



Contents

- White Horse Health Centre
- Courtyard Surgery
- Wiltshire Police
- Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance
- Wiltshire Council News
- Village Musings
- Edington Priory Church
- Forthcoming Roadworks
- Christmas Wildlife of Edington
- View From the Frozen Boundary
- Annual Wassail
- Edington Arts
- Recipe of the Month - Carrot, Butternut Squash and Coriander Soup
- Hoop a Cock
- White Horse News
- Three Village's Minibus
- February Lunch in the Parish Hall
- Edington What's On Diary
- Sharing your newsletter
- Contacting us

*Happy New
Year to all
of our
readers*



Welcome to the fifty-sixth edition of the Edington Village News produced by villagers for the village of Edington.

This month we have all our usual articles including a recipe for soup in these chilly months. We also have a plea for a new home for some "Lads" who have outgrown their present residence with Pauline and an update from the cricket club about the forthcoming season.

Deadline for articles 10th of the month



Edington Village News is an independent publication and its content is not influenced by the Parish Council nor any other organisation. Opinions expressed or implied in this publication are not necessarily those of the editors and no responsibility can be accepted for any errors of fact printed in this publication. ©Edington Newsletter



Local surgeries latest



White Horse Health Centre and Bratton Surgery

Westbury surgery TELEPHONE 01373 828330

Bratton Surgery TELEPHONE 01380 831911
For medical emergencies dial 999

Despite requesting information from the surgery they have not sent us anything and their new website no longer has a latest news section so unfortunately we cannot provide any news from the Westbury White Horse Health Centre.

Editors

Dr Edwards & Partners

westburygp.co.uk



Courtyard Surgery, West Lavington

Telephone 01380 813 300
For medical emergencies dial 999

Courtyard surgery continue to produce a monthly newsletter for their patients and it can be found on the link below.

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

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



Wiltshire Police

Specialist Operations at @wiltshirepolice

Wilts Specialist Ops @WiltsSpecOps
Some recent "encounters"

9/1/2025

Report from the public earlier today of a Transit at 80 on the M4, with two men sat in the cargo area.

"How would the member of public know?", we hear you ask. They'd left the sliding door open!

Driver off to Court; two left substituting Tenerife for Leigh Delamere Westbound



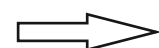
8/1/2025

All hands on deck after the Hyundai failed to stop for #RPU



In Chippenham. Stinger deployed by @wiltspolicedogs and #ARV were there to assist in preventing the car going the wrong way down the M4!!

Many offences and an overnight stay in custody!





Wiltshire Police propose to save additional £5.2m in 2025/26

Published:09/01/2025

The core components of a comprehensive savings plan – informed by Wiltshire Police – has been outlined today in the Police and Crime Commissioner’s budget for 2025/26.

The draft Budget papers for the 2025/6 financial year have been published ahead of next week’s Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel meeting to scrutinise the proposals.

Despite previously identifying savings of £1.2m for 2025/26, the Home Office grant funding announced last month means the Force is left with a budgetary deficit of an additional £5.2m.

Notwithstanding these financial challenges, Chief Constable Catherine Roper has committed to not reducing police officer numbers, improving visibility in communities and public access to the services the Force provides.

Chief Constable Roper said: “The financial situation poses challenges and we are having to review how we deliver our service to the public.

“However, our priority is ensuring that we limit the impact on how we deliver our frontline, operational services as much as we are able. To this end, there will be no reduction in our police officer numbers, and I am committed to moving our frontline resources to those places the public need us the most.

“Our focus and energy remain fixed on Keeping Wiltshire Safe. We will be focused on our resilience, visibility and managing our resources responsibly to respond to those incidents posing the greatest threat, harm and risk to our communities.

“The PCC and I are clear that we will not lose momentum in the strides we’ve made in improving the standard of service we deliver and our community engagement.

“Our savings proposals are focused primarily on efficiencies with our estate footprint, rationalising our vehicle numbers and, where we must look at our people, our aim is to reduce numbers by not recruiting into non-operational vacancies.

“No police station with a public front counter will be affected and we will be increasing the use of our mobile police stations and our attendance at local events to ensure our visibility within communities continues to increase.

“We will also be focusing on our procurement and collaboration arrangements and continuing to grip our operating efficiencies – such as overtime and day to day expenditure.

“Wiltshire Police is not an outlier in this situation- every police force in the country is facing significant financial challenges.”

The Force is developing a comprehensive, three-year savings plan to ensure it continues to operate as efficiently as possible while continuing to improve the service the public receive.

This work is being progressed through a dedicated review programme delivered by one of the Force’s Assistant Chief Constables.

Chief Constable Roper added: “I would like to reassure our communities that we remain committed to continuing to make significant improvements to our service - ensuring Wiltshire Police becomes one of the most effective and efficient forces in the country.

