



Edington Parish Council expresses its sadness at the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and joins the royal family and the world in its mourning.



Share your thoughts and memories of Her Majesty The Queen



Wiltshire residents are invited to share their thoughts and memories of Her Majesty The Queen in a [special online book of condolence](#).

The book is available until the day after the funeral. There will also be books of condolence set up in all Wiltshire Council libraries.

The Queen visited Wiltshire a number of times, including attending Salisbury Cathedral during her Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in 2012 and most recently visiting Dstl Porton Down in October 2020. She had also visited the county for military engagements, including meeting the Royal Welsh Regiment in Tidworth in 2017.

HM Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mrs Sarah Rose Troughton said:

"It is with very great sadness that we have learnt of the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

As HM Lord-Lieutenant and on behalf of the people of Wiltshire and Swindon, I would like to send heartfelt condolences and prayers to Her Majesty's immediate family.

Her Majesty visited our county many times during her reign; to her regiments based here, to Salisbury for HM's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in 2010 and most recently to Porton Down in 2020.

Her Majesty's long, unique reign, and her wonderful life of service and devotion to the nation will be remembered with deep affection and gratitude.

We can of course look forward with confidence to His Majesty The King as her true successor and assure him and his family of Wiltshire's loyalty and support."

Chairman of Wiltshire Council, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, said:

"I, like so many of us, cannot remember a time when Her Majesty The Queen did not sit on the throne. The Queen has led this country setting a shining example of service, dedication and dignity in office, committed to all her subjects and her country. I would encourage those with memories of Her Majesty to join me in writing them down in our online book of remembrance."

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, said:

"This is a very sad time for all of us.

We have lost one of the most important figures of our time who has led our nation with grace and dignity. The Queen never wavered from her dedication to her subjects, to her country and to the Commonwealth.

I know there is much love for her and her family in this county. I know many people will be in shock and grief at this time and we all share that sadness.

People can write down their own memories and thoughts in our online book of condolence. I hope people will take a few minutes to put into words what The Queen meant to them so we have a permanent record of the way The Queen touched the lives of people in Wiltshire."



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Welcome to the twenty-ninth edition of the Edington Village News.



Please note that the Church will be open every day from dawn to dusk for anyone who wishes to spend some time in quiet and/or prayer reflecting on the death of our Queen.

The Church bells may be rung.

Some set prayers will be available should they be required.



Local surgeries latest

REMEMBER YOU MUST WEAR A FACE COVERING WHILST IN THE BUILDINGS

White Horse Health Centre and Bratton Surgery



Westbury surgery TELEPHONE 01373 828330

Bratton Surgery TELEPHONE 01380 831911

For medical emergencies dial 999

Information about the 2022/2023 flu vaccine for patients

In the 2022/2023 season there are a number of different flu vaccines that will be offered in the UK.

All of the inactivated vaccines delivered by the practice protect against 4 strains of flu

The flu vaccine does not contain any live flu viruses and cannot give you flu

For those aged over 65 years:

We will offer a quadrivalent vaccine with an adjuvant (adjuvants are substances which help to strengthen and lengthen the immune response to the vaccine.) This vaccine is being offered because it has been shown to work better in older adults.

The vaccine is manufactured by Seqirus

For those between 18 – 64 years in an eligible 'at risk group' or healthy over 50 year olds:

We will offer a quadrivalent vaccine manufactured by Seqirus. This vaccine is suitable for those with egg allergies

Common side effects after having the flu vaccine

- Pain, swelling or redness at the injection site
- Shivering/Mild temperature
- General feeling unwell

- Tiredness
- Muscle and joint pain
- A small painless nodule may also form at the injection site

These symptoms usually disappear within one to two days

As well as having the flu vaccine you can prevent flu by ensuring good hand hygiene and cleaning:- Always:

- Make sure you wash your hands regularly with soap and water
- Clean surfaces such as your keyboard, telephone and door handles regularly to get rid of germs
- Use tissues to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in a bin as soon as possible

Rare side effects to the flu vaccine:

Thrombocytopenia, lymphadenopathy, allergic reactions, muscular weakness, neurological conditions (including Guillain-Barre Syndrome)

Westbury Group Practice Facts and Figures for the week 30th August - 2nd September 2022

Phone calls taken: 1312

Face-to-Face appointments: 1363

Telephone appointments: 618

eConsults submitted: 106

Appointments where the patient did not attend (DNA): 57 - equivalent to 16 hours

On the day emergency appointments where the patient DNA'd: 6 – equivalent to 1.25 hours

Please note: we were closed on Monday 29th August 2022 for the bank holiday.

Thank you

Dr Edwards & Partners

www.westburygp.co.uk



Wiltshire Council

Latest News from Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council is part of technology pilot to help people maintain independence

Wiltshire Council has received £75,000 in funding as part of a national scheme to help involve older residents in shaping new digital services.

Dairy View, an extra care housing scheme in Wiltshire, will be part of the pioneering project which will use technology to help people maintain independence.

The funding is part of the pioneering TAPPI project (Technology for our Ageing Population: Panel for Innovation) which aims to improve the way technology is used in housing and care for older people through ten practical principles.

Wiltshire is part of a wider project involving other housing providers across the UK.

Led by the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (Housing LIN), the TEC Services Association (TSA) and funded by the Dunhill Medical Trust, the TAPPI project will be co-produced with residents of the various testbeds over the next 12 - 15 months.

Each housing organisation will engage a diverse range of older people to test different devices, apps and systems across a variety of housing settings. Residents will be given shared responsibility, alongside staff, to make decisions about which digital support services to develop.

Cllr Jane Davies, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care said: "It is important that older people who need support are given the opportunity to live their lives fully and independently. Harnessing the benefits of modern technology so they can enjoy this independence for longer is going to be a key

part of all our plans for the future. Testing this new technology at one of our extra care homes is an exciting development which will help us understand more of how we can use Technology Enabled Care to help people for the future. We're looking forward to working with staff and residents to monitor this innovative project and see the positive impact on everyday lives."

