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Many thanks to the organisers of this year's Edington Fete, especially Andrew and Clive. Again a great success even though the weather threatened to spoil the afternoon. If you were unable to attend we have included some pictures to show what you missed and hopefully you will come next year.



Welcome to the thirty-eighth edition of the Edington Village News. This thirty-one page bumper edition has something for everyone including George thinking about changing his name to Donald or Boris, to pictures of the Edington

Fete. A number of events are coming up in the near future including concerts in the Priory Church, an evening of song with Vocal Ease in the Parish Hall and an opportunity to explore the Bell Tower of the church in Bratton. A plea for more drivers from the Friends of Erlestoke Prison and the seeking of more volunteers to help with maintenance around the village.





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

24th May 2023

Today we bid farewell to one of WGP's longest serving members of staff. After an impressive 36 years with the Practice, Lin hung up the phone for the last time in her beloved Bratton surgery, to enjoy a well deserved retirement! You're one of kind Lin, and will be missed by patients and colleagues alike



In light of the latest figures on Covid-19 infections and respiratory illness it has been decided that it is no longer mandatory to wear a mask when you come into the surgery. If you wish to continue wearing a mask that is, of course, your choice to do so. You may find that some clinicians ask you to wear a mask due to their own circumstances; we would be very grateful for your understanding in this situation. We recommend that you continue to wear a mask if you are coming to the surgery and you have a respiratory illness.

This decision is subject to periodic review and may be reversed.

Thank you for your understanding

Dr Edwards & Partners

www.westburygp.co.uk

Courtyard Surgery, West Lavington



Telephone 01380 813 300
For medical emergencies dial 999

[Latest newsletter can be found here.](#)

<https://www.courtyardsurgery.co.uk/>

Coffee Morning Drop In



Every Tuesday
10.30 11.30 am
in the Three Daggers.

Transport available contact
Pauline or Joy.



Wiltshire Police

Violence against women and girls – We must do better, it's now front of mind

Last year, we asked women in our communities for their experiences of reporting crime to us to help shape the way we respond to violence against women and girls.

Almost 1,200 people shared their honest feedback with us and we made a simple pledge – We are listening.

The survey revealed:

35% of women and girls who have been victims of crime did not report this to us
Of these, 48% said they didn't report the crime as they felt we would not have taken them seriously
33% of women said they would not bother reporting crimes to us in the future based on their experience of reporting crimes to us previously.
Our dedicated Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) team within Wiltshire Police read every single piece of data and feedback from the survey to inform where we needed to focus our efforts.

Since receiving the feedback from our communities, we have made a raft of significant improvements to the way we deal with violence against women and girls.

These include:

Bespoke training to spot the signs of domestic abuse being rolled out to more than 1,600 officers and staff

Our call handlers have now received enhanced vulnerability training to spot signs of abuse from the very moment women and girls reach out to us

All officers must now have their Body Worn Cameras switched on when attending potential domestic abuse incidents to ensure all evidence is captured immediately to support future prosecutions

The force is increasing the number of officers and staff dedicated to overseeing investigations – this includes the implementation of Volume Crime Teams and creating additional roles in our CID departments.

As a result of this work, we've seen:

A dramatic improvement in outcomes for incidents of rape and serious sexual offences
Improvements in outcomes for domestic abuse incidents – over a rolling 12 month period, we've had a 89.9% arrest rate for the highest risk cases

An increase in the number of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) – between January and March this year, 27 DVPOs were granted

A 96-99% completion rate of the risk assessments officers complete for incidents of domestic abuse, stalking and honour based violence.

But, there is more to do.

Today, we want to be up front with our communities – when it comes to violence against women and girls, we must do better and it is now front of mind.

VAWG lead for Wiltshire Police, Detective Superintendent Sarah Robbins said: "Since 2021, several appalling cases have highlighted that the police service nationally has to radically reduce violence against women and girls.

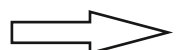
"Our communities have rightly demanded to see changes in the way we understand and tackle this issue and, as a force, we pledged to make fundamental and enduring change.

"Last year, we launched our biggest ever consultation to continue the conversation with women and girls in Wiltshire and the feedback was overwhelming – we had to do more.

"Since that point, we have made dramatic improvements to the service that women receive from us but we know that we can, and must, do more.

"We are listening so please keep speaking out."

You can see a full update on the





progress we have made [here](#).

We would always encourage anyone who has been a victim of crime or who has witnessed a crime to reach out to us.

Call 999 in an emergency, **101** if you are not in immediate danger or fill out an online crime report on our website.

You can also contact CrimeStoppers on **0800 555 111** where information can be passed to us anonymously.

We understand that not everyone is ready or able to report to the police. There are many organisations and charities ready to support you. Information about support options are also available on our [website](#).

Be up front. We can do more. Tell us, we're listening.

More than 400 knives were handed in across Wiltshire during Operation Sceptre, a national policing initiative tackling knife crime.

From May 15 through to May 27, members of the public made use of 12 knife surrender bins placed in locations across the county to hand in bladed weapons they had been carrying.

439 knives and bladed articles were handed in in total, including 173 in Swindon.

Alongside this surrender campaign, Wiltshire Police officers conducted a range of activities – from tackling the root causes of knife crime through to enforcement.

During two weeks of intensified action, officers visited schools and gave interactive presentations to young people on the risks of carrying knives, conducted community engagement events, weapons sweeps, took knife arches to schools, and proactively patrolled in areas of high demand around gang violence.

Wiltshire Police attending all residential burglaries in person

We are continuing to meet our pledge of making personal visits to all victims of domestic burglary.

Last year, following a review by the College of Policing, the National Police Chiefs' Council requested all forces attend all home burglaries.

We joined the national pledge to commit to this and we are currently attending all domestic burglaries.

In addition to this, during April, we attended all reports of burglaries in progress and all non-dwelling burglaries (i.e. at business premises).

Between March and May this year, a total of 288 burglaries were reported across Wiltshire.

Chief Constable Catherine Roper made burglary one of her key areas for operational delivery when she joined the Force earlier this year.

Temporary Assistant Chief Constable Dave Minty said: "Victims of burglary will often suffer with long-lasting impacts - knowing that someone has violated your home can often affect victims far beyond any financial damage caused.

