



# THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MARCH 2024

DELIVERED FREE

## Grove Wood Coppicing – Year 3



Sherston  
Parish Council

Sunday 28 January marked the third year we have been undertaking the coppicing programme in Grove Wood, starting to rebuild on the work undertaken some years ago, in the hope that we can maintain it going forward.

A massive shout-out and thank you to Nigel Freeth, David Hancock, Tanya Burgess, Graham Instrell and 'George' from Luckington. The turnout of volunteers was a little less than we'd hoped but we did manage to complete 50% of the work planned which was a great achievement considering there were only five of us.



If you would like to get involved and help out on the odd occasion, or have any suggestions about things round the village you would like to see maintained or developed - and that you would be interested in helping maintain or develop - please contact either:

[Nigel.freeth@sherston.org.uk](mailto:Nigel.freeth@sherston.org.uk) or

[Tanya.burgess@sherston.org.uk](mailto:Tanya.burgess@sherston.org.uk)

## Thank You Aaron and Farewell



After nearly three years as manager of Sherston Co-op and Post Office, Aaron has moved on to manage the Burford store. A great asset and a superb supporter of village events, he will be missed by staff and customers alike. We all wish him well in his new role.

Nicky also left last month to resume farm work, as she used to do. We wish her well too.

A warm welcome to the new manager, Liam.

### Why do we do it?

Coppicing creates a range of habits for plants and wildlife, which dramatically increases the diversity of species that thrive in the area for us all to enjoy. Whilst coppicing, we were accompanied by a beautiful robin who was taking full advantage of the wildlife corridor we were building with the cuttings, and just on the day, we managed to uncover some hidden snowdrops which were masked by the overgrowth.

Would YOU like to help with future coppicing OR any other planned activities around the village?

We really would love some additional help, not only with this, but with other initiatives around the village that we would like to undertake but typically are unable to due to lack of resource. We are hoping to build a database of residents who are keen to help out on an 'as and when' basis - when they are available and if the planned activity sparks their interest.

THIS AND ALL PREVIOUS ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD AT [WWW.SHERSTON.ORG.UK](http://WWW.SHERSTON.ORG.UK)

## Celebrating the Butterfly Hall: Saturday 2 March



To celebrate the first anniversary of the Butterfly Hall (the annexe to Sherston Village Hall), we are holding a teatime concert at 3.00pm on Saturday 2 March by 'One Note' (who performed at a lovely Garden Party on Thompson's Hill in August 2022). There will be tea and cake served in the interval. No need to buy a ticket, just turn up, a small donation may be made if you wish. All welcome!

## Come and Meet Your Local Policing Team: Tuesday 26 March



What matters most in your community? Tell us your views! Come along to Sherston Congregational Church on Tuesday 26 March between 1.30pm and 3.30pm.

**Copy deadline:** 10<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.  
Send to [editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk](mailto:editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk)  
or hard copy to Sherston Post Office Stores.

**What's On:** contact Caroline Moore at  
[info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk](mailto:info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk)

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

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

**To advertise:** contact  
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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](http://www.sherston.org.uk)

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## SHERSTON GARDENING CLUB

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 5 March. Rosemary Verey  
by Margie Hoffnung**

### Cuttings

Hortico owner, Piers Lavan, delivered an insightful talk at our February meeting. Piers, whilst recognising the environmental impact of using peat in compost, has a few reservations about some peat-free brands on the market. 'You know what has been taken out but not necessarily the value of the substitutes that have gone in.' Passing round plastic containers of peat-free ingredients, rather like a scene from a 1970s Tupperware party, Piers described the relative merits of each one and left members with the thought that a longer phasing-out time would benefit both growers and gardeners alike. Thought-provoking indeed!

Our March meeting profiles one of the 20th century's most famous garden designers and writers, Rosemary Verey, OBE VMH. Guest speaker Margie Hoffnung worked with Rosemary for over a decade so has knowledge and personal experiences to draw on for her talk. Not to be missed!

### Clippings

Club meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month at the British School Room, Cliff Road, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Refreshments, plant ID, plant sales, raffle, gardeners' question time, and jobs to do for the month.

New members from Sherston and surrounding villages are always welcome: £15 single, £25 joint, U18s free. All new members who join between January and March 2024 will have valid membership until April 2025, so it's a bargain! For membership form and full programme contact our Secretary: [sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com)

### Tuesday 2 April

'Four Seasons Cotswold Style'  
with Mandy Bradshaw

**Thursday 25 April** Trip to Wisley Gardens (see below) A coach trip to one of the most beautiful of all RHS gardens, particularly in springtime. Coach leaves The Angel at 9.00am, returning by 6.00pm. Tickets (£30 all-inclusive) may still be available - checking with our Secretary.

Other visits Other visits being finalised include the Lackham Campus at Wiltshire College, and various gardens under the National Garden Scheme (NGS).



# Public Talk: Food, farming and nature



*Ian Wilkinson, co-founder and Director of FarmED (left), with farmer Hallam and one of their herd at Honeydale Farm in the Cotswolds.*

Six inches of soil supports us. It feeds eight billion people. Our food production depends on it, yet working our soil can contribute to biodiversity loss and even to climate change.

Ian Wilkinson, co-founder and Director of FarmED in the Cotswolds, explains how this happens and how to reverse the damage and regenerate healthy soils - for healthy food.

FarmED is a 107-acre mixed farm in Shipton-under-Wychwood, which opened its doors to the public a few years ago, to demonstrate how our soils can be improved and how we can improve our food security by creating a healthy basis for our food production.

Ian brings the latest on nature recovery and sustainable farming, as supported by the Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), with new farm payments linked to sustainable farming techniques that should look after our soil, nature recovery and biodiversity.

Everyone can improve their soil. Leaving soil

structures intact and growing a wide range of plants increases biodiversity and encourages a wider range of insects, birds and small animals to flourish.

Soil quality can be further improved by keeping 'roots in the ground' and by returning food waste as compost (and, for farmers, livestock manure) back to the land.