It is hoped that this approach will help those participating to create digital services that are determined by their residents, alongside the professionals and staff that support them.

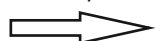
In Wiltshire the TAPPI work will involve partnership working between Housing 21 which operates Dairy View, Appello, National Care Forum and Aquarate.

Professor Roy Sandbach OBE, TAPPI Chair and former Director of the National Innovation Centre for Ageing, Newcastle University said: "The TAPPI principles will only be of value if they are applied in practice, and I'm thrilled that many housing and care organisations applied to become TAPPI testbeds. Those chosen will provide insights from a range of settings and, most importantly, will put users at the heart of this work. We'll use the TAPPI principles and a co-production approach to develop digital services that address real-life problems of older people. I'm very excited to work with our six new testbed sites."

Wiltshire Council invests in 17 new hybrid electric vehicles to cut emissions and save money

Wiltshire Council has invested £600,000 in 17 new, mid-sized hybrid vans to reduce carbon emissions and saving around 80% on fuel costs.

The 17 LEVC VN5 vans will be used by the council's parking, pest control and highways services, and will run for up to 70 miles on a single plug-in charge. As they are hybrid vehicles, they can also be run on standard fuel, but as these teams usually make short journeys, the majority of trips will be fully





charged through the council's charging infrastructure, which is currently being upgraded in its hubs and car parks.

These new vehicles fit with the council's business plan objectives to reduce carbon emissions and modernise its fleet to low carbon vehicles.

Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: This is our first rollout of hybrid vehicles as part of our Fleet Strategy, and it will enable us to reduce our carbon emissions and save money over the next five years.

The vans will run for 70 miles on a single charge, and they do have the option to use petrol if required - though of course, for both environmental and cost reasons, we want to keep this to a minimum.

The vehicles will save us 80% on the fuel costs of the previous vans, and also save an estimated 140g of carbon dioxide each kilometre when using the electric charge. All of our electricity at the council comes from renewable sources, making those kilometres truly low carbon.

The hybrid vehicles are the first phase of our plan to have a complete fleet of low carbon vehicles. For the next step, the replacement of all EV chargers in Wiltshire Council car parks will begin in the autumn. We will also be leasing more fully electric cars and vans in the coming months.

These 17 vehicles will be the first of many as we seek to make the council carbon neutral by 2030.

Simon Barr of ALD Automotive, said: We've been delighted to have been able to work with Wiltshire Council in funding the first of their petrol hybrid vans as they start their transition to a cleaner fleet.

To find out more about the council's Climate Strategy, people should go to:
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/climate

Personal canvassers to call on Wiltshire residents who have not yet responded to Annual canvass

Following approximately 31,000 reminder canvass forms being sent by Wiltshire Council, personal canvassers will soon be leaving calling cards at the final non-responding addresses to

ensure that the county's electoral register is up to date.

Each year the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) has a legal requirement to conduct a canvass to ensure the electoral register is accurate and complete.

Wiltshire residents have already been contacted via email and post and asked to confirm any changes to their details at www.householdresponse.com. The correspondence also included security codes and steps on how to access their household details. So far, the council has received 56% responses to the canvass forms.

Wiltshire Council will employ personal canvassers to leave calling cards at properties where residents have not already responded to the annual canvass process. There will be clear instructions about the process on every correspondence sent as part of the canvass if a response or change is required.

Wiltshire Council encourages all residents to respond to the annual canvass electronically if they can - it is more convenient for residents and saves the council money and time.

As part of this process, Wiltshire Council or the Electoral Commission will never ask people for their bank details.

Terence Herbert, Wiltshire Council Chief Executive and Returning Officer, said: We have had an excellent response so far to the Annual Canvass, but we now need to target those households who have not as yet responded.

We will shortly be employing personal canvassers to capture the final households required to complete their details for the annual canvass process. Please take a few minutes to check the details on the form or email and confirm by using the Household Response Service website - www.householdresponse.com, phoning 0800 1979871, by texting 'No Change' to 80212 or by post.

If the details are incorrect or have changed you can amend the information on the Household Respond service website or by contacting the electoral services team either by post or by calling 0300 456 0112.



Cllr Suzanne Wickham



Pollinator Project – Update

You may remember that Westbury Area Board agreed to fund this project and the villages of Ethandune - Edington, Bratton, Heywood, and Dilton Marsh, together with Westbury Town Council were invited to join in. This initiative sets out to provide small areas for wildflowers in each of the villages and in Westbury. The funding will pay for the advice of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) regarding the suitability of plots, the preparation, planting scheme and ongoing maintenance. Parish Councils were asked if they wished to support the scheme and to encourage volunteers to come forward to help with the work.



After an initial delay, due to staff changes at WWT, I am now very happy to report that an officer from the trust has now visited Edington and surveyed all the sites that were suggested by The Parish Council and residents. He will now produce a report that will outline in detail, the preparatory work that will need to be carried out to get the sites ready for planting next spring.

All the villages of Ethandune and Westbury have now worked with WWT and will be receiving their reports in due course. I'm sure

that we all understand that wildflower areas like this take several years to become established, but over time we will have sites right across our area, which will be a real asset both for us as residents but also to provide additional sites that will be ideal for honey-bees, bumble bees, moths, butterflies, wasps, beetles and many more insects to shelter in, and feed from. I'll provide further updates as the projects progresses.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if you think that I can help with any local issue.

Best wishes

**Suzanne Wickham – Wiltshire Councillor –
Ethandune.**

Email: suzanne.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk

Tel: 07967 213336

Coffee Morning Drop In



Every Tuesday,

10.30 - 11.30 am

in the Three Daggers.

Transport available contact

Pauline or Joy.



