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THE NEWS

MAD MARCH HARES

and other creatures great and small

An Exhibition at the Old Mill Gallery
5-27th March 2016 open 10am-5pm
during the exhibition.



'THE NEWS'

March 2016

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email newseec.treasurer@gmail.com

Representatives

Edington Pauline Dorgan, Post Office, Edington. *telephone 830 013 (9am-12 noon)*

Coulston Charles Riley, 1 Coulston, Coulston. *telephone 830 089*

ALL ARTICLES for the news are to go to email address thenewseec@gmail.com Items delivered by hand/post should go to Turners Garage, High St, Erlestoke clearly marked 'The News'

DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY & ADVERTISING 18TH OF THE MONTH



People call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute.

Rebecca West

A big thank you all who donated to The News last month: **The Link, Edington Station Yard and Mervin Gilbert, George and Joy Fraser, 3 Villages Minibus, J.S. Levin and D.D. Geach and M. Carr.** Your gifts have made a difference. Donations keep the magazine going so if you enjoy the magazine perhaps you would consider making a donation or even an annual direct debit to The News for your copy? Everything is appreciated and put to good use. We are all volunteers apart from the printer, and even donate a colour cover at xmas.

Enjoy all the events that are happening round the villages in March and please send me some photos of what you get up to, especially some local shots would be most appreciated to thenewseec@gmail.com Happy Easter *Fiona*

Front page: The works from local artists exhibiting in The Old Mill Gallery, Worton from Sat 5-27 March.

Advertise in THE NEWS for as little as £40 for a year for a small ad, half page advert for £120 for the year,

THE NEWS IS AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF ERLESTOKE, EDINGTON AND COULSTON. THE CONTENT IS NOT INFLUENCED BY THE PARISH COUNCILS NOR ANY OTHER ORGANISATION. Opinions expressed or implied in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors and no responsibility can be accepted for any errors of fact printed in this publication. The Magazine is FREE to residents.



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ERLESTOKE CHURCH EVENTS

Saturday 5th March
Book Swap, 10am–12 noon.

Saturday 16th March
Spring Bingo: eyes down 2pm

ERLESTOKE FLOWER ROTA

MARCH

6 Lent no flowers
13 Lent no flowers
20 Lent no flowers
27 Easter Day

APRIL

3 No Service
10 Mrs H. Diskett
17 Mrs F. Frise
24 Mrs E. Lydall

ATTENTION! ERLESTOKE'S FAMOUS PLANT SALE

Bank Holiday Monday 2 May, 2pm in
the Church. Bring some, buy some.
Now is the time to plant.



Bring your dogs and children for a spring walk in the woods before or after.



ERLESTOKE MARQUEE

6 X 3M, FOR HIRE

£40 per hire

contact Fiona on 07816 160 163 for details



EASTER LILIES

If you would like a lily placed
in Erlestoke church this Easter
in memory of a loved one,
please contact Elizabeth Lydall,
50 High St, Erlestoke.

Approximate cost £5, please
give Elizabeth the names and
money as soon as possible to
allow a provisional order at
the beginning of March.

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SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE MARCH 2016

Sunday	Bratton	Edington	Erlestoke	Coulston
1 st Sunday 6th March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	08.00 HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) 11.00 FAMILY SERVICE: FAIR TRADE THEME	09.30 PARISH COMMUNION (CW)		11.00 PARISH COMMUNION (CW)
2 nd Sunday 13th March <i>Passion Sunday</i>	08.00 HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) 11.00 PARISH COMMUNION (CW) 18.00 SING PRAISE	09.30 PARISH COMMUNION (CW) 18.30 EVENSONG	09.30 FAMILY WORSHIP	
3 rd Sunday 20th March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	08.15 MATINS 09.30 SERVICE ON VILLAGE GREEN	10.45 PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION TO CHURCH FROM PARISH HALL 11.00 EUCHARIST	16.00 EVENSONG FOLLOWED BY TEA	12.00 ONWARDS PICNIC LUNCH IN PARISH HALL 14.30 PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION
HOLY WEEK SERVICES	21/03/16 7.30 PM HOLY WEEK REFLECTION 7.30PM MAUNDY THURS FELLOWSHIP MEAL & SPECIAL REFLECTION FOR HOLY WEEK (BCI)	22/03/16 7.30 PM HOLY WEEK REFLECTION 7.30PM MAUNDY THURSDAY EUCHARIST WITH FOOTWASHING		23/03/16 7.30 PM HOLY WEEK REFLECTION
25th March GOOD FRIDAY	10AM ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS FROM BAPTIST CHAPEL TO PICQUET HILL 7.30PM THE CROSS OF CHRIST	1PM GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY		
26th March EASTER EVE	20.00 CHRIST IN QUIET at St James'	20.00 THE EASTER LITURGY		
1 st Sunday 27th March EASTER DAY	08.00 HOLY COMMUNION (BCP) 11.00 EASTER COMMUNION FOLLOWED BY EASTER EGG HUNT	09.30 EASTER COMMUNION FOLLOWED BY EASTER EGG HUNT (CW)	09.30 EASTER PARISH COMMUNION (CW)	11.00 EASTER PARISH COMMUNION (CW)

SELECTED SPECIAL EVENTS:

Public Morning & Evening Prayer: Thursdays at 7am and Saturdays at 8am in the Oratory room at the Church Institute at Bratton; Thursdays at Edington (9am)

Wednesday Communion Services:

At 9.30am on the 2, 9 and 23 of March and at 2.30pm on 16th at Shepherd's Cottage, Edington

Benefice Lent Courses: Sundays 14, 21 and 28 February plus 6 and 13 March at Edington parish hall from 4.30 - 6pm.

Palm Sunday Pilgrimage: Start in Bratton and finish in Erlestoke (See separate leaflet in church)



Edington EASTER Lilies: to donate contact
Christine Laslett 830876 or Anita Ronn 830846.