Ian will explain how the land can produce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the source of our current global warming. He will tell us how we can reverse this problem by maximising carbon storage in the soil - and how to calculate and measure the progress of this carbon capture.

By improving our soils, we can reduce the use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers, which simultaneously allows more organisms to thrive in the soil - and invites more pollinators to add to the success of our plants.

Trees are another tool to bring about improved carbon storage, as well as providing places for insects and other wildlife to live and shelter. There are ways to include trees in the farming landscape too, and combine them with crops or animal grazing.

A fertile soil allows us to grow better food crops, as well as improve the quality of the fruit and veg on our allotments and back gardens and provide us with the food security we need.

Come and find out how we can all be part of the change - to revitalise our soil.

Where? British School Room, Cliff Road, Sherston

When? Monday 11 March, 7.30pm-9.00pm

How much? Tickets £5 at the door

Questions? Contact Eleanor Lines, [eleanorlines53@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorlines53@gmail.com) or Sustainable Sherston at [sustainablesherston@gmail.com](mailto:sustainablesherston@gmail.com)

## Coming to the Rec soon!



Fantastic news for the play park on the Rec: after a few years of saving by the Parish Council, we will be getting an exciting new four-metre-high climbing

frame. Weather permitting, it will be installed in the next few months. If anyone would like to volunteer to help maintain the equipment on the Rec, the current team are always looking for a hand.

Please contact [clerk@sherston.org.uk](mailto:clerk@sherston.org.uk)

## The Gauzebrook Family Choir

Calling all singers age 8 to 80+. Come and join the Gauzebrook Family Choir. Singing traditional and modern choral music at the Gauzebrook group services. Next Group Service: Palm Sunday 24 March 10am Luckington Led by Rt Revd Neil Warwick – Bishop of Swindon

Choir Rehearsals: Fri 1, 8, 15 Mar: 4.30 – 5.30pm  
Sherston Holy Cross, Fri 22 Mar 4.30 – 5.30pm  
Luckington Church.

# D-Day 80th anniversary

## 626th Engineers of the American Army

### in Sherston



In March 1944 the American Army arrived in Sherston in preparation for the D-Day landings. Their recollections were recorded in a book compiled by veterans of the 626th. Extracts will be published in the Cliffhanger each month leading up to the 80th anniversary on 6 June.

#### Part 2

On another occasion we found a wire-haired terrier wandering around who was wearing a coat bearing a Medical Corps insignia so we took him in as our company mascot and gave him the nick-name of "Medic." He was a good dog to take along on guard duty. He wouldn't bark if he heard something, just a low growling sound as a warning. We had been informed that the Germans had dropped spies by parachute on several occasions, so 'Medic' was great to have around. Village folklore abounded with ghost stories, another good reason to have our old buddy 'Medic' with us. He was one of the toughest dogs we'd ever seen. He would tangle with dogs twice his size and send them running.

We would march several miles to our motor pool area for various training sessions which included a complete indoctrination about the British people who would be our close neighbors. Captain Mussomeli wanted it made clear that this was their country and we were to abide by 1st Army rules and orders regarding our behavior while in England. The company was lectured on the English people, their customs, their currency and the most important fact, we were here to help them defeat a vicious enemy.

British soldiers and civilians had been living under a tremendous strain.

Clothing as well as food had been rationed. A quote from a U.S. War Dept. bulletin stated. 'It is always said that Americans throw more food in their garbage cans than any other country eats. We have always been a producer nation while most British food is imported even in peace times. For the last several years the British have been taught not to waste the imports that their ships bring in from abroad. British seamen die getting those convoys through and the people have been indoctrinated so thoroughly that they know gasoline and food represents the lives of many merchant sailors. If we waste food and fuel needlessly, it would seem to them that we are wasting the blood of those seamen.'

It was Capt. Mussomeli's goal to see that the 626th act and look like well disciplined soldiers and

he intended to impart that image to the people of Sherston.

One of his favorite orders was to call the company to attention as we approached our hamlet making sure that every man was in step and shouting loud and clear when the 'cadence count' was given. The men marched tall and straight and not a soldier was out of step. Everyone's foot hit the pavement in unison and you knew the 'old man' was pleased.

On our way to our motor pool we would pass the church cemetery and noted that the headstones bore dates going back to the 13th century. There were a number of headstones for the Goodenough family. Tom Jensen and Bertil Anderson became acquainted with the Vining family after they had attended services at the Congregational Chapel where Mrs. Vining played the organ. Afterwards they were invited for afternoon tea and sandwiches. When Mrs. Vining left the room Jensen said, 'My God Andy these folks are so poor they have to eat grass!' When she returned she asked how they liked their watercress sandwiches. 'They are mighty fine, thank you Ma'm,' replied Jensen.

Some villagers would invite the G.I.'s to dinner, but we had to remember not to overindulge. Being good hosts they would put out almost their whole monthly food rations and as Americans we were used to eating big meals, so we had to be on our best behavior. We in turn would offer them our PX rations as a token of our appreciation.

#### SHERSTON

**Successful Dance.**—A sum of £6-14-0 was raised for the Sherston Services Trust Fund by a lawn dance organised at Vancellettes by Mrs. W. Smith.

**Profit on Home Guard Fete.**—The balance sheet of the recent gymkhana, organised by the Home Guard in aid of the Benevolent Fund, shows there was a profit of £51-10-9½, and a highly satisfactory result.

**The King's Call to Prayer.**—Prayers and intercessions have been said each evening this week since the invasion began at the Congregational Church by the Minister, the Rev. J. W. Roberts.

**Recreation Field Levelled.**—With certain mechanical appliances being available in the village, the Recreation Field has been levelled, the work being carried out by American soldiers, to whom the Committee, on behalf of the residents, are very grateful. Further improvements are in contemplation by the Committee.



# INVASION OF FRANCE

## HISTORIC WEEK

Four years after the rescue at Dunkirk of that gallant army without which as a nucleus the vast forces of liberation could not have been re-built, the Allied Nations on Tuesday morning last, returned in greater strength to the soil of France.

