



# The Grapevine

Issue 107

June 2014

## Editorial

While writing the Editorial for this edition and looking at the awful rain and darkened skies outside, I am made to feel more cheerful about the coming summer's weather. Why? You may well ask that question. First of all the gardens are shedding the winter blues with their lovely colours starting to dominate; the birds are more abundant and busily feeding their young; how lovely to see some ducks (and youngsters) in the pond behind our house. Reading Steve Davis's Nature Diary (see below) reminds us of how beautiful the countryside can be, in spite of people who would prefer to build houses on our Green Belt. Don't forget that last year we had that awful cold and wet spring weather, with floods and high heating bills! It's getting warmer now, the forecast by a German weather man is for a long hot summer and of course I bought a new BBQ in anticipation. Joking apart, we are truly fortunate to live in this temperate climate where the seasons certainly can be variable, but somehow, over the years, will supply us all with an ample supply of fresh water (the odd drought apart); sunshine for our gardens and BBQs (apart from the occasional heavy downpour); and of course provide us with the varied flora and fauna in our countryside. These are things we take for granted and perhaps we should think about people in the world who don't have these things. Yes, we are the lucky ones.

Craig

The next Newsletter will be published in August 2014. Please send copy to

Craig McCallum  
19 Follyfield Hankerton  
SN16 9LA or email to  
[Craigmccallum@Btinternet.com](mailto:Craigmccallum@Btinternet.com)

by 10th July 2014 please.

All opinions expressed will be solely those of the correspondent and don't forget to visit the Hankerton Parish Website at

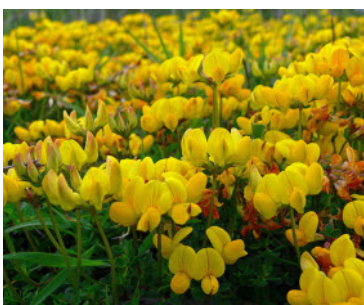
<http://www.hankertonvillage.com>

for Parish Council and other useful local information

## Nature Diary - June

Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) is a low growing member of the pea family. Flowering between May and September, the clumps of bright yellow flowers are widespread in meadows and grassland, and very noticeable.

The flower buds are orange-red before they open into the yellow flower, and this colour combination of buds and flowers is behind another of its names, "Bacon and Eggs". The long, dry, blackened and empty seed pods radiate from the stem in a claw-like fashion, hence the "Bird's-foot" part of its name. The leaves have five leaflets, the lower two fold back and are less obvious, suggesting that there are just three leaflets, and hence, "Trefoil". It is one of the British plants with the most local names including "Cocks and Hens", "Cuckoo's Stocking" and "Dutchman's Clogs" - have a close look at the flower to see how appropriate the last name is.



Flitting amongst the flowers and grasses of a June meadow the Common Blue Butterfly (*Polyommatus icarus*) is a dainty little butterfly. The male has a brilliant lilac blue upper side with a narrow white margin. The female varies in the amount of brown colouration mixed in with the blue, and in the south of the UK it is the brown that dominates. She also has a series of orange marks along the outer edges of both fore and hind wings. The underside of both sexes is



pale with a variety of black spots and orange marks. The eggs are laid predominantly on Bird's-foot Trefoil, but also on other trefoils, Black Medick and Rest Harrows. The caterpillar feeds on the underside of the leaflets and, surprisingly, it barks a tuneless song, inaudible to humans, to attract the attention of ants.

In return for receiving a feed of honeydew secreted by the caterpillar, the ants protect the small caterpillars from carnivorous ants and parasitic wasps.

The adult butterflies roost together on grass seed heads overnight, and finding them here before the day warms up and they become active, is the best chance of closely observing their beautiful wing patterns.

Steve Davies

**Do you have things for sale or things/services that are wanted?**

Please use Grapevine to place your small ads. They are free for Hankerton residents and should be sent to Craig using his email address shown above.

**FREE TO GOOD HOME**

Craig needs to dispose of his mountain bike and anybody who can use it - no charge - please contact him at his email address shown above.