"Our mission is to Keep Wiltshire Safe and this means helping people feel safe inside their own homes as well as out in our communities.

"We know that ensuring our officers attend burglaries at the earliest opportunity will not only provide reassurance, but also increase the chance of preserving potential evidence which could support a prosecution. Evidence also suggest this early attendance can deter future crimes in the area.

"There are occasions when our attendance at domestic burglaries might not be recorded as 100% but this is due to factors such as duplicate crime logs being created, the incident later being assessed as another crime type or where the victim has asked us not to attend.

"We are confident that our actual attendance rate is 100% for home burglaries and we will consistently strive for this to continue."

For information on how to protect your home from crime, visit our information pages [here](#).



Wiltshire Council

News from Wiltshire Council

Small rechargeable electricals collections
From Monday 5 June 2023 we will be collecting small rechargeable electricals.

These items should be presented in a supermarket carrier bag by the side of your blue-lidded recycling bin, or blue recycling sack. Individual items should be no larger than a shoe box (so around 30cm x 20cm or 12" x 8"). Your collection days can be viewed on our waste collection calendar.

Many rechargeable items contain lithium-ion batteries. These can cause fires if not disposed of properly.

Your unwanted electricals contain valuable materials including metals such as gold, copper, steel, and aluminium. These materials can be recovered and become valuable commodities to the UK economy. They are then re-processed into new products - from bicycles to life-saving equipment.

Items we will collect

Smart speakers / MP3 players
Electric toothbrushes
Shavers/trimmers
All vapes and e-cigarettes
Smart watches
Mobile phones (remove all data and SIM cards, see [How do I delete my data?](#) to assist you with this)
Digital cameras / camcorders
Charging devices/power banks/docking stations
Wireless earphones
Laptops/Notebooks (no larger than 30cm x 20cm (12" x 8"))
Tablets/E-readers (iPad, kindle, etc)
Wireless controllers (for games consoles)
Personal digital assistants (PDAs)

Items that will not be collected

Any mains-powered electrical item that needs to be plugged in to work, or individual rechargeable items larger than a shoe box, for example:

Kettles
Toasters/sandwich makers
Air fryers
Coffee machines
Microwaves
Radios / CD players / mains powered smart speakers
White goods (fridges, freezers, fridge-freezers, washing machines, dishwasher, etc) Large item reuse and collection should be used for these items
Rechargeable power tools where bigger than a shoe box
Portable vacuum cleaners
Irons
Mains powered smart assistants (Alexa's, Google assistants)
Games consoles
Hairdryer/mains powered curling tongs or hair straighteners
Smoke Detectors

[For more information click here](#)

Council receives £2.1m to spend on bus services in Wiltshire

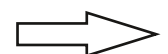
Published 30 May 2023

Wiltshire Council has been awarded £2.1m by the Department for Transport (DfT) to spend on improving bus services in the county.

The council's Business Plan sets out its mission to have vibrant, well-connected communities, and includes a pledge to improve rural bus links and the extra funding will be used to encourage more people to use buses, as outlined in the Bus Service Improvement Plan.

Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: We're delighted to receive this funding from the government to improve bus services here in Wiltshire.

We are committed to supporting





the local economy, leisure and tourism, improving services to support vulnerable and elderly residents, and reducing carbon emissions.

We are currently seeking clarification from DfT on exactly what the funding can be spent on, but we have a range of projects ready to go, with new infrastructure such as signage and bus stops and improving the frequency of bus services.

Despite the current economic climate, high fuel prices and a national bus driver shortage, we have been able to retain bus services across the county and passenger numbers are increasing. In recent months we have replaced and extended our network of real-time passenger information signs at bus stops and secured funding to begin the feasibility work on developing a new 'Superbus network' to deliver low fare, high frequency services across the county. We are also investing in our new on-demand service in the Pewsey Vale area, which allows people to book a bus using an app or phone call and will be ready later this year.

This additional funding will enable us to continue to invest in bus services across the county. Buses are vital to connect people in a rural county like ours, and this funding, along with measures such as the Government's recently extended £2 bus fare promotion, will help to keep Wiltshire moving.

To read the council's Bus Service Improvement Plan, people should go to: [Bus Service Improvement Plan - Wiltshire Council](#)

Pothole reports

We know that many people are passionate about potholes, and so we are going to give regular updates on the number of potholes we have filled.

Last week, from 29 May - 6 June, we filled a total of 464 potholes and had 271 reported to us.

When we receive a pothole report, it is assessed by an engineer, and given a priority based on our defect criteria, as set out in our [Highways Safety Inspection Manual](#).



Not all reported potholes meet our defect criteria, and so not all reported potholes are repaired. Some reported potholes will be repaired at a later date, but not immediately as they are of lower priority. We aim to fix Priority 1 potholes by the end of the next day, while Priority 2 will be fixed within 14 days, Priority 3 in 28 days, Priority 4 in 60 days, and Priority 5 are referred to a manager for further consideration.

The Leader of Wiltshire Council, councillor Richard Clewer, said in response to the concerns at a recent meeting: "At the moment from the evidence I am getting we are just about keeping up with the potholes being reported but we've had such a bad winter that that means as they come through we're fixing the potholes that were reported last month but they're emerging at quite a frightening rate so there is a backlog generated.

"We've done a lot of patching over the winter and some of it will hold up but let's be honest, much of it will need more significant warm repairs done now that the weather's improved.

"We are looking at making effective use right now of the extra £3.6 million the government gave us specifically for potholes."



NEW! Changes at Household Recycling Centres

Please sort it before you bring it

To help you recycle as much as possible and reduce time on site, please sort and separate your unwanted items into different materials, such as wood, metals, batteries, green waste, and electricals, before visiting the recycling centres.

A third of the items put in the general rubbish skips at Wiltshire's recycling sites could have been recycled, with many items mixed together in black bags. Check the council's website for details of what you can recycle at your local site.



Arrangements for paint

Paint reuse - If you have leftover usable paint and the tin is at least half full, this can be brought to our recycling centres, and set aside for reuse. You can also take away donated paint for free.

Paint disposal – Unusable liquid paint should be hardened before taking it to a recycling centre for disposal. Remove the lid and allow the paint to dry completely or to speed up the process, mix the paint with soil, pet litter, sawdust, or sand. Paint hardening products are also available from DIY stores or online.