Early news of the invasion was given by Mr. Churchill the same evening when he announced that the operation was proceeding "in a thoroughly satisfactory manner," and that the sea passage had been made "with far less loss than had been apprehended." Allied forces, he said, had in some cases penetrated several miles inland on the northern coast of France, and fighting was taking place in Caen.

Massed landings of airborne troops were made behind the enemy's lines. The Germans spoke of these landings as being "in great depth," and also reported landings in Guernsey and Jersey.

Nearly 11,000 first-line aircraft are available for the battle, and upwards of 4,000 ships, together with several thousand smaller craft, were engaged in the operations. On Monday night more than 5,000 tons of bombs were dropped on German coastal batteries.

### "THE TIDE HAS TURNED"

General Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander, in an order of the day to his men, said: "The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to victory!"

General de Gaulle, in a message to France, said: "France stands up to take her part in this offensive . . . The sun of our grandeur is appearing once again."

General de Gaulle had previously arrived in England, and had already had discussions with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden and with General Eisenhower.

### PROGRESS

In spite of stiffer German resistance, allied operations in Normandy were on Wednesday reported to be progressing according to plan. There were more airborne landings, and a stream of reinforcements poured in from the sea.

Some of the landing parties had linked up, and a German tank attack near Caen was repulsed.

The Germans, who claim that an attack on Caen was frustrated, announced on Wednesday night that airborne landings had taken place on the west coast of the Cherbourg peninsula and 40 miles south of Caen.

The Allied air forces have kept up continuous support for our troops and, besides fighter patrols over the beach-heads, bombers both by night and day have pounded road\* and rail routes leading to the coast.

When Mr. Mackenzie King informed the Canadian House of Commons of the allied landings in France he said it was not to be supposed that there would not be other offensives in other parts of Europe.

### FALL OF BAYEUX

On Thursday official news and correspondents' reports indicated that one of the fiercest and bloodiest battles of the war was in full swing in the towns and villages of Normandy, and on the green fields and roads flanking the coast between Havre and Cherbourg.

Highlights of the news in the communique from the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force were that our airborne forces had made contact with the seaborne troops, and that Bayeux had been captured.

The fall of Bayeux, tapestry town five miles inland on the road to Caen, was described at Allied H.Q. as "very good news," and an event "which may open up the advance from that particular point."

There had been fierce armoured fighting, but progress continued despite determined enemy resistance.

In the air our forces have maintained their great superiority despite increasing activity by the Germans. During the 24 hours ended at midnight on Wednesday, 114 enemy planes were destroyed.

An official German announcement on Thursday afternoon said that the Americans made small local gains north-east of Trevieres, 10 miles west of Bayeux.

# New Trees for The Tarters and Easton Square



Sherston  
Parish Council



Thank you to volunteers from Sustainable Sherston and local residents who helped the Parish Council plant trees on grass verges in The Tarters and Easton Square in January. Luckily, it almost hasn't stopped raining since so there has been no need to water them yet! Many thanks to Tracklements who gave us a medlar to plant and for their generous grant to the Parish Council to pay for the trees, which included crabapple trees, rowans, silver birch and wild cherry.

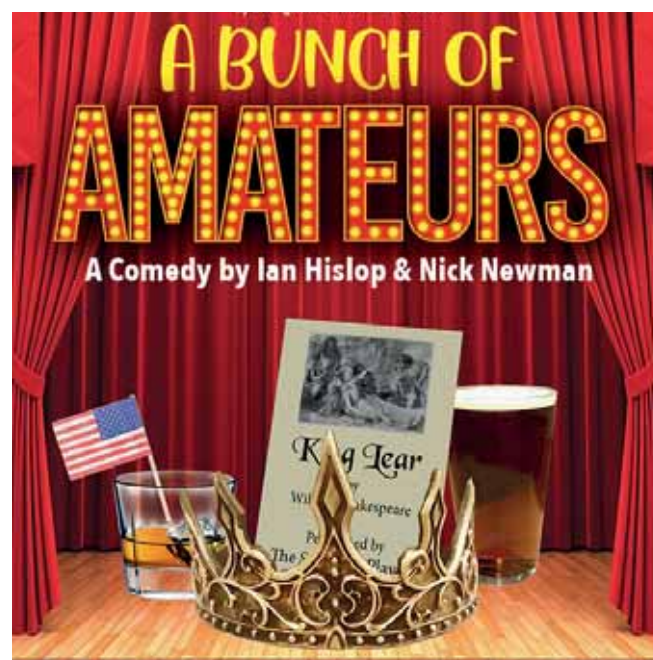
## Sustainable fashion comes to Sherston: Save the Date and Save the Planet!



On the evening of Friday 14 June, there will be a fashion show of pre-loved garments, plus speakers on the theme of recycling and sustainability, with wine and nibbles. On Saturday 15 June, there will be an opportunity to purchase new and pre-loved fashion. All in aid of charity. So put the dates in your diary. Think of what you might like to donate and look out for further details in next month's Cliffhanger.

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# A Bunch of Amateurs!



Sherston Drama Group is excited to present 'A Bunch of Amateurs' from Wednesday 10 April to Saturday 13 April at 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall. This hilarious comedy, written by Ian Hislop (from 'Have I Got News for You') and Nick Newman, is funny and moving in equal measure. The play follows a fading Hollywood action hero, Jefferson Steel, as he arrives in England to play King Lear in Stratford, only to find that this is not the birthplace of the Bard but instead a small rural town, and the cast are a bunch of amateurs. Jefferson's monstrous ego, vanity and insecurity are tested to the limit by the enthusiastic am-dram thespians; as rumours circulate and acting worlds collide, Jefferson begins to discover some truths about himself! Contains some strong language.

Tickets (£10/£8.50 concessions) are on sale from Monday 4 March from Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque) or on TicketSource ([ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group), booking fee applies).

## Join our Committee!



Maybe you're new to Sherston and want to be more involved in village life? Or, maybe you've lived here for a while but have recently retired or have more spare time? We are looking for a Bookings Clerk to join our friendly Village Hall Committee - could this be you?.