Erlestoke Memorial Easter Lilies: to donate contact
Elizabeth Lydall, 50 High St, Erlestoke

LUNCH IN THE PARISH HALL

We are holding a light lunch
(of a choice of soups & puddings)
on Wednesday 16 March
at 12.30pm
in the Parish Hall, Edington


Price £6

in aid of the Minibus funds.

All most welcome to join us.

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with catering arrangements

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Please contact Jean for further details on
07896 469 904 (Erlestone, near Devizes)

THE BURNBAKE TRUST

The Burnbake Trust is a registered charity, founded in the late sixties, based in Wilton. The Charity's main function is to provide donated essential household goods, sometimes in emergency situations, to disadvantaged local people.

These people are referred to us by Social Services, Age Concern, Women's Refuge, SSAFA and other agencies.

They have three shops, and a warehouse in Wilton, and operate a busy furniture collection and redistribution service locally. They sell a variety of donated household goods from bric-a-brac, china, books, clothing, furniture and electrical items. In addition to donated goods they sell gifts, cards, plants and haberdashery. If you are thinking of clearing out that wardrobe, or getting rid of the contents of your attic, then just bring your good quality clothes, shoes, jewellery, books, home furnishings and electrical items along to their main shop at 29 North Street, Wilton, just 50 yards from the Market Square. Look out for the blue (squeaky) door!

The Burnbake Trust is totally self funding, and the majority of their funding is raised from the sale of donated goods at their shops and warehouse, or at various events and stalls. Therefore any funding, donations or offers of help are always gratefully received.



*Please help by sending your donations to the PCC Treasurer for Edington Priory Church;
Col Hugh Hancock, Dunge Farm, West Ashton, Trowbridge, BA14 6AX*



EDINGTON EASTER LILIES We shall be buying lilies to put in Edington church at Easter. If you would like one placed in memory of a loved one please let us know.

Christine Laslett 830876 or Anita Ronn 830846.

GINA COULDRAKE

Thank you for your kind letters, cards and phone calls over the loss of my mum. It was extremely touching to see so many people at my mother's service. An amazing amount of £600 was raised in memory of Mum, these funds will be used to purchase new chairs for the freshly redecorated Visitors Lounge/Day Room for The Pulteney Ward, Bath RUH. So thank you all for your support. Heather Skyrme

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'I don't believe it' – by Kim Johnson

"I don't believe it," – I hear my husband say as I inform him that I've done it! I've signed up to do the London 2016 Moonwalk.

"You were an absolute mess at the end of it last year," – he says supportively. And yes I agree with him – I can't believe I'm going to put my poor feet through 26 miles of walking London pavements during the night again! It took months last year for the double stacked blisters to heal and I'm quite sure my feet are now an entirely different shape! The thought of doing it again has put off some of the more sane ladies from our original group – the 'Devizes Lunar Tits' but there is still time for me to convince them that it is a great idea!

It will be different this time. We know what to expect. We know the route. We know the format... Who am I trying to kid?!

www.wtwalk.org/moonwalklondon2016/km-26

www.wtwalk.org/moonwalklondon2016/lunar-tits

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ERLESTOKE BOOK SWAP & DROP IN COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 5 MARCH

10am–12.30pm, Erlestoke Church

Come for a chat amongst friends and discuss
new books on offer – all welcome – even dogs!



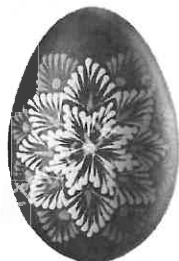
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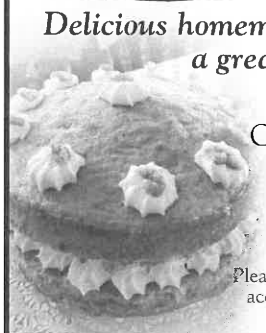
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THE FOUR VILLAGES LINK, is your local community support group that can provide you with assistance should the need arise.

If you would like help just call us on **07852 256 939** **between 9am – 6pm Monday to Friday** and one of our duty coordinators will log your request and find a volunteer to help you. All calls are charged at mobile rates. Responding to requests can be demanding so it really helps to receive plenty of notice when being asked to organise assistance, ideally not less than 48 hours in advance.

There has been much speculation and comment in the press recently about Wiltshire Council's decision to withdraw the Hopper Bus service to the RUH in Bath in May. However, as the service is currently still operating please use this bus if at all possible. It is a bookable service, operating Monday – Friday at affordable rates (concessionary fares are available) and there is wheelchair access available. To make your booking call 08456 525 255 (then select Option 2) by 10:00 the day before you wish to travel. Further details can be found at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/connect2wilts-ruh-hopper.pdf.

TFVL is one of many support schemes in Wiltshire staffed by volunteers and anyone, of any age or ability can make use of it. Whilst LINK supports and complements local health and social services it is able to operate at a far more personal level and, for your peace of mind, all our volunteers are CRB checked and carry identity badges.

However, the continued success of the scheme is going to be even more reliant upon the support of our team of volunteers. With an increasingly older population, a substantial decline in funding services locally and every likelihood of public transport being curtailed even further across the county, then it is inevitable that schemes like the LINK will be called upon more frequently to offer assistance. We cannot do this without the help of our dedicated volunteers and we are therefore looking for new people to join our team to help fulfil the requests.

Being a volunteer can give you a new interest as well as making good use of your skills and experience so, if you feel you can help or would just like to find out more about volunteering in any capacity, then please call for an initial chat on **07852 256 939**.