Edington Parish Council News

Recently the bench on the Green in Tinhead Road was damaged by a person or persons.



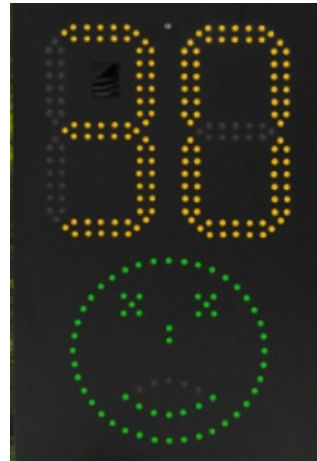
The Parish Council have already ordered the replacement parts and the volunteers have agreed to carry out the necessary repairs at their next session.

Hopefully this was an isolated incident and if anyone has any information about how the bench was damaged please contact the Parish Council.

At a recent meeting of the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group we were informed that the introduction of the new 20mph areas in the village has been delayed until the end of the year due to Covid. We were also informed at this meeting that the progress on the yellow lines in the Tinhead Road and Westbury Road area is moving forward slowly and that the legal notices should be displayed in the near future. At present we have no date for when the lines will be introduced.

Some of you may have noticed that the Speed Indicator Device or SID as we affectionally refer to it as has not been working and then vanished. We are glad to say that it has returned repaired and working flashing at

motorists with either a green smile or a red angry face, please help keep the village roads safe by ensuring that you receive a green smiley face as you drive past it.



Dog Awareness

Even the most lovable dog can be a danger to postal workers. Dogs are territorial by nature and if they feel they need to protect their family, they can become unpredictable. Please help us to deliver your post in safety by keeping your dog secure and out of the way before a postman or woman arrives. Place your pet in the back garden or a faraway room. Think twice before opening the door – is your dog secure?

The article above was taken from the Royal Mail website.

Edington has had a few issues this year with dogs and postal deliveries. If the postie feels worried about dogs being loose, they are not obliged to enter the property to deliver your mail, or any properties in close proximity, so please make sure your dog is shut in around the time when the post is delivered.

If the postie feels unable to deliver post to your property you and your neighbours may be asked to collect it from the local sorting office in Westbury.

Remember you can always contact the Parish Council by email

parishcouncil@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk



Village Musings

As a society, we value busyness and sometimes find virtue in being too rushed to pause or to rest. But here in Edington, we have a landscape and an environment that nurtures our spirit and encourages us to find moments of peace, and of calm.



We find quiet time as we walk along our beloved lanes, up into the hills and across the ever-changing fields. We stop to look at the clouds from our windows, find joy in the things growing in our gardens and allotments, smile at the children playing in the park, pause to chat to a neighbour, sit in a dark, candle lit church listening to mediaeval plainsong – and these moments of reflection heal us.

This August, we have had the chance to go up onto the hills late at night, to lie on a blanket and look up at the shooting stars that spark across the dark sky at this time – such a wonderful experience for children, staying up late, drinking hot chocolate and calling out with delight when they spot a shooting star!



And we have had the chance to enjoy the Edington music festival, welcoming visitors to the village and finding those moments of peace in the great walls of our church.



As autumn approaches, with its gentle sense of fulfilment and melancholy, we prepare for the great rest that nature takes in winter – and once again we can revel in the changing of seasons, always different, always the same. I am so grateful to live in such a beautiful place where it is easy find this restfulness and joy.

Mercedes Henning



**Meeting every second Tuesday of
the month 7.30pm.**

**Edington Parish Hall
www.facebook.com/
edingtonandtinheadwi**

**Contact Jan Billinge 07309
117686**

email: janet.billinge1@gmail.com

9th August Meeting

Andrew King – “My Wonderful Life of Singing”

Andrew entertained us with a biography of his singing career in pictures, with words and in song. He explained that, for him, there was really nothing better than making music with others. He has performed world-wide at the highest level, as an amateur and from a very early age. Although the whole family sang together, he mainly sang with his twin brother. An early highlight was a music workshop for Radio 4 in 1967, after which he auditioned for a role in the musical Oliver. Although unsuccessful in that audition, he was asked to sing in the backing vocals for a street musician known as the Budgerie Guy.

At Grammar School he joined the choir as an alto, but mostly played flute in the school orchestra. Apparently, after leaving school, it was easier to join a choir than an orchestra. Accordingly, he was able to join the Horniman Singers in 1979 and, later, the London Oriana Choir. Throughout the 80s he was offered more solo parts. Although being the overall UK winners, the choir was eliminated in the first international round.

He joined the much larger Oriana Choir, conducted by Leon Lovett, and travelled extensively with them. He was later joined by his wife, Rachael.

As one of the 4 members of Short, Back and Side he sang at the Albert Hall Christmas show (Joy To The World), which ran for 3 years. He was recruited to the Michael Brewer Singers and

even sang a one-word solo as an amateur singer in the Monteverdi Choir! Later with the Croydon Singers (Matthew Best), while performing only a very few concerts, made 17 recordings.

With the Joyful Company of Singers (1989) a series of competitions were won. Specialising in contemporary and new compositions, this choir won first place at the renowned Eisteddford!

After moving to Edington in 2010 it became too difficult to commute to London and so he joined Bath Camerata. A series of concerts followed culminating in a 9 day tour of China in 2019. Andrew performed his last solo in Malmesbury Abbey in 2018. Currently he leads the Choir in Edington Priory and is a member of the local choir, Vocalize.

The WI were winners of the garden shield at the Edington and District Gardening Club annual flower and produce show, below is their winning exhibit





EDINGTON & TINHEAD

SEPTEMBER NEWS



CLAY, TYPES, POTS, USES, HISTORY
& DEMO
WITH BARBARA CROPP



TUESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 7:30pm
with **BRING & BUY** IN AID OF WI FUNDS
AT THE PARISH HALL

All Welcome!



