Round My Father**, **The Score**, **Machinal**, **I'm Sorry, Prime Minister**, **Quiz**, **Twelve Angry Men** and our traditional family pantomime, **Sleeping Beauty**. Tel 01225 448844 www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Cheltenham

Arts & Science Festivals

The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival 6 - 15 Oct

www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE

If you are in immediate danger call 999

The public version of Sherston's Emergency Response Plan can be found on the Sherston website:

www.sherston.org.uk/application/files/9216/2394/2215/Sherston_Emergency_Plan_March_2020.pdf

Sherston Emergency Response Coordinator

emergency@sherston.org.uk (only during an incident)

Wiltshire Council

Highways, Social Care, Emergency Transport

24hr telephone contact: 0300 456 0100

EPRR@wiltshire.gov.uk (only during an incident)

Floods: 0300 456 0105 or drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk

Useful Information

Wiltshire Council Online Gritting routes

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/gritting.htm

Utilities

ELECTRICITY – SSEPD Power track

To report a problem or for information call 105

www.ssepd.co.uk/Powertrack for a map of faults

0800 072 7282 or 0345 072 1905 from a mobile phone @SSEPD for updates on twitter

WATER – Bristol Water

www.bristolwater.co.uk/contact/

Emergency Helpline: 0345 702 3797 (24 Hour)

WATER – Wessex water

www.wessexwater.co.uk/Contact-us/

Emergency Helpline: 0345 600 4 600 (24 hours)

BBC Wiltshire can be heard via:

West Wilts area

(Chippenham, Devizes and Trowbridge): 104.3FM

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Useful Numbers

BT fault line	0800 800151
Wiltshire Highways issues	0300 4560105
Cllr Martin Fausing Smith	01666 840865
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	0207 219 6237
Sherston Parish Council	07790 883503
Sherston School	01666 840237
Sherston Village Hall (bookings)	01666 841019
Sherston Co-op PO Stores	01666 840190
Tolsey Surgery	01666 840270
Wiltshire Council	0300 4560100

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