Donating reusable items

You can now donate good quality reusable items at all our recycling centres to support local charities and good causes.

Items suitable for reuse can include:

- ✓ Furniture
- ✓ Bric-a-brac
- ✓ Bicycles

* Remember, there are local reuse charities who collect unwanted good quality furniture for free, or a small donation.

Check the council's website for details of your local reuse charity.*





Edington Parish Council News

Parish Steward - unfortunately we have not had the services of the Parish Steward this year as he has been taken off work in the village by Wiltshire Council to carry out repairs and maintenance of roads, in particular potholes! The Parish Council had no say in this matter and consequently work that we had planned for him to undertake has not been completed this includes the cutting of the grass triangles along the B3098 and the clearing of gullies etc. around the village. We are looking at employing another contractor to undertake some of this work using money from our reserves.

Wiltshire Council are hosting a webinar on Monday 19 June, for residents to find out 'all about potholes'.

Find out how potholes are inspected, prioritised and filled, as well as information on long-term maintenance schedules and resurfacing

Read more & register : <https://orlo.uk/REruX>



To report potholes, people should go to www.wiltshire.gov.uk/MyWilts

The Parish Council would like to thank the volunteers who gave up their time this week to tidy the Coal Path Field and Church car park ready for the fete. The volunteers are always looking for more helpers to assist with tasks around the vil-

lage. If you would like to assist please contact the Parish Council.

At the May meeting of the council we assigned the various posts to councillors these included:-

Chair - John Pollard

Vice Chair - Emily Greening

Climate Issues - Liz Pike and Mike Swabey

Highways Liason - Chris Johns and John Pollard

Neighbourhood Plan - Mark Burgess

Newcomers - Chloe Watts and Helen O'Donoghue

News Contact - Chloe Watts

Parish Steward liason - John Hardman

Planning - Bob King

Playfield - Pauline Dorgan

Police Liason and Neighbourhood Watch - Emily Greening

Westbury Area Board - John Pollard and Helen O'Donoghue

For a full list please visit the village website.

Forthcoming roadworks.

The B3098 will be closed in **Little Cheverill**. Carriageway resurfacing, replacement of road markings, adjustment of ironworks and all associated works from 12 June until 19 June. Location from the junction with Low Road to junction with A360.

Common Hill, Steeple Ashton will be closed from 5 June until 16 June, only between the hours of 07:00 and 19:00. To carry out urgent drainage and associated works.

You can find out about roadworks across Wiltshire by going to <https://one.network/>

Remember you can always contact the Parish Council by email

parishcouncil@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk



Village Musings

I really love the hidden little lanes and footpaths around our village, linking us quietly with each other. Some are very well used and very well known, others are more overgrown and less travelled, but they are all exciting and interesting places to walk through.



other. Some are very well used and very well known, others are more overgrown and less travelled, but they are all exciting and interesting places to walk through.

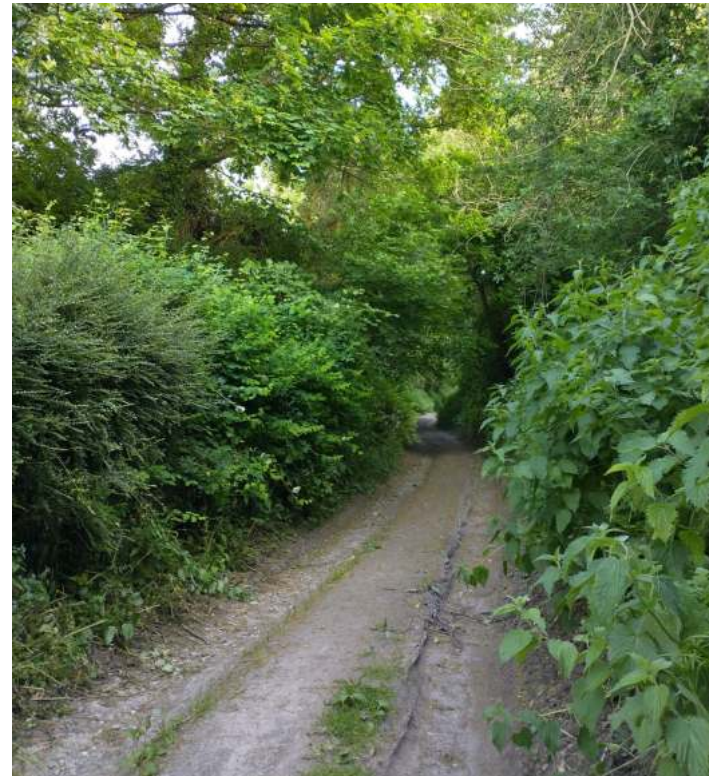
Even though we know perfectly well where they will come out, walking along them, perhaps next to a little rill with water bubbling alongside us, or past high, plant-covered banks with trees overhead, or through kissing gates or stiles, gives a sense of transition that somehow is wonderfully anticipatory.

The plants growing there are a bit different in these narrow spaces, sound reaches our ears



differently and the light is changed. We are going somewhere. It's a lovely feeling. As A.A Milne wrote (in a different context):

"And all sorts of funny thoughts
Run round my head.
It isn't really
Anywhere!
It's somewhere else
Instead!"



Mercedes Henning



FRIENDS OF
ERLESTOKE PRISON

HELPING TO KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER

Come and Join The Friends of Erlestoke Prison Volunteer Drivers Team

Our volunteer drivers collect families and friends of the prisoners from Westbury Station or Devizes Market Place and drive them to and from the Visitor Centre at HMP Erlestoke to visit their menfolk.

The rota is arranged week by week so there is no need for the journeys to clash with your diary. Your commitment can be extremely flexible and helping in just a small way will make a difference. Travel expenses can be claimed.

Our Transport Scheme is increasingly popular with visitors and we need more drivers to strengthen our bank of volunteers. We know that prison visits helps with prisoner rehabilitation.