“We continue to work closely with the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure the funding we receive is used effectively and efficiently to keep the public safe, reduce crime and deliver the Police and Crime Plan.”

Wiltshire Police is inviting community members to help shape the future of the Force by joining one of our Independent Advisory Groups. You can find out more information here.

The Chief’s first Facebook Live





event of 2025 will take place on January 20 from 6.30pm where she will be answering questions from the public on the financial challenges we face and the savings plan. Questions can be submitted in advance via the Wiltshire Police Facebook page.



Need for our charity is greater than ever before

More than 100 drink and drug driving offences recorded in December

Published: 07/01/2025

Almost 100 people were arrested during a month-long drink and drug driving crackdown.

In December we launched our annual campaign 'Don't Risk It' urging drivers to plan their journeys in advance if they intend to consume alcohol or illegal drugs over the festive season.

During the month, a total of 102 driving offences were recorded and 96 people were arrested.

These arrests came about either as a result of officers proactively stopping vehicles after observing poor driving, reports from members of the public or minor collisions where the drivers were signed off fit to detain by the ambulance service.

Drink driving was the most common offence (45 arrests) followed by drug driving (25 arrests) then driving while unfit through drugs (11 arrests) and alcohol (five arrests).

Eleven people were arrested for failing to provide a specimen for analysis when suspected of drink/drug driving and a further five were arrested for being in charge of a motor vehicle while over the legal limit for alcohol.

The total number of arrests were slightly higher than 2023's figure of 94.

Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity undertook a record number of missions during 2024, new statistics have revealed.

Overall missions hit an all-time high of 1,343, which represents a 15% increase on the previous year and surpasses the previous high of 1,238 incidents attended in 2020.

The most visited areas were Swindon (243), Bath (117), Chippenham (109) and Trowbridge (90).

A total of 341 patients were transferred to local hospitals (up from 292 in 2023), the majority of which to Royal United Hospital, Bath (109), Southmead Hospital, Bristol (82) and Great Western Hospital, Swindon (72).

Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity's dedicated aircrew, consisting of pilots, critical care paramedics and doctors, are operational up to 19 hours a day all year round. During 2024 they attended, on average, four daily missions.

The Charity's helicopter was deployed for 619 (46%) of the missions, with the remaining 724 incidents attended by critical care cars.

Cardiac emergencies accounted for the highest number of call outs (326), representing around a quarter of all missions. Other incidents included 287 medical emergencies, 190 road traffic collisions, 72 sporting incidents, and 58 assaults.

A total of 182 incidents involved children, while 32% of all missions (438) took place at night.

Doctors were on board for more than half (51%) of all missions attended, an increase from 33% in the previous 12 months.



Wiltshire Council

Councillors support Heart of Wessex inclusion in Devolution Priority Programme

Despite reservations about the concept of a mayor being the most suitable for a rural area, Wiltshire Council councillors have reluctantly supported the proposal that the Leader write to the Government, requesting the inclusion of the Heart of Wessex in the Devolution Priority Programme.

Published 10 January 2025

At an extraordinary full council meeting on Thursday 9 January, members were able to discuss the opportunities that devolution presents for Wiltshire and the wider Heart of Wessex area. The creation of a Mayoral Strategic Authority could unlock significant funding and investment, driving economic growth, improving infrastructure, and enhancing services for residents. It was agreed that Cllr Richard Clewer, along with Leaders from Dorset and Somerset Councils, would write to the Government seeking inclusion in the Devolution Priority Programme.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, said: It is clear from the Devolution White Paper that all of England is going to end up in Strategic Authorities with mayors at their head. Whilst I am still not convinced of the need for a mayor in a rural area, Government has made it clear that if strategic authorities are going to maximise the funding opportunities available, devolution deals will require a mayor. We can either look now to create a Mayoral Strategic Authority in a geographical footprint that works for Wiltshire, which I believe the Heart of Wessex does, or wait and be forced into an authority in a few

years that may not suit our needs.

It was crucial that all councillors were able to fully consider the implications of joining the Devolution Priority Programme before committing to writing to the Government. I was keen for all members to have the opportunity engage in this discussion as we seek to secure the best outcomes for our communities. Despite raising concerns about the mayoral model, members agreed that the Heart of Wessex presents the best opportunities for residents, businesses and visitors and we will continue to work with partner councils to progress proposals.

If the Heart of Wessex is included in the Devolution Priority Programme this could lead to the establishment of a new mayoral strategic authority and election of a mayor for the region in May 2026. The proposal is not a merger of the three councils. Each council will remain independent, continuing to serve its local communities as individual authorities.

Wiltshire Council is trialling an electric Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) to support the council's mission to be Carbon Neutral by 2030

Published 9 January 2025

Wiltshire Council has invested in a 100% electric Refuse Collection Vehicle (eRCV) which will be trialled around the county by its waste collection contractor, Hills, in support of its objectives to reduce carbon emissions and modernise its fleet to include low carbon vehicles.

