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Edington Under 5's making Valentine Treats



More pictures on page 18



Welcome to the thirty-fourth edition of the Edington Village News.

A 24 page edition this month with our regular articles from Mercedes and Stephen, Wiltshire Council News and news from the Police and Crime Commissioner. We also have a number of other articles including the lighting project in the Priory Church, an opportunity to try your hand at Well Dressing and another installment from our occasional feature "A tale of two villages". Finally a series of photos showing the Wassailing and Carpet Bowls in January and the Under 5's making Valentine biscuits.





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

Westbury Group Practice Facts and Figures for the week 30th January - 3rd February 2023

- Phone calls taken: 1676
- Face-to-Face appointments: 1758
- Telephone appointments: 851
- eConsults submitted: 169
- Appointments where the patient did not attend (DNA): 36 - equivalent to 9 hours
- On the day emergency appointments where the patient DNA'd: 8 – equivalent to 1.75 hours

Dr Edwards & Partners

www.westburygp.co.uk

Courtyard Surgery, West Lavington



Telephone 01380 813 300

For medical emergencies dial 999

[The latest news from the surgery - Our Practice Leaflet can be read here.](#)

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

Wiltshire Police



Wiltshire's Police and Crime Commissioner

Wiltshire Police set to increase officer numbers following budget approval

Published Thursday 2 February 2023

A funding plan to put thirty two extra police officers on Wiltshire's streets has been unanimously approved at a meeting of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel today (Thursday 2 February).

A proposal was put forward by Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson to increase the policing part of the council tax, known as the precept, by 6.2% following an extensive consultation process.

Previously, residents paid £241.27 a year towards the police precept for a Band D property. Under the approved proposal, residents will now pay, on average, an extra £15 a year when the new charges are introduced in April.


This means the total funding received by the force is £148.298M with 52.7% coming from central government and 47.3% from council tax contributions.

Mr Wilkinson told the panel that whilst he understood the financial pressures people are facing, the rise was supported by the public, with the majority of respondents to his recent "Use Your Voice" survey saying they were behind the 6.2% increase.

He said:

"I wish I didn't have to ask as I am very aware of the cost of living crisis and the inflationary pressures our residents are feeling.

"However Wiltshire Police is having to deal with those same pressures. If I do not increase the precept, I will be over £4m short of delivering the service that our residents want and deserve.

"Even by putting the precept up by £15 a year, there are still savings that need to 



be made. I'm confident that the Chief Constable and I can put in place the necessary cost efficiencies whilst at the same time, delivering a better service for the public"

Mr Wilkinson also reiterated his commitment to continue to lobby government for a better funding formula in order to level up Wiltshire in line with similar forces across the country.

Wiltshire is the third lowest-funded force area, per head of population, and has the lowest council tax in the South West.

He said:

"If Wiltshire Police was to be paid the national average for each head of population in Wiltshire and Swindon, I would be able to afford something in the region of an extra 100 fully trained and fully equipped police officers.

"This is why I have written to the Home Secretary to arrange a meeting to discuss this important issue and have regular meetings with ministers and MPs to talk about these issues.

"We have seen an increase in demand and our officers are also taking on responsibilities of other emergency services, which adds to their workload.

"I need to be able to explain the pressures we are facing to the Home Secretary and demonstrate that I've done everything I can to raise funds locally before asking for more money from central government"

The decision to approve the rise means Wiltshire Police will look to recruit and train 162 new officers over the next year. This will increase the total number of officers in the force by 32, once this is balanced against the number of officers expected to leave the service.

Before putting his proposals to increase the precept in front of the panel, the Police and Crime Commissioner conducted a survey over six weeks. It collected over 2,700 responses with 54% of respondents saying they were in favour of paying an extra 6.2%.

Councillor Steve Bucknell is the chair of the police and crime panel:

"The panel voted unanimously in favour of the

budget put forward by the Police and Crime Commissioner, including the proposed 6.2% increase in the policing precept.

"Throughout the forthcoming year, the panel will look to ensure that Wiltshire Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner deliver value for money for the residents of Wiltshire and Swindon".

Wiltshire Council

Latest News from Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council's 2023/24 budget proposals have been formally approved by its Cabinet, and they will now go forward for discussion and debate at Full Council later this month (21 February).

Published 1 February 2023

Wiltshire Council's 2023/24 budget proposals have been formally approved by its Cabinet, and they will now go forward for discussion and debate at Full Council later this month (21 February).

The council's proposed budget for 2023/24 stands at £465m. Cabinet also confirmed its proposal to put forward a 2.99% general increase for the council's element of council tax, plus a 2% levy to be spent solely on adult social care. If agreed at Full Council, this will mean an increase of £1.57 per week of the Wiltshire Council element of the council tax for households in the average Band D property. This is as a result of the Government allowing councils greater flexibility in how they set their council tax and helps to fund the continuation of vital service to the vulnerable.