If you feel fit and able to help with this valuable and rewarding work and would like to learn more please:

email: friendstransportscheme@gmail.com

or call: 07504 987190

Thank you!

www.friendsoferlestokeprison.com
Registered Charity Number: 1147582



Rare birds around Edington

I recently read the latest Annual Bird Crime Report published by the RSPB and was horrified to find that the illegal persecution of birds of prey is still a big problem in the United Kingdom. The report identifies 108 confirmed cases of illegal killing of birds in 2021, the second worst year on record. I cannot believe this is still going on. What upset me most was a photograph of an RSPB investigation officer in a hazmat suit holding up a poisoned white-tailed eagle from Dorset. Two of the white-tailed eagles recently introduced onto the Isle of White as part of a reintroduction programme were poisoned.

White-tailed eagles were exterminated as a breeding bird in the UK in 1916 due to illegal killing and were then reintroduced into Scotland in 1975 and there are now over 140 breeding pairs with legal protection from being persecuted. White-tailed eagles were also once widespread along the whole of the South Coast of England, from Cornwall to Kent, before being driven to extinction. The last pair bred on Culver Cliff on the Isle of Wight in 1780. Many parts of southern England still remain highly suitable for

them, and since 2019, 25 birds have been released on the Isle of Wight and surrounding areas of the south coast. It was two of these birds that were poisoned in Dorset recently.

The white-tailed eagle is the largest bird of prey in the UK. What a wonderful sight it would be if we could see them regularly flying over Edington again with their massive 2.5 metre wingspan now that they have been reintroduced in the south of England! In flight it has long, broad wings with 'fingered' ends. Its head protrudes and it has a short, wedge-shaped tail. The tail feathers of the adults are white hence its common name. The head and neck are also pale, almost white in mature birds. They are in fact a large species of sea eagle and are closely related to the bald eagle of the USA.

As a sea eagle they are largely fish eaters but will also catch various birds, rabbits, and hares. Carrion is also an important part of their diet, especially during the winter months when it makes up about a third of what they consume. This of course makes them very susceptible to being poisoned. When fishing, they fly low over water, stop to hover for a moment and drop to snatch fish from the surface.



White-tailed eagles are found along rocky coastlines, estuaries, and lochs near the sea, although they will also range inland, especially juveniles. The species is fact very widely distributed across temperate Eurasia, with strongholds in Russia and Norway, although they are on the decline in all areas where they occur.

White-tailed sea eagle catching a fish (del. S.F. Henning)





The white-tailed eagle was not the only casualty of illegal persecution with the worst affected species being our common buzzards and red kites. The population of red kites has only just started recovering in England after it was saved from national extinction by one of the world's longest-running protection programmes. It has now been successfully re-introduced to England and Scotland. Red kites are easily poisoned as carrion also forms a large part of their diet.

Another bird found locally that has been reintroduced to the UK over the past twenty years after being persecuted to extinction is the great bustard. The last bird was recorded being shot in 1832.



The Well Dressing display of the great bustard created for the coronation of King Charles III

The great bustard is an iconic bird for the county of Wiltshire. It has special status, appearing on the County Coat of Arms and on its crest. The image of the great bustard is found throughout the county in settings as diverse as the symbol of the High Sheriff and the badge of the Girl Guides.

At the Edington Well Dressing on Sunday the 7th of May 2023 to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III we chose the theme of the Great Bustard as it is such an iconic bird in Wiltshire. The sad thing was most people working on the well dressing display did not know what the bird was that they were creating. Some even thought it was a turkey! This is why I thought I would include something about the great bustard this month in my article.

The great bustard is really a unique bird. It is not only the largest land bird in Europe, but it is also the heaviest-flighted bird in the world according to some sources. Its only rival is the kori bustard from Africa whose mean weight is slightly higher, but has no individual bird is as heavy as the heaviest recorded male great bustards. Great bustards are also the most sexually dimorphic (males being different to females) of all bird species in terms of size. Adult males are about 2.5 times as heavy as females. Large male great bustards have wingspans of some eight feet (2.5 metres) and weights of up to 20 kilograms. They are strong fliers and can reach speeds of 30 to 60 mph during migrations. In Russia the population there migrates some 600 miles south to warmer climates every year to escape the bad winters. They are omnivorous and feed on seeds and grasses in winter and insects, seeds, frogs, and lizards in summer.

The great bustard can survive in cold temperatures, and while some European and Asian subspecies possess a solid, powerful instinct to migrate, in the UK, the population is considered resident; they live here all year-round. Their favoured terrain is open grass plains (where they nest on the ground), farmland, bare earth patches and salt marshes.





The great bustard has been seen several times at Stonehenge (del. S.F. Henning)

Great bustards in the past occurred on chalk downland in central southern England and in the open sandy Brecklands of eastern England. Archaeological evidence shows that the species was native to England rather than being introduced.

Globally, however, the great bustard is at risk of extinction. Classed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of Globally Threatened Species, it's estimated that there are fewer than 35,000 Great Bustards left in the wild.

This bird was reintroduced to the UK on the Salisbury plain in 2004 by the Great Bustard Group. The group sourced chicks rescued from agricultural operations in Russia, with a plan to release 20 birds per year onto Salisbury Plain over a period of ten years. I got involved with the project in 2005 when I was Head of Animal Care at Wiltshire College. I went to visit the project leader David Waters at his home near Salisbury to find how we could help him. The highlight of the visit was being introduced to a male great bustard living in his back garden. This bird was one of the first batch of birds from Russia but could not be released because he had injured his wing. He was huge and absolutely beautiful.

In the first instance I arranged for some of my staff and students to help build proper

quarantine pens for the young birds being reintroduced from Russia. Later, some of my BSc Hons in Animal Science and Management students did research projects on the great bustards for their dissertations. One I remember well was investigating the diet of the great bustard on Salisbury Plain. She collected great bustard droppings on the plain and identified the seeds and insect parts she found in them. I enjoyed helping her with this project.

The project achieved early progress with females laying eggs in 2007 (though unfortunately they were infertile as the males had not yet reached maturity). The males finally reached maturity in 2009. This was followed by the success of the first chicks to be hatched in the UK for over 175 years, with fledging achieved in the same year.



The great bustard forages for seeds, insects, and other small prey on the Salisbury Plain (del. S.F. Henning)

In June 2012 great bustard eggs were imported from Russia for the first time rather than chicks. Importing eggs rather than chicks removed the need for a stressful 48-hour journey at two months old and allowing release to take place earlier in the year.