Starting this month (January), the trial aims to test the performance of the vehicle in real operational settings across a large rural county and help assist in the forward planning for Wiltshire's future waste collection fleet requirements.





The Volvo FE Low Entry Cab RCV will be trialled at operating depots and assigned to household waste collection rounds, initially starting in largely urban rounds in the northern areas of the county including Calne and Chippenham. It will later be trialled in the city of Salisbury. The trial will later look to assess the vehicle's performance in semi-urban, semi-rural, and finally the mainly rural rounds.

Cllr Dominic Muns, Cabinet Member for Waste and Environment, said "This is an exciting collaboration with Volvo Trucks, which has a wealth of experience in the electric vehicle market. The 100% electric RCV contributes to cleaner air as it does not produce exhaust gas. This trial brings us a step closer to achieving our mission to modernise the council's waste collection fleet to low carbon vehicles and ultimately to reduce carbon emissions.

"This trial will establish what percentage of collection routes could realistically be achieved with an electric vehicle, fully testing the capabilities of eRCVs in Wiltshire. It will play a significant role in determining the future procurement of waste collection vehicles and how they can potentially be utilised across the county.

"We can't wait to see it on the road soon throughout our communities across the county."

Ed Dodd, Deputy Chief Executive of the Hills Group, said: "We are excited to support Wiltshire Council's carbon neutral mission with the trial of the Volvo 100% electric RCV. Our crews are looking forward to testing the eRCV across a variety of collection routes in the county.

"It is another example of our commitment to operating sustainably, which already includes route planning to minimise mileage and driver training to ensure that vehicles are driven in a careful manner to help optimise fuel efficiency."

Amy Stokes, Head of e-Mobility, Volvo Trucks UK & Ireland, said: "Our electric technology is designed to deliver performance, efficiency, and environmental benefits. This partnership with Wiltshire Council and Hills Group allows us to bring those advantages to life. It's an ideal opportunity to support the council's plans for a cleaner, more sustainable waste collection fleet. We're eager to demonstrate how electric trucks can meet the demands of diverse operating environments, from urban areas to rural rounds."

To further improve the sustainability of the vehicle, the eRCV has been adapted to include TRAILAR solar panels on the roof supporting the power requirements of the cab.

Adam Buckley-Mayes, Principal Engineer, TRAILAR, said: "We're thrilled to be working with Wiltshire Council to support their mission to be carbon neutral by 2030 and we're committed to delivering sustainable transport for all. The benefits of adding solar to the eRCV is the extended vehicle range, reduced charging time, proactive battery maintenance as well as powering all the onboard electrical equipment therefore reducing requirements on the vehicle's battery.

"We look forward to reviewing the solar benefits for Wiltshire once the vehicle is out in operation".





Village Musings

There are so many wonderful walks around our village and no matter how often we do them, they are always interesting and different – the weather, the seasons, the wildlife and the people make each walk a new experience to revel in.

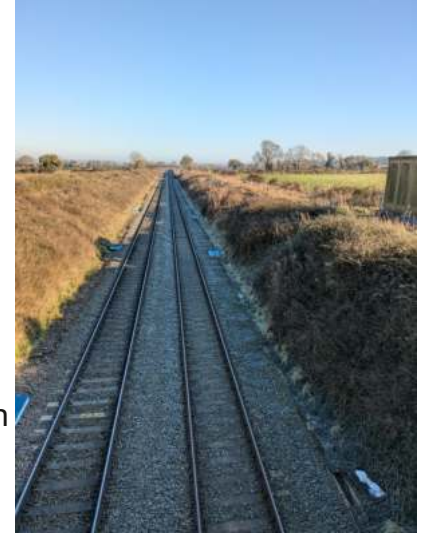


The easy, reasonably level walk down Lambourne Lane is one of our favourites if we only have half an hour or so. It can end at the bridge over the little brook which gives a sense of purpose – to stand here and look at the greylings jumping for the mayflies in summer or the torrents surging in winter is a lovely way to spend five minutes before walking back.



The views on the way out are of farmland, with hares often seen in the fields and, at the moment, fieldfares and redwings flown in from the north also in the fields.

On the way back, the beautiful downs rise up in front of us, and the fan trees, such a beloved landmark, are clearly visible. The church can be seen at certain points, its beautiful architecture



carved out against the hills. We also stop and look at the railway line from the bridge, ready to wave at any train that comes along.

And in autumn, this is a very good blackberry spot as well. Our family tend to call this Blackberry Lane because we can rely on a great harvest along the hedgerows.

In winter, the bones of the landscape are visible and starkly beautiful.

And on the way home, we can stop at the gate to say hello to the gorgeous piglets that we are all watching as they grow up at Ballard's Farm!