## Coffee mornings

The Saturday Morning Coffee sessions between 10.30 and 12.00 in the North Aisle Community Area are there for everyone to come along and meet informally, get to know neighbours and discuss a wide variety of topics from local issues to the cost of bird seed!

The refreshments are prepared by volunteers who cheerfully cater and dispense a variety of teas and coffees and delicious cakes.

Volunteers are always needed - please look in the church porch for the list or ring Anne Brown on 577160.

August 25th.  
Bank Holiday Monday  
Street Fayre

**Advance notice**

Come along and join in the fun! There will be the usual stalls, games and activities plus teas and ice-creams. If you have any ideas, or if you would be willing to help, please let us know.

**Photographic Competition**

Last year saw the first photographic competition and many people thought they would like to try again this year – so, cameras ready and let's see if we can manage a much larger display for everyone to enjoy and admire!

The categories will be:

Adults

1/ Flowers

2/ Through the window or archway

3/ Architecture

Children's classes to be judged as Under 10 and Under 18

1/ An animal or animals

2/ Having fun

**Street Fayre 2013**



The North Aisle Committee

Chris Betts, Philip Carter, Valerie Durnford, Susan Mockler, Claudine Pynn, Philip Selwood.

**Grittleton Plant & Food Fair**

Date for your Diary Sunday 1 June 2014

Open from 11am – 4pm

Venue Grittleton House, Grittleton, Chippenham,  
Wiltshire, SN14 6AP

Entrance - £3 per person, Children free

All proceeds and donations will be going to support Action Medical Research

Join us for the 2nd Grittleton Plant and Food Fair organised by children's charity Action Medical Research. Set in the stunning surrounds of Grittleton House, plant lovers and "foodies" are in for a real treat, with the chance to browse the many stalls selling plants from specialist nurseries, stunning accessories for your "room outside", and delicious local artisan produce. It is going to be a fantastic day out for friends and family. Refreshments and light lunches will be available and there is also a special guest appearance by the charity's big fluffy mascot, Paddington Bear who will be there to greet the younger members of the family.

Doors open at 11am until 4pm and entrance is £3 per person, with children visiting free, If you are interested in having a stall please contact Tracey Edwards T 01225 776691 Etedwards@action.org.uk

Grapevine would like to extend a warm welcome to new residents Graham and Pamela Walkinshaw.

### AGM 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Mrs Susan Mockler read her report. She expressed her pleasure at the breadth of the activities the Group has offered during the past year and thanked the many contributors.

The report covered our work locally as metal detectors, our researches at the Chippenham History Centre, the various talks that have been organised and visits to places of historic interest.

The Chairman formally noted a welcome to Mrs Pam Selwood who had joined the committee during the year.

Mrs Susan Wood offered to stand and was elected together with the present committee en bloc.

The Chairman invited any member who would be interested to join our periodic Committee meetings without commitment to bring some new ideas into the group.

Sue and Dave Wood gave an interesting and well-researched talk about Jack Tugwell whose bravery is remembered by the plaque in the bus shelter.

### Mary Rose Exhibition

The history group joined with two other groups to visit the Mary Rose Exhibition in Portsmouth. The new exhibition showcases about 6,000 of the 12,000 artefacts recovered. The condition is excellent and the presentation of the facts about them gives one an amazing insight into the lives of the men aboard. It is to be recommended. Thank you to Bunny for organising another successful visit.

### New date for the Great War exhibition

The exhibition will now take place in November – Remembrance weekend, November 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>. 2014.

Please contact Susan 577526 if you would like a member of your family commemorated in the exhibition. We are also looking for material to illustrate what people did in the war, whether at the front or at home.

### Visits.

June 19<sup>th</sup> 2014: Brooklands. Organised by Bunny, please contact him if you are interested in going.

July 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2014. London: the War Rooms and the Royal Society.

Please let Bunny 577275 know if you are interested in joining these trips.

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### UKEY D'UKES

All who attended the concert in the church on Friday 9 May had a thoroughly enjoyable evening and those who couldn't make it missed a real treat.

There were nine members of this local ukulele band and their enthusiasm and sense of fun as well as their musicality had us all singing along, swaying to the rhythm, tapping our feet and enjoying every minute.