At this time, it also became apparent that the Russian great bustards were not a viable source for the project, as they expressed too strong an instinct to migrate. In 2013, it was decided that the project should seek to use Spanish birds instead. Genetic





studies had shown that the Spanish great bustards were genetically more similar to the former population in the UK. The Spanish great bustards also showed less of a tendency to migrate than the Russian population.

The releases of Spanish great bustards continued until 2019. During this time, they established a population of over 100 bustards in the UK, and the population is now breeding at a level to be self-sufficient. During the programme they released birds at three locations across the Salisbury Plain up to 15 miles apart. All these three groups are now reproducing and interacting with one another. Currently the population is now growing on its own.

Over past 20 years, the Great Bustard Group has proved that this magnificent bird can thrive once again in the UK. The group has found safe and ecological ways to import eggs; raise

chicks; protect the young and to introduce adult birds back into the wild. Since 2019, all new releases are now solely home-grown bustards.

It is a great treat seeing these birds once more on the Plain. In the evening they gather in flocks, typically on the crest of hills, where they can keep watch. Among the grasses of Salisbury Plain, they are surprisingly well camouflaged for a big bird. Keep your eyes open for them as you drive across the Plain as my daughter saw one beside the road while driving to Tidworth a couple of years ago. It took fright as she passed, and she had to slam on her brakes as it flew up with its wing nearly clipping her windscreen as it got going. It then flew off across the plain. She remembers thinking it was as huge as a turkey, but it flew well once it got going and quickly disappeared.

If you really want to see one, contact the

Great Bustard Group as they offer day visits which give you a fantastic opportunity to see the great bustards and to learn about the project. You will receive a guided tour of the project site and will visit their viewing hides, which offer the best chances of seeing the bustards and the other wildlife found on the Salisbury Plain.

Dr Stephen Henning.



The great bustard flew up and its wing nearly clipped her windscreen (del S.F. Henning)



Edington & District Gardening Club

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

Chris Wilde from Trowbridge Garden Centre gave a very good talk, not only on roses but lots of other topics too.

Chris brought along a selection of lovely plants which would all compliment Roses if grown with them. This season is about 3-4 weeks behind due to the cold so not many roses are out in flower yet. Look for good glossy leaves and plenty of air through the plant. Vitax plant guard or rose guard helps any problems. A good compost, peat free of course, should be used,

and liquid seaweed for feeding.

Shrub roses are the most popular as they are multi flowering, remove the dead flowers as this allows repeat flowering. It takes rose growers 15 years to identify and introduce a new rose. Yellow flowering roses appear to be the healthiest and are good in shade, blue on the other hand are not so healthy.

Chris was very knowledgeable, being in horticulture for many years and spoke about other plants, pruning, growing, plant pots and diseases.

Jacky

More information about forthcoming meetings can be found on the village website.

Jacky (tel.830133 for any further details)

PROGRAMME 2023/24

The First Thursday in the Month

ALL MEETINGS IN THE PARISH HALL AT 7.00PM UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE

June 1st

Climate changes and problems for growers

Sally Morgan

June 29th visit

Thursday Hauser & Wirth 1.00pm start

July 6th

Botanical treasures of the Mendip Hills

Helena Crouch

July 20th visit

Thursday Cadenham Manor evening

August 10th visit from 10.00am

Thursday day trip Longstock Water Gardens

September 2nd

Flower & Produce Show Parish Hall

Saturday open to public at 2.30pm

October 5th

Crayfish on the Lawn

Joff Elphick

November 2nd

Christmas wreath workshop

Pam Lewis

December 7th 6.45pm start

Christmas meal and social evening

No meeting in January

February 1st plants for sale

Simpson Seeds, seeds, and sauces

Matt Simpson

March 7th

Soft fruits TBC

April 4th Club's 20 th anniversary! Est. April 2004

Shapwick Moor nature reserve management

Alex Learmont (Hawk & Owl Trust)

May 2nd AGM 7.15pm

Herbs – sowing, growing, harvesting, & preserving. Lynda Warren



Edington May Ball to Donate over £10,500 to Charity

Organisers of the annual Edington Charity May Ball will be giving away more than £10,500 in the coming weeks to local hospitals and charities.

The event – now in its 18th year – has raised well over £100,000 since it started – which organisers describe as a massive return for such a small scale, village, event.

The evening includes music from live bands and a two-course dinner prepared by chefs at the village pub, The Three Dagers plus a major charity auction and raffle.

Paul Millard, from the organising committee, said: "We started this event to say thank you to the Bath Cancer Unit and the incredible work it does for so many local people – but it's also a fantastic night out which now raises money for an extremely worthwhile – but wider – group of charities and good causes.

"We are constantly surprised at the generosity of people who donate extraordinary gifts and promises to our auction – this year we were able to auction lots ranging from a walk on part in a feature film to a weekend for 10 in a luxury Dorset hideaway – and the response from the 140 people who attended was just overwhelming."

All the money raised is donated to charity and this year will be divided between the Bath Cancer Unit Support Group, Salisbury Hospital's STARS appeal, Edington village projects, the international response charity Re:Act, The Royal British Legion and a local woman who is raising funds for Rape Crisis England.

Chairman, John Matthews, said: "We would like to thank everyone who gave their support and made it such a terrific evening – we're already looking forward to next year's event when we're hoping to raise even more money for local charities. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Three Dagers management for their incredible support and to all those

individuals and organisations who generously donated to help make our auction and raffle so successful."

For further information contact Paul Millard 07920 611180

Four Villages Link



Our drivers are busy transporting clients for covid booster vaccinations as well as the usual

hospital, doctor, shopping trips and we are occasionally struggling to meet the demand. If you would like to volunteer please call the number below. We welcome requests for other services such as light gardening, help around the home or a cuppa and chat. Please call the coordinator on call **07852 256939** or go to

<http://thefourvillageslink.org.uk/>

Catherine Elliott

Edington Under Fives



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



Pictures of Edington Fete







FRIENDS OF EDINGTON PRIORY CHURCH

THE KING'S MEN COME TO EDINGTON!

We are looking forward to The King's Men coming to Edington on Friday 14 July to give a concert in the Priory Church.