Edington Priory Church

The search for a new Vicar

As you probably already know, the Benefice of Bratton, Edington, Coulston and Erlestoke is currently in need of a new Vicar (also called the Rector). Andrew Sinclair retired at the end of September.

The Church of England has a set procedure for appointing a new Vicar, which involves advertising the post nationally. And before we can advertise, the PCCs need to state their aspirations and requirements.

We would like to throw the question open to everyone in our communities, to ensure that we attract the most suitable candidate(s). And to ascertain your views, we are holding Drop-In Sessions in each church, where you can come in and give us your views.

In Edington, the Drop-In session follows the morning service on **Sunday 26th January, from 11am to 1pm**. Everyone is invited, and all views are welcome. We are offering refreshments in return for your time. Do come – and help us to choose our next Vicar.

Forthcoming roadworks

29 Jan 2025 - 31 Jan 2025

Greater Lane, Edington - Road Closure
Openreach - Utility Asset Works

17 Feb - 28 Feb 2025

Bratton Road between Crossroads Farm and West Ashton - Road Closure
Wiltshire Council - drainage and associated works

17 Feb - 20 Feb 2025

High Street Erlestoke - Road closure
Wiltshire Council - Footways Resurfacing and Ironwork adjustment

Reminder

A36 at Limpley Stoke is now closed again until 31 May 2025

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

HALL FOR HIRE



EDINGTON PARISH HALL

PARTIES - MEETINGS - PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

Nearby private carpark

For more information and to book online go to

www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk/hall

or email parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

phone 01380 830 441





Christmas wildlife of Edington

We have come to the end of the Festive Season, but my mind still runs over the highpoints. One of my favourite Christmas Carols is "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and I was fascinated to see that birds have been associated with all twelve days. Some of them are obvious such as turtle doves and partridges, but others are less obvious. Different sources give different interpretations and suggestions which birds are represented. It is a medieval carol, and some sources say that birds associated with it all involved birds that were eaten at medieval feasts. The birds consumed did not have to be large and records of medieval banquets, 'small byrdes', appear fairly frequently. Finches, wagtails, warblers, thrushes, starlings, blackbirds, have all been recorded.

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me A Partridge in a Pear Tree

The partridge referred to on the first day is most likely a grey partridge which is a native UK bird. They are, however, ground-dwelling birds that feed on seeds and insects – so why were they in a pear tree? Another contender is the red-legged partridge that was introduced into the UK in the 1700s, which is more likely to be found sitting in trees. Partridges are traditional game birds and were one of the most popular during the medieval era. They were either roasted or enclosed in suet, and were said to be easy to digest, if they were to hang for a few days before cooking them. It appears this process helps to tenderize the meat and develop a richer, more "gamey" flavour.

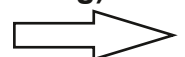


The grey partridge, or English partridge, is a native bird (del S.F. Henning)

On the second day of Christmas my true love sent to me Two Turtle Doves



The turtle dove (del. S.F. Henning)





The turtle dove is well-known bird which may be seen around Edington. It is a summer visitor to the south and east of England. Birds of the pigeon family were common fare in medieval times and were first domesticated for food in Ancient Egypt. During the Middle Ages, turtle doves were eaten by the nobility, served roasted or in a pie.

On the third day of Christmas my true love sent to me Three French Hens

French hens are fairly obvious. There are actually four well-known breeds of French hens: Faverolles, La Fleche, Crevecœurs and Marans. Faverolles is the most likely candidate as they make good winter layers and are very hardy. They were served stuffed, roasted, stewed, or baked into pies.

On the fourth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Four Calling Birds

The original lyrics of the song referred to 'Four Colly Birds' which over time morphed into the more familiar phrase. The word colly means 'black as coal or soot' so it would make sense that the gift given on the fourth day was four blackbirds. They were also certainly on the menu in the medieval era and there are recipes for blackbird pie in historic books and we all remember the nursery rhyme "Four and Twenty Blackbirds Baked in a Pie".



Blackbird (del. S.F. Henning)

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Five Gold Rings

The gold rings referred to in the song are usually considered to be ring-necked birds. This is most likely the common (Ring-necked) pheasant which was introduced to Europe from China during Roman times. It is still a popular game bird eaten today. During medieval times they had their skin and feathers removed before they were roasted and redressed to be served as the showpiece for a feast. They were also baked into pies.



The common (Ring-necked) pheasant which was introduced to Europe from China during Roman times (del. S.F. Henning)

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Six Geese-a-Laying

The goose referred to in this verse is probably the greylag goose, and the ancestor of all domesticated geese. It was a favourite bird at medieval feasts. They are the largest and bulkiest of the wild geese that are native to the UK. Goose has been on the menu for Christmas dating back to the early days of Christianity.





Greylag goose at Studley Royal Water Garden

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me Seven Swans-a-Swimming

The swan we immediately think of is the mute swan which is found on almost all types of freshwaters in the UK. In medieval times mute swans were associated with nobility and were only eaten on special occasions, including Christmas. They were popular with royalty, and it was recorded that forty swans were ordered for Henry III's Christmas celebratory feast in 1247.



