



THE SHERSTON CLIFFHANGER



PUBLISHED BY SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 2025

DELIVERED FREE

Revised and updated Sherston walks booklets now on sale!

Over the last 12 months, a number of very kind volunteers have been walking the 10 circular footpaths surrounding Sherston providing updates on any changes to be made or issues to be addressed. As a result, a fully revised and updated walks booklet is now available! They cost £10 each (cash only) and are available from:

- Sherston Co-op • The Angel • The Rattlebone

Even if you have lived in Sherston for some time, you may find some of the history surprisingly interesting. The booklets are a great marketing tool for Sherston, with local outlets regularly being asked

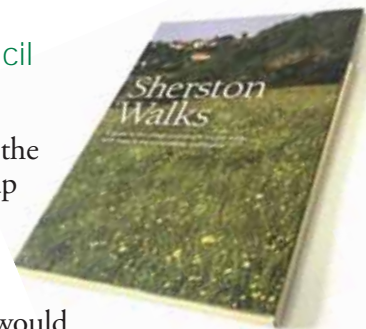


Sherston
Parish Council

if they stock them.

Thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time to walk the various footpaths and provide the updates; without your help, we would have struggled to update these.

Tanya Burgess, Chair, Sherston Parish Council



Sherston commemorates 80th anniversary of VE Day



Have you spotted the latest addition to the street furniture on the High Street? (Clue: it's outside The Angel.)

The Parish Council commissioned a new bench to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day, with the hope that it would be in place for 8 May. As with all best-laid plans, this was not to be and we had to resign ourselves to a delay, with the bench finally placed in situ in time for Boules Day in July.

The location of the bench was a hot topic of discussion, with donors requesting that it was used for the benefit of the High Street. The Council finally agreed that as The Angel is central to the High Street, it would be a great location to site the bench, allowing both residents and visitors to rest their weary legs, do a bit of 'people watching' or just sit and take in our beautiful High Street scene.

Our sincere thanks go to both the Boules Committee and the Rattlebone for their very kind donations to support this initiative.

Tanya Burgess, Chair, Sherston Parish Council

Grove Wood Refurbishment Project



Sherston
Parish Council



Huge thanks go to the volunteers who turned up at the end of July to help resurface the top footpath in Grove Wood. It was a great morning - hard work, but very rewarding and we managed to 'smash it', finishing the planned works in just two hours!

I am sure you will agree, a great job was done by all. Massive shout-out to:

Nigel Freeth, Andrew Hibbard, Graham Instrell, Jim Bartlett, Nic Riley, Phil Blick, Hayley Fitzpatrick, Will Siddall, Brian Potter, Stuart Brogan, Tony Browett and Tanya Burgess.



Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11 September in The North Building at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. You will have the opportunity to raise questions and pass comment. If you're unable to attend but have something to raise, please email clerk@sherston.org.uk.

A thank you



Sherston
Parish Council

We would like to thank David and Mary Hibbard for their support in distributing The Cliffhanger to outlying areas of Sherston for many years. David started monthly deliveries from the very first issue back in October 2008, with Mary later taking over the round. Mary has now decided to 'retire' and we would like to thank them both for their dedication and commitment.

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 us 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.

To advertise: contact
advertising@sherstoncliffhanger.co.uk

Advertising rates for 12 months:

Colour:

1/4 Page £370, 1/8 Page £210 and 1/16 Page £105.

Mono:

1/4 Page £310, 1/8 Page £170 and 1/16 Page £85

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

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

Antisocial behaviour



Sherston
Parish
Council

Recently, our village has experienced a bout of antisocial behaviour and vandalism late in the evening and in the early hours. The police have been called, have attended numerous times and are investigating to identify the culprits.

Houses on Court Street and, to a lesser extent, Church Street have been targeted by youths throwing things and banging on the doors. We are reasonably sure they are youths as they have been observed from upstairs windows. Items being thrown include lumps of concrete and, on one occasion, a heavy plastic pot containing ornamental grass was flung at the door. Offenders also scaled a tall wall of a property in Court Street entering the garden and beating on a back door.

During recent episodes, one house was targeted multiple times: at approximately 1.00am on Saturday 9 August; between 11.00pm and midnight on Sunday 10 August; and just after 11.00pm on Monday 11 August. These attacks are causing distress to residents, as well as damage to property. On each occasion, the police have attended, and will be taking an active interest in this type of behaviour moving forward.

The Parish Council would like to hear from any other residents who have similarly been affected and ask anyone with doorbell cameras or CCTV to see if they have recordings of any groups out at the times above.

Wiltshire Police encourage people to report all crimes and antisocial behaviour via wiltshirepolice.uk or the non-emergency phone line 101.

Tanya Burgess

Chair, Sherston Parish Council

Sherston Boules

Festival 2026:

Date announcement!



Please note that in 2026, Sherston Boules Day will take place one week earlier than usual, on Saturday 4 July, instead of our traditional weekend closest to Bastille Day.

This change has been made due to a scheduling clash with the RHS Flower Show at Badminton, which will be held from 8 to 12 July, i.e. over the weekend we would typically host the festival.

We've made the decision to move the Boules Festival to avoid this overlap and ensure that both events can be enjoyed by the community.

We're looking forward to another fantastic day in Sherston and look forward to seeing you there.

Speeding update



You will hopefully have seen by now that, following the installation of the 20mph signs around the village, roundels have now been painted on the road. Wiltshire Highways is also looking at what else can be done to better protect pedestrians on Brook Hill. It's a complicated area which is providing them with a challenge as to what they can do while keeping within the regulations.

New SID

Some of you will have noticed that a new Speed Indicator Device (SID) has been installed on Tetbury Road. This involved getting agreement from Wiltshire Highways for the positioning of the SID, getting agreement from the Parish Council to pay for it and helping Cllr Nigel Freeth install it. This road has some of the more excessive speeds recorded around Sherston. I hope that locals will respect the speed limit there and set an example to other road users who may be just passing through. The Community Speed Watch (CSW) group will continue its work in that area and I will be requesting further visits from Wiltshire Police to enforce the speed limit. Many thanks to Keith Savage for setting up the CSW team and thanks in advance to Cllr Nigel Freeth who is now taking on the leadership role in Keith's place.

Willesley

Following a request from the Parish Council, Wiltshire Highways is recommending a speed limit of 30mph through Willesley. Given the speed data collected, I'm challenging them as to why they don't think 20mph is appropriate. This report needs to be considered by the Parish Council at their September meeting.

Cllr Martin Smith - Wiltshire Councillor for the Sherston Division

Books, books, books!



Most of us love books but we have too many of them. Here is an opportunity to clear a space on your shelf and buy some different ones as a change.

Bring your books to Sherston Village Hall on Saturday 4 October at 9.00am. If you can, beforehand, check that your books are in good condition and remove those that really should go in the bin.

The Book Sale will start at 10.00am after we have done a bit of sorting into categories.

Come along from 10.00am to 4.00pm to browse and buy, have a cup of tea or coffee and chat to friends.

All proceeds will go towards paying for our new heat pump system in the main hall of the village hall.

P.S. If you are able to drop off your books the day before, please bring them on Friday 3 October, 2.00pm-4.00pm.

Tolsey News



Flu season 2025

We are delighted to announce that we will be offering weekend bookable flu clinics on Saturday 4 and Saturday 18 October. There will also be weekday clinics and we will be sending out invitations soon.

In addition, there will be Covid vaccinations available for those who are eligible. Details to be confirmed.

Please remember to book your flu and covid vaccinations with the Tolsey Surgery as this is a vital way to support your local GP service.

Friends of the Tolsey Surgery (FOTS)

We wish to develop our Patient Participation Group (PPG) - the Friends of the Tolsey Surgery (FOTS). A PPG is a group of volunteer patients who work with their GP practice to improve services and the overall patient experience.

FOTS has previously consisted of volunteer patients, carers and practice staff, including GPs and the practice manager. In the past, FOTS has organised health promotion events, communicated between the practice and the local community, and fundraised to enhance practice services.