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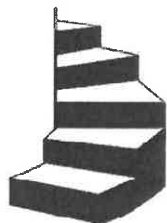
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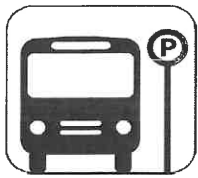
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Devizes	£2.70	Thur 03	9am
Warminster	£2.30	Tue 08	1.25pm
Westbury	£1.70	Every Thursday	1.25pm
Salisbury	£4	Sat 12	9.30am

The G&J trip to **Stourhead** is on **Friday March 11th**. It will leave Edington at 11am. and return at about 3pm. Please book your seat for any of these trips (or to hire the TVM for your group or for yourself and family/friends) by contacting Pauline at Edington post Office (telephone 830 013). Pick up points for all journeys can be organised to suit you. **We are most grateful to the Edington Station Yard Ltd.** for not only giving TVM a most generous donation but also for contributing to the lunches which we run in aid of both TVM and Edington Parish Hall.

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Games in early February continued to be disrupted by the weather, with limited matches being played. At the younger age group levels in the Club, training is progressing well, but new players are wanted especially for the Under 10s – see poster in this edition for the age groups 5 to 11. Unfortunately we can only report on results at the higher age groups in the club due to F.A. regulations:

U12s – recent good away Cup win against Bemerton Heath (2-3) – well done.

U13s – at the time of writing they are joint 2nd in the League, with recent wins : 6-3 against Bradford, and a good 1-7 away win against Westbury.

U15s – last couple of matches have been lost by the narrowest of margins, and in the League Cup they lost to Warminster 4-6, despite being 2-1 up at Half-time. With the transfer window closing in the next month, new players are needed. Please contact Neil below.

TEAM CONTACT DETAILS:

Reception Year (tasters) + Under 6 & 8's: Mark – 01380 813 160/07974 723 008. Under 7 and 10/11 – Jason 07734-627449
Under 9s – Dave 07843-678781; U-12: Stuart 07756 540 864,
U-13: Andy Duckett 07970-028330, Jake 07741 306 303; U-15:
Neil 01380 818 193 U10s



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Erlestone

Queen's birthday clean-up
Saturday 6 March, 11am. We are
joining with the nation for a
morning of cleaning up the
village. A litter pick will take
place starting at the Church car
park. Please come and join in,
many hands make light work,
bags provided!



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THE TAYLOR TRUST – EDINGTON

As well as contributing to the upkeep and maintenance of the Priory Church the Trustees are required to use part of the income of the Trust to assist the inhabitants of the Parish of Edington who maybe in financial need, hardship or distress. The Trustees construe these terms broadly and have in the past three years made five grants totalling £1,390.70 to assist parishioners in different ways. The next meeting will be held in early April.

Applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Apply to Robin Wilson, The Clerk to the Trustees of the Edington Taylor Trust, 4 Lower Road, Edington BA13 4QN.

Thank you, Robin Wilson



SPRING CONCERT

Thursday 17th March 2016

7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall at Dauntsey's School

Music will include Mozart Requiem, Overture from Verdi's "The Force of Destiny", the World Premiere of an orchestral piece by Dominic Irving and Highland Cathedral.

The School Orchestra, all Choirs and Choral Society, the Concert Bands and the Dance Band will be involved in a varied and entertaining musical evening.

Entry is free with a retiring collection for the school charity "Malaria No More".

If you plan to come, please let Debbie Davey know on 01380 814546 or daveydm@dauntseys.wilts.sch.uk



Dauntsey's

West Lavington Group of Friends

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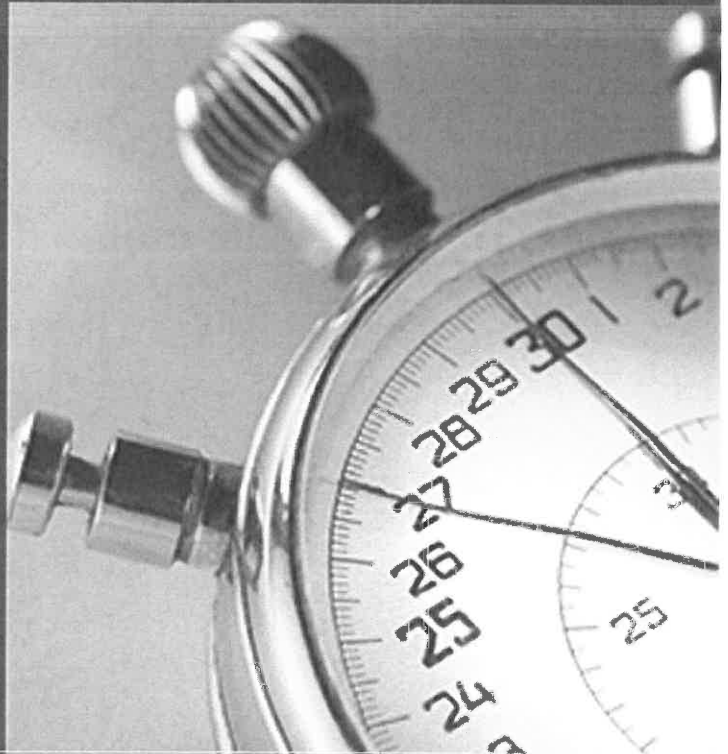
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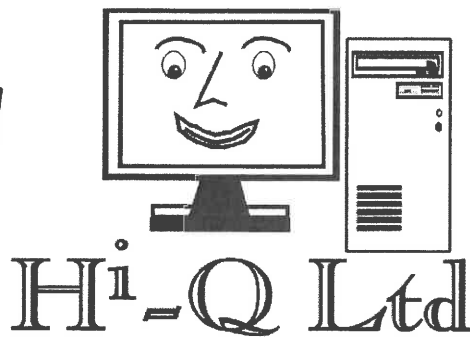
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Edington Clean Up

Queen's birthday clean-up 5 March, 9.30am. We are joining with the nation for a day of cleaning the village. A litter pick will take place starting 9.30 church car park. Litter picking equipment and high viz jackets hopefully will be supplied by the county council. Please come and join in, many hands make light work.

