



Community

We could be called a down to earth lot – somewhat understated, and mostly introverts at heart.

Our Community Rule encourages us towards the values of

- Stewardship
- Servanthood
- Stability



We have been slowly but steadily evolving the Sheldon ministry for over 25 years. People tell us that it bears the hallmarks of authenticity and integrity.

Sheldon has been privileged to play a part in many people's journeys with God. It is also been a springboard for many who have gone on to give their lives to some form of Christian service or ministry.

Our Community is small. We are privileged to share the ministry that God has entrusted to us with an expanding circle of volunteers. This mutual sharing brings benefits to the Community, to volunteers, and to those whom we serve.



Work

Hundreds of people have taken part in Sheldon workparties over 30 years.

Many enjoy the opportunity to

- do hands-on practical work
- be a member of a team
- see a satisfying finished result
- be part of an evolving ministry
- get grounded with God

Sheldon is a cluster of late medieval farm buildings, surrounded by 45 acres of ancient woodland and grassland. Features include an open-air theatre, a meditation walk, and rare breed sheep. There is always plenty to be done!

Volunteer work can include:

- planting and weeding
- pulling down and building
- repairing and decorating
- harvesting and preserving

and helping to host events:

- open air theatre and music
- liturgical and prayer activities
- celebrations and social events

Note: if you would like to come to these events but feel that volunteering is not for you then there is the option to come along as a retreatant. See programme or visit the website for details.

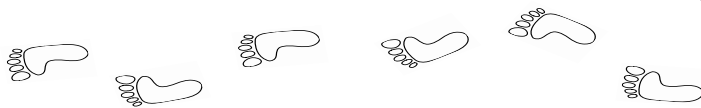
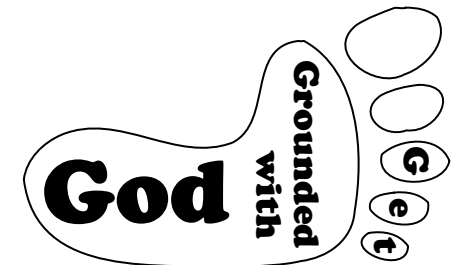


Worship

Our worship is generally quiet and gentle. We try to focus less on each other and more on God. We don't expect to spell things out, but to provide an environment where volunteers can experience God in creation, in quiet moments, in team work, fun and friendship, as well as through the basic liturgical rhythm of our days.

God is a mystery far beyond our understanding, but we do have plenty of experience of God proving trustworthy and using our limited efforts to create something much bigger than ourselves.

We continue with this ministry because we see the gently positive and sustained effects it has on people. We try to limit our own intervention and simply be faithful in allowing people to be and to discover new depths of God for themselves.



Application

Name _____

Address _____

Tel _____

email _____

Age bracket

18-25 25-50 50-65 65-80

Strength/fitness level

Low medium high

Workparty

Easter Summer Advent

Relevant skills and experience and things we need to know about you

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Please telephone to discuss before returning this form.

Please enclose a deposit of £30.

2010

Volunteers are invited to contribute at the rates shown. If you can afford to give more, this will enable us to subsidise others who can afford less.

Your contribution goes towards the costs of your accommodation and food.

Easter 2010 – £80

5pm Tue 30th March
- 10am Tue 6th April

Summer 2010 - £80

4pm Fri 23rd - 10am Sat 31st July

Advent 2010 - £30

6pm Fri 26th - 3pm Sun 28th November

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Sheldon is 10 miles from the M5 and the railway station at Exeter.

The Society of Mary and Martha

Sheldon, Dunsford, Exeter EX6 7LE

01647-252752

smm@sheldon.uk.com

www.sheldon.uk.com



2010



Work & Worship

with the

Sheldon Community