If you would be interested in joining this group, then please contact the Practice Manager at the surgery or complete the contact form online: www.tolseysurgery.co.uk/PatientParticipationGroupPages/Signup

Sherston Senior Club

On 22 July, Steph Bond (Anthea Young's daughter) gave a talk on her fundraising challenges. Steph is a committed fundraiser for two charities: Maggie's and James Clifford Campling Trust. She described her challenges to us verbally and using videos. On one occasion, Steph ran a marathon and on the same day headed to an airfield to complete a skydive! We were amazed at her commitment and her bravery. Steph raised over £3,000 to be split between the two charities. Members had a collection afterwards and were able to give £67.50 to each charity. Steph had a relaxed style of presenting which our members enjoyed. Steph has been a paramedic for over 20 years and we hope will return to tell us of her experiences.

On 5 August, we had a coach outing to Burnham-on-Sea. This was a sunny day but very windy! Also in August, Cilla Liddington gave a talk on Sherston's history - more on this next month.

Looking forward, on Tuesday 2 September, we have a mystery coach tour (£15, leaving at 10.00am returning by 3.00pm) and on Tuesday 16 September, we have our Harvest Auction with Rev Susan Harvey.

For more information, contact Helen Quirk on 840516.



Sherston School News

Welcome back to school life



A very warm welcome back to all our families and the wider Sherston community as we begin another exciting academic year. We hope you all had a restful summer and are ready for the term ahead. It has been a busy few months at Sherston Primary School, with major improvements to the building taking place. Over the break, a brand new heating system has been installed to keep us warm during the colder months, and new Velux windows to brighten our learning spaces with even more natural light.

Our school continues to grow, bucking local and national trends. We are thrilled to welcome 21 new reception children to our school this year - more than predicted by the local authority. It is always so lovely to see our youngest children settling in with confidence and joy. While many small village schools face reductions in numbers, we are proud to say that we are the only village school in the entire county that is growing. This is a wonderful endorsement of our school's reputation as a place where children thrive academically and socially.

Our doors are open once again for school tours. If you or someone you know is considering Sherston for their child, we would love to show you what makes our school so special. Our Reception Open Day takes place at 1.30pm on Tuesday 25 November - with continued high interest, we encourage families to book early to secure a place on a tour. Please spread the word and help us share the Sherston story!



A growing team and an ever-expanding Offer



It's not just the number of children that's growing, we are also delighted to welcome some new faces to our brilliant staff team. Helen Thomas and Rebecca Grieve have joined us as teaching assistants working in our reception class. Their enthusiasm, warmth and experience are already making a fantastic difference to our youngest learners.

We're also thrilled to welcome professional drummer Tom Wheeler to Sherston. Tom, who regularly tours the world with his band, will be joining us for one day a week to run drumming workshops and lessons. It's a rare treat for children to work with a musician of Tom's calibre, and we feel so lucky that he's chosen to share his time and talent with us.

Another exciting addition to our enrichment programme is our new dance club, now running for our EYFS and Key Stage 1 children. The children have been exploring a wide range of dance styles and themes - from pop and musical theatre to circus-inspired routines. It's proving to be a joyful and energetic way for our youngest children to express themselves and stay active.

Following last year's successful launch, we continue to offer our highly popular wraparound care provision - Early Birds before school and Fireflies after school. The school is open from 7.45am to 6.00pm every day, and these sessions are run by our own staff, offering familiarity and ensuring the same high standards of care that families have come to expect.



A huge thank you to the Friends of Sherston School

No celebration of our school community would be complete without a huge thank you to the Friends of Sherston School (FSS). Their hard work and dedication throughout last year raised an incredible £11,000 for the school. Thanks to their fundraising efforts, we were able to purchase brand new outdoor equipment for Oak Class, fund a variety of themed weeks, support class trips, buy resources and even furnish Rowan Class with new furniture. Every single child in the school benefitted in some way from the FSS's support.

And they're not slowing down! This year promises to be packed with fun-filled events, including the much-anticipated (and previously postponed) colour run, our ever-popular roller discos and swim parties, the magical Christmas secrets room and termly discos. These events help bring the whole community together and create wonderful memories for the children.

We'd love to see even more parents and carers getting involved with the FSS this year. Whether it's baking cakes, manning a stall, helping to organise an event or simply offering ideas, every bit of help is appreciated. The FSS AGM will take place in The Rattlebone Inn on Thursday 18 September in the evening. Please do come along - we'd love to see as many parents there as possible.



Rumpelstiltskin's coming to Sherston!



It's panto time! Oh yes it is!! Sherston Drama Group is excited to perform Rumpelstiltskin this October half-term. When Dame Dottie boasts that her daughter Bella can spin straw into gold, she inadvertently places her in terrible danger. Will Bella be rescued from the clutches of the villainous King Zagan? Why is the Big Bad Wolf trying to disguise himself as a chicken? Will Harry Potter make a success of his new business idea? And what will become of Twinkle, a fairy who can't get any magic spells to work? Find out all the answers by joining us for this hilarious, madcap adventure, fun for all ages!

Performances will take place every evening at 7.30pm from Wednesday 29 October until Saturday 1 November in Sherston Village Hall, as well as a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 1 November. Tickets (£10/£8.50 concessions) will be on sale from Monday 29 September from Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque) or from TicketSource (ticketsource.co.uk/sherston-drama-group, booking fee applies).

Sherston's Mystery Cook

Last July, there was a last-minute call for cakes for the famous Duck Race teas. Homemade cakes were needed, so here's a recipe. My mum always said, for a Victoria sponge, 'the weight of egg, in fat, flour and sugar'. Sorry Mum, I am also going to add two level teaspoons of baking powder to the self-raising flour. The trick is to weigh your eggs, then it doesn't matter how many eggs or how big or little they are. Repeat the mantra: the weight of egg in fat, flour and sugar. Start! Put the oven on at 350°/180°. Grease two identical tins.

In a mixing bowl, cream the eggs and sugar. Break in one egg with a flop of flour (roughly a third). Repeat twice. Pour the mixture into your identical tins. Your oven should be at temperature now. Cook for roughly 25 mins until golden and softish to touch. When cool, spread your favourite jam in the middle of the two halves.

Mrs George Sherston

Judith Parkyn

PHOTOGRAPHY

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@judithparkynphotography



WEDDINGS | FAMILIES | COMMERCIAL





SHERSTON GARDENING CLUB



Derry's garden has springs which feed ponds and a bog garden to contrast with the Mediterranean gravel.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 2 September. Speaker:
Derry Watkins on 'Gravel Gardening with Low Maintenance Plants'.

Cuttings

We're looking forward to Tuesday 2 September when we reconvene after the summer break. Our guest speaker is Derry Watkins, the larger than life owner of the Special Plants Nursery and gardens

near Bath. Over the course of nearly 30 years, Derry and her husband have transformed a derelict barn in fields with amazing views into an established, renowned business. 'We have heavy clay soil. Most plants thrive, but I love Mediterranean plants and I knew they would hate it, so the first thing I did was make a gravel garden. The plants loved it and so did I, so we made a second gravel garden.' Derry will be drawing on these experiences for what will be a fascinating and highly topical talk.

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. Plant ID, plant sales, raffle, gardeners' question time, jobs in the garden for the month and friendly chat over homemade refreshments.

New members are always welcome. The annual fee is £20 single, £35 joint, U18s free. We communicate with members via a monthly newsletter, on the sherston.net website and on our SGC Facebook page. Our Secretary can be contacted at sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com

Coming up

Tuesday 7 October:

'Confessions of a Plant Freak' by Nick Macer.

Tuesday 4 November:

'Gardening with Wildlife' by Dede Liss.