Please call Margot Holland on 07909 973 845 to find out more.



# Sherston Senior Club

Sherston Seniors started back on Tuesdays after the Christmas break, with a quiz and bingo. Our second January meeting was a talk by Michael Lees about the work of Riding for the Disabled. This was very interesting; Michael is such a good speaker.

In February, Mary Clements entertained us with her guitar and lovely singing voice. We were amazed when Mary was able to play one of her own compositions recorded on tape in the 1980s, variously updated through the years until she was able to play it via her phone and a miniature boom box. The clarity was astonishing.

Looking forward: On Tuesday 5 March we will be having our AGM and on Tuesday 19 March ukulele players from Tetbury will be entertaining us.

We are a very informal club, visitors are always welcome, £2.00 per visit includes refreshments. Membership is £15.00 per year. For further information please contact Helen Quirk on 840516.

# Local warden-led walks



## Thursday 21 March: Joyce Provides the Source

Start: 10.00am Difficulty: MODERATE Duration: 4.5 HOURS Distance: 8.5 MILES

Start point: SHERSTON. MEET OUTSIDE POST OFFICE. Discover the source of the River Avon before enjoying a return through the picturesque National Arboretum with its majestic trees. May be muddy in places if wet. Please bring a packed lunch.

[www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/](http://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/)

Dogs are unfortunately not able to be accommodated on our guided walks (except assistance dogs).



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# School Days - news from Sherston Primary School

## Learning, Caring & Achieving Together...Term 3 highlights from Sherston School

Despite the short term, there was a wealth of learning taking place throughout the school last month. The children enjoyed engaging in Wiltshire Air Ambulance workshops, from learning some basic first aid to understanding what to do in an emergency. Chestnut Class had a fantastic trip to Bristol Zoo Project and Mrs Ormiston's new Art Club was a huge success!



From Rowan's class assembly to the Westonbirt Cross Country event and the Y5/6 netball festival, we celebrated lots of fantastic achievements.



When a school works together as we do, amazing things can happen! The children were true ambassadors for the school at the Young Voices concerts and the KS2 Cricket Festival last term - a huge thank you to everyone involved in these events.





# A Massive Thanks . . .

to those who responded to the Parish Council's plea in last month's issue for 'Community Speed Watch' volunteers to help police Tetbury Road with a view to making our village roads much safer.

A team of nine is currently undergoing police training and we hope to be fully operational this month.

The Parish Council trust that all villagers are in full support of this enterprise and give it the thumbs up and diligence it deserves!

Residents' perception that excessive speeding is prevalent on our roads remains unsubstantiated after numerous traffic surveys, the latest being at selected sites on the B4040 road at Pinkney and Brook Hill.

The 85th percentile speeds (the measurement used by police authorities) to determine speeding levels were 28.87mph and 40.5mph respectively and

both fall well below the threshold for police action/involvement.

NB. The Posted Speed Limits in each case being 30mph and 40mph.

The Parish Council would ask readers not to be despondent at this revelation because a second and more meaningful agenda (as mentioned in the December 2023 issue) is being spearheaded on their behalf by councillor Martin Smith. His view and that of many residents is that our 30mph Posted Speed is too fast for our narrow roads/lanes, particularly those that lack pavements, and a reduction to 20mph is being sought!

NB. Any such change would only be done after local consultation with residents!

Keith Robert Savage - Sherston Parish Council

## Grow Greener@Holy Cross



The first Saturday in February saw an enthusiastic group of volunteers come together in Sherston Churchyard to continue work to make it a better place for both people and wildlife. When you walk through the churchyard, you may have already noticed increased orderliness and more flowers coming out. This work is part of a bigger effort being made by the Church of the Holy Cross to be more environmentally aware. We have decided to bring everything together under the title Grow Greener @Holy Cross. There will be a particular focus on this for several days at the beginning of each month:

**Thursday 10.00am-12.00noon: Eco Café @ Holy Cross**

The usual chance to meet your friends over coffee and cake, but with an eco-theme to make you think.

**Saturday 10.00am-12.00noon: Living Churchyard working party**

Volunteers work to make the churchyard a better place for both people and wildlife.

**Sunday 9.30am: Sunday service**

Reflect on how Christian faith tells us to protect God's creation. Pray for what we are trying to do for the future of our world

**Thursday - Sunday: Plant stall (beginning in March)**

The Church currently has a Bronze award from the Church of England's EcoChurch scheme. We hope that will soon be upgraded to a Silver award as a result of the work we are now doing.

Please join us in the churchyard on Saturday 2 March and Saturday 7 April from 10.00am to see

## Sherston Living Churchyard

what is happening and join the working party. Be prepared for mud and any kind of weather. If you can bring your own gardening tools, particularly grass rakes and wheelbarrows, that would be very helpful. Refreshments will be provided.

Sue Robinson 841263 jimandsue4@btinternet.com

Tricia Lawrence pjlawrence46@gmail.com

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# TETBURY GOODS SHED

## ARTS CENTRE

### March Highlights

**Saturday 2 March Ninebarrow:** Multi award winning folk duo Jon Whitley and Jay LaBouchardiere return to The Shed with their music which is rooted in the English landscape. Tickets £16.50 in advance. 7.30pm.

**Saturday 9 March Flotsam and Jetsam:** Lempen Puppet Theatre introduce us to two charming puppets from different worlds learning to work together. Children from 4+. Tickets £8. 11.30am-12.30pm.

**Saturday 9 March Alder and Middleton:** Soprano Louise Alder and pianist Joseph Middleton are squeezing in a special concert before their Wigmore Hall appearance! Tickets £22 in advance. 7.30pm.

**Saturday 16 March Comedy Club:** This month we feature Susan Murray, Eva Bindeman and Mike Cox in a hilarious combination. Tickets: £13.50 in advance. 8.00pm.

**Saturday 23 March The Pirates of Penzance:** Set sail with Cardiff Opera on their Tetbury debut with this Gilbert and Sullivan classic. Tickets £12.50 in advance. 7.30pm.