The council's last reported budget gap for 2023/24 to 2025/26 in November stood at



around £45m, but following confirmation of the Government's financial settlement, this was brought down to around £33m. However, through careful planning the Cabinet is proposing a balanced budget for this three-year period, which critically does not require the council to use reserves to fund ongoing service delivery. The council is also in a position to release £13m of reserves to spend on business priorities, particularly in supporting housing provision during the cost of living crisis.

More information on the council's budget proposals can be found at Wiltshire Council's proposed budget for 2023/24 and beyond is published as council plans for a sustainable future. The council held a public webinar last week (25 January) which was hosted by Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, and Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance. It gave residents the opportunity to find out more about the proposals and to ask questions. A replay of the session can be found at [Catch up on public budget webinar](#).

At its meeting on 31 January, Wiltshire Council's Cabinet also provided an update on its revenue and capital budgets for the quarter three period (July to September 2023). With mitigations in place the council is currently forecasting a net overspend for the year of £5m, the equivalent to 1.25% of the overall net budget. However, Cabinet has agreed that this overspend will be met from the inflation reserves that were prudently set aside to cover the anticipated cost of inflation during 2022/23. Therefore, the council is confident that the 2022/23 budget will be balanced at the end of the financial year.

The council has also provided an update on its capital programme spending. Capital funding is spent on projects to improve and maintain the county's infrastructure. The overall capital budget is around £191m following a review, some of the projects that form part of the council's capital programme include the redevelopment of Melksham House, the

Salisbury and Trowbridge Future High Streets projects, highways maintenance, and the Silverwood School construction for learners with SEND.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, said: "I really welcome the constructive and transparent discussions we've had since our budget proposals were published. Setting a budget involving an increase in council tax is never easy and it is really important that we explain to residents what we are asking for and more importantly why.

"Now that my Cabinet has formally approved the budget we now look ahead to Full Council for a full debate and discussion as we seek to get it formally approved."

No final decisions on the proposals have been made, and prior to being discussed and debated at Full Council on 21 February, they would have been scrutinised by various groups including members, group leaders and trade union representatives.


Wiltshire Council is continuing its focus on fixing potholes in the county after a record number of reports in January.

Published 2 February 2023

Wiltshire Council is continuing its focus on fixing potholes in the county after a record number of reports in January.

The hot and dry summer of 2022, combined with the very wet and then cold weather experienced in the county so far this winter, has created the ideal conditions for potholes to form - but the council is using all the skilled resources it can to fix them.

Along with the usual pothole teams, which respond to issues based on customer reports, the council has enlisted its 18 Parish Stewards - one for each community area in Wiltshire - to focus solely on fixing potholes in their area.

Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: We have received a record number of 3,623 pothole reports through our MyWilts reporting system this January. 



This compares with 924 reports in December and 677 reports in November, which illustrates the scale of the problem we're dealing with across over 2,500 miles of roads in Wiltshire.

But we're doing all we can to fix them and have ensured that filling potholes is the focus of all 18 of our Parish Stewards around the county to support the usual pothole teams.

Our Parish Stewards are key resources. During the recent cold snap, many drove gritters to help keep our highways safe and before that they were helping with local flooding. But as the wet and cold weather has subsided for now, they have moved back to pothole-filling.

Of course, we recognise some deeper potholes require more urgent attention than others, so we're prioritising filling these in the first instance. To fill a pothole, the Parish Stewards clear the hole of debris and then fill it with a quick-drying filler, before using tools to smooth the road surface.

Our priority is always to fill potholes to make them safe. However, in doing this at times we appreciate that some temporary repairs may not be as good as resurfacing the road. Nonetheless, depending on conditions, these repairs can last many years and, importantly, the approach means our stewards can fill up to 100 each week.

If people see a pothole on Wiltshire's roads, they should report it using the MyWilts reporting system - either through the MyWilts smartphone app for Apple or Android devices, or online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts. The M4, A303, and A36 are all managed by National Highways, and so any issues on these roads should be reported at <https://report.nationalhighways.co.uk/>.

Wiltshire Council has confirmed that it will soon be implementing a grace period to allow Blue Badge holders an extra hour on any parking ticket they purchase in council-run car parks. Published 31 January 2023

Wiltshire Council has confirmed that it will soon be implementing a grace period to allow Blue

Badge holders an extra hour on any parking ticket they purchase in council-run car parks.

The update was announced by Wiltshire Council Leader Cllr Richard Clewer at today's Cabinet meeting (31 January).

Cllr Clewer said: We are pleased to announce this additional one-hour parking grace for Blue Badge holders.

I've spoken to and listened to feedback from disability groups in Wiltshire about this issue, and seen at first-hand that some people who have Blue Badges, and pay to park in our car parks, require that little bit extra time to leave and return to their vehicles, so we think this measure is a sensible solution.