During the interval we tucked into a delightful finger buffet and enjoyed a glass of wine and the inevitable raffle.

All told it was a very successful evening raising £298 for North Aisle funds and even more importantly getting a good cross-section of the community together for some fun.

Our thanks go to everyone involved in the organisation of the event, to the band of course and to everyone who bought a ticket.

*The North Aisle Committee*



The Village Strawberry Tea will be held again on Sunday 29th June at 3.00pm in the Churchyard, or in the Church if inclement weather.

We will be serving the usual strawberries and cream, tea and delicious homemade cakes. Look out for posters around the village, and tickets will be available later.

**Anne Brown**



**Money in your Pocket** - Over the next few months I plan to offer some ideas on how to make your money go further. The first article is on Pensions.....

## FIND OUT HOW TO CLAIM YOUR PENSION CREDITS!

It has been highlighted that about 4 million older people are entitled to Pension Credit, yet about a third of you do not claim money that is yours!

There are 2 parts of Pension Credit- you may be eligible to receive one or both of them.

**Guaranteed Pension Credit** tops up your weekly income to a guaranteed minimum level set by the Government.

**Savings Pension Credit** is extra money for people who have a small amount of savings.

Pension Credit is a benefit designed to ensure that men and women over the qualifying age have a guaranteed level of income. So if your state pension is low and you have a small or no private pension, Guaranteed Pension Credits will top up the basic State Pension to what the Government feels is the amount required to maintain a basic standard of living.

People over the age of 65 may be awarded the Savings Pension Credit if they have basic pension and low savings. "Savings" are considered to be cash in savings accounts etc. If you own your own house, this is not considered to be "savings". Pension Credit is not taxable.

Pension Credit can be paid to home owners, tenants and people in other circumstances such as those living with family or friends.

If you receive Pension Credits you may also be entitled to: **Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit**, help with **Health** costs such as **Dental** charges and the cost of **Spectacles, Cold Weather Payments** and you may be entitled to **Grants** or loans from the social fund.

If you need further information on any of the above, or information on any other matter, give me a call on 07557 922020 or email [malmesburygnc@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:malmesburygnc@communityfirst.org.uk)

Ellen Blacker  
Good Neighbour Co-ordinator

## Hankerton Parish Council News

At last Hankerton has 3 new very smart village signs with art work above the name showing our lovely church. It has taken over 2 years to source and erect the signs, having first been suggested by an anonymous benefactor to buy one sign as a gift to the village. The PC decided that purchasing the other two signs would complete the set and enhance the village image and would also commemorate the Queens Diamond Jubilee 2012. *(How lovely they are too! Eds)*

The sign on Cloatley Road has always had a flower planter beneath it, wouldn't it be nice if the other 2 signs also had planters? Any volunteers? *(email Craig if you would like to volunteer).*

The Chairman now has 3 old and slightly damaged Hankerton village signs in his garden and before disposing of them for scrap (if he can get some money for the parish funds) would any parishioner be interested in having an old Hankerton village sign as a keepsake? If so then get in touch with Dave Woods otherwise he will try and get scrap value for our village Parish funds.

Thank you,

**Dave Woods**  
Chairman HPC.



The picture of the church is by Steve Jepson whose painting was also used on the greeting cards which are for sale in the church. All proceeds go to the North Aisle.



## Hankerton Golf Club News

The Hankerton Golf Club 2nd Annual Welsh Tour went with a swing. It was brilliantly and meticulously organized by David and everyone had somewhere to sleep. We all know now why the Welsh Valleys are so green, or as the Irish would say we played in fine soft conditions. The course was set up with competition greens but this bothered the Hankerton athletes not one little bit. As always we had individual competitions and the results are as follows:

Fuelled by a full Welsh breakfast and an extra helping of black pudding, Brian won the longest drive in a straight line.

The best lady golfer was Frances in her pink outfit

The ball nearest the pin on the 202 yard par 3 was David, even with his tennis elbow

The shortest drive off the tee was awarded to John Edwards

The prize for the most balls lost on one hole went to Mike Geake

The latter prize given by Philip another story there!

The highest bar bill of £348.67 went to room 223 we do not know who that was.....