Mute swan on Lake Coniston

On the eighth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Eight Maids-a-Milking

People have found associating a bird with the eighth day of Christmas a bit more difficult. There have been various suggestions. One suggestion was that magpies were the maids a milking because their white with royal blue sheen on their black wings was similar to a milkmaid's blue dress with white apron. They are also birds full of power and are used as portents in fortune-telling. Magpies were also eaten during medieval feasts in England: The word "pie" may come from the Latin word pica, which means magpie.



Magpie (del. S.F. Henning)

Another bird associated with milking is the nightjar. Like many nocturnal species, nightjars were birds to be feared, and a superstition that goes back as far as Aristotle is that they sucked milk from domestic goats, which caused the animals to go blind. The superstition gave rise to the





nightjar's colloquial name 'goatsucker'. The scientific name of the European nightjar is *Caprimulgus europaeus*. The generic name is derived from the Latin *capra* meaning 'nanny goat' and *mulgere*, 'to milk'. However, they don't seem to have been eaten in Medieval times.



European nightjar is nocturnal (del S.F. Henning)

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Nine Ladies Dancing

There are two potential bird contenders for the Nine Ladies dancing. Many birds perform dances particularly during courtship rituals and the Common Crane and the Great Crested Grebe are probably two of the most well-known.

The crane with its long legs and neck gives a mating dance of particular elegance as it points its head to the sky, flaps its wings, and bows and leaps in front of a potential partner. The common crane's numbers were decimated over the last couple of centuries and is currently being reintroduced to the country. The current total UK population is now believed to be in excess of 250 birds. The crane is generally believed to have been a breeding bird in Britain in the Middle Ages. Medieval people prized cranes as the "noblest quarry" for a falconer and gladly ate them. It has been recorded that in December 1212 King John flew his gyrfalcons at cranes at

Ashwell, in Cambridgeshire, and killed seven, and on another occasion in Lincolnshire in February 1213 he brought down nine. A banquet in 1465 supposedly included 204 cranes. One can easily see while they were wiped out in the UK. It is recorded that cranes were hung for a few days by the neck to make the meat more tender.



Common Crane (del. S.F. Henning)

One of the most famous courtship displays is that of the great crested grebe which has been described as a water ballet. The two birds weave and bob, dancing and diving together and bringing a particular elegance to their performance. They were once hunted almost to extinction in the UK for their decorative feathers and were used as decorations in medieval banquets. There are also records that they were used as food in historical times.





Great Crested Grebe (del. S.F. Henning)

On the tenth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Ten Lords-a-Leaping



Grey herons are lord-like in their stature because when standing, hunched with their neck bent over their chest they look just like old aristocratic men (del. S.F. Henning)

Grey herons are tall, with long legs, a long beak, and must first leap into the air in order to take flight. They are also undoubtedly lord-like in their stature because when standing, hunched down with their neck bent over their chests. they look just like old aristocratic men.

They were a high-status food item in Medieval times. For example, in 1465, 400 roasted herons were served at the appointment meal of the new Archbishop of York. In fact, its meat was so highly regarded, it was only served at the top tables of a banquet. The only other waterfowl with a higher status was the regal swan.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me Eleven Pipers Piping

The Pipers Piping is thought to be the sandpiper which makes a distinctive three-note piping-like cry as they take off. Medieval cooks often roasted sandpipers and other members of their family. They then had their long beaks pushed through the carcass so people could hold on to them as they ate them, a bit like a kebab.



Common sandpiper looking for molluscs on the mud flats (del. S.F. Henning)





On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Twelve Drummers Drumming

The most likely bird that comes to mind when we think of a drumming bird is the snipe which makes a drumming sound as part of its courtship display. The sound is produced by vibrations in the tail feathers when the birds fly downwards in a swooping motion. Snipe were eaten during the medieval period and were roasted on skewers and served with fried bread. Like many small gamebirds, they were not drawn before they were cooked and eaten. This meant that the innards of the bird were scooped out and spread on a piece of bread to accompany the rest of the meat.



Snipe make a drumming sound as part of their courtship display (del. S.F. Henning 1965 – African Snipe)

Stephen Henning

Let's Move!
DANCE FITNESS

Low Impact Dance Fitness
Edington Parish Hall
Tuesdays 10-10:45am

Reminder - Westbury Railway Station Closure

*From Friday 27 December 2024
until Thursday 23 January 2025,
Network Rail is closing the railway through
Westbury, and also between Westbury and
Salisbury, for track works at Westbury station
and maintenance works on the Sherrington
viaduct.*

All trains through Westbury will be affected:

- Bristol to Salisbury and the South Coast
 - Bristol to Dorchester and Weymouth
 - Swindon to Westbury via Melksham
 - Trains to and from London Paddington
 - SWR services via Westbury and Castle Cary
- Journey times will be increased, and buses replace trains on some routes.