We hope this supports Blue Badge holders to have a better and more comfortable experience using our car parking facilities. It also helps us deliver on our Business Plan aim of having vibrant, well-connected communities.

We'll work hard to get this up and running as quickly as possible.

A date when this measure will be formally introduced will be confirmed in due course, but the council is looking to implement it as soon as possible.

When it is introduced, Blue Badge holders will need to purchase a ticket and display their Blue Badge as usual when parking in Wiltshire Council car parks, and the additional time period will be implemented from when the ticket time has expired.

Coffee Morning Drop In

Every Tuesday

10.30 - 11.30 am

in the Three Daggers.



Transport available contact

Pauline or Joy.



Edington Parish Council News

20 mph Scheme. The new 20 mph scheme is nearly complete across the village. We are waiting for the road painting contractors to come and paint lines across some roads and paint roundels in some places on the roads. A couple of signs are also going to be repositioned to make them more visible to motorists. The scheme has been implemented following concerns raised by villagers about the speed of traffic on the village roads and has mainly been funded by Wiltshire Council. Please take great care while driving for the safety of all road users and drive at or below the speed limit. Sadly, there are many drivers who are exceeding the speed limit through our village including some villagers!

The Chair of the council recently met with a senior highways engineer from Wiltshire Council and Suzanne Wickham, our Wiltshire Councillor to look at further measures that could be implemented on the B3098 to reduce the speed of traffic through the village and consequently improve the safety of all road users. The council awaits a report from the engineer which will be discussed at a future meeting.

Recently there have been visits by Wiltshire Police Speed Enforcement Officers along the B3098 and their visits have "caught" a number of motorists exceeding the 30 speed limit. They plan to return on a regular basis to assist the Parish Council in reducing the speed of traffic on the road. On one occasion they recorded 8 vehicles exceeding the limit in excess of 36mph. (30 mph + 10% + 2mph). Depending on previous convictions and history, 7 will be offered a speed awareness course and 1 will be given £100 fine and receive 3 penalty points.

It is hoped to restart speed watch on Lower Road but due to the requirements of Wiltshire Police we are unable to restart until six months have elapsed from the introduction of the new

limit and a new traffic speed survey has been completed. Hopefully we will be able to start again in July.

Finances. At the January meeting of the Parish Council the precept for 2023/2024 was considered and set. The Council took the decision not to raise the precept for the 2023/2024 year and will make any savings where possible to ensure no overspend. This means that the Parish Council's portion for a band D property owner will be £47.99. However we have already been informed that the Wiltshire Police portion will increase by 6.5%, an average extra £15 a year and the Wiltshire Council portion is anticipated to be 4.99% an extra £81.64 a year.

Village Litter Pick. This will be on Saturday 18 th March starting at 9.30 am. Please meet in the Parish Hall car park and bring gloves and hi-vis vests. We hope to have a limited number of litter picking tools and will supply black sacks.

Forthcoming roadworks. The B3098 will be closed between Pear Tree Hill junction and West Lavington between 20 February and 25 February.

The railway bridge in Great Cheverill will be subject to road works from 6 February until 26 May and will be closed completely from 10 March until 13 May for bridge and associated works by Network Rail. This means that HGV's that normally use Great Cheverill to avoid the low bridge on the A360 will be diverted along the B3098 through Edington to Westbury.

The railway bridge between Wood Bridge and the cross roads on the West Ashton road is scheduled to be closed for five days from 13 March until 17 March to enable Network Rail to carry out bridge and associated works.

Remember you can always contact the Parish Council by email parishcouncil@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk



Cllr Suzanne Wickham



Although it is early February as I am writing this article, it is beautiful weather with warm sunshine all day, and no doubt many people are thinking about seeds and plants for

their gardens for the coming season. You can imagine how good it will feel when all the volunteers begin putting their spades in the ground, quite soon to get our Pollinator Corridor up and running.



This project has been funded by Westbury Area Board and all the villages of Ethandune, Edington, Bratton, Heywood, Hawkeridge and Dilton Marsh, as well as Westbury Town Council, have chosen the small areas that they want to make into havens for wildlife and specifically all types of pollinators.

As we all know we have lost considerable amounts of green spaces over many years and by providing even small habitats that will benefit birds, bees, butterflies, beetles and all the other types of pollinators, we will be increasing their chances to thrive.

Representatives from all the Parishes of Ethandune and Westbury Town Council recently had a presentation from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, to ensure that we all understand how to get the best out of the areas of land that we have chosen. They won't all be wildflower meadows but may include hedging, trees and shrubs. There could even be a small pile of logs tucked

away that will provide a perfect hiding place for all sorts of creatures including woodlice and beetle grubs. These in turn are food for birds, hedgehogs, frogs, and toads.



In Edington the proposed sites are, a small wildflower area in Court Lane, at the end of Berry Road, new hedging near the Coal Path, and planting suitable shrubs on the far bank of the parish hall car park.

I know that some people are already 'signed up' to get involved with this community project, but please do consider joining in and contact the Parish Council if you would like to help. This isn't going to be an onerous task, demanding constant attention, as once the initial work is completed, there will be a programme of general maintenance, and as all well know, many hands make light work. I am really looking forward to seeing how these areas develop over the next few years and have earmarked where I will put my tiny log pile and bug hotel, to add my contribution in my back garden.

Footnote: For everyone who has endured my scruffy 'builders' yard' garden, apologies and a thank you for your understanding. I am hoping it will return to a pleasant front garden soon.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help with any local matters.
Best wishes

Suzanne Wickham – Wiltshire Councillor – Ethandune

Email: suzanne.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk

Tel: **07967 213336**



Village Musings

Although this has been a very cold January, we can now see the earliest signs around our village of nature waking up from the winter sleep. I don't think there is anything more wonderful than striding out across our fields and footpaths, our lanes and byways, and watching the winter melt away.

If you haven't walked around the village for a while, it is certainly worth doing so at this time



of the year. The village pond and spout are looking clear and welcoming, the pond becoming increasingly a glorious habitat for wildlife to flourish and thrive. The

arable fields are greening over with the winter crops, and the sheep move contentedly around in the central green heart of our village.

A walk along Baynton Way, along Cowleaze Lane or down Lambourne Lane will show you something beautiful at every turn of the road and will not

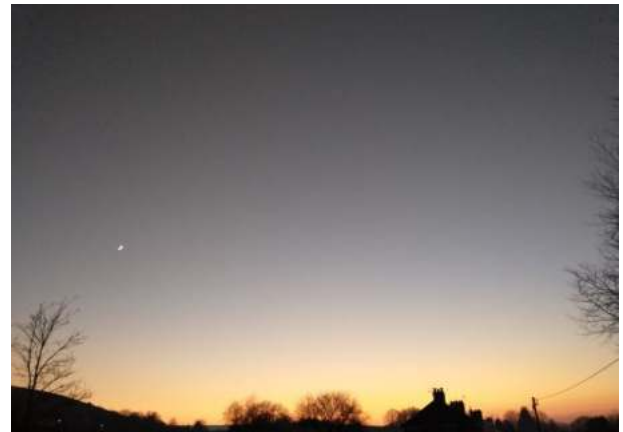
be too muddy or difficult to walk even if you are not a powerful walker.



Tramping up City Hollow or Long Hollow to reach the downs is more challenging but the views are breathtaking!

Walking at night, without a torch, is a special joy in winter. We can see the familiar winter constellations - Orion's belt in particular is hard to miss - and, in the early twilight, the moon with a single star delicately balanced close by is almost painfully beautiful. We have the most glorious sunsets in Edington - blazing across the sky then fading quickly away.

Many of us will be struggling with the cost of living, tightening our belts and living more



frugally with all the inevitable strains that this brings, but living in such a beautiful place brings its own richness and solace even through these difficult times.



Mercedes Henning



edington arts

NEW SEASON BEGINS ON MARCH 18TH

The new season of Edington Arts concerts begins on **Saturday 18th March** with an afternoon of music from the young and extremely talented international De Beauvoir Trio.

The trio was formed in 2019 by violinist Enyuan Khong, with cellist Charlotte Kaslin and pianist Elisabeth Pion; they were recommended to us by the international music charity IMS-Prussia Cove, with whom we have had links for several years now. They were selected for the IMS masterclasses in April 2022, cementing their reputation as one of the most talented and exciting ensembles of their generation.

They have put together a programme for the afternoon which combines the 'late great' composers Beethoven and Dvorak, with short works by two female composers, Gabriela Lena Frank, and Lili Boulanger. Frank is Peruvian/American, and a giant of the contemporary US classical music scene, who as well as being mixed race Latina, has also overcome serious hearing loss. Lili Boulanger, a child prodigy, died in 1918 at the tragically early age of 24 having already demonstrated a genius which would have ranked her among the greats of 20th century composition.

The concert starts at 2.30pm in Edington Priory Church, and we hope you will stay on afterwards for tea and cake, and the chance to chat to these three sparky and very talented musicians.

Ring Chrissy on 01380 831256 or email sue@edingtonarts.org for tickets, which are £20/15/10; 10% discount for Edington Angels, and 18 and under come free.