The best caterer was awarded to Carrol for the use of her room for our parties.

Mike, as he had a half empty tube of Ibuprofen was appointed as Club physio.

Frances organized a sweep stake on the Grand National - Betty won first prize, Heather and Mike 2nd and 3rd.

It was an all good fun weekend with much laughter; we will not mention the wine and beer! Plans are already afoot for 2015; venue to be agreed at our next standards meeting.

Finally, Peter J. would like to include this golf joke, (*Craig is easily bribed.....*)

*A Scottish woman goes to the local newspaper office to see that the obituary for her recently deceased husband is published.*

*The "obit" editor informs her that there is a charge of 50p per word.*

*She pauses, reflects, and then she says, "Well, then, let it read, 'Angus MacPherson died'."*

*Amused at the woman's thrift, the editor tells her that there is a seven word minimum for all obituaries.*

*She thinks it over and in a few seconds says, "In that case, let it read.....*

*'Angus MacPherson died. Golf clubs for sale'."*

## Hankerton Sport Relief

Thank you very much to everyone who got involved in the Hankerton event for Sport Relief and made it such a success.

Here are some facts from the event:

139 attended (128 in 2012); 81 registered on the day

£303 was raised through the sale of cakes and refreshments (£200 in 2014)

A further £250 was raised through donations on the day

One individual raised £750 in sponsorship. I won't know the total amount raised through sponsorship and donations until the autumn, but it is certain to be more than the £2k raised in 2012.

Villagers got involved with marshalling, cake making and selling, car parking, giving information and registering entrants on the day, music, handing out medals and water, and help before the event

Participants came from the surrounding area, including South Cerney Girl Guides

The recent rain turned the 3/6 mile route into a cross country run

The event started with a warm up by personal trainer Margie Knight (from Lea)

Many children, having run the 1-mile route, enjoyed it so much that they ran it again

David and Claudine Pynn carried out car parking duties while dressed as Panto characters

Kris Marshall, from Death in Paradise and former Hankerton resident, had been invited to start the event. In his absence the event was started by Esme Thorne

Photos of the event are on the Hankerton village website.

My thanks again!

John



## Support your local hospital and become a member today

### We're becoming an NHS Foundation Trust

We believe that the Royal United Hospital Bath NHS Trust (RUH) belongs to our staff, patients and the local community - and that our staff and the local community should be given a greater voice in how the hospital is run and the services we can provide. That 'greater voice' comes through membership of the RUH. By signing up as members, local people, patients and staff can have a direct influence.

We hope to be authorised as an NHS Foundation Trust (FT) in 2014 which will enable us to be more engaged with our community, and gives us further opportunities to give our patients and staff a greater say in how the hospital is run.

An NHS Foundation Trust is still part of the NHS but has greater flexibility in its decision-making and planning of local health services and it becomes accountable to a membership which is drawn from the population it serves, both locally and further afield. From these members, Governors are elected (Council of Governors) to represent members' interests.



Members are therefore given a greater say in the development of the hospital and can have a direct influence in the development of services within the hospital which are more closely in line with the needs of the local communities and more accurately reflect the needs and expectations of local people with a patient-led NHS service.

### It's your hospital, it's important to have your say

Being a Member provides you with the opportunity to influence how the hospital is run and the services that we offer. Membership is completely free and it is up to you how involved you would like to be.

Through the Council of Governors, Members are given a greater say in the development of the hospital and can have a direct influence in the development of services within the hospital. Further benefits are outlined below:

- Help the Trust to improve services by sharing their views and indicating where improvements could be made or where things could be done differently;
- Be involved and consulted on issues such as changes and improvements to services;
- Keep up to date with Trust news by receiving the Trust's quarterly magazine, *Insight* (this is circulated by email if we have the members email address);
- Vote for a representative during the Governor elections;
- Be eligible to stand for election as a Governor;
- Membership is completely free!
- Receive invitations and attend exclusive member events;
- Have exclusive online access to health service discounts.



Complete a membership form online at: [www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust)

Or contact the Membership Office on 01225 826288 who will happily send you a form.