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ART & CRAFT FAIR, EDINGTON PRIORY CHURCH

15TH TO 17TH APRIL

For all artists in Bratton, Edington, Coulston and Erlestoke area to display their skill in painting, drawing, printing photography, modelling, and sculpture. A chance for all artists to show off their depth of skill and to sell if they wish. Junior artists (16 yrs and under) will be able to enter into competition with prizes. It is hoped to include a wide display of artistic disciplines and demonstrations in flower arranging, pottery, weaving and basket work.

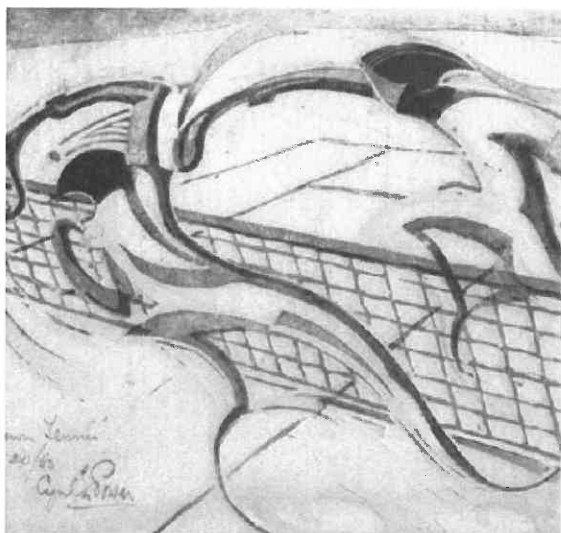
All who would like to enter are asked to apply for an 'APPLICATION FORM', which will give entry details and an 'Entry Form'. These should be requested from:
Robin Wilson 830566 or Sue Davies 830 174 or Liz Smith 830 351.

Entry Forms will be required by the 10th March

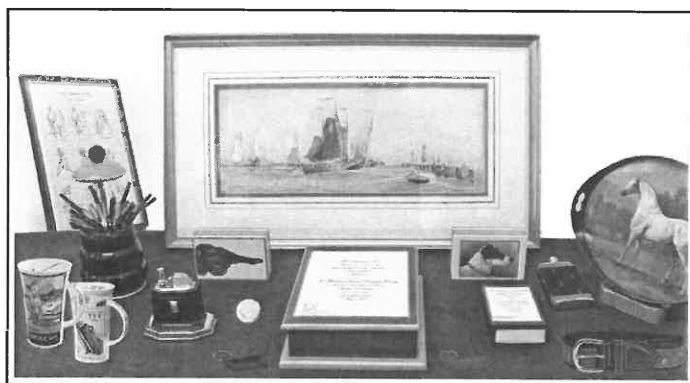
Artists are reminded that this Art Fair is gathering wide interest and support
Entry forms are being received

Easter may seem boring to children, and it is blessedly unencumbered by the silly fun that plagues Christmas. Yet it contains the one thing needful for every human life: the good news of Resurrection. **FREDERICA MATHEWES-GREEN**

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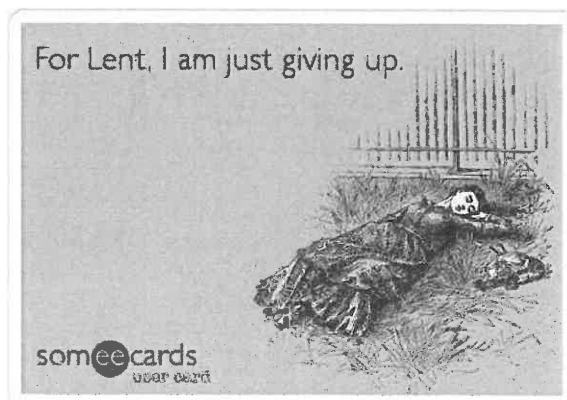
You may contact me about this or any other matter
by email to richard.gamble@wiltshire.gov.uk or
by phone on 07762 018 209

It seems to me that crime is quite common at the moment. I've recently caught episodes of Midsomer Murders, Silent Witness, Death in Paradise, Shetland and Vera (and there may be other dramas that I have missed). In each case, the crimes are horrid but the police are wonderful, eventually. Fortunately, the real-life crime rate around here is not nearly so bad. But that does not mean some does not exist and we each must play our part in preventing it.

Recently, one of our shops was victim to the crime of "making off without payment", which to you and me is theft. The problem was, no one reported the crime for three days. The police have much less chance of catching the culprit when the trail is so cold. From a location such as this, if the getaway car can be identified, the culprits could potentially be apprehended before they even reach Salisbury or Trowbridge or wherever if such a crime is reported promptly. Occasionally, there may be other criminal activities around here. You may spot miscreants hare coursing on the edge of the Plain or joy riding up there in stolen cars. In our communities, bogus door to door salesmen may employ techniques involving pressure selling, unfair contracts, overpriced or substandard home maintenance or improvements, phoney consumer surveys or bogus charity collections. Fraudulent salespeople, if let in, can take note of your valuables and any security measures you have in place.

The rule is, if you think a crime is being committed and is in progress, phone 999. Phone 101 if a crime has already been committed and there is no sign of the offender. We have a great local team to help us. Our local officers are: PC Jo Newbery – Community Beat Manager, PCSO Fiona Marno, PCSO Ellen Carter

To keep in touch, I urge you to sign up for www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk. And on the roads, look out for the 'Community Volunteer' marked police vehicle donated by Volvo for use in supporting public safety issues such as Community Speed Watch. It has its own calibrated speed monitoring device which can be used for enforcement action including fixed penalty notices by the police.



BRATTON PRESCHOOL

(Contact Wendy Waller/Paulene Bryant) Tel: 07949 286991

Our Frozen theme came to a natural end without seeing a flake of real snow and nature left us thinking perhaps we should have done Noah's Ark! However our spirits were lifted as we explored the festivities of Chinese New Year and thanks to a generous donation from Westbury Lions the children enjoyed a visit from Zoolab who brought with them a selection of animals to help illustrate how the Chinese named their years! A very informative morning was had by all!

BUG HUNT!!!

On Saturday 19th March 11am-1pm the Committee will be holding their annual Bug Hunt starting at the Church Institute. Live bugs are not included but families can follow a map around the village to hunt pictorial bugs before returning to the Institute for bug related crafts and snacks. There is a buggy friendly route too and the event is open to all ages. Children completing the route will each receive a small prize. Small entry charge – please see posters around the village.

BRATTON JUBILEE HALL

The next Supper Night will be on Friday 18th March 2016.

QUIZ NIGHT

Sat 2nd April 2016 7pm for 7.30pm £20 per table of 4 to include supper. BYOB.
Tickets 013580 830 297 or 01380 830 448

BRATTON FETE

Sat. 16th July 2016 on the village green Further details in April issue.

JUBILEE PLAYERS

After the success of the Pantomime we will be starting a Junior section on a Wednesday evening from 7pm to 8pm starting Wed 6th April 2016 for ages 9 to 16. Cost to cover hall and refreshments will be £1 per session. Lucy Murden (Jack) and Kaytee Symes (the Vegetable Fairy) are qualified and will be running the Junior section. Just turn up or ring 01380 830297 for details. Next production **A Variety Show** 3rd and 4th June 2016 To include light supper. Further details in April issue and on Posters

20th HILLY I IK

Sat. 14th May 11am Entry details from Dot Reeves 01380 830987
illyRaceSec@gmail.com. A donation this year will be given to Julia's House for the new Children's Hospice in Devizes



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March, in our Christian calendar this year, is a month of ups and downs, or perhaps more accurately of downs and ups.

We start the month with a celebration, Mothering Sunday. Like so many old practices it has developed from its origins as an encouragement for people to return to their church where they were Baptised (their Mother Church), and if they were regular churchgoers to their local cathedral, to its modern emphasis on the celebration of our Mothers and all they do and have done for us. We look forward to seeing you.

And we end the month on a high – Easter Day. Jesus from the depths of grief, torture and death, has risen from the dead. That is what all Christians celebrate. As one biblical writer Paul wrote: ‘death has no more dominion over him’. It was a bad week that had started so well with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, riding, would you believe it on a donkey – hardly the animal for a King. You would have expected a white charger at least! But Jesus didn’t come as that sort of king. As he said to Pilate the Roman Governor: ‘my kingdom is not of this world’. Kings generally rule through power. They need armies to enforce their authority; and, of course we all know that “power corrupts”. But Jesus is King of Heaven, and of our hearts where love rules. He simply calls us to be loving people and to follow in his ways. Let’s do it!! But things started going downhill. The religious authorities conspired to have him arrested because he appeared to be a threat to their power, the status quo and the very existence of the nation. It would be better they argued that one man should die than that the whole nation perish. Jesus had done nothing wrong. Powerful men pursued their trumped up charges against him and persuaded Pilate to sentence him to death on what we now know as Good Friday. And that would have been that. Yes, Jesus died on the Cross. But he didn’t stay dead and his resurrection that we celebrate led to Christianity spreading throughout the world. So please join with us at our services on Easter Day to mark this momentous event.

On a completely different matter we have launched a programme on **SPIRITUALITY**. This is a vast topic and there seems to be no simple definition but for me I see it as an exploration of the ways in which through public worship and private prayer and meditation we may come closer to God in Jesus. We sometimes speak of a ‘spiritual moment’ such as a beautiful piece of poetry, art, music or even simply a beautiful view that speaks momentarily to us. We are planning a series of talks and events details of which will be published in this newsletter and around our villages. You are all very welcome to attend.

In the love and peace of Christ.

Malcolm Wieck (Honorary Associate Priest)

Departure: Andy Hinton is leaving the village shortly so has tendered his resignation to the council. Andy has been an enthusiastic and valuable member of the council for many years, for many of which he held the office deputy chairman. He has spearheaded EVES which for years kept footpaths, the pond and general village maintenance in order until lack of volunteers from the village caused its demise. He has volunteered regularly for speed watch, started the cider club, and been a valuable member of the fair committee. He has thrown himself into all aspects of village life and will be a loss to the village. We wish him and his wife Deb every success in there new venture in Frome.

Casual vacancy with Andy's departure we now have 2 casual vacancies on the council, these will be formally advertised in the near future. If any villagers are interested in finding out what the role involves please contact the village clerk Malcolm Wick telephone 01380 830 256.

Neighbourhood plan: The council has now registered to start a neighbourhood plan. This will give the village a greater say on housing development local employment and facilities within the village. It is a village plan and needs full engagement of the villagers to succeed. We intend to outline what is involved and gage village support at our **Annual village meeting on 25 April**.

Speedwatch: The council would like to thank Deb Hinton for her work as coordinator of speed watch. **We now need a new coordinator.** We cannot have the speed gun without a co-ordinator. It's not a big job consisting of arranging a rota of volunteers for weeks we have the speed gun, and suppling the police with a record of what has been achieved. The coordinator does not have to use the speed gun but full training can be given if he/she would like to. If you are interested in becoming coordinator or to join the list of volunteers we would love to hear from you please contact Malcolm on 01380 830 256 if interested. This service has helped slow traffic through the village and improves all are safety so it would be beneficial to the village if it can continue.

Good Neighbour scheme *It is with sadness that we say goodbye to this scheme, Lise Griffiths has achieved a lot in her time as coordinator, the vulnerable elderly will miss her input but hopefully the lunch clubs that she has started will continue. Thank you Lise for all your hard work. We wait with interest to see what service the county council replaces it with.* **The street furniture** is also in need of a tidy up the benches lost us a lot of points in the best kept village completion last year. Please consider adopting a bench to maintain, if nobody comes forward then we will pay for them to be done. We try and keep the precept as low as possible but the less the village volunteers to do the more money we have to raise from you.