The information shown is subject to other planned engineering work taking place across the railway network.

Find out more at [GWR.com/Wessex](https://www.gwr.com/Wessex)



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



View from the Frozen Boundary

With Christmas wrapped up for another year and 2025 underway, the cricket club is already

looking forward to the weather getting warmer and the days getting longer. It's difficult to imagine playing at the moment, with temperatures resembling that of our average Sunday batter's score, but it has not stopped practice starting, which begins with our first net session at Lavington School on the 12th January. It was a well-attended evening by those keen members, desperate to show off all their new kit! What a lovely way for the club to come together for the first time in 2025.

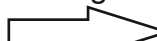
It's hard to believe that the new season is only 3 months away and thus life is starting to get busier up at The Walled Garden. Preseason preparations are well underway and it won't be long before we hear the rumbling of rollers and mowers echoing around the ground as we coax the pitch out of its long winter's slumber. With over 50 games lined up this year, it's looking like another busy season of cricket for the club.

But we have not all been resting this winter. A small group of club members have been playing in a local Indoor League at Dauntsey School again which has seen us climb to 1st in the table over recent weeks. With plenty of cricket still to be played, there is everything to play for and a chance to make the final is up for grabs. Added to this, the club hope that our February, March and April net sessions are just as well attended as our first, which gave us all a chance to rediscover our cricketing talents and catch up with friends, as well as welcoming some new members to the club. These sessions are the perfect way for any aspiring cricketers out there to come and refresh their skills - so please get in touch if you would like more details.

We are also looking forward to the arrival of our very first ever 'Overseas Player' for the 2025 season. The club is really excited and pleased to be able to offer a home for the summer for a young Aussie who will be playing and helping out around the club, whilst also having time to travel. We can't wait to welcome Cooper Webster in late April and hope that he has a fantastic time with us and enjoying and experiencing an English cricket summer.

Along with the adult side, the juniors make a welcome return on Monday Evenings during the term time with our first session starting in mid-April. Sessions will again run 5-6pm and we hope to welcome back all our juniors from last year, along with some new faces for the 2025 season. We are really looking forward to developing our hard ball team this year and hope to even find some local sides to play against. More details will be published closer to the start of the season.

As many will know, the next phase of the pavilion build that involved the completion of the brickwork and pillars is finished and our fundraising attentions on the purchase and erecting of the wooden structure are now underway. The Just Giving page continues to have sporadic donations and we hope that this will pick up more once the season picks up pace. The new pavilion will be a traditional-look wooden construction elevated on brick pedestals and located in the north-east corner of the ground. It will have large changing rooms, a spacious atrium and shelter from the bad weathers. A decking will surround the pavilion which will have disabled access and all mod-cons will be incorporated, including indoor male, female and disabled toilets, kitchen area, meeting space and storage facilities.

Every donation we receive helps us move towards our goal of a new pavilion up at the Walled Garden and a wonderful new village amenity for all to enjoy and share. 



As we move into the next phase of the build, we continue to look for donations towards the building to help us achieve our goals to improve the ground's facilities, amenities, ambience and accessibility.

We welcome any donation, large or small, and its offer will demonstrate, in a practical and meaningful way, a gift of heartfelt generosity that will help ensure that the beauty and wonder of the Walled Garden remains a local community asset for all to enjoy, and that village cricket will always be played in its unique grounds, now and for far into the

future. Our new CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) status, means that we can also benefit from tax reliefs, including Gift Aid.

If you are interested in making a donation to help us achieve the next step in our building phase, or would like any further information about the project, please contact Mike Ash the cricket club secretary at ecccmembership@gmail.com.

Joe Dorgan
Chairman, ECCC

***Saturday 18th January at 2pm
on the Coal Path Field***

Annual Wassail

with

Edington Brass

and

The White Horse Morris Dancers

Donations welcome for drink and cake



Edington arts

The first Edington Arts concert of the 2025 season brings together a fascinating and soul-satisfying combination of saxophone, organ, soprano and percussion – Sanctuary, on Saturday 8th March at 7.30pm in the Priory Church.

Saxophonist Christian Forshaw started his musical life as a church chorister, took up the piano and clarinet after listening to Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, moved to the saxophone in his late teens, graduated from the Guildhall School of Music with honours, and spent the early part of his performing career playing jazz.



“But” he says, “it was other people’s music, and I wanted very much to find my own voice. So I went back to the sounds I knew were a part of me, the sounds of church music, and started to devise a way of adapting that to suit my playing. That was the beginning of the Sanctuary Project, where I tried to combine floating, ethereal soprano sax lines with more

emotionally intense alto lines.” His original compositions, as well as his arrangements, are deeply rooted in sacred melodies and the church choral tradition.