Healthcare you can Trust

### The RUH has three levels of involvement as follows:

1.	Keep In touch	These members simply wish to receive our quarterly magazine and key news.
2.	Get Involved	As above, but these members may also wish to receive invitations to Trust events and take part in surveys or focus groups to help us improve our services.
3.	Work with the hospital	As above, but these members may be interested in becoming future Governors.

#### How do I sign up?

Becoming a member couldn't be easier, simply complete a membership form online at [www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust), or contact the membership office using the details below who will happily send you a membership form.

Write to us:  
FREEPOST RSLZ-GHKG-UKKL,  
RUH Membership Office (C27),  
Royal United Hospital Bath NHS Trust,  
Combe Park,  
Bath,  
BA1 3NG

Phone: 01225 821299 or 826288

Email: [RUHmembership@nhs.net](mailto:RUHmembership@nhs.net)

Website: [www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust](http://www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust)

### Caring for You events

The Membership Office organises a series of events entitled Caring for You which are designed exclusively for our members.

These events offer a great opportunity to both inform members about how the Trust operates, and is developing its services, but they also enable members to feedback their views on specific issues. The remaining 2014 schedule is as follows:

Date	Event title
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2014	RUH North Redevelopment
29 <sup>th</sup> July 2014	Cancer & Survivorship
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Men's Health, Focusing on Health Promotion & Backs
27 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	Patient Safety, Privacy & Dignity
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Food & Nutrition

All events take place at the RUH (department B20) and begin at 6pm. Places must be booked, so please call the Membership Office on 01225 826288.



"Such a valuable evening. I gained much more insight into the teams involved in the care of the patients."



## CHARITY CONCERT

7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2014 St. Mary's Church TETBURY @7.30pm

The Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds is proud to present a concert by the highly acclaimed local amateur choral group the "Stuart Singers". The "Stuart Singers" was founded in 1992 and are based in Minchinhampton. In the last 21 years they have helped raise over £200,000 for charity and good causes either through their own concerts in Minchinhampton twice a year or through giving concerts such as that promoted by South Cotswolds Rotary Club.

The choir is extremely professional in its approach and they sing without music making their performances more exiting and stimulating to watch. Their programme will contain music to suit all tastes ranging from a medley from "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Sounds of Simon and Garfunkle" to more traditional choral pieces such as "Londonderry Air" and "Zadok the Priest". It promises to be a truly entertaining event.

The aim of the event is to raise funds towards the purchase of a mobile hoist for the local charity "Allsorts" which provides help and support for families with disabled children. The charity is not state funded and is run a small management committee and many dedicated volunteers providing activities and clubs for the disabled children giving the families much needed some respite. The support network is invaluable to the families affected and a mobile hoist will enable the more severely disabled children to join others on trips out.

Tickets will be available by contacting Rotarian John on 07784 485 735 or any member of the club.

We were very sad to hear of the recent passing of Margaret Hobbs who used to live with her late husband Arthur at 20 Follyfield for many years. When Margaret and Arthur moved to central Malmesbury they would always stop for a chat with their friends from Hankerton and our thoughts and prayers are with their family at this sad time. Margaret's funeral will be held on Wednesday 4th June at 12 noon, at Westerleigh Crematorium BS37 8QP, followed by refreshments at The Old Bell Hotel, Malmesbury. There is no need to wear black, family flowers only please or donations to Diabetes UK if you wish.

Eds

# Hankerton Church News



## Hankerton Church Services

### Hankerton Church June - September 2014

June		
1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30	Holy Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Informal Service
29 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Minety Group Service Holy Communion
29 <sup>th</sup>	3:00	Strawberry teas
July		
16 <sup>th</sup>	9:30	Holy Communion
20 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Informal Service
August		
6 <sup>th</sup>	9:30	Holy Communion
10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Oaksey Group Service Holy Communion
During this service we will remember World War I		
20 <sup>th</sup>	11:00	Informal Service
31 <sup>st</sup>	10:00	Ashley Group Service Holy Communion

#### From the registers

On May the 18<sup>th</sup> Jessica Rose Vashti Durnford Sawtell was baptised.