Meeting every second Tuesday of the month 7.30pm.
Edington Parish Hall www.facebook.com/edingtonandtinhedwi
Contact Jan Billinge 07309 117686
email: janet.billinge1@gmail.com

EDINGTON & TINHEAD FEBRUARY NEWS



**STEPH ROBINSON,
WILTSHIRE LEAD FOR
THE NELSON TRUST
WILL TALK ABOUT THIS VALUABLE
SERVICE FOR VULNERABLE
WOMEN**

**TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY
7:30pm
AT THE PARISH HALL**

All Welcome!



Wildlife trip to South Africa – Part 3

During our visit to South Africa recently, we visited the Harold Porter National Botanic



Karoo prinia nest



Karoo or Spotted Prinia

I then saw a small orange butterfly flying around one of beds near the stream. I identified it as a Water Opal and managed to get a photograph of it. This reminded me of the fact that a large proportion of the lycaenid butterflies (blues and coppers) found in the fynbos were myrmecophilous (the butterfly caterpillars live inside ants' nests) like the large blue in England does. The plants in the fynbos have leaves that have low nutritional value and are hard to eat and digest. The caterpillars of many of the South African ant associated butterflies do not feed on

Gardens in Betty's Bay near Cape Town which backs on to the Kogelberg Nature Reserve. We decided after walking round the botanic gardens that we would walk up one of the trails into the nature reserve. On our walk through the garden, we found a Karoo prinia nest – it was like a bishop bird's nest and hidden low down in the vegetation.

plants at all, but instead they hunt plant bugs like aphids on the plants when they are small and when they get bigger, they make their way into ants' nests where the ants actually feed them like their own brood.



Water opal in the botanic gardens at Betty's Bay

After that my brother, led us up the side of the mountain taking what was called the zigzag path. Here I saw a small blue butterfly called the Water Bronze fluttering near the path along a stream. This is a small bluish bronze butterfly that feeds on geraniums or pelargoniums. Its near relative is the Geranium Bronze butterfly that was accidentally introduced to Europe from South Africa in the late 20th century, where it quickly spread to many southern and eastern European countries. Since its introduction to Europe, the geranium bronze butterfly has become a pest to



Water bronze

cultivated pelargoniums and geraniums. Currently, there is a lot of research being done to stop this species spreading further in Europe. It is in fact the only non-native butterfly in Europe.





At the start of the zigzag path, my brother showed us the spot where a leopard was photographed last year. He had also seen a puffadder near here which is responsible for causing the most snakebite fatalities in Africa.



My brother saw a puffadder in the botanic garden.

This probably due to its wide distribution, being frequently found in highly populated areas, and aggressive disposition. It is also rather slow moving and sits on paths to sunbathe and is

consequently often trodden on by people walking along.

We climbed high up the mountain and followed the narrow zigzag path winding along



Our path was blocked by a female baboon grooming her youngster

the side. The views as we got higher were magnificent. Just as we were making our way down towards a bridge crossing the river our path was blocked by a female chacma baboon grooming her youngster. We shouted at her to make her move, but she just ignored us. Finally, after we yelled "Voetsak", she moved off the path to continue her grooming. She was not scared of us at all. We walked past her, but then saw lots of baboons on the path further on, and on the bridge crossing the river below, so we decided to turn back. Baboons can be aggressive, and a large male could cause serious harm.

At the entrance on the way our way out of the Botanic Gardens we saw a number of giant black carpenter bees (some 2.5 cm long with a 3 cm wingspan) going into tunnels bored in a wood pillar.

They look similar to our British bumblebees but are quite different in being solitary and not making a hive. Females usually emerge in spring, and they search for suitable nest sites such as a tree trunk or rotten



Looking at carpenter bees nest holes in a pillar.

wood. Each female will begin excavating a tunnel into her chosen nest site, using her powerful mandibles to bite her way through the soft wood. The female then lays her relatively large eggs along her tunnel, each in its own 'compartment', using masticated wood she has chewed away, to form partitions. Several female bees will often use the same suitable





A female carpenter bee (Xylocopa caffra) entering nest hole

site to bore their tunnels and lay their eggs. The same site may be used by the bees year after year with the new generations using the same old nest holes. This is what happened at the National Botanical Garden at Betty's Bay.



Showing the size of the head of a carpenter bee female leaving her nest hole

The next day we went to Hermanus, a seaside town, and visited the Shark Research Institute. Here my grandchildren were able to pick up young Puffadder Shysharks which curled up in their hands. They were then able to feed some of the older shysharks with food stuck on the end of a stick. When threatened, the puffadder shyshark curls into a circle with its tail covering its eyes, giving rise to the local names "shyshark". Its markings are also pretty much like that of the puffadder snake. It only grows to about 19 inches in length. In the wild it is found on or near the bottom in sandy or rocky areas along the coast.

While there, someone pointed out a Right whale out in the bay, which we could just make out. Outside the research centre was a young fur seal they had rescued. It was resting before



Young puffadder shyshark curling up in my granddaughter's hand

being allowed back to the sea.