For more details of our other events, including film, talks, exhibitions and afternoon tea concerts, and to book tickets, visit our website: [www.shed-arts.co.uk](http://www.shed-arts.co.uk)

## Movies@Malmesbury:

It's another packed programme of events at Movies@Malmesbury this month.

Monday 4	2.00pm	Poor Things
	8.00pm	Mean Girls
Tuesday 5	2.00pm	Monet to Matisse **
Friday 8	2.00pm	All of Us Strangers
	8.00pm	Poor Things
Monday 11	8.00pm	All of Us Strangers
Monday 18	2.00pm	Mean Girls
	5.30pm	Migration
	8.00pm	The Zone of Interest
Monday 25	2.00pm	The Motive and the Cue"
		National Theatre Live *
	7.00pm	The Motive and the Cue"
		National Theatre Live *
Tuesday 26	7.15pm	Madama Butterfly" Live from
		The Royal Opera House *
Thursday 28	5.30pm	Wonka
Friday 29	2.00pm	The Zone of Interest
	5.30pm	Migration
	8.00pm	Argylle

Tickets from Malmesbury Town Hall or online at [cinema.malmesbury.gov.uk/](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/MoviesatMalmesbury)

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Retired? Semi-retired? Looking for new interests? Why not join us? We have over 500 members and 40 different interest groups. Check our website ([www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk](http://www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk)) for an up-to-date list of groups and further details or, for more information, email [membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk).

Monthly meetings take place on the fourth Thursday of the month (10.00am-12.00noon) at Malmesbury Town Hall. Non-members are welcome. 50p donation.  
**Thursday 28 March: A year in the life of a Nurseryman - Mike Hinwood.**

From Market Garden in 1948 to Retail Nursery in 2024, this talk will describe how Foxley Road Nurseries has evolved over the past 76 years and how the Spring Equinox, the seasons and climate change affect the growing year.

Mike Hinwood was born and grew up at Stockham's Leaze, Foxley Road, next door to Foxley Road Nurseries. After a two-year cycle ride around Australia with a friend, he trained in landscaping at Merrist Wood Horticulture College in Surrey. He worked as a landscaper in London and Hertfordshire for five years, before returning in 1987 to take over the nursery from his father, Bob Hinwood, when he retired. Carole, Mike's wife, joined the nursery in 1989. Alongside running the nursery, sowing hundreds of annuals from seed, Mike also does specialist pruning in local gardens, as well as judging local horticultural shows. For anyone who loves plants and gardening, this should be a fascinating talk!



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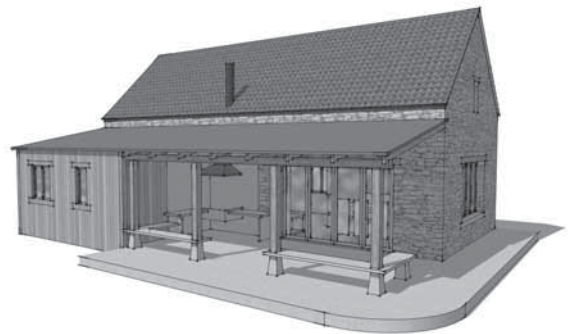
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## Malmesbury Textile Artists present Fun with Fans



Saturday 9 March, 10.00am–4.00pm  
Little Somerford Village Hall (SN14 5JW)  
Members £35, Non-Members £45

Enjoy a 'fan-tastically' creative day hosted by two of our members who will share some fabulous fan-history and basic construction techniques learned in a week-long summer school with Lois Blackburn (artist and fan-advocate) last year. Using fabric, paper and re-purposed materials, we will be working creatively to make unique interpretations of this traditional accessory and to help keep this 'critically endangered craft' alive!

For more information and to book, please email [r.vaughan56@btinternet.com](mailto:r.vaughan56@btinternet.com)

A materials list will be supplied on booking.

## Bath Textile Artists Exhibition



Come along to Textures of Time at The Pound Arts Centre, Corsham (SN13 9HX) from 29 March to 27 April, Monday-Saturday 9.30am-9.30pm.

There is also an Exhibition Opening Event and Meet the Artists on Thursday 28 March, 6.30-8.30pm.

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## Didmarton Rural Cinema: Friday 8 March

### A Haunting in Venice

Set in eerie, post-World War II Venice on All Hallows' Eve, *A Haunting in Venice* is a terrifying mystery featuring the return of the celebrated sleuth, Hercule Poirot. Now retired and living in self-imposed exile in the world's most glamorous city, Poirot reluctantly attends a seance at a decaying, haunted palazzo. When one of the guests is murdered, the detective is thrust into a sinister world of shadows and secrets. The ensemble cast includes Kyle Allen, Camille Cottin, Jamie Dornan, Tina Fey, Jude Hill, Ali Khan, Emma Laird, Kelly Reilly, Riccardo Scamarcio and Michelle Yeoh.

Doors open at 6.30pm for cash bar, and film starts at 7.30pm. £5 entry. Please make contact (email or text: [jenny.body1@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.body1@gmail.com) or 07875 406637) if planning to attend to ensure enough seats are put out!

## Wessex Concert Orchestra returns to Malmesbury Abbey

On Saturday 16 March at 7.30pm, Wessex Concert Orchestra is thrilled to be returning to Malmesbury Abbey to perform an incredible selection of music surrounding the themes of 'Love & Loss'. Musical Director Phillip Draisey says, 'It's a hyper-romantic programme, including works from Rachmaninov, Holst, Khachaturian, Mendelssohn and Grieg. Iconic music that everyone will recognise; musical moments that have become synonymous with the joy of love, as well as its struggles. The Abbey is the perfect setting to perform this beautiful array of romantic repertoire. Do come and join us in celebrating these magnificent musical moments of ecstasy, heartbreak and everything in between.'

Tickets cost £12 (or £10 concessions) and are available from [wco.org.uk](http://wco.org.uk) or on the door.

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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](http://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 Farm Shop**, Tetbury Lane, Leighterton (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](http://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!