Edington & District Gardening Club

**First Thursday in the month from
7.00pm Parish Hall**

A very hot and sunny day saw 15 adults and 2 children visit Lytes Cary Manor for our

August Outing. Members took the opportunity to arrive between 10.00am and 1.45pm, at which time we took a tour around the garden with our own guide. As with our own gardens the green lawns were parched and everything was tinder dry, even the fountain in the pond was not on as the water level had dropped too much. The borders and planted areas however still had plenty of colour to show. The gardens include formal, orchard and wild meadow and is being returned to the original designs of around 1947, using the photographs of the time to help this process.

Originally created by the Lyte family from 1286. The adjoining chapel was built in 1343. After family financial difficulties it was sold to the Jenner family in 1907 who restored it in the 17th century style adding new south, and west wings. With no family to pass the property onto, it was given up to the National Trust in 1948. The whole estate covers 350 acres. We were able to visit the house, chapel, and woodland trail.

Our thanks go to Angeline for arranging this trip.

We are pleased to learn Jackie Haimes, our speaker in June, is taking over Bratton Plant Center, we wish her well for the future.

Our next meeting in the Hall will be Thursday 6th October when we will be thrilled to have Peter Chmiel, Chelsea Gold and Best in Show winner, Autumn 2021.

Visitors are always welcome to join us

Edington & District Gardening Club Flower & Produce Show Sept. 3rd 2022

After a lull of 2 years, it was lovely to be back in the Parish Hall, meeting friends and enjoying the banter over tea and cake!

The weather has been quite a challenge this year, being so dry and produce and flowers coming early and going to soon. However, the judges, who we thank very much for their time and expertise, found lots to look at and comment on.

The winners' results are enclosed, and a full copy of the results are at the Post Office with Pauline.



26 people entered, over half of which are not club members, so it is very much a village event. We were delighted to have 13 Under 5's and 3 under 11 children this year. A new Youth award went to 16 and under. A special





mention must be given to Henry Miller (youth) who beat the adults with his entry. A future Celebrity Chef?

The overall winner (gross Score) was Liz Pike 59, 2nd Jacky Hiscock 34, 3rd Mercedes Henning 32.

The Wi Entry for the Group Award, 'Platinum Jubilee' was superb. If any group (club or

individuals) would like to get together for next year, then be bold and have a go.

Thank you to the Club's committee and the extra helpers needed and were appreciated. We cannot do it without your help.

See you all, and perhaps a few more of you next year!

Edington & District Gardening Club Flower & Produce Show 3rd September 2022

A - Flowers & Pot Plants

1 st	Liz Pike 19
2 nd	Jacky Hiscock 16
3 rd	Edward Callaway 13

B - Floral Art

1 st	Jacky Hiscock 10
2 nd	Dee Perkins 8
3 rd	Mercedes Henning 2

C - Fruit

1 st	Helen O'Donoghue 8
2 nd	Mercedes Henning 4, Martin Killian 4
	Keith Girt 4 Liz Pike 4

D - Vegetables

1 st	Liz Pike 16
1 st	Mercedes Henning 16
3 rd	Edward Callaway 11

E - Miscellaneous

1 st	Edward Callaway 8
2 nd	Jacky Hiscock 7
3 rd	Karen Wright 4

F - Cakes & Preserves

1 st	Liz Pike 20
2 nd	Helen O'Donoghue 11
3 rd	Jacky Hiscock 6

G - Handicrafts

1 st	Jackie Pike 4
	Laura Dorgan 4
	Susan Zayman 4

H - Art & Photography

1 st	Sarah Dicker 16
2 nd	Sandra Salmons 8
3 rd	E.W.Miller 6

I - Children's Classes

1 st	Izzie Dorgan, Evie Dorgan, George Zayman, Bradley Gibson all on 4 points
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Best in Show: Susan Zayman Embroiderie cross stitch picture

Best Gross Score: Liz Pike 50 points, 2nd Jacky Hiscock 34, 3rd Mercedes Henning 32

Silver Salver Winner: (10 best nominated entries by exhibitor) Liz Pike 30 points, 2nd

Edward Callaway 20 points, 3rd Mercedes Henning 19 points

Children's Cup: Izzie Dorgan, Evie Dorgan, George Zayman, Bradley Gibson

Youth Award, 16 and under: Henry Miller Beat the adults with his chocolate brownies!

Village Shield Award: 1st Edington & Tinhead W.I. 45/60

Judges Special Mentions:

Vegetables: James Wright 3 chillies

Floral: Edward Callaway Mixed Perennial's and Jacky Hiscock Vase of Seeds and Berries

Handicraft Item in metal or wood: Paul Zayman the lamp

WELL DONE EVERYONE - SEE YOU NEXT YEAR



Swifts, swallows and martins in Edington

As I look out of the window at the field opposite my house, I can see dozens of swallows swooping low over the long grass catching insects. As lovely as this scene is, it does remind me that the seasons are changing again and soon these swallows will be winging away back to Africa for our winter. Their migration south will be joined by our other summer visitors, the house and sand martins and the swifts plus numerous other bird species.

Swallows and their relatives the martins are supremely adapted for life on the wing and have wide gaping mouths to scoop up small insects in the air. They are in fact very specialised songbirds (passerines – robins, thrushes, sparrows) that have become adapted to a more aerial way of life.

Swifts look similar in appearance to the swallows but are placed in a different order of birds. Swifts are related to hummingbirds. They look similar to swallows as they are all adapted to a similar way of life. This is an example of what is called convergent evolution.

The common swift is black all over, with a small, pale patch on its throat. Looking a bit like a boomerang when in the air, they are very sociable and can often be spotted in groups wheeling over roofs and calling to each other with high-pitched screams. They are larger than swallows and martins (which have white undersides) and, unlike them, they do not perch on wires, buildings, or trees. They can live for up to 21 years.