On our second last day at Betty's Bay, we went to Pringle's Bay and the Hanglip Lighthouse. We saw lots of the lycaenid butterfly called the Arrowhead on the way up to the

lighthouse and Graham and I had a lot of fun trying to photograph them. They got their common name because of the white

arrowhead shape on their hindwing undersides.

Their larvae live inside hollowed out twigs of their host plant Melianthus, where they are tended by ants.



A female Arrowhead feeding on a flower.

From the lighthouse we could see the whole of the Cape Peninsula and Table Mountain. We then made our way down to the rocks where the children looked for things in the rock pools. They found starfishes, anemones, and sea urchins. There were also lots of blue bottles on





the tide line and a much larger typical compass jelly fish.



View of the Cape Peninsula from Hanglip Lighthouse

On the last day at Betty's Bay, we went rock pooling on the rocks below my brother's house. These rock pools were the best we had seen so



The rockpools were some of the best I had ever seen

far in South Africa. Huge numbers of mussels, sea anemones of a variety of colours, sea urchins, and fish. We had a lot of fun playing in the pools and had to keep an eye out for big waves crashing on the rocks.

Later on, we went back to the Harold Porter Botanic Garden as my grandchildren wanted to climb the zigzag path right to the top of mountain. At the bottom we saw an angulate

tortoise. It is a smallish tortoise and grows to only about 10 inches in length. It is only found in dry area and coastal scrub vegetation in South



Showing the size of the angulate tortoise I found.

Africa and lives for about 30 years.

On one of the ponds, I saw a yellow-billed duck which I photographed. I saw them everywhere we went, and they are pretty much like our own common mallard duck.



Yellow-billed duck on a pond in the Harold Porter Botanic Gardens

This has just been a snapshot of the wildlife we encountered on our trip to South Africa. Just thinking back to those warmer climes makes our long cold winter nights more bearable.

Dr Stephen Henning



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New Lighting in the Priory Church



You may have noticed Lowe & Oliver vans in the church car park since early January and they will be there during the week for a while yet. The guys

are working on the new lighting in the church.

For a while now, the PCC have been planning this in consultation with a widely-acknowledged expert – Bruce Kirk of Light Perceptions – and obtaining all the relevant permissions from Salisbury Diocese and Wiltshire Council. The hope is that the work will be done by the end of March, in time for Easter.

Much to the PCC's regret, the church must be closed for visitors because it simply isn't safe while the contractors are working – as the pictures show – although the regular Sunday services will happen. But when it's all done, there will be a transformation.



Not only will we all be able to read our hymn books more easily, some of the hitherto more poorly lit features will be highlighted so we can move more easily about the church, those who give concerts in church will have better light and all sorts of functions, services and events will be able to have much more versatile lighting. And, of course, it will all be compliant with current



electrical safety regulations and much more economical to run.

On top of that, there will be new





lighting outside the church too, which will make a huge difference to arriving and leaving in the dark hours, making everyone so much safer.



The Friends of the Priory Church are in the throes of planning a couple of events to show off the new lighting when it is done, news of which will appear in this newsletter next month.



Susie Hancock

Edington & District Gardening Club February 2023 report



What a lovely way to start the New Year with a talk on House Plants. Lula from Pilea Plants, Frome, brought along a lovely array of plants, plant food, cans and sprays, information leaflets and books and her own wealth of knowledge.

There were lots of questions from members about their own houseplants and Lula had answers to them all.

Different plants need different care and position with their growing season between March and August. This is a good time to feed your plants. Gold leaf liquid feed has all the nutrients needed. Overwatering especially in winter during their rest period is why your plants will die. Watering from the top allows good drainage and allows the air to circulate. In general, don't put plants in south facing windows. Houseplants need temperatures between 15 and 25 degrees, and a consistent temperature. Improve humidity by sitting plants on a tray of pebbles with water in it. A mister can be used to give plants some humidity as often as needed. Propagate the plants in Spring and Summer. Plants are good at purifying the air.

Lula will give you all the information on plants when you go in the shop and let you know which ones are suitable for you.

Next month March 2nd

Nicola Hope 'New ideas, new designs, designing your organic garden'.

Visitors are very welcome. Come along at 7.00pm for coffee and a chat before the speaker at 7.30pm



The Edington Under 5's in their session on Thursday morning made Valentine Treats and below are some of the results.





Coronation well dressing

To celebrate the Coronation I thought we could do something completely different and dress Tinhead Spout .

Well dressing is common in Derbyshire where pictures are made of natural ingredients such as petals, shells, seeds etc. set in wooden trays filled with clay.

These decorate water sources such as wells.