This has become his distinctive sound, which has led to recording and performing here and abroad with many leading ensembles both instrumental and choral, as well as films and collaborations.



His co-performers are Richard Pinel, (organ, former Director of the Edington Music Festival),

Soprano Rosanna Wicks,



and percussionist Ryan Hepburn.

Tickets will be on sale through the Edington Arts website, www.edingtonarts.org, from £11-£25, with 18 and under coming free.

Availability to purchase :-

Edington Arts Angels - Monday 20th January 2025.

General sale - Monday 27th January 2025.

An Unmissable Concert.



Recipe of the month - January

When the temperature drops there is nothing better than enjoying a warming, flavoursome and healthy bowl of hearty homemade soup particularly after an invigorating walk on the hills above Edington!

Enjoy with crusty bread.

CARROT, BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND CORIANDER SOUP

Serves 6

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp sunflower oil
- 2 onions, peeled and finely chopped
- 5cm (2 inch) piece of ginger peeled and grated
- 2 cloves of garlic peeled and finely chopped
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 500g (1lb 2oz) carrots peeled and chopped
- 1 medium butternut squash, peeled, deseeded and cut into 2.5 cm (1inch) cubes
- 1.5 litres (2.75 pints) vegetable stock
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 bunch coriander, leaves chopped
- 6- 8 tsp single cream or natural Greek yoghurt or dairy free yoghurt



Method

1. Prepare all of the vegetables
2. Heat the oil in a large saucepan, add the onions, ginger and garlic and sweat over a medium heat for 5 minutes until soft but not coloured. Turn the heat down if they start to brown.
3. Add the ground cumin and cook for 1 minute. Add the carrots and butternut squash and then the vegetable stock. Bring to a boil and simmer for approximately 25 – 30 minutes until the vegetables are soft.
4. Remove from the heat and allow to cool for a few minutes. Add any salt and pepper to taste.
5. In batches, puree the soup in an electric blender until smooth (or use a stick blender to puree the soup in the saucepan)
6. Return the soup to the saucepan, stir in half of the chopped coriander leaves and gently reheat.
7. To serve, pour in to warmed bowls. Swirl a spoonful of cream over the soup and sprinkle a few of the remaining chopped coriander leaves over the top. Enjoy!





Note

1. For a more intense flavour, roast the vegetables. Place the prepared vegetables in a polythene bag, then add the oil and cumin and shake well. Place on a roasting tin, and roast in the oven 200C, Gas 6 for approximately 40 minutes. When cooked, place in a large saucepan with the stock, bring to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes before blending to a puree.
 2. Half of the coriander leaves can be add to the soup before it is pureed rather than just stirred through.
- The soup is suitable for freezing after it has been pureed – point 5.

Hoop a Cock



It is a truth universally acknowledged that if you hatch and hand-rear 4 bantam eggs, you are going to end up with more boys than girls. 4 eggs

hatched in June, and the grandchildren fostered and cared for their every need for the first seven weeks of life. When the chicks returned to the hurly-burly of the garden chicken run, they went with the finest straw, pecking corn, meal worms and strict instructions from the grandchildren on how they should be tucked up each night and read a story. After a tearful farewell from the grandchildren Muffin, Peanut, Daisy (wrong!) and Vera were left to their own devices. The Warminster four, as we called them, were soon making their presence felt and, as they hit their teen years, it became clear we had three rather handsome cockerels and one lady. The “Lads” as they are now known are ready to spread their wings, so if there are any chicken lovers out there who would like a beautiful, strutting bantam cock (not for the pot!!) please get in touch.



Pauline at Edington Post Office



WHITE HORSE NEWS

As you may have noticed the White Horse News is no longer delivered to properties in Edington, however we have been in contact with the publishers and they are happy for the Edington Village News to fill the gap and with their permission we will now be publishing extracts from their newsletter in our publication every month.

You can always read the full online edition at :- www.whitehorsenews.co.uk

Westbury welcomes new community cinema

Exciting plans for a new community cinema in Westbury have been unveiled by Westbury Town Council, with screenings hoped to take place at least once a month at the Laverton.

The opening film, on Friday 31st January, will be *Twisters*, the 2024 blockbuster starring Daisy Edgar-Jones, Glen Powell, and Anthony Ramos, which achieved the best-ever opening weekend for a disaster movie.



The cinema will be located in the Laverton's main hall, and tickets will be priced at £5. The first screening will serve as a trial, but the council is hopeful that regular film showings will follow, based on community feedback.

"We're very excited about bringing

Westbury Community Cinema to the town," said Patrick McGowan, the town council's buildings and facilities manager.

"We'll be speaking to the audience and the wider Westbury community to see what films they would like and how often. We're confident it will be well received. Hopefully people in the town will support a community cinema and enjoy the chance to watch a film in their hometown."