Swifts in fact are even more specialised than the swallows and martins for this aerial way of life and often stay on the wing for ten months of the year without ever landing on the ground. They are so well adapted for their aerial lifestyle that they have almost completely lost their legs and only have tiny feet. This makes them more

aerodynamic, and they do not need legs to walk on the ground. Their scientific family name is Apodidae – which means no legs. Swifts sleep, drink, and mate while flying; they only land to nest. A young swift will spend its first two or three years in constant flight before it nests. As swifts never land on the ground, and are so fast and so totally aerial, they are very hard to study.



The common swift (del. S.F. Henning)

Our common swifts have one of the longest migration journeys in the world, flying some 14,000 miles every year. They arrive in Edington in late April or early May and depart in late July. They return to Africa and will travel about 4600 miles in only 5-10 days. Swifts can fly nearly 1000 miles a single day.





When they arrive in the UK from central Africa, they will make their nests of straw and saliva, often in church towers and other tall buildings. Originally, they would have nested in tall trees or cliffs. They collect all their nesting material while on the wing. Swifts have extremely strong hawk-like toes which enable them to cling to the walls and cliff faces on which their nests are situated. The nests will be high up so that the birds are able to drop into the air from the nest entrance.

Common swifts lay a single clutch of two or three white eggs at the end of May or the beginning of June. They incubate the eggs for 14 to 20 days. The young take from 5-8 weeks to fledge sometime in August when they all set off for Africa again.

Swifts feed on small flying insects by catching them in flight. The insects are funnelled into their wide-open mouths with the help of surrounding stiff bristles. Insects are collected in a special pouch at the back of the swift's throat for their young. Swifts need warm weather to provide a constant supply of flying insects, so they spend only about three months in the UK each year.

Swifts that breed in and around Edington migrate through France and Spain to spend their winter in Africa, south of the Sahara, where they follow the rains to take advantage of rapid changes in insect populations.

British swallows or barn swallows are a glossy, dark blue-black above and white below, with a dark red forehead and throat, and a black band across their chests. They have very long, forked tails. They can live for up to 16 years.

Swallows spend their winter in South Africa and make this 8000-mile migration twice a year in search of food. They can fly about 200 miles a day during their migration which means that they could take as little as 40 days to reach their destination. They fly almost non-stop, and since they feed mostly on insects and flies, they are able to eat plentifully and sufficiently during the journey. They usually arrive in the UK as early as

March and depart again for South Africa in September.

Adult swallows usually return to the same locality where they bred the previous year – often to exactly the same site. Swallows tend to avoid large towns and are to be found in rural villages or in open country, usually near water and farmland where flying insects are abundant. They also gather in restless flocks in autumn and can be seen collecting together on telephone wires, often with martins, as autumn approaches.



Barn swallow in flight (del. S.F. Henning)

Swallows produce two or three clutches of around 3-6 eggs per year. The eggs are glossy white speckled with pinkish-brown or pale grey spots. Both parents build their cup-like nests on sheltered ledges, beams and joists





inside sheds and outbuildings. Each nest is constructed from small lumps mud interwoven with grasses and may be reused season after season. The nest is lined with feathers, hair, and blades of grass. The female incubates their eggs for 14-16 days, and the chicks take between 17-24 days to fledge. After the chicks fledge, they will continue to be fed by their parents for a while longer.



House martin on the wing (del. S.F. Henning)

The house martin is another species that regularly breeds in Edington. They are small birds with glossy blue-black upper parts and pure white under parts. They have a distinctive white rump and forked tails. In recent years they have tended to nest on human habitations, but they originally nested in rocks and occasionally still to do so.

House martins usually arrive back in the UK sometime in April, occasionally at the end of March. They will have spent the winter months in Africa, though we still don't know exactly where our UK birds go. Like the swallows they nest in isolated cottages and in villages but can sometimes also be found in the centre of large towns. Another difference is that house martins usually nest on the outside of buildings and occasionally their nests can also be found under bridges or at the entrance of tunnels. The nest is also always sheltered by some overhanging object, such as the eaves of a house.

A house martin nest is made of small lumps of clay and is most often lined with feathers. On average it takes about three weeks for a house martin to construct a nest. They generally prefer to reuse old nests than to start a new one from scratch. And they nest communally so houses with house martins usually have a number of nests.

The female lays four or five pure white, glossy eggs that take two to three weeks to hatch. The chicks then spend up to five weeks in the nest before they fledge and are ready to take to the wing.

When they have a nest, house martins sleep in it, but it's still not known whether they sleep on the wing for the rest of the year. Up to 11 house martins have been found to sleep in a single nest – both adult birds and their first and second brood of young.

Like swallows their diet consists almost entirely of small flying insects and spiders, the plankton of the air.

House martins start to leave Edington in August, but they can still be seen as late as October, especially if they have raised a second or third brood. Look out for house martins in late summer congregating on house roofs or whirling about meadows in large numbers ready for the long migration.





House martin clinging to a rock wall bracing itself with its tail (del. S.F. Henning)

Whilst we know a lot about the life of house martins in the UK, once September comes and they head off for the winter, they virtually disappear from our radar. It is not known where in Africa house martins winter, or how precisely they get there.

I have seen sand martins occasionally around Edington, but I have not found them breeding around here yet. They are the smallest of Britain's swallow and martin family and have dark brown upperparts and a brown breast band across otherwise white underparts. Sand martins feed on small insects, mainly gnats and other flies, usually on the wing over water.

Sand martins are social nesters. Between a

dozen and several hundred pairs nest close together in a colony. They nest at the end of tunnels up to four feet in length, bored into sand pits, gravel pits, and sea cliffs. Nests are lined with vegetation and feathers. Sand martins will keep coming back to sites for years and will build new tunnels as and when necessary.

They lay four to five white eggs in late May or early June, with eggs hatching after around two weeks. Approximately 20-24 days later the chicks will fledge. Sand martins usually have two broods each year.



Sand martin showing dark breast band (del. S.F. Henning)

Most sand martins leave the UK in August or September, and winter is spent in eastern and southern Africa.

Dr Stephen Henning



We meet every Thursday in Edington Parish Hall between 10am and 12 noon.

The first session is free, and only £2 per family thereafter (to help with running costs). For more information contact Emily on **07910228383**



EDINGTON PARISH HALL

CARPET BOWLS IN THE PARISH HALL

As a mark of respect following the sad news of the death of Her Majesty The Queen, the Carpet Bowls taster session on Saturday 17th September has been cancelled.

The Parish Hall Committee extend a warm invitation to everyone to join them for **the first taster session, with tuition on Saturday 29th October from 10.00 am – 12 noon** when Bacon or Sausage Rolls will be available in addition to tea and coffee.



No experience necessary and all equipment is provided.

It is hoped that after the taster session, a 'Village League' can be formed consisting of teams from village organisations, families and friends making for healthy rivalry, a fun social occasion as well as the competitive spirit to win!!

Perhaps Edington village clubs and organisations will challenge their counterparts in neighbouring villages and towns to a game? Families and friends are also welcome to book the Parish Hall and use the equipment as a fun activity.

A little about Carpet Bowls

Carpet Bowls was devised as a scaled down version of indoor bowls and was designed to be suitable for playing in small village halls.

The principle aim of the game, is the same as



all other bowls disciplines, to deliver your wood closer to the jack than your opponent. The game is played on a mat approximately 30 feet in length and 6 feet wide, using biased bowls of 4 inches in diameter. On the centre of the mat there is an 18 inch block and the delivery of the woods takes place from a designated area, this prevents the game continually being killed by the firing shot and creates a more interesting and skilful game



All bowlers use the same woods which are provided and this removes the need for players to purchase equipment themselves.

Carpet Bowls is a sport suitable for everyone - male and female, children of all ages, as well as less able-bodied people (the sport can be played sitting down) all have the ability to play.

We hope to see you there!

For more information contact Wendy on 01380 830441

Our next fund raising events are:-

**Saturday 1st October - 10am - 12 noon
Macmillan Coffee morning
All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer**

**Saturday 29th October – 10am -12 noon Carpet
Bowls and Bacon Rolls taster session.**

**Saturday 19th November- 7.30pm Curry & Quiz
night (Teams of 4)**

We hope to see you at these events.



EDINGTON PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

INVITES YOU TO



**COME AND
JOIN US AT A
MACMILLAN**

COFFEE MORNING

Where: Edington Parish Hall

When: Saturday 1st October

Time: 10.00am to 12 noon

**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**

Fundraising for

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



Falling for the Queen of the Hebrides

By Paul Millard

Forty years ago, when even Church Mice had more disposable income than we did, my brother-in-law's partner offered us the chance of a free holiday in her late grandfather's seaside cottage. They even offered to drive us there - so all we needed was spending money.

They didn't tell us it was a 1,000-mile round trip with a two-hour ferry journey thrown in for good measure - but that's how we first came to meet, and later fall in love with The Queen of the Hebrides - the beautiful Isle of Islay.

It's a place of softness and subtlety, of rolling green hills and endless white sand beaches edged by a deep blue (and usually freezing cold) sea. A gentleness matched by the lilting accent of its welcoming people - but its also a place of soaring splendour, of breath-taking beauty, the crystal clarity of the light, the incredibly rich and diverse wildlife - and, of course, the whisky.

Islay's history dates back to around 8000 BC its first inhabitants were from the Mesolithic period but the first major settlers were the Celts. Early Christianity has also left its mark on the island and the High Cross at Kildalton erected in 800 AD still stands in the grounds of the ancient chapel on the south east of the island. Politically Islay was important too, it was the Ancient Seat of the Clan

Macdonald - the Lords of the Isles - who ruled the Western seaboard including the Islands and much of the Highlands from the early 14th Century for almost 200 years.

It's a fascinating history far removed from the Southern misconceptions of a ruthless and barbaric clan; these were seafaring traders as well as formidable warriors that lived in a largely democratic society governed by the Council. The headquarters for the Lordship was on Islay - an island within an island. A small island in Loch Finlaggan on Islay was chosen as the administrative centre for the islands and clans that owed allegiance to the MacDonalDs. The Lords of the Isles were a power unto themselves - a state within a state - the ruins of their settlement are still visible on the Council Island. When we first started our annual pilgrimages to Islay it was remote - the roads were poor; up along Loch Lomond, over Rest and Be Thankful and around Loch Fyne, through Inverary and its stunning fairy tale castle up to the ferry point at the top of the Mull of Kintyre. The ferries were smelly and creaky but the end result was worth



Finlaggan





it, sailing up the sound of Islay with the Island of Jura on the starboard side into the tiny harbour of Port Askaig overlooked by the impressive Dunlossit Castle then the half-hour journey to our cottage in Portnahaven at the most westerly point of the Island.

We were stunned. The kids were free to play on the beach or on the rocks unsupervised because, of course, there was always somebody keeping a watchful eye on the wee ones. There was no TV, no telephone – apart from the one in



Islay August 2015

the red box at the top of the village – a true escape from the pressures of everyday life back home. It was (and remains) a place where doors and cars were never locked and a place where nobody ever knocked on your door, instead letting themselves in with a cheery “hello” and if you needed help, it was always forthcoming.

Islay, of course, was always famous for its whisky the love-it or hate-it “marmite” style of Laphroaig, through the softer malts of Bowmore and Bunnahabain. When we first started visiting several of the distilleries had been mothballed or were operating at reduced capacity but over the intervening years malt whisky has become an international marketing success story and the

Islay malts are right up there.

Innovative ideas and new approaches to how the malt was “finished” and then marketed led to the old distilleries such as Bruichladdich being re-opened and become a runaway success story. New distilleries have been built and are continuing to be built – Kilchoman, Ardnahoe and even the ancient Port Ellen distillery is being rebuilt – there will shortly be 10 distilleries operating on the Island with plans for an 11th already in hand twice the number that

were producing whisky a few short years ago.

Whisky is now not only a major economic force in itself, its also draws tens of thousands of visitors to Islay every year from all over the world and the increasingly popular “Feis Isla” - a week-long celebration of the whisky; culture and food of the island - has just been nominated for a major cultural award.

This Island has a seemingly bottomless wealth of attractions. If you're a fisherman, there's salmon fishing on the two main spate

rivers – I've spent many, many hours of fruitless labour on these rivers but, at the same time, its where both my son and I caught our first salmon and set us off on a lifelong hobby we still both enjoy. There are countless freshwater lochs full of the small, but ferocious-fighting and delightfully coloured, wild brown trout, there rich sea fishing, shellfish to be collected from along the sandy beaches or under the kelp at low tide, seals all around you; dolphins occasionally visit and boat trips to see Minke Whales.

Islay is a bird-watchers dream throughout the year – Golden Eagle, Osprey and Harriers are all to be found. Corncrake can be heard and even occasionally seen all over the Rhinns of Islay





while the Island is one of the first stop-overs for migrating cuckoos which can frequently be spotted in the spring. There's a whole procession of wading birds and seabirds – I love to watch the Gannets fishing, plummeting from high into the ocean below – then, in the Autumn, the geese begin to arrive. Predominantly it is Greenland Whitefronts and Brents, with a sprinkling of Greylags and even the odd Pinkfoot can be seen passing though. Throughout the winter there'll be more than 50,000 geese on the island – not a favourite with the local farmers who are now compensated for the loss of grass. There's so much to love about this extraordinary place. Thirty years ago, we bought our own cottage on the bay at Portnahaven and we've spent the intervening years, repairing renovating and loving the place. We've built some wonderful memories in that cottage but this year took the tough decision to sell it – the challenge of running and managing a house at such distance being the deciding factor. As we spent our last week in our Shore Street home, the words of the song "Westering Home" never seemed more appropriate: "Laughter of life is a welcoming there; Isle of my heart my own land."

As we said our fond farewells, our friends told us: "Aye, you'll be back" – and perhaps we will, perhaps the magic will be too strong to resist but if we don't go back, perhaps you should!

Islay Facts:

Islay is the fifth largest Scottish Island being some 239 square miles running 25 miles north to south and 15 miles east to west. It is the most southerly of the Hebrides about 25 miles north of Northern Ireland. Islay's capital is Bowmore located at the heart of the island on the shores of Loch Indaal. In the early 19th century, the resident population stood at some 18,000 today its stands a little over 3,000 – except in the summer months when visitor numbers swell it back to those 19th century numbers.

EDINGTON PARISH HALL

At the top of Monastery Road, is available for hire at very reasonable rates and has the benefit of a car park opposite the hall. Suitable for parties, meetings, family celebrations, funeral wakes and other events.

For more information or to book the hall, using the online booking system, go to www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk/hall Alternatively email parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk or phone 01380 830441. We look forward to welcoming you to the hall.



Four Villages Link

If you require a lift to an appointment, shopping or help around the house or garden, call our coordinator on 07852 256939.

Information on LINK can be found at <http://thefourvillageslink.org.uk/>

Catherine Elliott



View from the Boundary

What a season it has been at the Walled garden and for the Erlestoke Cricket team. With an influx of new members and the welcomed return of some old ones, it's been another great year up at the ground. With the nights drawing in and the temperatures finally dropping, the midweek cricket has come to an end and the Sunday cricket in its final throws, with away trips to Bristol and The Populars marking the end of the season. But what an end it has been, especially for the Saturday league side.

As all good competitions and sporting sagas go, the Erlestoke team found themselves heading into that final weekend of the league in top spot, with a win guaranteeing them a promotion into division 2 next season. But an agonisingly narrow defeat on the final day, meant that the team fell just short of the league title as Marshfield claimed the top spot with a win over Great Bedwyn. Skipper Mike Barton lost the toss and Potterne chose to bat. With the pitch playing well and the now customary lightning fast outfield Potterne got off to a flying start and were immediately scoring at around 8 an over for the first period of the game. Wickets were hard to come by but tight bowling spells from Ryan Mee and Tom Lucas managed to peg Potterne back and at the halfway stage of the innings, while only 2 wickets had been lost, the lads looked to be keeping the total down to manageable levels. However, a great knock from the Potterne opener Chris Penhaligon and some lusty blows from overseas player Dashawn Prince in the second half of the innings meant that Erlestoke were chasing 329 for victory. With top run scorer Toby Dorgan on the sidelines

following a knee injury at work, Jonny Marrion was promoted to open alongside skipper Barton. It was Barton who started strongly driving the first ball of the innings for 4 and with the outfield conditions meaning anything that found a gap was racing away for 4, the team were well into this game. Unfortunately Marrion fell in the 4th over caught behind for 8.

This brought Graeme Morrison to the crease. Morrison, who has struggled for runs away from home this year, started strongly with a far from customary drive for 4 through extra cover.

Unfortunately Barton fell shortly after for 10 after top edging an attempted pull which looped up for a simple catch to slip.

This meant Tom Lucas strode to the crease and along with Morrison the two of them tried to steady the innings. With the score ticking over at around a run a ball it looked like a strong partnership was building until Morrison mistimed a drive which was caught at mid-on and he fell for 24. Joe Dorgan then arrived at the crease and began a partnership which would really bring the Stoke back into the game. With Lucas reaching 50 while Dorgan played the anchor role and with very few, if any chances given, Lucas accelerated and reached a brilliant 100 shortly followed by Dorgan reaching his 50. Eventually, Lucas fell for a superb 112 from 77 balls which brought Joe Moloney to the crease and so the two Joes went about increasing the run rate to bring the lads home. Despite Moloney uncharacteristically struggling to time the ball the run rate continued to be high and the game was still on.

Sadly Dorgan then fell for 67, an unfortunate inside edge clattering into his stumps bringing Ryan Mee to the crease. The was followed by Mee falling the very next ball caught behind trying to get off the mark by running one down





to third man. With the experienced Mark Bedford coming to the crease and with the light fading, it was clear that he would have to work the singles to ensure Moloney faced the majority of the strike. They did this brilliantly and with Moloney finding his timing and striking balls all around the park it looked very much like victory was going to be snatched from the jaws of defeat until, with 6 required to win with 4 balls remaining, Moloney attempted one last big blow which fell agonisingly short and was caught on the boundary to rapturous celebrations from the home side. A brilliant effort from Moloney to steer his side home had fallen just short and with new batters at the crease, with Bedford having sacrificed himself being run out getting Moloney back on strike for the last over, the boys fell agonisingly short losing by two runs. A great team effort to get so close in a mammoth run chase.

With phones being checked around the changing room the boys discovered that Marshfield had won against Great Bedwyn, meaning the best the team could hope for was a 2nd place finish and with Royal Wootton Bassett 2nd team doing the guys a favour by beating Combe Down, that is exactly what has happened (tbc on Wiltshire League website). So despite falling short of the league title, Skipper Mike Barton and his team can be proud of likely back to back promotions that will probably see us playing our cricket in Wiltshire Division 2 next year. Congratulations to Marshfield 2s who reversed the top two from last year in Div 4 - the boys will look forward to what will no doubt be two good fixtures next year!

Our thanks go to all the members who turned up to play this year, the juniors and their parents for supporting us on a Saturday morning and to all our friends who have popped up to watch. Your support has been most welcome and we hope to see you all back next season. We would

also like to say a huge thank you to Patrick who has worked tirelessly (in sweltering heat for the majority of the year) to ensure we have one of the best tracks around. We hope you enjoy a well-earned rest over the winter months. And finally, to Mike Barton, Liam Ellis and Felix Plant, the captains who have ensured that teams have been put together and who have led with expertise and inclusivity- thank you for the time and hard work behind the scenes. We hope you come back next year. It's been another great season, and although it's sad that is already over, we are already looking forward to that first ball of 2023.

Joe Dorgan
Chairman, ECCC



Westbury Area Network

Westbury Area Network (Wan) runs a food bank for Westbury and surrounding areas.

Edington Priory Church already has a box in the church porch where donations can be left, but in addition, there will now be a box at the Post Office.

Please leave food, well in-date, toiletries, confectionaries and animal food, and we will ensure that it is taken to Westbury weekly.

For more information, have a look at the westburyareanetwork.org website.

Thank you.





THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)



Some of our passengers still feel more comfortable wearing a face covering but the option is left to each individual.

A hand sanitiser is still available for use when entering the minibus.

All these journeys accept concessionary passes and will return you to your door.

These trips are open to **all** resident of our villages; we welcome everyone, of any age.

Group hire can now resume if groups wish to do so.

Joy Fraser (830426)

Lunch in the Parish Hall

We are holding our annual Harvest Lunch
(with a choice of main course and a selection of puddings)
on

Wednesday September 14th
at
12.30pm.

in the Parish Hall, Edington.

Price £8.00 in aid of Edington Parish Hall Funds.

All will be most welcome to join us.

Please let Pauline (tel: 830013) know if you are coming (by September 9th) as this helps with catering arrangements.

TVM will provide door to door transport

Shopping Trips starting at Edington on

Destination	September	October	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	Thursday 1st	Thursday 6th	9am
Warminster - £2.80	Tuesday 20th	Tuesday 18th	1.25pm
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	Every Thursday	1.30pm
Salisbury - £5.00	Saturday 10th	Saturday 8th	9.30am

**All these journeys accept concessionary passes and will return you to your door.
These trips are open to all resident of our villages; we welcome everyone, of any age.
Contact Pauline or Joy Fraser to book a place**



Edington What's On Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
10th September	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping	
12th September	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
13th September	7.30pm	WI meeting - Pots, Clay and other muddy matters	Parish Hall
14th September	12.30pm	Village Lunch	Parish Hall
20th September	1.25pm	Warminster shopping	
24th September	7.30pm	Edington Arts - Marici Saxophone Quartet	Priory Church
1st October	10am - 12 noon	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
6th October	7.00pm	Peter Chmiel, Chelsea Gold and Best in Show winner	Parish Hall
10th October	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
11th October	7.30pm	From Mars To Long Hollow Stuart Robbins	Parish Hall
29th October	10am - 12 noon	Carpet Bowls taster session	Parish Hall

TVM trips - please Contact Pauline or Joy Fraser to book a place

For these and future events please check the village website for more details.

Contacting us

Email the newsletter at
newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk
or via the village website
www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

Future editions

We welcome your comments on this venture, please send them to the address below. If you would like to contribute an article to a future edition of the Edington Village News please email us with details of your article and we will contact you or speak to Pauline in the Post Office.

newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

Deadline for articles 5th of the month.

Sharing the Newsletter

We are still hearing about villagers who say that they haven't heard about this newsletter, next time you speak to any of your neighbours and friends why not ask if they are receiving a copy and if not inform them that they can register for an emailed copy through the village website or send an email, the address is below. If they are unable to receive an electronic copy a paper copy can be obtained from Edington Post Office or perhaps you could volunteer to print out a copy for your neighbour.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically please visit the village website

www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk/newsletter

and enter your details or email

newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

and you will be added to the mailing list.