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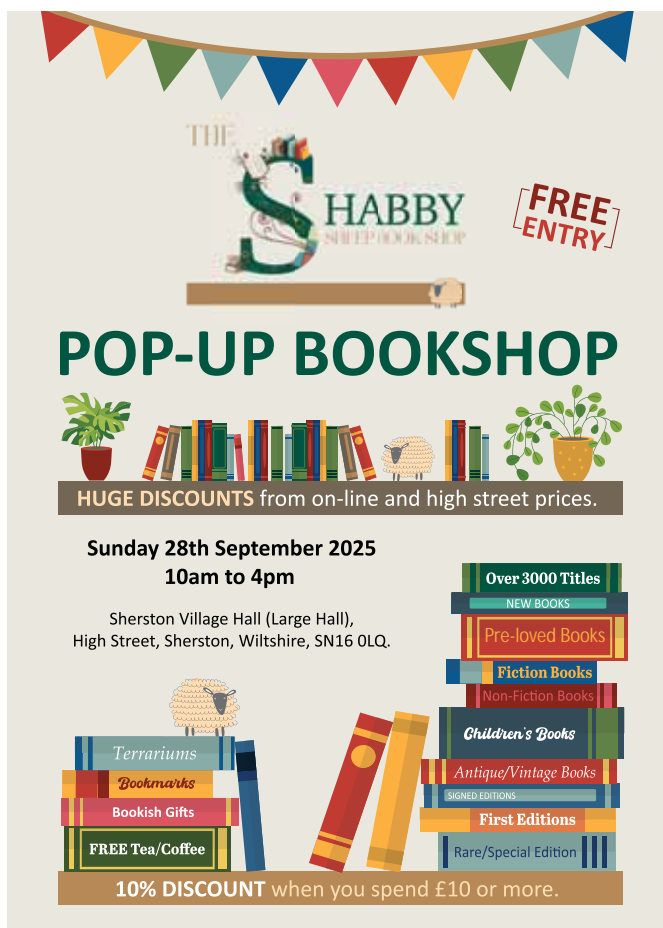
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Sunday 28th September 2025
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September plant sale

Sustainable
Sherston



Arthur and Albert, whose drawings inspired our sign

Plants will be for sale outside Well Cottage, 6 Cliff Road, throughout September, with all proceeds going to Sherston School's Greenfingers Gardening Club.

We welcomed new members at Greenfingers for our summer term and continued to learn about the importance to the health of our planet - and ourselves - of soil and compost, habitats, biodiversity and trees, water, and pollinators.

We sowed seeds of lots of different flowers and vegetables, potted on and out in our keyhole gardens and saw the flowers and vegetables develop. We learnt about propagation and how collecting seeds is the simplest and cheapest way to get more plants. We harvested the broad beans sown in the spring and collected their seeds, thus completing the circle of sowing a seed, helping it grow, seeing it flower and produce pods, and then collecting seeds ready for next year.

Each session ends with quiet time when we consider the 'five ways to wellbeing':

- Connecting with each other and asking questions,
- Being active by digging and raking,
- Taking notice of our surroundings by listening, looking, smelling, feeling and tasting - especially delicious raspberries!
- Learning new facts each week, and
- Giving by sharing food and being kind.

Hopefully, a shelter will be built in time for the start of the new school year this month - thanks to support from Sustainable Sherston while we source other funding, and £200 from Whatley Manor raised at the Garage Sale in June. Thanks also go to Ann Booth, Gail Whale and Marion King who help us and the children each week.

*Tricia Lawrence and Eleanor Lines -
Sustainable Sherston*

Grab a crabapple for a jelly good cause



This September, award-winning condiment-maker Tracklements is encouraging the local community to don their wellies, take a walk in the countryside and start collecting crabapples for a terrific cause!

Tracklements is once again partnering with Sherston Primary School to collect crabapples to make English Crabapple Jelly. A forager's delight, crabapples are small, 'wild' apples which, while hard and inedible raw, make an exquisite, jewel-coloured jelly. Associated with love and marriage, crabapple trees can often be found nestled in British hedgerows. For every kilogram of crabapples donated, 50p is given to the school, as well as a further 25p from the sale of every jar sold nationwide. Running for over 20 years, the project has raised almost £15,000.

As a certified B Corp, Tracklements is committed to using business as a force for good. The crabapple project is a perfect example of this ethos in action. Not only does it raise vital funds for Sherston Primary School, it's also a great way to teach Sherston's young people about the provenance of their food by showing them the process from tree to jar, as well as using fruit which may otherwise go to waste. Last year, we held a label design competition for the children at Sherston School, so look out for the winning artwork on this year's jars (see above).

You can either drop off your collected crabapples directly at Tracklements (Whitewalls, SN16 0RD) between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday before 30 September or you can drop them off in the box outside Sherston School.

If crabapplying isn't your thing but you still want to help the school, buying a jar of this scrumptious jelly gives the school a donation while you enjoy it with sausages or roast pork!

To view the full range and find out more about the project, visit www.tracklements.co.uk.

Sherston Apple Day 2025



Our fifth Apple Day, taking place on Sunday 12 October, is shaping up to be the most exciting yet, with the Friends of Sherston School providing games, face painting and a bouncy castle!

In addition, Luckington Farm is coming with a BBQ and their high-quality meat for sale; Ros from Adeline's Farm is bringing fruit and veg; and The Tetbury Flower Company is offering beautiful blooms (having just won a 'Silver Gilt' medal at the Hampton Court Flower Show!). Chris Exton will have Malmesbury Honey on sale, alongside superb olive oil from Sicily (from Sarah and Paolo, the growers in Malmesbury) and cheeses from Armadeli.

We will be judging the apple juice label artwork - all done by children at Sherston School - at the start of the new term, ready for Paul Ormiston (Compass Graphics) to create the bottled apple juice labels!

We are collecting surplus apples from Sunday 21 September, in a huge bag outside the village hall (between the wooden shed and the hall). Apple pressing starts in September and we welcome all helpers! Call Eleanor or email Sustainable Sherston (details below) to tell us what suits you. It could just be 30 minutes of apple washing, or 'scratting'

and pressing! On bottling days, there is lots to do, rinsing or filling bottles, capping them, or helping the pasteurising team. If you can spare an hour or two, the dates for pressing and bottling are:

Session one: Thursday 25 September, 2.00pm-6.30pm, pressing; and Friday 26 September, 2.00pm-6.30pm, bottling and pasteurising.

Session two: Tuesday 30 September, from 2.00pm, pressing; and Wednesday 1 October, from 2.00pm, bottling and pasteurising.

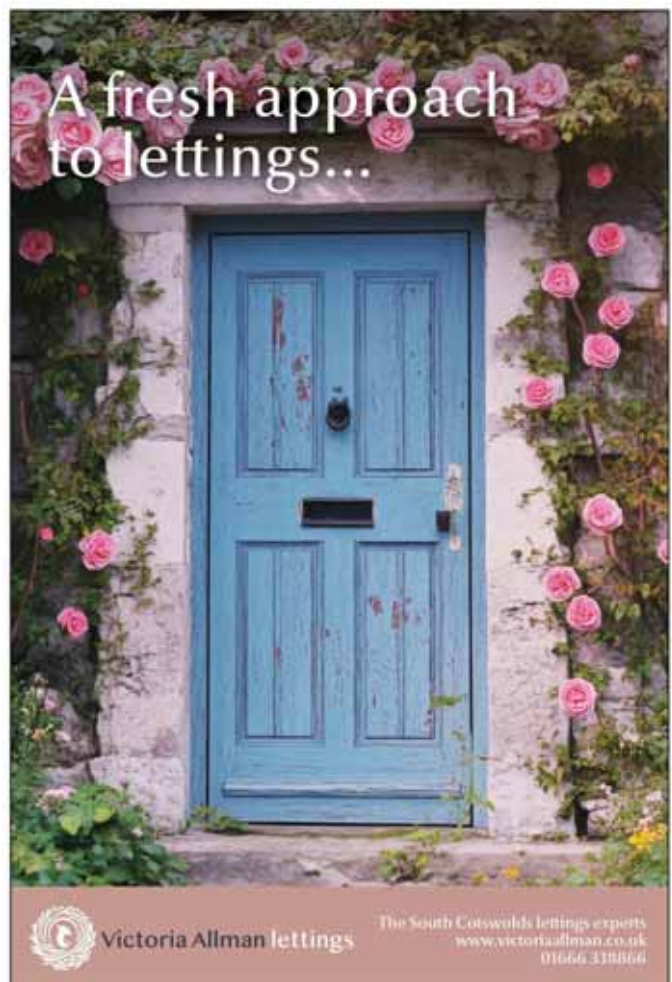
Session three: Monday 6 October, from 2.00pm, pressing; and Tuesday 7 October, from 2.00pm, bottling and pasteurising.

Session four: Apple Day itself, Sunday 12 October, 10.00am-3.00pm and then Monday 13 October, from 2.00pm, bottling and pasteurising.

If you can help on any of these days, please get in touch. Contact Eleanor Lines on 07949 292741 or 840369, or email sustainablesherston@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Eleanor Lines, Sustainable Sherston



Remembering 'Shortie': The Mike Shortridge Memorial Cup returns

On Friday 26 September, the third annual Mike Shortridge Memorial Cup will take place at Stinchcombe Golf Course, bringing together friends, family and community members to honour the life and legacy of one of Sherston's most beloved residents.

For those who didn't know Mike Shortridge - affectionately known as 'Shortie' - he was a true stalwart of Sherston, having lived in the village his entire life. Mike was more than just a familiar face; he was the heartbeat of the community. Known for his quick wit, infectious humour, and unwavering kindness, he was involved in every corner of village life - from local events to lending a hand wherever it was needed.

Mike bravely battled bowel cancer for seven years, showing incredible strength and spirit throughout. His passing in May 2021 left a deep void in Sherston, but his memory continues to bring people together in celebration and support.

He was an avid participant in what was originally The Rattlebone Golf Society, a group that brought together local golf enthusiasts for friendly competition and camaraderie. In honour of Mike, the society evolved into the Mike Shortridge Memorial Cup, a heartfelt tribute to a man who gave so much to the community and brought joy to so many.

The golf day has become a cherished tradition, with the previous two years drawing fantastic turnouts and plenty of laughter - just the way Mike would have wanted it. This year promises to be just as special, and everyone is welcome to join us on the day, whether you're golfing or simply coming along to enjoy the atmosphere and celebrate Mike's legacy.

The day continues at 6.30pm back in Sherston at the Rattlebone Inn, where the grand raffle will be drawn. With amazing prizes - including a £200 first prize - it's a great way to support a meaningful cause. All proceeds will go to Bowel Cancer Research, in honour of Mike's courageous journey. Raffle tickets are available from the Rattlebone Inn and Sherston Post Office Stores.

This event is more than just a golf day - it's a celebration of a life well lived, a community coming together, and a legacy that continues to inspire. Whether you knew Mike personally or simply want to be part of something special, we hope you'll join us. To take part in the golf, please contact Nick Brock on 07745 326915 or nick_brock@sky.com. We'd love to see new faces join the tradition.



6th Sept
Adults Back To School Party
*Drinks deals, uniform prizes
and report card fun*



26th Sept
Mike Shortridge memorial raffle
Buy your tickets at the bar



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For more information or to
book in for any of the events:
01666 840871
eat@therattlebone.co.uk
www.therattlebone.co.uk





Church Street, Sherston, Malmesbury,
Wiltshire SN16 0LR

Sherston Living Churchyard



Have you noticed the golden colour of the long grass in the churchyard? I think it's a beautiful sight, especially when the low sun is shining through it at the start or end of the day. This is a result of our long, hot dry summer and not something we usually see. A couple of years ago, after a very wet summer, the grass was very tall and green in August. The churchyard varies enormously from year to year with the weather. It seems that our climate is changing to be hotter so we may see grass like this in the late summer more often.

Our August working party had a beautiful day but was somewhat down in number. Many people were away, but thank you to those who were able to come and worked hard to tidy the front of the churchyard. Unfortunately, the Community Payback team arrived this month with no strimmers! This has meant that much less long grass has been cut back than I would have hoped by this time of year and there is still quite a lot of clearing to do. I hope for dry weather into the autumn and lots of strimming at the beginning of September so that we can catch up with what needs doing.

Our next working party will be on Saturday 6 September from 9.00am and I look forward to seeing you there. In the meantime, keep looking out for the late butterflies which are enjoying the warm weather.

Sue Robinson jimandsue4@btinternet.com

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Harvest Supper at Holy Cross: Sunday 5 October



Our Harvest Festival service will take place at 6.00pm on Sunday 5 October, before the Harvest Supper in church at about 7.00pm. All are welcome to come to either or both to celebrate the harvest season. If coming to the service, we will enjoy the wonderful special hymns with particular relevance to our farming community and the abundance of the season. If you wish to join in with the Harvest Supper, it is a 'bring and share' event if you are able to do so, but no pressure. There will be a list in church to sign up so we can cater for more or less the right number of people. We ask for a donation of £8 per person to be paid on the night, which includes a glass of fair-trade wine, jacket potatoes and cooked ham. We also make a donation from this to the local food bank.

Do come, especially if you haven't been before, you will be made most welcome, it is a very friendly community event.

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Sustainable Sherston river testing



Sustainable Sherston's river testers have now completed two years of testing the quality of the River Avon every month, from Luckington Meadow down to Easton Grey. In the present drought situation, our results can explain some of the things you see if you take a walk by the river.

Some parts of the river look good, as in The Grove, with some clean gravels (which hide a healthy population of invertebrates) and modest plant growth. Others are not so good, as in the Didmarton branch of the river near Stretchline, which is currently choked with fools watercress, duckweed and green algae. Why the difference?

In the present drought situation, the upper part of the main river is essentially kept flowing by Wessex Water pumping groundwater into the stream channel upstream of Luckington. This is to compensate for the abstraction of drinking water – without this input, the river would probably now be dry upstream of Brook End, and very low elsewhere. Groundwater has a constant temperature throughout the year of 12-13°C, which keeps summer water temperatures down. The Didmarton branch is normally kept flowing by Crowdown Springs, also of groundwater, but this year the Springs have dried and, although Wessex Water can supplement the river by borehole water here

too, this was not done until very recently. When the photographs above were taken, the water temperatures were 16.1°C in The Grove and 23.7°C at Stretchline, which is stress level for some organisms, such as brown trout. Higher temperatures mean faster plant growth, and the amount of growth is increased by the nutrients phosphate and nitrate in the water. Compared to lower down the river, our phosphate concentrations are in fact low, though in summer this is largely due to the extensive plant growth taking the phosphate up! Nitrate has also reduced this summer but, as there is a hundred times more nitrate than phosphate, the plants can't remove it completely. Lower flows also mean algae have a longer time to grow and plants don't get swept away. So the combination of nutrients, low flows and high temperatures is putting the river under stress, and we can only hope for some rain soon!

More on our results later in the year.

With thanks to our valiant river testers, Nicky Gray, Eleanor Lines, Jane Milne, Richard Skeffington and Martin Smith, plus new recruits Melanie Robinson and Becky Vale. *Richard Skeffington*



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Flying Monk Arts Trail



The Flying Monk Arts Trail takes place over the weekend of 27 and 28 September. It includes many venues in Malmesbury and surrounding villages. The event in Sherston takes place in the British School Room from 10.00am to 5.00pm on both days.

Our group show includes two members of Malmesbury Textile Group, one who also paints, two artists, a woodworker and a jeweller! In fact, something for everyone - come and enjoy local creativity. Refreshments available too! Put the dates in your diary!

SHERSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES

The British Schoolroom, Cliff Rd.



All at 4.00pm. 1st AND 3rd SUNDAYS of each month.
(Communion on the 3rd week)

Every 1st Sunday - "Child-Friendly Church" - (Please bring at least one responsible adult) Toys over floor, Lego on tables, floor cushions, Tea/Coffee, Junior school Assembly Songs and Storyteller Bible readings.

Every 3rd Sunday - Visiting Preacher or Motivational Speaker.