Although they haven't completely finalised their programme, the ensemble of eight promise to sing an eclectic programme ranging from Byrd (celebrating his 400th anniversary) to arrangements of songs by Michael Bubl : something for everyone!

A perfect way to spend a summer evening, come and join us! The concert will begin at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available during the interval.

Tickets from Susie Hancock –
secretary@edingtonfriends.org.uk
or **01225 754626**

Prices: £20, £15, £10, under 18 free. 10% discount for Friends of the Priory Church.

Proceeds from the concert will contribute to The Friends of Edington Priory Church.

If anyone fancies helping on the evening we would be enormously grateful, please contact Susie.

Mobility Scooter looking for a good home.

If you can provide a home for this scooter please contact Jan or John Richardson on **830902**.

There are also a couple of walking frames available if anyone can make use of them.



K. Lite mobility scooter

Wanted

Volunteers to help carry out maintenance around the village.

We normally meet on the third Wednesday of the month and tasks include grass cutting, repairing and painting benches, general tidying up and eating cake with coffee!

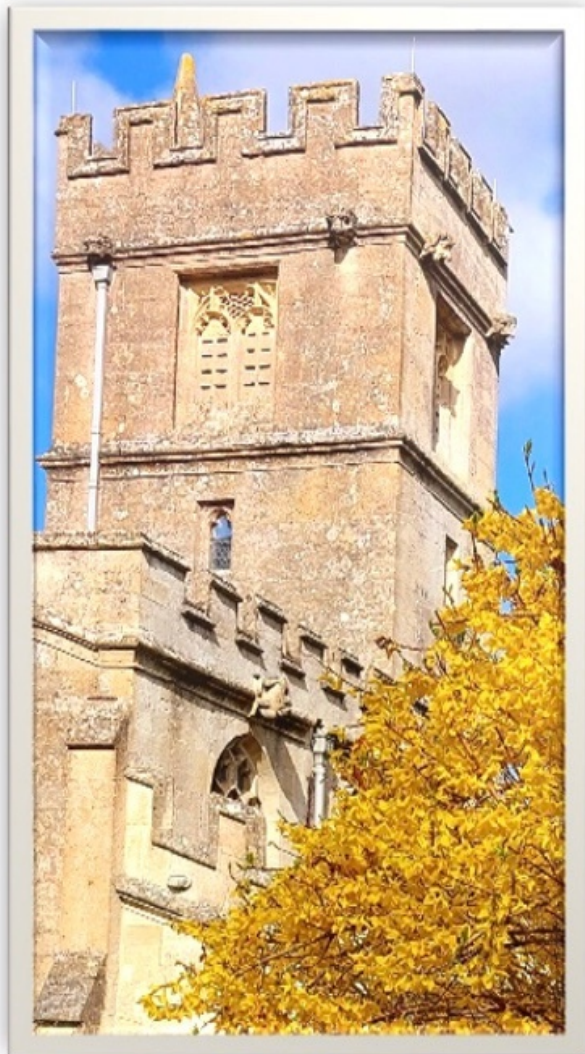
Why not join us at 9.30 am on Wednesday 19th July, venue to be announced in the July edition of the Newsletter. (We had our June session early this month to tidy the Coal Path Field ready for the fete) Contact the Parish Council for more information



As part of Bratton Week 2023

St James Church Bell Tower Opening

From 2pm on 30th June



2pm - Bells will ring to
welcome people to
St James Church

From 2.30pm -
Ground Floor Tour
Ringing Chamber Tour
Bell Chamber Tour

*Whilst there are no restrictions on
numbers for the ground floor tour,
numbers are restricted in the
Ringing Chamber and the Bell
Chamber.*

Please be prepared for a wait
and enjoy a homemade
cream tea whilst you do!

*There will also be a collection pot
for donations towards the
Bell Fund and the
Bratton Church Institute
"Raise the Roof" project.*



A view from the Boundary

Well the sun has been shining and the cricket has been good over the past few weeks both home and away from the Walled Garden. We have been busy with all formats of the game and all ages, especially on Monday evenings when the juniors have been up at the ground learning a variety of skills. It has been amazing to welcome over 40 juniors to the Monday sessions and although we've been interrupted by several Bank Holidays, the weather has been good and the sessions full on. We have seen lots of progress already by our regulars and hope that by the end of the season, we will have the makings of a good little team for some games.

After just failing to get over the line against Norton St Philip on the 31st, the Wednesday side bounced back and had a good result last week, beating Fonthill in a close game that went to the very last over. At the beautiful Fonthill ground, Erlestoke set 144 in their 20 overs, with contributions from T Dorgan, M Bedford and Don ensuring that the Fonthill batsman had to work hard for their runs. Although they set off well,



regular wickets meant that by the last over, 8 runs were needed. A skilful final over bowled by T Dorgan included an amazing caught and bowled and 3 dots. Erlestoke winning by a fine margin.



Sunday cricket has been a bit thin on the ground recently, with the last 2 games being cancelled by the opposition due to lack of numbers. Our last game on the 21st saw the Sunday side beat Chitterne in an excellent high run scoring game. It's been a shame to lose a couple of fixtures but we are looking forward to the 18th when we welcome Corsely CC up to the Walled Garden and hope that the sun will still be shining.

The Saturday side continue to ebb and flow through their season with great performances followed by disappointing ones. Availability has frustrated Mike and his side, with every week a struggle to find 11 available. However, we take solace in the knowledge that we are not the only club struggling to fill Saturday sides and so continue to work hard to make the most of it. Last week we welcomed Box to the Walled Garden and had good win. Setting 308 with T Dorgan, M Barton and T Lucas all scoring 50 and J Dorgan's 88* adding some much needed acceleration in



after being called up at the last minute, opened the batting and went on to score an excellent 100 before falling to T Lucas, caught in the deep. An international wicket for Lucas but 302 was on the board at tea and runs on the board always causes pressure for the chasing side and even though Barton and T Dorgan got off to a slid and steady start, wickets fell regularly after Barton was caught in the deep. Erlestoke falling very, very short at the end on what was a disappointing day at the batting office finishing on 175 - 9. Positives to take from the game were that we held some catches, C

the final overs, the side were confident that they had set a good score. But Box came out intent on chasing it down and an excellent 130 from Australian Jed Prior saw the visiting team in contention and up with the run rate. But when Prior was caught, the momentum slowed and ultimately saw box fall 50 runs short. A great game with lots of runs and wickets and plenty of beers at the Three Daggers after the game. We look forward to the return fixture in the coming months. We then visited Marshfield on the 10th and were keen to back up the good performance from the previous week. But losing the toss and being asked to field on the hottest day of the year was going to be tough. The task was made more challenging by the surprise presence of Arnold Otwani, a Ugandan International cricketer making his debut for Marshfield who,

Morrison took another league wicket and Barton and T Dorgan continued their good form at the top of the order.

This week we look forward to welcoming Horningsham on Wednesday, Goatacre on Saturday and Corsely on Sunday. Three home games lots to; play for and lots to prove. Let's hope the weather stays sunny.





Asparagus and Brie Tart (serves 6)

An indulgent picnic or summer lunch dish

Pastry

350g plain flour

175g butter

Filling

450 g asparagus

3 eggs

225ml double cream

4 Tbsp chopped chives

150g Brie



A rectangular fluted tart tin (approx. 35cm x10cmx2,5cm) or a 20 cm round quiche tin

Oven temperature

190C, 170C Fan oven, Gas 5

Method

1. Pre heat the oven.
2. Make the shortcrust pastry – rub the butter into the flour and add approx. 6Tbsp cold water and mix to a stiff dough, adding more water if necessary. Rest the pastry in the fridge for 20 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, trim the asparagus and blanch in boiling water for 3 minutes. Drain and allow to cool.
4. Roll out the pastry and line the tart tin. Bake blind - Line with foil or baking parchment and fill with baking beans and bake for 10 minutes. Remove the foil and beans and bake for a further 5 minutes.
5. Cut the Brie into 1.5cm cubes. Beat together the eggs, cream, and the chopped chives; season well.
6. Trim the asparagus so that it can lie widthways across the base if using a rectangular tin. If using a round tin, trim so that the spears radiate from the middle
7. Arrange half of the Brie and the trimmings from the asparagus in the pastry case.
8. Arrange the asparagus over the top and scatter over the rest of the Brie. Push some of the Brie under the asparagus.
9. Bake for about 20 minutes until set and lightly golden.
10. Serve with a green salad and new potatoes.



Edington Parish Hall

Keeping fit and healthy

Recently, two new classes have started in the Parish Hall, Lets Move Dance fitness, a low impact exercise class that is great fun and suitable for everyone. This takes place each Tuesday from 10am to 10.45am, cost £5 per session'

Yoga with Marilyn takes place each Friday morning from 10.30am to 11.30am, cost £7 per session.

Those of us who attend these classes really enjoy them and feel the benefit both mentally and physically. It would be great if more people would join one or both of the classes to make them really viable because, as the saying goes 'Support it or loose it'!

Forthcoming social events in the Parish Hall- Please save the dates!

An evening with VocalEase – Six Guys in harmony with a programme of songs in close harmony including folk songs, barber shop and popular songs from the Beatles to the Noughties, on Saturday 22nd July at 7.30pm.

We are very pleased to welcome Edington's own Andrew King and VocalEase back to the Parish Hall for an informal and enjoyable musical evening with a light supper and a bar to make things go with a swing! Tickets are £10 each (to include a welcome Pimms and the light supper)

Tickets are on sale from Thursday 15th June, available from David 07909 963073, Helen 01380 830501 and Pauline at the Post Office.

Afternoon Tea in the Parish Hall

After the success of last year's tea, the committee are hoping to organise another Tea @the Hall. Date to be confirmed- details next month

Curry and Quiz Night – Saturday November 18th at 7.30pm

Further details of all of the events will be published in future newsletters and posters on the village notice boards.

Remember that the Parish Hall is available for hire, at reasonable rates, for private parties or by anyone wishing to run regular sessions for hobbies, leisure activities etc. The hall can be booked on line via the village website or by emailing parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

The committee look forward to seeing you at one or more of the social events.

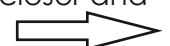


The First Village Carpet Bowls Challenge

Five village teams of four people per team entered this inaugural event – Tai Chi, TVM Dodgers, Team Covid, The Parish Council and The Gardening Club. After some practice (some people never having played before!) where the intricacies of getting the bias of the bowl right and remembering that a gently release of the bowl rather than the stronger one required for skittles, was needed, the competition got under way. Those who had attended the taster sessions were pleased to see that the centre block was not going to be used and luckily there were no Carpet Bowls aficionados taking part as 'Edington Rules' rather than English Carpet Bowls rules were used. Each team would play two games to determine who would play in the semi final before the top two teams were in the final.

Soon, the hall echoed to the sounds of encouragement, helpful, or not so helpful coaching and the oohs and ahs as some of the bowls had a mind of their own and raced off the mat or in the opposite direction to that intended.

At the end of the first round, The Parish Council were narrowly in the lead being the only team to win their game with Team Covid a close second. The second round was much closer and





as there was a tie for 4th place there was a playoff between team Tai Chi and Team Covid with Team Covid victorious.

After a well earned break to lubricate throats and enjoy a selection of pizza the semi final took place

One semi final was between the first placed team, The Parish Council and the 3rd placed team The Gardening Club and the other between the second placed team, TVM Dodgers and 4th placed team, Team Covid.

After a nail biting finish which, in each case came down to the last bowl and some very careful measuring to see which team's bowls were closer to the jack, The Gardening Club and Team Covid were through to the final.

The Gardening Club Team had saved the best. Their star player was Jackie Pike who, with the last bowl of the game secured the win (well after some very careful measuring and remeasuring as Team Covid were convinced that one of their bowls was closer!!!)

The victorious team were presented with miniature cups and chocolates and everyone who took part was congratulated and thanked for making the evening such an enjoyable success.

Wendy Pollard



YOGA WITH MARILYN

Would you like to improve your strength, balance and flexibility and also your well being?



Then why not join the new Yoga class in Edington Parish Hall

When: Each Friday morning

Where: Edington Parish Hall

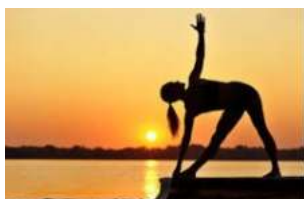
Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Cost: £7.00 per session

All are welcome. If you already have a mat, please bring it with you.

For more information contact Marilyn on **07941095263** or

email maryoc1951@hotmail.com



Yoga focuses on the joining together of mind, body and spirit through three main practices: postures, breathing and meditation.



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.



An evening with VocalEase



When – Saturday 22nd July at 7.30pm

Where – Edington Parish Hall

**Cost - Tickets are £10 each (to include a
welcome Pimms and a light supper)**

Bar to make things go with a swing!.

**Tickets are on sale from Thursday 15th
June, available from David 07909 963073,**

**Helen 01380 830501 and Pauline at the
Post Office.**

Admission by ticket only



Friday 14 July 7.30pm

KING'S MEN in CONCERT

At Edington Priory Church

from Byrd to Bubl 

Programme will include something for everyone



Tickets:  20;  15;  10

10% discount for Friends; under 18 free

from secretary@edingtonfriends.org.uk or 01225 754626

Refreshments on sale during the interval

Proceeds will contribute to
The Friends of Edington Priory Church



www.edingtonfriends.org.uk



Homeopathic remedies for travel sickness

You are perhaps thinking about your summer travel plans. Whether flying, travelling by water or road there are homeopathic remedies to help you if you feel unwell.

As with all homeopathic remedies do not continue to take a remedy beyond your need for it. Stop if you feel better. Minimum is best.

Take one indicated remedy one hour before travel and one as you need it.

For anxious pets it's worth buying Rescue remedy.

The most common remedies are:

Tabacum 30c - better for fresh air

Cocculus 30c – worse for fresh air, better lying down. (especially good for seasickness)

Petroleum 30c – heavy head, worse for fresh air

Other remedies to help:

Arnica 30c – for jet lag

Rhus Tox 30c – airsickness, nausea, vomiting, extreme vertigo, frontal headache, dry mouth, thirsty, no appetite

Arg Nit 30c – Worse for thinking about travel especially in an aeroplane, fear of being shut in and fear of heights.

Gelsemium 30c – Nausea from nervous tension, sitting still with fear to move.

You are welcome to contact me for free advice by phone: **07905748359** or email:

tottinghamanne@gmail.com

What's in a name?

Recently, "The Times" published a review of a hotel on the Isle of Skye which included comments on the chef, my namesake George Fraser. This caused me to reflect on historical examples in my own life where interaction with other people with my name have caused confusion.

My first encounter was when I finished a lengthy spell as an undergraduate and postgraduate student, I applied for my National Insurance card, which in those days had the NI stamps attached to it. Instead of receiving a blank card, I received one with several years of contributions already paid. On investigation, the card belonged to a George Fraser in Edinburgh who had the same date of birth. It was a pity that I could not retain it.

Amazingly, almost 50 years later, our paths crossed again. The financial crisis of 2008-09 resulted in the merging of Scottish banks with the larger British based ones and the combination of their computer systems produced numerous teething problems. One of my subsequent bank statements contained many transactions in Scotland which were nothing to do with me. Imagine the look on the face of the bank clerk when I reported the error and explained how the mistake had occurred.

Perhaps the most surprising coincidence occurred during my career as a research chemist. Academic research is published in specialist journals. On one occasion, my article was adjacent to a contribution from a George Fraser in America who was specialising in a related area of research. We even shared the same middle name. This caused some confusion; even my colleagues asked when I had been working in the USA! The good news was that the confusion ended when I heard on the grapevine that he had changed career, retrained, and become a priest.

My conclusion is that George Fraser is too popular a name, so I am thinking of changing it by deed poll to either Boris Johnson or Donald Trump for a quieter life!



Edington arts

YOUR CHANCE TO HEAR ONE OF THE GREAT PIANISTS OF HIS GENERATION

We've been waiting a long time for this, but finally, the extraordinarily talented and charismatic pianist Martin James Bartlett will be performing in Edington Priory Church on Saturday 24th June at 7.30pm.

Having won the BBC Young Musicians competition in 2014 at the tender age of 18, he has gone on to fulfil the promise of a glittering

career, performing all over Europe and making a number of recordings which have received brilliant reviews. He combines flawless technique, adventurous and wide-ranging musical tastes, and huge emotional depth to produce performances which are remarkable on many levels.

His programme for us is mostly, but not exclusively, French: Couperin, Debussy, Rameau and Ravel, interspersed with Haydn and Schumann/Liszt. This will make for a lovely concert of delicate and summery music.

Full details are on the [Edington Arts website](https://www.edingtonarts.org), and you can secure your tickets, still at 2014 prices, NOW by ringing Chrissy on **01380 831256** or emailing sue@edingtonarts.org; £20/15/10, and 18 and unders come free.





THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)



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.

Please note that the Salisbury trip in July is on the 15th; i.e.the third Saturday, due to the availability of the bus

Groups within our villages can hire TVM if they have a driver who satisfies our criteria; please contact Pauline on 830013.

The next Edington lunches will be on June 14th and July 12th.

Joy Fraser (830426)

Lunch in the Parish Hall

We are holding a Light Lunch (with a choice of Quiches with Salad & a selection of puddings) on Wednesday July 12th 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 (by Friday July 7th) if you are coming as this helps with catering arrangements.



TVM will provide door to door transport
Please book your place with Pauline



Shopping Trips starting at Edington

Destination	June	July	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 15th	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
12th June	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
14th June	12.30pm	Lunch in the Parish Hall	Parish Hall
20th June	1.25pm	TVM - Warminster Shopping	
24th June	7.30pm	Edington Arts - Martin James Bartlett	Priory Church
6th July	9.00am	TVM - Devizes Shopping	
6th July	7.00pm	Gardening Club - Botanical treasures of the Mendip Hills - Helena Crouch	Parish Hall
10th July	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
12th July	12.30pm	Lunch in the Parish Hall	Parish Hall
14th July	7.30pm	King's Men in Concert	Priory Church
15th July	9.30am	TVM - Salisbury Shopping	
18th July	1.25pm	TVM - Warminster Shopping	
19th July	9.30am	Village Volunteers	Tbc
22nd July	7.30pm	VocalEase	Parish Hall
Every Tuesday	10.00 am	Let's Move Dance Fitness	Parish Hall
Every Friday	10.30am	Yoga	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.