**Hobbs House Bakery**, 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 Saturday mornings

**Shipton Mill Flour** - locally grown and excellent online shop [www.shipton-mill.com](http://www.shipton-mill.com)

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# 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](http://www.sherston.org.uk).

Contact [clerk@sherston.org.uk](mailto: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, weddings, parties etc. For full details and the booking calendar visit <https://sherstonvillagehall.org> or contact Margot Holland 841019 [mpfholland@btinternet.com](mailto:mpfholland@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](mailto:sherston1016@gmail.com) or 07717 424619.

#### Wiltshire Council Mobile Library

Every fortnight on Saturdays 10.30am – 12.45pm Sherston High Street [mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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, craft activities, music. Contact [sherstonbabytoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:sherstonbabytoddlers@gmail.com) or regular updates on [www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers](http://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](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) and follow the parents link to register your interest, for all other queries contact [1stsherstonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:1stsherstonbrownies@gmail.com)

### 1st Sherston Guides

Meet Wed 5.30-7.00pm in term time - Village Hall. Girls are welcome to join after their 10th birthday, there's no waiting list. Visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 - 7.30pm in term times - Scout hut. There is a waiting list for Cubs, email [join@sherstonscouts.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:join@sherstonscouts.org.uk) for an application form

## Church and Faith Groups

### Holy Cross Church

Sunday services 9.30am - 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays - Holy Communion; 2nd Sunday - Family Service. Coffee is served after the morning service  
6pm - Book of Common Prayer Evensong or Holy Communion.  
Please check on [gauzebrook.com](http://gauzebrook.com) for exact details

Holy Cross Café Morning coffee every Thurs 10-12noon – small children's play area  
Book the Church for concerts, lectures, exhibitions, pop-up cafes. Book via [sherston@gauzebrook.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 Contact 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:smythtanya@hotmail.com) or visit [www.sherstonwalks.org.uk](http://www.sherstonwalks.org.uk)

### Sherston 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:helenandjim@thequirks.plus.com)

### Yak & Yarn

Every Fri morning 10 till 12 in the British School Room, Cliff Road

## 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, [emmacope@synchronicity.me.uk](mailto:emmacope@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](http://www.pulse4life.co.uk) Stuart 07986 003602 or [stuart@pulse4life.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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 reducing 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 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

### YogaForEveryone

An inner awareness practice open to all levels focussing on functional mobility and strength. Tuesdays 9am-10.15am at North Building on the Recreation Ground. (former pre-school). More details from Sheila on 07584 177712, sheila.chapman@urbankandy.com or www.urbankandy.com

## Sports

### Sherston Badminton and Table Tennis Club

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. 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 Hercule.Laboule@outlook.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 rides include Castle Combe circuit, Gravel ride or chain gang, RGT social ride. 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.

**Luckington Mobile-PO Service** outside The Old Royal Ship (SN14 6PA) each Tues 1.30 - 2.30pm

**Luckington Village Hall** Book via Stephanie Stephenson on 0778 6275328 or luckingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

**Malmesbury Area Board Meeting** see www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

**Malmesbury Concert Band** www.malmesburyconcertband.org.uk

**Malmesbury Community Choir** www.malmesburycommunitychoir.org or https://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 want it to be listed, please send details to info@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk*

*If you have a particular event, please write a short piece about it, send in to editorial@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk and we can include it as an article and put the details in the What's On list for that month.*



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# 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, Close Farm veg, fish, sourdough and bakes etc. Organised by Holly from The Loaf Shack Bakery [theloafshackbakery@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.angel-sherston.co.uk/menu) and rooms [www.angel-sherston.co.uk/your-booking](http://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](mailto:info@thebridge.restaurant) [www.thebridge.restaurant/sherston/](http://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](mailto:clerk@sherston.org.uk) or [mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk) or visit [services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/Library/Stop/65](http://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 Living Churchyard

Work to support wildlife diversity in Holy Cross churchyard and to make it a more beautiful place for the community will take place from 10am on the first Saturday of every month. Everyone is very welcome to come along and see

what is happening, and to join in with the work if they want to. If you can bring your own gardening tools, particularly grass rakes and wheelbarrows, that would be very helpful. Refreshments will be provided.

Plant stall (beginning in March) Thursday -Sunday:

## Sherston Congregational Church – Activities in The British Schoolroom

Yak & Yarn, every Fri morning 10 till 12 in the British School Room, Cliff Road for everyone from inexperienced to expert

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](mailto: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

## Neighbourhood Policing Team in Sherston

Come and meet your local policing team and tell them your views and what matters most in your community? 1.30-3.30pm on Tues 26 Mar Sherston Congregational Church

## Sherston's Gardening Club

'Rosemary Verey, her legacy to C20th gardening' with Margie Hoffnung Tues 5 March

'Four Seasons Cotswold Style' with Mandy Bradshaw Tues 2 April

Trip to Wisley Gardens A coach trip to one of the most beautiful of all RHS gardens. Thurs 25 Apr coach leaves The Angel at 9am, returning by 6pm. Tickets (£30 all-inclusive) may still be available.

Visits to Highgrove, Lackham Campus of Wiltshire College and RHS Hampton Court are under discussion as well as NGS garden visits. 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](mailto:sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com) for more details.

## Sustainable Sherston

Talk: Farming, Food and Nature Recovery by Ian Wilkinson, co-founder and Director of FarmED, Gloucestershire. Mon 11 Mar 7.30- 9.30pm British School Rooms £5 on the door [sustainablersherston@gmail.com](mailto:sustainablersherston@gmail.com)

## Sustainable fashion comes to Sherston

Preview fashion show of pre-loved garments, plus speakers on the theme of recycling and sustainability, with wine and nibbles fri 14 June. On Saturday 15 June, there will

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be an opportunity to purchase new and pre-loved fashion. All in aid of charity. So put the dates in your diary. Think of what you might like to donate and look out for further details in next month's Cliffhanger.

**SHOCC** The choir sing in the Old British School room on Wed evenings at 7.30 from 10 Jan - There's no audition and you don't have to be able to read music. Follow on facebook for details.