ON 2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS just half an hour of informal 'JOYFUL PRAISE' - COME AND SING! 12.30 - 1.00pm in SCC/BSR.



A WARM WELCOME AWAITS ANYONE WHO WISHES TO POP IN

Malmesbury & District u3a

We are holding an Open Morning for prospective members from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 4 October in The Hub (Old School Room) at Malmesbury Town Hall. Find out in person about our various interest groups, meet the group leaders as well as other new and existing members. Just come along on the day. We look forward to seeing you there. In the meantime, here are details of our September meeting (10.00am-12.00noon in Malmesbury Town Hall):

Thursday 25 September: Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

We have a volunteer from The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust coming to speak about online safety and how to recognise potential scams and reduce the risk of becoming a victim online.

Non-members welcome, 50p donation.

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Sign up for The Last Baguette drama workshops!

**SHERSTON
DRAMA
GROUP**

**SHERSTON
ARTS 20
25
FESTIVAL**

Sherston Drama Group is excited to bring you a day of children's drama workshops on Saturday 15 November with professional theatre group The Last Baguette. Come along for a session of confidence-building fun and games! There will be two workshops: the first for children in Reception to Year 3: 9.30am-11.00am (£10); and the second for those in Year 4 and above: 11.30am-4.00pm (£20, bring a packed lunch). Secondary school age children are very welcome – activities will be tailored to the ages of those attending. To book, please use the booking form on the Sherston Arts Festival website: sherstonartsfestival.com/the-last-baguette-workshop/ Places are limited!

Bring an object: Sunday 16 November

**SHERSTON
ARTS 20
25
FESTIVAL**

Marc Allum, a specialist on BBC's Antiques Roadshow, invites you to come along to Sherston Village Hall at 2.00pm on Sunday 16 November with an object for discussion. He will spontaneously contextualise a whole cross section of artefacts with anecdotes and historical facts, garnered from his several decades of experience in the art and antiques business. A fascinating afternoon is promised. £10 per person. Refreshments available.

Tickets for Arts Festival events on TicketSource

**SHERSTON
ARTS 20
25
FESTIVAL**

Tickets are available from TicketSource for the following events:

- Wessex Choir, with guest Nicola Clark. Saturday 15 November, 7.30pm, Holy Cross Church. Tickets: adults £15, children £10. www.thewessex.org.uk
- Packhorse Ceilidh Band, a traditional barndance with live musicians. Saturday 8 November, 7.30pm, Sherston Village Hall. Tickets: adults £10, family £20.
- Capturing Atmospheric Landscapes, a watercolour demonstration by Catherine Beale. Sunday 9 November, 2.00pm, Sherston Village Hall. Tickets: £10.
- Bring an Object with Marc Allum from BBC Antiques Roadshow. Sunday 16 November, 2.00pm, Sherston Village Hall. Tickets: £10.

Spread the cost of your tickets and be sure of a place by buying now! Just go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/ and type 'Sherston Arts Festival' in the search box. (NB: TicketSource charges a small commission.)

If you prefer to buy tickets in person, they will be available outside the Co-op (not inside) on several dates in October and November. Look out for further information or check the Arts Festival website: www.sherstonartsfestival.com

Sherston 300 Club: August winners



The winners of the 300+ Club August prize draw are :

- 1st Prize (£50) - Liam Ind
- 2nd Prize (£30) - Ryan Clarke
- 3rd Prize (£10) - Roger Harden

It's still worth joining for the rest of the year, there are still four more monthly draws, plus a bumper

Christmas bonus prize. Complete the form below to help support the village hall and give yourself a chance to win!

Half of all money raised is distributed in prizes, the rest goes to Sherston Village Hall to help pay the running costs and to fund major upgrades like the new heating system we're planning this year.

I/We* would like to join/renew membership of the 300+ Club for 2025 and will pay £ (£10 per person) by:

- ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque made payable to Sherston Village Hall
- ☐ Bank Transfer to Lloyds Bank Sort Code: 30-12-04, Account No. 01406463.

Please use the first line of your address as a reference.

Name(s): _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

For help/queries, please contact Nic Riley (07768 603160) or Jeanna Ind (07887 853476)

Sherston Scarecrow Trail 2025

SHERSTON
ARTS 2025
FESTIVAL

A very popular event during the Arts Festival is the Scarecrow Trail. To get your scarecrow on the 2025 map (no charge), email Kirsty Strachan: kirsty.strachan@icloud.com. And if you don't have a house in Sherston – but fancy making a scarecrow – we have a few places to put them, just drop Kirsty a line!

If you would like to join in the fun without the hassle, why not book on to the Scarecrow Making Workshop on Saturday 18 October at Sherston Village Hall (2.00pm-4.30pm, £15 per group). All the materials will be provided and there will be lots of help on hand to make your scarecrow. Spaces are limited so get in quick! Email: kirsty.strachan@icloud.com to book your place.

Hullavington open mic night

Come along to Hullavington Village Hall on Friday 26 September to enjoy a relaxed evening of music from a variety of local acts. Doors open at 7.00pm and we'll have our normal café-style seating so you can sit with your friends, plus there's a full bar. Each act will be on for a maximum of 15 minutes. There will be a whole range of styles and hopefully you'll love them all - but, if not, it won't be long until the next act!

We're pretty sure we have enough artists for this one but if you fancy taking part in a future event, why not pop along and see how it works and we'll add you to the list for next time. Free entry

200th anniversary of Sherston Congregational Church!



Two-hundred years ago, a barn in Cliff Road was purchased by a small group of believers in order to establish a chapel. This group had been meeting since 1822, when preachers from Bristol (probably Wesleyan and on horseback) had come regularly to the village and formed a fellowship. The barn served as a place of worship for 189 years - until 2014. It is now a private residence but still proudly displays the founding date of 1825.

Congregational churches were, and still are, founded and funded entirely by their own congregation, and are consequently free to follow whatever collective guidance the members receive through prayer. Originally, as dissenting folk, our forefathers were determined to be 'free' (non-conformist), so resisted national authority. This meant that some suffered poverty, imprisonment, even martyrdom; others travelled to the New World with the Pilgrim Fathers.

Sherston's traders, butchers, bakers, tailors, farmworkers and humble country-folk gave so generously over those 200 years that our village legacy now includes our modernised place of worship, the British School Room (BSR), one residential property (now our main income), a memorial garden (behind the old barn chapel) and provides employment

for three personnel for BSR management, regular cleaning and bookkeeping/accounting.

Through both world wars, Sherston Congregational Church was very well attended and active but, by the year 2000 was reduced, sadly, to just one attending member, Lily Rice, who found herself responsible, with no funds whatsoever, for three decaying buildings. Had she died that year, the Congregational Federation would have been duty-bound to sell all three properties and give the resulting funds to other chapels in the south-west region.

Consequently, at that point, some of us decided to help Lily and the story of all that has happened since then is told on the walls of the BSR lobby, with photographs so all can understand this recent history any time they are in the building.

The aim in the original School Room deeds remains unchanged: 'For the advancement of the Christian faith'. For this, we work with believers from all local churches. Times change but gospel truth remains and offers the whole community hope and strength to face the future.

To celebrate and commemorate the 200 years of 'salt and light', we intend to unveil a plaque donated by 'The Singalong Club' on Thursday 30 October. Cheese and wine (or tea and coffee) will be served from 7.00pm. Memorabilia (even 'temperance medals' from the time there were 13 pubs in Sherston) will be on display. If you enjoy using our premises, or remember times past with affection, or would just like to look around for the very first time, we invite you to join our 200th anniversary celebration.

The Members, Management, and Friends, of Sherston Congregational Church/ British School Room

For bookings, please contact the BSR Manager: alicjaclark076@gmail.com

For other enquiries: 07778 934742

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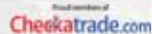
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Local recycling and zero waste outlet information



Recycling Facilities

Candles - Holy Cross Church porch. The Recycled Candle Company will make them into more candles.

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.

Soft plastics

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 make sure all the plastics are clean.