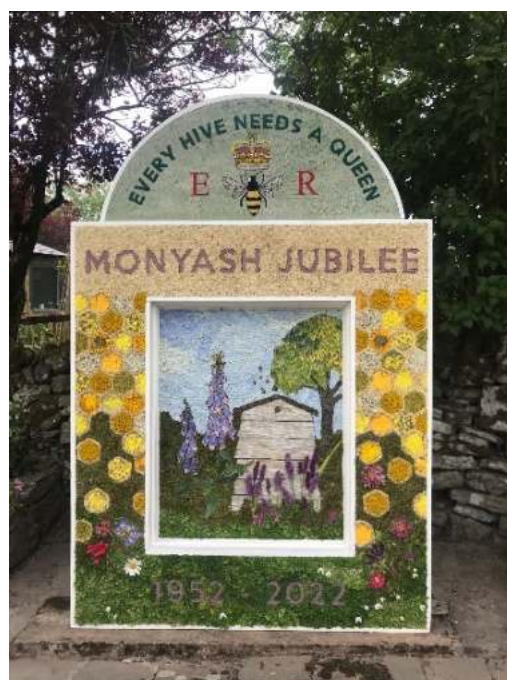
The village will then be able to enjoy the scene around the spout with something like afternoon tea on the green by the pond.

I am looking for anybody interested in progressing this idea. Come to a meeting hopefully upstairs in the Daggers on Tuesday 7th March at 7.30 pm, contact me on 01380 830684 or email me

Elizabethdpike@aol.com.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Below is example of a well dressing





A tale of two villages. Cussay and Edington.

Winter in the Touraine du Sud is much like in the UK, cold, grey, damp or very wet but, when the skies clear, the big blue skies are a delight. So too are the evenings in front of toasty oak log fires and the infrequent glass of local wine and cheese or dinner with neighbours eager to share typical local winter warming recipes.

And soon, round the corner in early March Spring will begin with warm weather and the promise of the summer to come and I bet the ladies in 1916, in this photograph contrasting Cussay today with then, would certainly be looking forward to sunnier days!

France but fortunately the village has land to release for houses which will make a significant financial contribution and the new houses will give young families the chance to live in a village with its own school. Land is being made



Les bénévoles de la commune en pleine action !

LOTISSEMENT « La Gitonnière »

Il est encore temps pour vos projets !

Deux parcelles viabilisées au tarif de 22€ TTC /M² sont encore disponibles !

- parcelle n°1 (option posée): 685 m²
- parcelle n°4 : 861 m²

Renseignements et Réservation en mairie.

available for less than £20 per square metre, already with full services access.

Of course village houses exist here already, old and new, at a huge price range. Fancy a bit of renovation work and a cottage is yours for £35,000-£50,000. Or, you can move a bit more up market for £500,000. Take your pick from the local estate agents window today.

Like the UK, incomes are under pressure in France too and strikes are taking place to pressure

Our village mayor has been busy in recent months and made much progress on the renovation of our village auberge (bar/restaurant). It will provide a lovely rural home to a family wishing to be part of the community and provide good wholesome food to villagers and passing tradesmen. The cost of renovation is high to meet the exacting standards required in

the government not to delay the full retirement entitlement age, which currently stands at 62! The French seem to like their leisure!

To help people at this difficult financial time, our village school is providing all pupils for the next two years with full lunches at only 90 pence each and encouraging the cook to use locally produced food to support local small





Réhabilitation :

L'auberge est fermée depuis maintenant plus de trois ans. Suite à l'appel d'offre, notre maître d'œuvre M. Maes de Bléré nous a présenté les résultats de l'étude. Les candidats ne sont pas nombreux et les montants des devis montrent des tarifs réévalués à la hausse suite aux augmentations du coût des matériaux de construction. La réhabilitation de l'auberge comprend : la rénovation de l'ensemble du bâtiment, l'agrandissement de la salle de restaurant, la création d'une nouvelle cuisine et la rénovation des étages (ancien hôtel) en un bel appartement de Type 4. Les travaux devraient être réalisés courant 2023. Le financement se fera par le fruit de loyer perçus, de subventions et d'appel au concours bancaire. C'est un projet financier important pour notre commune et nous serons vigilants sur le coût global et la maîtrise de l'endettement. Dès que le montage financier sera bouclé les travaux débiteront.

Vos toilettes ne sont pas une poubelle !

... les récepteurs, les pompes et ... toilettes, ne jetez que du papier

farm enterprises. Good use, we think, of some of the funds made available to our mayor, now standing at well over £1000 per resident per year! Wow, just think if our parish council had that level of funds to spend on Edington, how socially good that would be and what could be achieved!

Edington resident.

Maison | 3 Pièces | 59 m² **56 000 €**

HUMAN Immobilier

PREUILLY SUR CLAISE

Maison à finir de restaurer offrant un salon-séjour, une chambre, une salle d'eau, un garage, un atelier. Le tout sur un terrain clos de 500 m² environ.