### Sherston Seniors Club

**AGM** Tues 5 Mar 2pm. **Ukelele Concert** Tues 19 Mar  
Membership renewal will be due £15 for the year. New members are always welcome, we meet every two weeks at 2pm in the winter and 2.30pm in summertime in the British School Room. The club is very relaxed and informal we have speakers who relate a variety of subjects and in the spring we start our coach trips.

### Butterfly Hall Musical Afternoon

Celebrating one year since the Official Opening of the Butterfly Hall, the major improvement of Sherston Village Hall, there will be a Musical Afternoon with a relaxed concert by 'One Note', with Tea and Cake in the interval on Sat 2 Mar 3pm. No need to buy a ticket, a small donation may be made if you wish. All welcome.

### Sherston Drama Group Spring Play

A Bunch of Amateurs!

This hilarious comedy, written by Ian Hislop (from 'Have I Got News for You') and Nick Newman, is funny and moving in equal measure. Contains some strong language Wed 10 - Sat 13 April at 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall. Tickets (£10/£8.50 concessions) are on sale from Monday 4 March from Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque) or on TicketSource (ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group, booking fee applies).

### Sherston Open Gardens Weekend

Date for your diary 8 & 9 June: explore the village visiting a selection of large and small gardens, buy plants and enjoy refreshments in church. If you would like to open your garden please get in touch, new gardens are always welcome (and it doesn't have to be perfect) heather@geoffmartin.plus.com

### Warden Led Local Walks

Joyce Provides the Source

Thurs 21 Mar Start: 10am Difficulty: moderate Duration: 4.5 hours Distance: 8.5 miles

Start point: Sherston Post Office: please park considerably in the village. Discover the source of the River Avon, return












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through the National Arboretum Bring a packed lunch. Dogs are unfortunately not able to be accommodated on our guided walks (except assistance dogs).

**Knockdown** The Holford Arms - theholfordarms.com or call 01454 238669

### Luckington

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

### Westonbirt The Arboretum

Forest Live Summer Concerts

Gregory Porter Thur 4 July, Anne-Marie Fri 5 July, Nile Rodgers & CHIC with guest Sophie Ellis-Bexter and DECO Fri 12 July www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt

### Didmarton

Duke of Beaufort's Hunt Point to Point at Didmarton

First Sat in March - 2 Mar Gates Open: 9.30am | Pony

race 11.30am, P2P race 1pm

Dogs must be on leads at all times. £20 entry to the racecourse (£15 advance tickets) Free on site parking GL9 1EA. Disabled parking available - N.B All parking is in a field with no hardstanding. Please contact p2psec@beauforthunt.com regarding Carer tickets.

Family Fun Dog Show with many classes throughout the afternoon. Food, bar, tradestands and family entertainment! Wrap up warm against the wind as the course is very exposed. www.beauforthunt.com/p2phome

### Flicks in the Sticks

"A Haunting in Venice" Fri 8 Mar 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

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## Malmesbury

### Athelstan Museum

Talks and Exhibitions [www.athelstanmuseum.org.uk](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/MoviesatMalmesbury) or [www.malmesbury.gov.uk/cinema.html](http://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](http://www.malmesbury-live-arts.org.uk/whatson)

Beethoven meets Bowie by the David Le Page Ensemble

Sat 3 Feb £24

Gloryhole Comedy Club presents the amazing Tony Law 16 Feb

Acoustic sessions present Jaz Delorean 17 Feb

### Malmesbury Singers

Celestial Journey: Passion & Requiem Concert

The choir will bring to life two masterpieces of choral literature: Gabriel Fauré's ethereal Requiem and César Franck's poignant Les Sept Paroles du Christ en Croix. Sat 9 Mar Malmesbury Abbey

### 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/](https://www.facebook.com/TheBigMalmesburyCraftFair/)

### Malmesbury Library

Rhyme times for babies and toddlers every Tues and Fri  
Tuesday's Public Living Room 1.30-4pm an opportunity to share a cup of tea and a chat

Reading group meets 3rd Wed each month

Rethink Mental Wellness 2nd Fri 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 ends 10 Sept. The

The library offers free wifi, a warm space and free self-service hot drinks, 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](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries) or follow Malmesbury Library on Facebook, or call 823611.

### Malmesbury Riverside Community Centre

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT - Music and Movement Sessions fortnightly music and movement group for people affected by dementia along with any carers/family and friends. £3.50 per person and includes tea and biscuits and the first session is free.

### SATURDAY FRIENDS

Refreshments, variety of activities inc. talks and visitors – usually first Saturday of the Month, except August

GOLDEN ZUMBA Seated Exercise Thurs 2-2.45pm

[www.riversidecommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.riversidecommunitycentre.org.uk)

### Malmesbury & District u3a

A year in the life of a Nurseryman - Mike Hinwood. Thurs 28 Mar

100 Piers, Painting at the Water's Edge - Paul Tracey Thur 25 Apr

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](http://www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk) [membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk)

**Wessex Concert Orchestra** returns to Malmesbury Abbey Love & Loss Concert - a hyper-romantic programme, including works from Rachmaninov, Holst, Khachaturian, Mendelssohn and Grieg. Sat 16 Mar 7.30pm £12 (£10 concs) from [wco.org.uk](http://wco.org.uk) or on the door.