Batteries

Batteries are collected by Wiltshire Council with its kerbside recycling, placed in a sandwich bag on top of the blue-lidded bin. Batteries are no longer collected by Sustainable Sherston in the village.

Low-energy light bulbs

Sherston High Street telephone box. Please no candescent or halogen light bulbs.

Medicine blister packs

Small quantities only can be taken to Superdrug in Bath or Stroud.

Clothes and Shoes Collection Point

Collection points at Sherston Primary School car park to fundraise for the school and Sherston Village Hall car park in aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Ink Cartridges Sherston High Street Telephone Box

Zero-Waste/Eco Shops

The Sherston Market on Thursdays, 10.30am-1pm, in front of the Village Hall - a selection of artisan stalls (including The Loaf Shack) selling bread, meat, fish, cheese, honey, chutneys, vegetables and small plants.

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-1pm.

Bennetts Farm Shop, Tetbury Lane, Leighterton (GL8 8UP) - a self-service retail outlet open 7 days a week 8am-6pm.

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 oat 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!

Hobbs House Bakery, Tetbury - semi-skimmed milk (loose), take your own 1litre glass bottles - and 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

Milk in glass bottles (no plastic!)

Loose milk is no longer sold at Close Farm (Highgrove, Tetbury) or Church Street Grocers, Tetbury (now closed) - nor at Bennett's Farm, Leighterton or at Hobbs House Bakery, Malmesbury (now closed), but is still available from Hobbs House Bakery in Tetbury (semi-skimmed only, from Cotswold Dairy). For raw (unpasteurised) milk, try Doras Dairy, Quarry Farm, Purton (Jon Cook). Email: dairymaid@dorasdairy.co.uk Note: Any dairy farmers able to supply milk for possible dispensing in Sherston, please contact Eleanor Lines on 07949 292741.

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

Oddbox (www.oddbox.co.uk) 'Fighting waste one curvy cucumber at a time'. Small to large boxes of veg (plus optional fruit) delivered overnight to your door. Also great recipes, easy exclusion options, etc.

Local Food Growers

Close Farm, Highgrove, Tetbury - veg stall

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

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

Groups and Regular Events in and around Sherston

Sherston

Weekly farmers' market at Sherston Village Hall
Thurs 10.30am-1pm. Stalls include meats, fish, cheese,
sourdough and bakes, chutneys, dog treats etc.
Organised by Holly from The Loaf Shack Bakery
theloafshackbakery@gmail.com

Sherston Village Hall

Available for hire by all. Ideal for meetings, events,
weddings, parties etc. For full details and the booking
calendar visit sherstonvillagehall.org or contact Jake
Peplow 07857 657 454

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 Nic Riley (07768 603160)
or Jeanna Ind (07887 853476)

Wiltshire Council Mobile Library

Every fortnight on Saturdays 10.30am – 12.45pm
Sherston High Street For further details email clerk@sherston.org.uk
or mobilelibraries@wiltshire.gov.uk or
[www.apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/route/
Index/6](http://www.apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/route/Index/6)

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

Sherston Living Churchyard

1st Saturday of the month 10am - work to support
wildlife diversity to create a more beautiful place for the
community. Everyone welcome. Come along and see
what's happening, and join in if you like.
www.gauzebrook.org/churches/holy-cross-sherston

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 or regular
updates on www.facebook.com/sherston.toddlers

1st Sherston Brownies

Meet Weds 5.30-7pm in term time in the North
Building. 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 5.30-7pm in term time at the Village Hall. All
girls are welcome to join after their 10th 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 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 5.15pm to 6.30pm in term
time at the 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 Weds 6-7.30pm in term times at the
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 time at the
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 at the Scout hut. Email join@sherstonscouts.org.uk
for an application form

Ballet with HD Dance Studios

Ballet classes for primary-aged children. Fridays at
3.45pm. More info: Harriet Dyke on 07810 864162 or
email hd_dance@outlook.com

Church and Faith Groups

Holy Cross Church

Sunday service 9.30am - 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays ;
2nd Sunday, service at 10.00am which moves around
the eight churches of the Gauzebrook Group. Check
www.gauzebrook.org or [www.achurchnearyou.com/
church/11839/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11839/) or the noticeboard near the lychgate.
Sunday evening services November-March at 4.30pm
please check our website to confirm details.
Church of the Holy Cross Coffee Shop 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

Sherston Congregational Church

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, services held at 4pm
in the British School Room/SCC, Cliff Rd. All Welcome.
On 2nd and 4th Sundays, we are 'simply singing praise
choruses', 12.30pm-1pm. Do pop in.
For information regarding church events, contact Mary
Clements at clementsmary@btinternet.com or text on
07778 934742.
To book the British School Room for any event, please
contact our administrator Alicja Clark via email only:
alicjaclark076@gmail.com

Music, Culture and Social

Church Bell Ringing

Practices are every Wednesday 7.30 – 9 pm.
Contact Pip Bartlett: 07967 007969

Drawing Classes in Sherston

Classes Weds either 10am-12noon or 1.30-3.30pm British School Room 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 07979 702869 or Tanya. Burgess@sherston.org.uk

Sherston Senior Club

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

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. No auditions and you don't have to be able to read music. 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) via katie.skeffington@bristol.ac.uk.

Sherston Gardening Club

Meets 1st Tues each month apart from Jul & Aug, 7pm for 7.30pm start in the British School Room, 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

Sherston Theatre Club

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

Yak & Yarn

Every Friday morning 10am till 12 noon at the Rattlebone. A friendly group for anyone who wants to knit, crochet or do anything with yarn, whether experienced or a beginner!

Fitness

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 warmly welcome. 6pm Mixed Ability Class, 7:10pm Absolute Beginners' Course. Contact Kate: 07957 313109 or kate@abelpilates.co.uk www.abelpilates.co.uk

Ashtanga Yoga

An excellent practice to develop whole body strength & flexibility whilst calming the mind. (NB. you don't

need to be flexible to do this class!) Fri 10.15-11.30am Sherston Village Hall. For a free trial, contact Stuart 07986 003602 stuart@pulse4life.co.uk www.pulse4life.co.uk

Exercise for over-60s with Synchronicity

Exercise and Movement for over-60s 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, FB: @exercise60plus.

Fresh Air Fitness

A fun, total body workout in the outdoors for all levels. Fridays 8.55-9.50am Sherston Rec. For a free trial, contact Stuart 07986 003602 stuart@pulse4life.co.uk 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

Sherston Bootcamp

Every Saturday on Sherston rec, 8-9am. Starting 3 August. £10 per session. Drop in - no commitment. Contact Coach Jonze on the Sherston Bootcamp Facebook to sign up.

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

Women's Yoga Circle

A gentle and strengthening yoga class for women followed by tea and chocolate. Wednesdays 7.30pm-9pm at Sherston Village Hall. Book online: roseseedsalchemy.com £15 drop in/ £11 block booking.

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. For more details contact 07779 600786 after 6pm or leave a message.

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 www.urbankandy.com

Zen Meditation Group

10am-12noon on a Sunday at Scots Farm, Pinkney. All welcome. If you would like to have an introduction to Zen meditation, contact Lawrence Barrow - ljikob@gmail.com / 07947792919 / lawrencebarrow.com

Sports

Rattlebone Boules League

48 teams playing in 3 Leagues weekday evenings at the Rattlebone's boules pistes April – August. Contact Graham Hayman Hercule.Laboule@outlook.com

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 Antony Lodge antonylodge8@gmail.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 sherstonmagnacc.co.uk

Sherston Shooters 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), Julia 07791783905 or Penny 07846123455 or sherstonsshooters@gmail.com

Sherston Short Mat Bowls

Meet every Thurs evening 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Village Hall, September through to May. 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.