Street parties: the Queen's birthday weekend is 11 and 12 June, the Fair is on the 11 June. If any villagers would like to organise street parties for their neighbourhood this weekend, Wiltshire County Council have produced a leaflet to help you.

B3098 closure: we have received notice of temporary closure of the B3098 from 21 March to 8 April to enable essential road repairs and partial resurfacing.

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EDINGTON FAIR 11 JUNE 2016

This year's fair is now taking shape, more details of what is happening in next month's news. The spring is a busy time for gardeners. While you are sowing your seeds why not sow a few extra for the fair, and remember to pot up those unwanted seedlings whilst weeding the borders.

We have a few tables available in the craft tent:
 contact Jen on 07966 302 333 if interested.

There will be a evening party but a totally different format more details latter.
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HELP NEEDED

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Contact Lise for more information.



LUNCH CLUBS FOR DECEMBER

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Duke Pub Lunch Club, Bratton

Monday 14th March, 12.30 for 1pm

Please contact Lise on 07541 353401 to order and book your place.

The lunch club is open to anyone – main courses £7.95.

Erlestoke lunch club – every 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Churchill Arms in West Lavington.

For more information and to book in advance please ring Helen Diskett on 01380 831127

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THE EDINGTON TUESDAY DROP-IN

All are welcome to join us at the Three Daggers on Tuesdays between 11am and 12 noon for an informal chat and get together. Catch up on village gossip while you drink coffee and eat cake for £2.50. Children and dogs welcome too!
If you find getting there difficult transport can be arranged with TVM.

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THE BRATTON HISTORY ASSOCIATION

*The next meeting of the Bratton
March 20 at 4pm in the Church Institute.*

THE TALK WILL BE GIVEN BY
BRIAN WOODRUFFE AND THE
SUBJECT OF HIS LECTURE WILL BE:

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

Newcomers and non-members welcome.

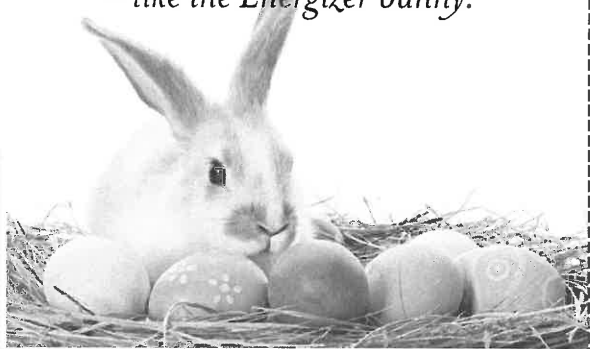
Annual membership : £8 single, £12 couple.

Lecture fee: £2 member, £4 visitor.

Further details can be obtained from posters in the village or by contacting Mo Maclean on 01380 830 221 or Anne Bailey at bratton.history@live.com.



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EDINGTON UNDER FIVES

Contact Patricia Genner on 07801 847508 for more information.

Want something to do on a Thursday with your toddler or baby?

The first session is free, and only £2 per family thereafter (to help with the food and running costs).

Children can enjoy playing, singing, a healthy snack and a fun craft activity. Tea and coffee is

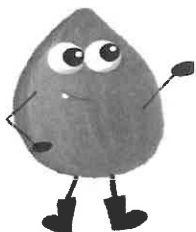
available for parents. Where: Edington Parish Hall. When: Every Thursday 10–12pm (closed during school holidays)



Edington Resident Member of the Chapter of Wells Cathedral

Dr Alan Kerbey OBE, who lives in Edington, was installed as a Member of the Chapter of Wells Cathedral in a special service on 12 January conducted by the Bishop of Bath & Wells, the Rt Rev Peter Hancock. The Chapter is the principal governing body of Wells Cathedral, providing strategic leadership and direction.

Formerly a Senior Research Fellow at Oxford University and Lecturer in Biochemistry at Trinity College, Oxford, Dr Kerbey was elected a Fellow of Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge in 2000. He was awarded an OBE in the 2012 New Year's Honour's List for services to medical research, education and young people.



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NEWS FROM YOUR GOOD NEIGHBOUR CO-ORDINATOR

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Lise Griffiths (Edington, Coulston and Bratton) 07541 353 401 or westburygnc@communityfirst.org.uk. Alex North, Good Neighbour Co-ordinator for Devizes villages. M: 07557 922 027

Closure of the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator Service

As outlined in the last issue of the magazine, the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator service will close on 31st March. Please see more information from Wiltshire Council below. I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed working with so many fantastic people in our villages. I would like to thank in particular the Parish Magazine, village groups and the Parish Councils for all your help in raising awareness of the service offered by Wiltshire Good Neighbours. Please note the lunch clubs at the Duke in Bratton and the Churchill Arms in West Lavington will continue. *Lise Griffiths*

'Wiltshire Council is working with area boards to change the way it works with communities to facilitate local wellbeing. As a result of this the Wiltshire Good Neighbours service which has operated successfully in parts of Wiltshire since 2010 is to come to an end on March 31st. Local area boards across Wiltshire will set up local wellbeing groups that will bring together key individuals and organisations to ensure communities have the information and opportunities to remain healthy and well.'

At present, the exact arrangements being put in place by each area board have yet to be finalised and anyone requiring support in the meantime should contact the Wiltshire Council Adult Care Help Line on 0300 456 0111

"If you care about your weight and health during the Easter period you should only eat the white part of the Cadbury creme eggs."





New members and visitors are always welcome.