## TOUCH OUR HEARTS

"I offer you peace, be renewed by Me - From the stresses and strains that you daily see  
Come into a quiet place- Close the door on the world's rat race

When you feel the silence envelop you there  
Know that I AM with you in prayer  
These are times when you need to take a rest  
Take life slower, do not be over-stressed  
Be like My Son, with hearts that are humble,  
gentle in every way - Feel His stillness renewing  
you as you pray."

Thank You, Lord, for Your many kindnesses as we  
Give our worries to You offered with due humility  
We thank You for the silence that surrounds us and in  
the midst, we feel You there - You fill us up with  
warmth, we are uplifted when You touch our hearts  
in prayer.

27.09.98.

(Mark 6:31)

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The process to replace Rev Barry Raven, following his retirement, is well under way and there have been several meetings with the other churches in our Braydon Brook Group (Ashley, Charlton, Crudwell, Hankerton, Minety and Oaksey).  
Philip Carter, Churchwarden

## HOLY CROSS CHURCH HANKERTON CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT FOR 2013

The Church continues to be an important part of the village. Services on the first and third Sundays are supported by a small regular number of worshippers, whilst the congregations for Easter, Carols and Christmas were more encouraging.

The major event of the year was the retirement of our parish priest, Barry Raven. This took place in October, when there was a terrific "send-off" in Crudwell, who hosted the event on behalf of the six churches in our Braydon Brook Group, the other four being Ashley, Charlton, Minety and Oaksey. We thank Barry, who was well supported by Avril, for his faithful and cheerful approach to what is a challenging role, looking after six rural parishes. We are going through the process of finding a new parish priest and, during the vacancy, we are being well looked after by Lee Barnes, as interim minister, ably supported by Sarah Wyman, Richenda Daws and others.. Various events were held throughout the year. The Strawberry Tea in the churchyard was enjoyed by many villagers in lovely weather and the Harvest Lunch in the North Aisle was also well supported. A Lent Lunch was held in March and our usual Advent Sale at the end of November.

We were lucky, for the second year running, that general repairs and maintenance on the building were low but there are signs of various works requiring attention in 2014. The architect's next Quinquennial Survey is due in 2015 and this usually highlights fabric repairs, not noticed by the untrained eye. The "Living Churchyard" project, under Steve Davies' direction, continues with a good variety of wild flowers. The churchyard grass has been regularly cut, usually including an extra trim ahead of the four weddings held in 2013. There has also been some tree surgery during the year. There has been continued use of the North Aisle by the History Group and the Parish Council. It is now used as a polling station by Wiltshire Council for all elections. We thank Anne Brown who coordinates the Saturday morning "Coffee and Chat" This is an important part of our community life and all ages are welcome. The North Aisle fund raising continues, with the main event being the Street Fayre in August and we thank the members of the North Aisle committee and many other people who have been involved.

We would also like to thank Lee Barnes, Sarah Wyman, Richenda Daws and Richard and Margaret Maslen for their spiritual guidance throughout the year. Sarah's ordination as a priest took place in Bristol Cathedral in June and there was a special group service at Hankerton on 7<sup>th</sup> July, when she fully took the communion service for the first time in front of a congregation of 120, followed by a splendid lunch in the churchyard. It was a memorable occasion. We thank all members of the PCC for their various efforts during the year, Rick Hewitt, our main organist and others who have played throughout the year. We also thank those on the flower and cleaning rota for all their hard work in keeping the church looking lovely. The Church and churchyard are well maintained by village volunteers. The North Aisle is an important facility for the community. Like many Churches, our congregations are mostly small, so we must continue to try and find ways to draw in people of all ages, for communion in its broader sense. It is not only a peaceful place for worship but also to meet and talk with people of all views.





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Seat width	18"	20"	23"
Seat depth	18"	20"	22"
Back height	27"	30"	30"

2 Fabric choices: Choose from either the burgundy colour shown or oatmeal (right). This high quality chair will recline you to a relaxed laying position, or lift you all the way to your feet using the remote. Best of all, you can have this chair:

- Delivered
- Set-up
- Demonstrated

for only **£749.99!**

\*Gloucester/Wiltshire counties only. If you live outside of these areas, give us a call and we will be happy to quote you for setup and installation.