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 alternative 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 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, café ride and beginner rides. For more info sherstonvelo.cc or email secretary@sherstonvelo.cc

Pubs and cafés

The Angel Café with Rooms, Sherston

Hot and cold drinks, breakfast, brunch, lunch and freshly made cakes daily 8am–5pm summer (8am–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 Courtyard Café @ Lucy Tom's, Sherston

Illy coffee, tea, herbal infusions & homemade cakes in Tucks Yard with covered seating – takeaways available. Bicycle parking. 841433 or lucytom.com

Holy Cross Café, Sherston

Thursdays 10am-12 noon. Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits. There's a play area for small children. Eco café theme on the 1st Thurs of each month, with recycled cards & fairtrade items for sale.

The Rattlebone Inn, Sherston

Indoor & outdoor dining with delicious country cuisine restaurant menu and pizzas from the wood-fired oven at weekends. Mondays 8pm - Quiz & burger night. Weekday evenings April – Aug Rattlebone Boules League matches. Check boards for more details, 840871, Twitter or visit www.therattlebone.co.uk

The Holford Arms, Knockdown

theholfordarms.com or call 01454 238669

The Old Royal Ship, Luckington

www.oldroyalship.co.uk or 840222

The Whistle Stop café, Tetbury

Open for takeaway coffees and takeaway food on Tues to Sun 10am-4pm www.shed-arts.co.uk

Alderton Village Hall

Ballet with HD Dance Studios

Ballet classes for primary-aged children. Fridays at 3.45pm. More info: Harriet Dyke on 07810 864162 or email hd_dance@outlook.

Art classes with local artist Claire Evans. Weds 6.30-8pm (7 session £80 including materials). More info: claire@clairesandars.co.uk or 07717 734955

Pilates with Penny. Every Thursday 12-1pm. 07796 955304

Hullavington

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

Luckington

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

Athelstan Museum

Talks and Exhibitions www.athelstanmuseum.org.uk

Malmesbury Artisan and Farmers' Market

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

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 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 'Marvellous Makers' for 4-11 year-olds takes place in all libraries 13 July to 7 Sept.

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 or follow Malmesbury Library on Facebook, or call 823611.

Carer Support Wiltshire with Dorothy House Hospice

Every Monday, 2pm-4pm – Bereavement Help Point, Kings Arms, 29 High Street, Malmesbury. A community based drop-in service for anyone who is bereaved to talk with others in an informal and supportive setting. Free.

Malmesbury & District u3a

Wide and varied interest groups - for an up-to-date list and other information: www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk or e-mail membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk Monthly meetings take place on the 4th Thursday of the month (10.00- 12.00) at Malmesbury Town Hall. Non-members are welcome. 50p donation.

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, a 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

Malmesbury Area Board Meeting

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

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

Tetbury Art Society <http://tetburyartsociety.org.uk>

If you run a club, society or organisation in Sherston or nearby 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 it 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.

WHAT'S ON: September 2025

Sherston

Throughout September outside Well Cottage, 6 Cliff Road. **Plant sale.** All proceeds to Sherston School's Greenfingers Gardening Club.

Tuesday 2 September 10.00am-3.00pm. **Sherston Senior Club mystery coach tour.** £15. For more info, contact Helen Quirk on 840516.

Tuesday 2 September 7.00pm for 7.30pm start, British School Room. **Sherston Gardening Club meeting.** Speaker: Derry Watkins on 'Gravel Gardening with Low Maintenance Plants'. New members are always welcome. Cost is £20 single, £35 joint, U18s free. Contact our secretary for more info: sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com

Thursday 4 September, 6.15pm registration, 7pm first rider, Sherston Village Hall car park. **Sherston Velo Time Trial Series 2025.** Distance: 10miles. Entry: non-members £5 per event, members £3. Open to riders aged 16+. (Note: Under-18s parental/guardian consent required – email us for details: info@sherstonvelo.cc) Visit www.sherstonvelo.cc/time-trials to find out more.

Saturday 6 September From 9am, Holy Cross Church. **Sherston Living Churchyard Working Party.** All welcome - come and join our working party or support us at coffee time. Note: no plant stall until spring 2026.

Saturday 6 September The Rattlebone. **Adults' Back-to-School Party.** Drink deals, uniform prizes and report card fun.

Sunday 7 September 9.30am, Holy Cross Church. **Worship Together church service.**

Sunday 7 September 6.00pm, Holy Cross Church. **Holy Communion church service.** Using the Book of Common Prayer.

Thursday 11 September 7.30pm, The North Building. **Parish Council Meeting.** All welcome. If you're unable to attend but have something to raise, please email clerk@sherston.org.uk.

From Sunday 21 September Outside Sherston Village Hall. **Drop off your apples!** Please leave any surplus apples in the huge bag outside the village hall (between the wooden shed and the hall) ready for Apple Day (on Sunday 6 October).

Sunday 21 September 9.30am, Holy Cross Church. **Holy Communion church service.**

Thursday 25 September 2.00pm-6.30pm, Sherston Village Hall. **Apple pressing for Apple Day: Session one.** Come along for apple washing, or 'scrattin' and pressing. All helpers welcome for as long or as little as you can spare!

Friday 26 September 2.00pm-6.30pm, Sherston Village Hall. **Bottling and pasteurising for Apple Day: Session one.** Come along for rinsing or filling bottles, capping them, or helping the pasteurising team. All helpers welcome for as long or as little as you can spare!

Friday 26 September Stinchcombe Golf Course and afterwards (6.30pm) at The Rattlebone for the grand raffle draw. **The Mike Shortridge Memorial Cup and raffle.** Join us for a golf day of friendly competition and camaraderie or just come along to enjoy the atmosphere and celebrate Mike's legacy. To take part in the golf, contact Nick Brock on 07745 326915 or nick_brock@sky.com. Raffle tickets are available from the Rattlebone and Sherston Post Office. All proceeds to Bowel Cancer Research.

Saturday 27 September 10.00am-5.00pm, British School Room. **Flying Monk Arts Trail: Sherston event.** Our group includes two members of Malmesbury Textile Group, one who also paints, two artists, a woodworker and a jeweller! Come and enjoy local creativity. Refreshments available. The Trail also includes many venues in Malmesbury and surrounding villages. Also: Sunday 28 September. For more

info: www.caerbladon.co.uk/projects/flying-monk-art-trail

Saturday 27 September The Rattlebone. **Sophia and the Soul Brothers.** Live music.

Sunday 28 September 9.30am, Holy Cross Church. **Holy Communion church service.**

Sunday 28 September 10.00am-4.00pm, Sherston Village Hall. **Pop-up bookshop.** Hosted by The Shabby Sheep Bookshop. Free entry. Free tea/coffee. Free kids' bookmark crafts.

Sunday 28 September The Rattlebone. **Free Family Movie Day: Wicked.**

Sunday 28 September 4.30pm, Holy Cross Church. **Evening Prayer church service.** Using the Book of Common Prayer.

Monday 29 September Sherston Co-op (cash or cheque). **Tickets on sale for Rumpelstiltskin.** Grab your tickets for Sherston Drama Club's 2025 pantomime! 'see page 5 for performance dates'

Tuesday 30 September from 2.00pm, Sherston Village Hall. **Apple pressing for Apple Day: Session two.** Come along for apple washing, or 'scratching' and pressing. All helpers welcome for as long or as little as you can spare!

Alderton

Sunday 7 September 9.30am, Alderton Church. **Sunday service.**

Foxley

Sunday 21 September 10am, Foxley Church. **Holy Communion church service.**

Hullavington

Friday 26 September 7.00pm, Hullavington Village Hall. **Hullavington Open Mic Night.** Enjoy a relaxed evening of

music from a variety of local acts. Café-style seating so you can sit with your friends, plus there's a full bar. Free entry.