Meetings every second Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall

www.facebook.com/edingtonandtinheadwi

Contact Helen O'Donoghue 830 501 for more information

The speaker at our January meeting was Steve Hodson the Governor of Erlestoke prison who gave us an insight into the work of the prison and the lives of the inmates. Steve has been the Governor of this category C prison, housing 524 men since 2014 and is clearly passionate about his role and that of the prison service. Erlestoke is a national centre with an offender behaviour system that addresses the needs of prisoners to lessen their risks of reoffending. There are courses tackling issues such as: domestic violence, relationships, alcohol abuse and a 12 step drug recovery programme. This last one is particularly significant as up to half the inmates have a drug addiction problem. There are also courses in maths and literacy; many of the prisoners have low levels of these basic skills that are so vital to living and working outside of prison. Steve is also keen to foster links with the local community; "Friends of Erlestoke Prison" provides an important service to friends and families. Vera Tottingham gave a vote of thanks that was warmly endorsed by members.

Helen advised members of future Federation events including an opportunity to attend a talk by Black Rod on March 11th. Jacky Hiscock gave us an update on our skittles team, not doing too badly, and dates for future matches.

The February meeting was our AGM. We heard reports on the past year from the Secretary and President. 2015 was the Centenary of the W.I. in England and was certainly a busy one for us with members attending a variety of events at National, Federation and local levels; from Buckingham Palace to Edington Parish Hall! In addition to our own partying and commemoration we were pleased to mark the event among the wider community with a display, highlighting some of our key campaigns, in the Hall and at the Fair and with a very successful fund raising coffee morning in aid of Julia's House Hospice; the latter with the Under 5s.

The Treasurer Sarah Killian presented the Financial Statement and this was approved by members. A new committee was elected and members voted for Meg McGlynn to become the new President. The outgoing committee and President were thanked for their work over the past year. At our next meeting on March 8th there will be a talk and demonstration of jewellery making by Catronel Matthews; visitors very welcome at this and all of our meetings. March 11th sees our Fashion Show with students from Kingdown School, Warminster. Friday 19.30 Jubilee Hall, Bratton. Entrance by ticket only £5 to include wine and cheese.



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EDINGTON & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

FIRST THURSDAY IN THE MONTH PARISH HALL 7.30PM

We were entertained by Alan Power, Head Gardener from Stourhead, at our February meeting.

We last heard from Alan in 2007, so he was able to tell us about everything he had been up to since then. He first joined the staff at Stourhead 20 years ago as number 6. There are still only 6 full time gardening staff with 15 volunteers. The House and Estate have a total of 480 volunteers. The Hoare banking family built the Palladian House and the gardens which were a reaction against the formal gardens of the 17th Century. After seven generations the estate was passed to the National Trust in 1947. Alan's enthusiasm for not only the garden but the history of the family and previous headgardeners shines through. Louise, Alan's wife, also came along and she is now the gardener for Stourton House. The weather at the estate has been quite challenging this winter but only torrential rain stops any work. The first snowdrops were seen on 22nd December with such a mild winter. Alan showed us slides of the restoration work carried out on the Pantheon (built in 1753) and it was good to hear that some of the timbers used are from the estate. Alan also told us about his Radio 4 chats, over the past eight years, and his four programmes on BBC4, 'British Gardens in Time'. Visitors have been going to Stourhead for the last 250 years and we look forward to taking another look ourselves for our August meeting.

We have 3 outings arranged this summer, Mottisfont Abbey, Sherborne Castle and Stourhead, if you would like to come along and join us please contact me on 830133 or come along to the next meeting on March 3rd where you can enjoy a talk by Claire Barker on bee keeping and products, these items will be on sale, and you can book a space on the trips.

This years fair on June 11th, we will be running the plant stall again so please keep any plants and seedlings for us to sell.

Visitors are always made welcome to any of the meetings. *Jacky Hiscock — Chairman*



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FAMILY PENITENTIAL SERVICE FOR EASTER

This will be held in St John's Church Trowbridge on Wednesday 16th March at 7.30pm. The priests of the Deanery will be available for Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation). This service gives all the family an opportunity to prepare for the Easter Triduum and meet Jesus in confession to receive His healing and forgiveness.

f.geraghty303@btinternet.com

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT DANCE

St John's Primary School, Winfield Road, Trowbridge on Saturday 19th March. Further information in the next issue

EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICES:

St. John The Baptist, Trowbridge:

Maundy Thursday

Mass of The Last Supper, 7.30pm

Good Friday

Stations of The Cross, 10.30am

Solemn Passion of Our Lord 3.00pm

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil & Mass of The Resurrection, 7.30pm

Easter Sunday Masses:

Morning Mass 10.30am Evening Mass 6.00pm

Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation):

Maundy Thursday: 8.30 - 9.00pm

Good Friday: 11-11.30am 4.30-5pm

Holy Saturday: 11-11.30am. 3-4pm

St Bernadette's Westbury:

Good Friday:

Stations of the Cross 6pm

Confessions, 6.30pm-7pm

Easter Sunday: Morning Mass 9am

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

In February Westbury and District U3A were entertained by Fran Sandham who gave an interesting and amusing account of his solo walk across Africa, called the Traversa. This trek of nearly 3600 miles was from the Skeleton Coast in the west to Zanzibar in the East and crossed through Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Tanzania.

He first became excited about Africa from reading Tarzan comics at the age of 6 but developed an interest in the Victorian explorers/travellers such as Livingstone and Stanley later in life. The decision to undertake the journey came from a New Year's resolution. He spent the next year scrimping together the £3000 needed for the trip which he expected to take 12 months. There was nothing scientific in deciding the route – the Skeleton coast sounded exotic and Zanzibar, where many of the Victorian explorers started their journeys, sounded exciting.