**WOMAD 2024** – Early bird tickets on sale for WOMAD 2024 25-28 July 2024 Charlton Park [www.womad.co.uk](http://www.womad.co.uk)

**Little Somerford** Malmesbury Textile Artists present Fun with Fans. Enjoy a 'fan-tastically' creative day hosted by two of our members who will share some fabulous fan-history and basic construction techniques learned in a week-long summer school with Lois Blackburn (artist and fan-advocate) last year. For more information and to book, please email [r.vaughan56@btinternet.com](mailto:r.vaughan56@btinternet.com). All materials list will be supplied on booking. Sat 9 March, 10am-4pm. Little Somerford Village Hall (SN14 5JW) Members £35, Non-Members £45

### Tetbury Tetbury Goods Shed

Exhibitions, talks, concerts, cinema - [shed-arts.co.uk](http://shed-arts.co.uk)  
The Whistle Stop café open for takeaway coffees and takeaway food on Tues to Sun 10am-4pm

**Beverston** Garden Opera: Don Giovanni returns to Distillery Farm (SN16 9RJ) Fri 14 and Sat 15 Jun Garden open 6.30pm for 7.30pm performance. Interval for your picnic under cover. Book soon to avoid disappointment! Tickets £75 Antonia and Charles Filmer 0783 6767811 [afilmer@outlook.com](mailto:afilmer@outlook.com)

**Hullavington** Weekly Zoom French clubs for children contact Anna-Kate on [admin@clubs4kids.com](mailto:admin@clubs4kids.com) for more details.

### Chippenham Hidden Comedy Club

Your headliner for the night is, Stuart Goldsmith. Stuart is an internationally award-winning comedian, writer, podcaster and host. Host of the globally renowned Comedian's Comedian Podcast, Stuart has a reputation for smart, accessible stand-up in which his enthusiasm and natural charm conceal a fearless quick wit. Suitable for age 18+ Fri 12 Jan | 8pm | £17



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**Frozen Sing-A-Long** CLOGS Musical Theatre presents: Musical Movie Sing-A-Long. Experience the Magic of Disney's Frozen with us! Sing along to your favourite Frozen tunes and get lost in the enchanting story of Anna, Elsa and Olaf - you might even get a chance to meet our beloved princesses! Sat 13 Jan | 2.30pm | £11-£42  
Neeld Community and Arts Centre [www.neeld.co.uk](http://www.neeld.co.uk) or 01249 446699

### Wotton-Under-Edge

The Electric Picture House - [www.wottoncinema.com](http://www.wottoncinema.com)  
A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers

### Cirencester The Barn Theatre

Sherlock Holmes & the Whitechapel Fiend, a new Comedy Adventure, till 9 Mar  
CONSTELLATIONS - the Award-winning smash hit brings together the unlikely of couples in Rowland, a beekeeper and Marianne, a physicist. 29 Mar – 18 May  
Box office: 01285 648255 or [boxoffice@barntheatre.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@barntheatre.org.uk) or visit [barntheatre.org.uk](http://barntheatre.org.uk) for full cast details and tickets

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

#### Covent Garden Royal Opera House and Ballet

Opera: Madama Butterfly Tues 26 March 7.15pm  
Ballet: Macmillan Celebrated Tues 9 April 7.15pm  
Ballet: Swan Lake Wed 24 April 7.15pm  
Opera: Carmen Wed 1 May 6.45pm  
Ballet: The Winter's Tale Wed 22 May 7.15pm  
Live and encore screenings at local cinemas <https://www.roh.org.uk/cinemas>

#### National Theatre Live

Live and encore screenings from The National Theatre at local cinemas [www.ntlive.com](http://www.ntlive.com)

### Royal Wootton Bassett

Carer Support Wiltshire are holding a new carer café in Royal Wootton Bassett and inviting anyone who is caring for someone to come along every month, meet other carers, gain information and enjoy free cake and a hot drink. The Angel Hotel, 47 High Street 10.30-midday on first Tuesday of the month.

### Corsham

#### Bath Textile Artists Exhibition

Textures of Time at The Pound Arts Centre, Corsham (SN13 9HX) 29 Mar - 27 Apr, Monday-Saturday 9.30am-9.30pm. Exhibition Opening Event and Meet the Artists on Thurs 28 Mar, 6.30-8.30pm.

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### Bath Theatre Royal Bath

2024 season: Calendar Girls The Musical; Stagecoach Live!; The Woman In Black; The Kite Runner; Drop the Dead Donkey; The Full Monty; Blood Brothers The Glass Menagerie; Life Of Pi; English Touring Opera; What The Butler Saw; Animal Farm; Laughing Boy; Mind Mangler; Party Games  
Tel 01225 448844 [www.theatreroyal.org.uk](http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk)

### Cheltenham The Festival

Tues 12-15 Mar 2024 with Champion Day Tues, Style Wed, St Patrick's Thurs and The Gold Cup Fri Check website for more details. Cheltenham Racecourse For further details [www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/cheltenham/events-tickets/the-festival/](http://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/cheltenham/events-tickets/the-festival/)

### Cheltenham Jazz Festival

Headliners announced: Dionne Warwick; Gregory Porter; Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra; Robert Plant; Sophie Ellis-Bextor; Courtney Pine, Katie Melua, Paloma Faith, Hugh Laurie, Laura Mvula, Eartha Kitt, Caro Emerald, Corinne Bailey Rae, Imelda May, Van Morrison  
1-6 May [www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/jazz](http://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/jazz)  
Box Office 01242 850270 | [boxoffice@cheltenhamfestivals.com](mailto:boxoffice@cheltenhamfestivals.com)

### Arts & Science Festivals

2024 dates for your diary:

Cheltenham Science Festival 4 - 9 June

[www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/science](http://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/science)

Cheltenham Music Festival 6 - 13 July

[www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/music](http://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/music)

The Cheltenham Literature Festival 4 to 13 Oct

[www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature](http://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](http://www.sherston.org.uk/application/files/9216/2394/2215/Sherston_Emergency_Plan_March_2020.pdf)

### Sherston Emergency Response Coordinator

[emergency@sherston.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:EPRR@wiltshire.gov.uk) (only during an incident)

Floods: 0300 456 0105 or [drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:drainage@wiltshire.gov.uk)

### Useful Information

Wiltshire Council Online Gritting routes

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/gritting.htm](http://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](http://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/](http://www.bristolwater.co.uk/contact/)

Emergency Helpline: 0345 702 3797 (24 Hour)

### WATER – Wessex water

[www.wessexwater.co.uk/Contact-us/](http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/Contact-us/)

Emergency Helpline: 0345 600 4 600 (24 hours)

### BBC Wiltshire can be heard via:

West Wilts area

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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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