Luckington

Sunday 7 September 11.00am, Luckington Church. **Holy Communion church service.**

Sunday 14 September 10.00am, Luckington Church. **Gauzebrook Group monthly pilgrim service.**

Sunday 21 September 11.00am, Luckington Church. **Morning praise.**

Malmesbury

Thursday 4 September 2.30-4.30pm, Malmesbury Town Hall. **Malmesbury Guided Walks.** Join a local expert and enjoy a guided walk around Malmesbury town centre. Distance: 1 mile. Tickets: adults £7, children £3.50. £10 (£8 concessions) from Malmesbury Town Hall or online: www.malmesbury.gov.uk/your-council/committee-meetings/august-walks-thursdays/individual-registration. **Also: Thursday 11 September, Thursday 18 September and Thursday 25 September.**

Friday 5 September 10.00am-12.00noon, Malmesbury Town Hall. **Wessex Water Community Drop In.** Come and meet Wessex Water. Chat to us in person if you have a query about your water bill, your water and sewerage services, or how to save water and prevent sewer blockages. Free of charge.

Saturday 6 September Doors open 6.30pm, quiz starts 7.00pm, Malmesbury Town Hall. **The Great Malmesbury Mash Up.** Bangers, mash and quiz night for charity. In support of Heals of Malmesbury. Tickets: £25 (includes meal) from www.malmesbury.gov.uk/what-s-on/community-events/the-great-malmesbury-mash-up/individual-registration



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Saturday 6 September Doors open 6.30pm, starts 7.00pm, Malmesbury Abbey. **Malmesbury Choir presents Summer Sounds with Bristol Fashion Choir.** Join us for a joyful evening of harmonies. Bar available (cash only). Tickets: £12.50, live stream £5 (includes meal) from www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/malmesbury-choir-presents-summer-sounds-with-bristol-fashion-chorus-tickets-1520388706549

Wednesday 10 September 7.30pm-9.00pm, The Assembly Room, Malmesbury Town Hall. Malmesbury **WI: Upcycling/sustainability event by Dressability.** Sharon from Dressability will be speaking on upcycling and sustainability. All women 18+ welcome. Visitors: £5. For more info, email: malmesburywi@gmail.com.

Sunday 14 September (until Sunday 21 September) John Bowen Gallery, Malmesbury Town Hall. **Open Call: Young People's Art Exhibition.** Hosted by Caerbladon.

Saturday 20 September 1.00pm-8.30pm, Cloister Gardens, Malmesbury Abbey. **Malmesbury Folk & Roots.** One-day festival in the grounds of the beautiful and historic Malmesbury Abbey. Food and drink available onsite. Raising money for the Malmesbury Mayoral Charities. Tickets: £30 (13-17s £15, U13s free) from Malmesbury Tourist Information or www.malmesburyfolkroots.org/.

Thursday 25 September 10.00am-12.00noon in Malmesbury Town Hall. **Malmesbury & District u3a monthly meeting: Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.** We have a volunteer from The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust coming to speak about online safety and how to recognise potential scams and reduce the risk of becoming a victim online. Non-members welcome, 50p donation. Check our website for an up-to-date list of groups and other information: www.malmesburyu3a.org.uk. or e-mail membership@malmesburyu3a.org.uk

Tetbury

Thursday 11 September 7.30pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **Fitzwilliam String Quartet with Sarah Nicolls.** To mark the 50th anniversary of Shostakovich's death, the quartet joins forces with pianist Sarah Nicolls to perform the composer's only piano quintet, the premiere of which featured Shostakovich himself at the piano. Tickets: £24 in advance. www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

Friday 12 September 7.30pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **Fugue and Groove Jazz Trio.** Take a selection from the classical piano repertoire and add in generous helping of swing jazz and funky/Latin stylings and you have tonight's programme! Tickets: £15 in advance. www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

Thursday 18 September 7.00pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **National Theatre Live - Inter Alia.** In a new play by Suzie Miller, Oscar-nominated Rosamund Pike (Gone Girl, Saltburn) is Jessica in the much-anticipated play from the team behind Prima Facie. Tickets: £15 in advance. www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

Saturday 20 September 10.30am-3.00pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **Crime Lab - Family Activity Day.** Hosted by Tetbury Police Museum & Courtroom. Activities will include fingerprinting, matching shoe prints, facial recognition, blood splatter and more. There will also be objects on display from the museum's collection, and a chance to find out more about your local museum. Come and learn how detectives solve crimes with science. All ages are welcome! Free entry. tetburygoodsshed.co.uk/events/tetbury-police-museum-and-courtroom-family-event/

Wednesday 24 September 7.30pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **Shed Talk.** Get an insider's view of the world of art and valuables from Antiques Roadshow expert Marc Allum – who'll also cast his expert eye over objects brought along by the audience. Tickets: £12 in advance. www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

Thursday 25 September 7.00pm, Tetbury Goods Shed. **Film: The Salt Path.** In this now controversial film a couple lose their home and later discover the husband has been diagnosed with a terminal illness as they embark on a year-long coastal trek. Tickets: £7.50 in advance. www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

Music, Cinema and Theatre Theatre Royal Bath

Tel 01225 448844 www.theatreroyal.org.uk

The Barn Theatre, Cirencester

Until 11 October **Haywire.** Commissioned by The Barn and licensed by the BBC, to be performed ahead of the 75th anniversary year of The Archers, this new play uses the magic of radio drama and invites you, the audience, to travel back with us to those halcyon days when the public gathered around their wireless to listen and lose themselves in the lives, trials, and tribulations of a fictional farming family. Age guidance: 12+. Box office: 01285 648255 or boxoffice@barntheatre.org.uk or visit barntheatre.org.uk for full cast details and tickets.

Didmarton Film Club

Friday 19 September. Doors open at 6.30pm for the Bar with film starting at 7.30pm, Didmarton Village Hall. Donation of £5 per film. Guests are welcome. Bar available. To join or to become a member of the Film Selection Committee, to find out what's showing or to let us know you're coming beforehand (this helps with chairs), email jenny.body1@gmail.com

Movies@Malmesbury

Run entirely by volunteers, for schedules, synopses, trailers etc, visit the MoviesatMalmesbury Facebook page or go to www.malmesbury.gov.uk/cinema.html

Malmesbury Live Arts

Comedy and music each month:
www.malmesbury-live-arts.org.uk/whatson

The Three Cups, Malmesbury

Live music each month: <https://three-cups.co.uk/#events>

Tetbury Goods Shed

Exhibitions, talks, concerts, cinema - shed-arts.co.uk

The Electric Picture House, Wotton-Under-Edge

A refurbished local cinema run by volunteers – check website for upcoming films www.wottoncinema.com

Covent Garden Royal Opera House & 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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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_2024.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

(Chippenhams, 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 Roz Savage	07808 719881
Sherston Parish Council	01666 800242
Sherston School	01666 840237
Sherston Village Hall (bookings)	07857 657 454
Sherston Co-op PO Stores	01666 840190
Tolsey Surgery	01666 840270
Wiltshire Council	0300 4560100



Celebrate Christmas 2025 whatley manor

Join us to celebrate Christmas with seasonal menus, fine wines and happy times with family and friends.

The Dining Room
Our Michelin starred restaurant, available for dinner Thursday to Sunday up to 21st December. Then again from Friday 26th December.

Grey's Seasonal Dining
Open for dinner every evening throughout the festive season up to 21st December. Then again from Friday 26th December. Alternatively, enjoy our festive set lunch menu on a Friday or Saturday from the 1st December up to 20th December.

Grey's Festive Sunday Lunch
Join us for a traditional Sunday roast menu each Sunday in December up to 21st and again from 28th December. Bookings for 10 or more guests will be required to pre-order, a menu will be sent to you in advance to circulate to your group.

Festive Afternoon Tea
Our festive afternoon tea is served every day, Monday - Saturday 12.30pm - 4pm and Sunday 2pm-4pm, until 21st December. Traditional afternoon tea available as usual from the 26th December.

Private Dining
If you would like to enjoy a festive event in one of our private dining rooms, please contact our events team who will be happy to help you organise this. Please email events@whatleymanor.com

01666 822 888 reservations@whatleymanor.com

Whatley Manor will be closed between December 22nd and 25th and re-open on December 26th 2025.

RB HOTELS NOW Easton Grey, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 0RB
whatleymanor.com @whatleymanor

MICHELIN 2024