He undertook no specific fitness training but under the harsh Namibian sun, Fran soon realised he was carrying far too much weight. His pack weighed 100 pounds and he soon had to start dumping items and giving things away en route. One of the first things to go was his mini-stove as he realised he could get by without cooking food. By the time he had crossed half of the Namib Desert, he was carrying about 60 pounds. Complete with his two trekking poles, which made him look as if he was skiing across the desert, he made good progress across the stark landscape travelling up to 35 miles a day - until calamity struck in the form of a stubborn donkey. He decided to buy a pack animal to make the journey easier. The donkey called Tsondeb, which literally means Where You Get Stuck, was not very enthusiastic about the journey. They went round and round in circles for weeks and weeks. Eventually Fran admitted defeat, gave the donkey to a nice farm, and travelled further in the next 20 minutes than he had done in the previous two and a half months.

Fran's journey had its inevitable ups and downs. He suffered diarrhoea for most of the trip after contracting giardiasis from contaminated water, he had an encounter with a puff adder, was wakened at night by lions growling nearby and contracted malaria at the end of his journey. He, however, fondly remembers the warm hospitality of the local people along his route, being followed from place to place by crowds of noisy children, beautiful Lake Malawi and the spectacular Victoria Falls. Despite losing almost a third of his body weight, Fran was reluctant to finish his arduous journey. He concluded by saying he loved travelling and has considered new expeditions since, but has never quite attempted another one! *Please join us for our next meeting on March 8th at 2 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall for a talk by Lynda Warren on A Funny Way to Earn a Living – working for S4C and BBC Wales.*

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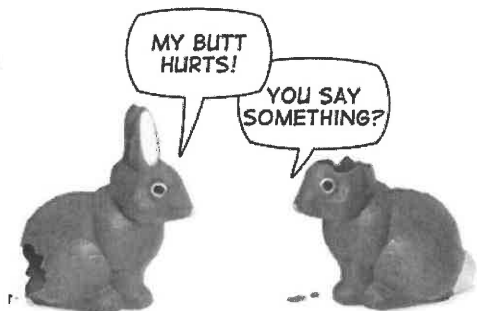


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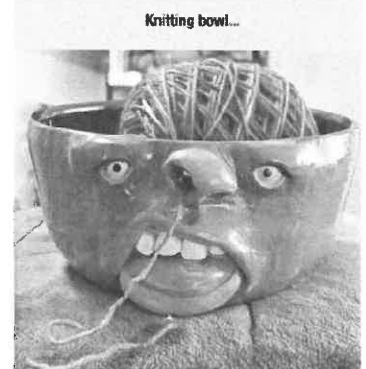
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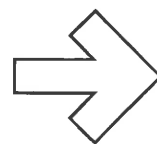


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News from your Wiltshire Councillor – Jerry Wickham

During the recent round of discussions and consultation over Wiltshire Council's budget plans, some quite startling facts emerged.

The entire budget for the county is over £900m of which £587m is ring-fenced for schools, benefits and housing revenue account

Of the remainder, £150m is spent on highways, waste collection, subsidised buses, leisure & libraries and £179m on vulnerable residents to include: the elderly, children & adults with learning difficulties, severely disabled children & adults, mental health, and prevention of child sexual exploitation

One statistic that really caught my eye was the fact that currently 23.4% of our population is at retirement age and in 10 years, this will rise to 27.1%. Wiltshire is known to have a higher than average older population, partly due to the lovely area we live in. However, there is recognition that the funding going into looking after our ageing population and other vulnerable residents will continue to increase as time goes on. When this is balanced against the need to repair our roads and collect our waste etc and the fact that the funding from central Government continues to decrease, means that preparing and then delivering on our available finances remains a complex business.

Topical issues in the area at present, include the consultation on public transport, especially where the Council subsidises buses, which is open until 4 April. This can be completed on line at http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal/ltp/wiltshire_local_transport_plan_-_public_transport_strategy_review and I would encourage residents to complete this. Additionally, hard copies are available at Wiltshire Libraries.

And finally, it looks like the B3098 will begin being repaired from 21 March through into May! In the meantime, if you have an issue, please feel free to make contact either through my email address jerry.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk or my home telephone of 01380 870476 or mobile 07980 701 617.



EDINGTON VILLAGE REGISTER

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Linda Lee.

We congratulate Stuart and Sarah and welcome to the world and Edington, baby Thomas.

We welcome Jeff Lupton to the village who has come to live in Berry Road.

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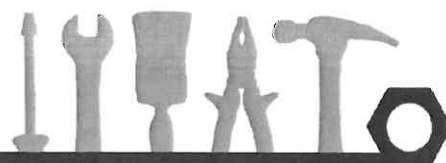
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MARCH

- 03 Ed Gardening Club, Edington Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 05 **EDINGTON CLEAN UP**
Church Car park 9.30am
- 06 **ERLESTOKE CLEAN UP**
Church Car Park 11am
- 06 Book Swap, Erlestoke Church, 10am-midday
- 06 Carvery, Erlestoke Golf Club
- 08 WI meeting, Edington Village Hall
- 08 U3A Meeting, United Reform Church, 2pm
- 11 WI Fashion Show, Bratton Jubilee Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 G&J trip to Stourhead, Edington PO, 11am
- 14 Lunch Club, Duke Bratton, 1230
- 16 Spring Bingo, Erlesoke Church, 2pm
- 16 TVM lunch, Edington Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 17 Spring Concert, Dauntsey's Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 18 Supper Night, Bratton Jubilee Hall
- 19 Bug Hunt, Bratton Church Institute, 2pm

APRIL

- 02 Quiz Night, Bratton Jubilee Hall, 7.30pm
- 15-17 Art & Craft Fair, Edington Priory
- 22-23 Night of Opera, Devizes Town Hall, 7.30pm

MAY


- 02 **Spring Plant Fair, Erlestoke Church, 2pm**
Plant donations please
- 14 Bratton Hilly 11K, 11am


JUNE

- 11 **Edington Fair**

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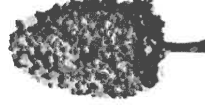
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