A VENDRE

Prix honoraires inclus : **56 000 €**
Honoraires à charge acquéreur : **12,00 % TTC**
Prix hors honoraires : **50 000 €**

Référence : 176 - 4178
N° du mandat : 23-83379v

DPE VIERGE

Maison | 8 Pièces | 122 m² **176 550 €**

HUMAN Immobilier

GENILLE

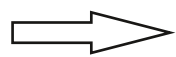
Maison d'habitation sur sous-sol comprenant au rez-de-chaussée une cuisine, un dégagement, un séjour, une chambre et une salle de bains. Au 1er étage un paller desservant 3 chambres, un bureau et un dressing. Une dépendance non attenante. Le tout sur un terrain d'une contenance d'environ 2 827m².

A VENDRE

Prix honoraires inclus : **176 550 €**
Honoraires à charge acquéreur : **7,00 % TTC**
Prix hors honoraires : **165 000 €**

Référence : 176 - 4214
N° du mandat : 23-4709V

Montant estimé des dépenses annuelles d'énergie pour un usage standard : 1519 € - 01/01/2016





Maison | 12 Pièces | 313 m² 499 800 €

HUMAN
Immobilier

CHAMBOURG SUR INDRE

Charmante longère comprenant un grand séjour donnant sur une véranda, un salon, une cuisine, 6 chambres dont 2 de plain-pied, 3 salles de bains, 2 salles d'eau et une buanderie. Une maison rénovée pouvant servir de gîte. Un préau de 2 voitures. Un abri de jardin. Une cave. Le tout sur un terrain arboré de plus de 6000 m².

A VENDRE

Prix honoraires inclus : **499 800 €**
Honoraires à charge acquéreur : **5,00 % TTC**
Prix hors honoraires : **476 000 €**

Montant estimé des dépenses annuelles d'énergie pour un usage standard : 5090 € - 01/01/2022

Échelle de performance énergétique (DPE) : 269 kWh/m² (classe D)

Échelle de performance énergétique (GES) : 46 kg CO₂/m² (classe D)

Montant annuel de gaspillage de gaz : à effort de soins

Références : 116 - 4377
N° du mandat : 22-242674

Four Villages Link Coffee Morning



Volunteers and anyone interested in Four Villages Link are invited to a coffee morning in The Duke, Bratton, at 10.30 on Wednesday 22 February. We hope to see you!

Demand for Link services is up by a third compared to a year ago but we only have 3 extra drivers. Over 2000 miles were covered in the last 3 months. Along with the lifts to appointments we can also offer other help: light garden work, help around the house or perhaps a cuppa and chat. We can go shopping with or without you, pick up prescriptions and help to set up online ordering of both. Please call 07852 256939 to volunteer or request a service and see more information at

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

Catherine Elliott



January 2023 in Edington





Four Villages Link

Please call 07852 256939
to volunteer or request a
service and see more
information at
<http://thefourvillageslink.org.uk/>



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



Edington Parish Hall
Thursdays 2pm-4pm
All welcome!

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.



THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)



Some of our passengers may still feel more comfortable wearing a face covering - the option is left to everyone. A hand sanitiser is still available for use when entering the minibus.

Please note that the Warminster trip in March is on Wednesday March 22nd instead of the usual Tuesday.

All these journeys accept concessionary passes and will return you to your door. These trips are open to all resident of our villages; we welcome everyone, of any age.

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

We are very grateful for the donation from the Henry Smith Trust to support TVM's running.

The next Edington lunch will be on March 8th.
Joy Fraser (830426)

Lunch in the Parish Hall

We are holding a 2 Course Lent Lunch (with a choice of soups and a selection of puddings)

on **Wednesday March 8th at 12.30pm.**
in the Parish Hall, Edington.

Price £5.00 in aid of a Local Charity.

All will be most welcome to join us.

Please let Pauline (tel: 830013) know (by Friday March 3rd) 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	February	February	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	Thursday 2nd	Thursday 2nd	9am
Warminster - £2.80	Tuesday 21st	Tuesday 22nd	1.25pm
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	Every Thursday	1.30pm
Salisbury - £5.00	Saturday 11th	Saturday 11th	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
11th February	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping - TVM	
14th February	7.30pm	WI meeting	Parish Hall
20th February	7.30pm	Parish Council	Parish Hall
21st February	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping - TVM	
2nd March	9.00am	Devizes Shopping - TVM	
2nd March	7.30pm	Gardening Club talk - "New Ideas"	Parish Hall
11th March	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping - TVM	
13th March	7.30pm	Parish Council	Parish Hall
14th March	7.30pm	WI meeting	Parish Hall
18th March	9.30am	Village Litter Pick	Parish Hall car park
22nd March	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping - TVM	
Every Thursday	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Warm Space	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.