[Read more about this story here](#)

New hope for Westbury as government announces tougher rules on incinerators

There is fresh hope in Westbury that a government crackdown on waste incinerators could prompt a rethink of the town's controversial incinerator project. However, there is disappointment that the government's measures stop short of an outright ban on new incinerators.

The government announced this week that it will introduce tougher regulations on new waste incinerators which burn rubbish to generate electricity. New incinerators will only get the go ahead if they meet strict new local and environmental conditions including reducing the amount of rubbish going to landfill.

Although the proposed Westbury incinerator has already been granted planning permission, local campaigners hope the new guidelines will lead to a rethink.

"Whilst welcoming this announcement, the town council are disappointed that it doesn't go further and that the government haven't placed an outright ban on building new incinerators as has happened in Scotland and Wales, and which the town council has been strongly lobbying for," said Cllr Mark Bailey, chair of the town council's Incinerator Monitoring Group.





“The bottom line is that companies investing in incineration are doing it for one reason only: to generate profits, and so anything, including these tighter regulations, that increases costs and so makes incinerators uneconomical to run is good news in the fight against these unwanted plants.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Local MP visits Chantry Court to discuss future of independent living

Westbury MP Andrew Murrison recently visited Chantry Court retirement village to learn more about its facilities and discuss the future of independent living for older people.

During his visit, the MP met with residents and toured the village, which offers one- and two-bedroom properties, and features amenities including a restaurant, bar, cinema and library.

Lex Cumber, from Untold Living, which operates Chantry Court, said, “It was delightful to meet Dr Andrew Murrison, who is clearly a very conscientious MP. It was important for him to come and see Chantry Court because we’re trying to raise the profile of the community as we’re quite tucked away.



“It was also important to demonstrate to him the benefits of integrated retirement communities (IRCs). We are a strong local employer, with around 20 to 30 people working across the community, and we are at 80% occupancy, looking after residents aged mid-50s and above with varying needs.

“Nearly 30% of our residents receive a care package, so we are helping to ease pressure on the NHS. We’re freeing up local housing, employing local people, and, while investing here in Westbury, we are also building more of these communities across the UK, with plans for up to 10 over the next decade.

[Read more about this story here](#)



Four Villages Link

It’s a new year and a new opportunity to volunteer! We continue to struggle to find enough drivers on some days and need to increase the pool of volunteers. It’s a great way to help the community and there is no pressure to accept a job if you’re busy. Please call 0785 25 6939 to offer your services or if you are requesting help. Thank you.

Coffee Morning Drop In

Every Tuesday
10.30 -11.30 am
in the Three Dagers.



Transport available
contact
Pauline or Joy.



THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)



Destination	January	Start Time
Devizes	Thursday 9th	9.00am
Warminster	Tuesday 21st	1.25pm
Westbury	Every Thursday	1.25pm
Salisbury	Saturday 11th	9.30am

Destination	February	Start Time
Devizes	Thursday 6th	9.00am
Warminster	Tuesday 18th	1.25pm
Westbury	Every Thursday	1.25pm
Salisbury	Saturday 8th	9.30am

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

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

TVM is also available for village groups to hire (contact Pauline on tel:830013).

Our next lunch will be on
Wednesday 12th February

Joy Fraser (830426)

February Lunch in the Parish Hall



We are holding a 2
Course Lunch
(with a choice of Mains

and a selection of puddings)

on **Wednesday February 12th at
12.30pm.**

in the Parish Hall, Edington.

Price £8.00 in aid of the
Edington Parish Hall.

All will be most welcome to join us.

It is essential to let Pauline

(tel: 830013) know, by Friday

February 7th, if you are coming, as
this helps with catering

arrangements.



TVM will provide door to door
transport.

Please book your place with Pauline

***Booking essential as spaces are
limited***





Edington What's On Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
January 2025			
14th January	7.30pm	WI talk - Bat Conservation	Parish Hall
17th January	2.00pm	Wassailing	Coal Path Field
21st January	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping Trip	
26th January	11.00am - 1.00pm	Search for a new Vicar - drop-in Session	Priory Church
February 2025			
6th February	9.00am	Devizes Shopping Trip	
6th February	7.00pm	Gardening Club talk Wilts and Berks Canal Trust	Parish Hall
8th February	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping Trip	
11th February	7.30pm	WI meeting - Resolutions Debate	Parish Hall
21st February	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping Trip	
Weekly			
Every Monday	11.00am	Tai Chi	Parish Hall
Every Tuesday	10.00am	Let's Move Dance Fitness	Parish Hall
Every Thursday	1.25pm	Westbury Shopping Trip	
Every Friday	10.30am	Yoga	Parish Hall
Every Friday	6.00pm	Edington Brass	Parish Hall

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

Contacting us

Email the newsletter at

newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

or via the newsletter website

www.newsletter.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 10th 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 newsletter website and enter your details

www.newsletter.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk or
email and you will be added to the mailing list.
newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk