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

This month we have all of our regular articles including Wildlife Spring in Edington and many others including the "Dodgers of Edington" day out, and an attempt at cooking a curry by one villager plus friends.

If that wasn't enough we have two new regular articles. Homeopathy Corner and a recipe for the month which this month is Easter Biscuits.

There are a number of events happening in the village in the coming weeks starting with the village litter pick on Saturday **18th March** at 9.30 am meeting in the Parish Hall car park. In the afternoon on the 18th The De Beauvoir Trio will be performing in the Priory Church. We also have a new "Low impact fitness class" starting in the Parish Hall **every Tuesday morning** at 10am, why not give it a try to shake off those winter blues.

Some future dates for your diary.

Saturday 22nd April there will be a Celebration Dinner held in the Priory Church along with a demonstration of the new lighting that has recently been installed. For only £30 you will not only get the demonstration of the lighting but also a two course dinner with drinks and canapes all served by our local caterers Fit For A King.

Saturday 20th May is the Edington Charity May Ball from 7pm to 1am, with proceeds going to local charities.

10th June the Edington Village Fete will be held on the Coal Path Field and surrounds.

Remember the event from last year, this years event will be even better.

Further details on these and other events can be found in this newsletter and on the village website.





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

From 7th March 2023 the Prescription Ordering Direct Service (POD Service) will be updating their phone number to 0333 332 0050

From 8th March 2023, POD will be closed from 9:00-9:30am every Wednesday for essential staff training. otherwise their opening times remain unchanged.

Opening Times

Monday: 9am – 5pm

Tuesday: 9am – 5pm

Wednesday: 9:30am – 5pm

Thursday: 9am – 5pm

Friday: 9am – 5pm

Cervical Screening Q&A Live-stream meeting

On March 22nd between 6.30pm and 7.30pm we are holding the health centre's first live-streaming event. We are using this forum to give our female patients the chance to ask questions of our two Lead Nurses, Julia and Terri, who undertake the cervical screening. This is not a meeting where you physically come to the surgery; it will be completed using your tablet, PC or smart phone from the comfort of your own sofa. You may be asked to download the Teams app to your smartphone; you will not have to create an account.

You will be able to raise a query during the course of the meeting but we are also taking questions before the meeting. If you already have a query please feel free to let us know via our survey (see link below) and we will do our best to ensure all questions are answered on 22nd March.

To attend the meeting – [click link here to access the live stream](#)

To send us any of your queries before the meeting – [click link here to access the survey](#)

Your presence at the meeting and any queries we receive will be completely anonymous.

Westbury Group Practice Facts and Figures for the week 20th February - 25th February 2023

- Phone calls taken: 1858
- Face-to-Face appointments: 1855
- Telephone appointments: 837
- eConsults submitted: 158
- Appointments where the patient did not attend (DNA): 39 - equivalent to 9 hours
- On the day emergency appointments where the patient DNA'd: 7 – equivalent to 85 minutes

Thank you

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

Roads Policing Unit stop 26 drivers using mobile phones during day of action

A total of 26 drivers were caught using their mobile phones whilst driving during Project Zero patrols in the Devizes and Marlborough areas last week.

Project Zero is a roads policing operation held every Wednesday at a different location in the county. It sees officers targeting drivers committing any of the fatal five offences in a bid to reduce the number of casualties on our roads. While the work taking place is very much everyday work for our RPU officers, the project sees the department intensify resources to target those who are driving at excess speed, drink/drug driving, using a phone while driving, not wearing a seatbelt or driving in a careless or dangerous manner.

On Wednesday (1st March), officers from our Roads Policing Unit and associated partners including speed enforcement officers and road safety officers dealt with a total of 119 drivers for multiple driving offences despite the wet weather. This included 73 drivers caught exceeding the speed limits with the highest offender caught in Rowde driving at 50mph in a 30mph speed limit.

A/Insp Will Ayres said: "This week, the team were particularly focussed on people committing mobile phone offences and rather disappointingly, 26 drivers were caught using their mobile phones whilst driving. This included car drivers, HGV drivers and even a qualified driving instructor offering instruction to a learner driver whilst using a mobile phone. It is always frustrating to see people continuing to use phones whilst at the wheel of any vehicle - when you are using a phone you are not giving the road your full attention it requires and are more

likely to be involved in a serious collision."

One mobile phone user in Marlborough was also arrested on suspicion of drug driving after failing a roadside drug wipe. A total of 15 Fixed Penalty Tickets were issued for non endorsable offences that were mainly seatbelt related, and a further five endorsable offences were identified other than mobile phone offences.

Open letter from Chief Constable Catherine Roper to Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson

Wiltshire Police's new Chief Constable has written an open letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, Philip Wilkinson at the end of her first week as Chief.

You can read the letter at the below link.

[CC open letter to PCC 03.03.23.pdf](#)

Wilts Specialist Ops @WiltsSpecOps

#RPU have returned the prancing horse to the stable after the Ferrari 488 was recorded going 103mph on the A303. A trip to court awaits for this driver. #Fatal5



You can follow the Roads Policing Unit on Twitter @WiltsSpecOps



Wiltshire Council

Latest News from Wiltshire Council

Sign up to manage your council tax online and go paperless

Published 6 March 2023

Wiltshire Council is launching a new, updated portal to enable residents to manage their council tax online and go paperless.

The new portal will enable people to check their council tax account and make payments, view their bill, set up and amend a direct debit and notify the council of any changes. People can also opt out of receiving a paper bill through the post.

To use this new facility, people need to visit [Managing your council tax online](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-tax) or by visiting the Wiltshire Council website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-tax and entering their tax reference number which can be found on their bill or bank statement if they pay by direct debit.

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance said; "We recognise that people lead busy lives, and this new feature is designed to make it easier and quicker for local residents to manage their council tax.

"Many people have already opted to go paperless for other utility bills and bank statements. This new portal gives residents the option of doing the same for their council tax, as well as provide a range of other features. It will save time for everyone and is also another small step towards our aim of becoming a carbon neutral council by 2030.

"We're also very aware that it's a tough time for some people, so if there's anyone struggling to pay their council tax for any reason, then I would urge them to get in touch with our team as soon as possible so that the options available

can be discussed."

Wiltshire Council has dedicated cost-of-living pages on its website which contains a range of information and advice, which can be found at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living.

Date announced for Devizes event where people can 'Ask the Leader of the Council'
The next event will take place at Devizes Library on Tuesday 28 March, from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Published 6 March 2023

Wiltshire Council is hosting a series of community events across Wiltshire where people can ask questions and find out more about the work of the council.

Events are being held in each community area so that they are convenient to attend and questions are relevant to the local area.

People are encouraged to ask any questions about the council, its objectives and priorities, and the challenges ahead. The events are an opportunity to put questions directly to the leader of the council and hear his thoughts and plans for the future.

The next event will take place at Devizes Library on Tuesday 28 March, from 6pm to 7.30pm.

The first in this series of events, held in Chippenham on 16 February, was well attended by local residents who shared their concerns about local issues and asked questions on a wide variety of council services and projects.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, said: "I'm really pleased with how many people attended the Chippenham event last month. It was valuable to hear from residents about their experience of local issues and discuss the potential solutions, which I'm now taking forward.

"This month I'll be in Devizes and I'm really looking forward to hearing from local people and getting their feedback on how we can improve services.

"These events are a fantastic





opportunity to put your questions directly to me on the issues that matter to you, and for us to ensure that our priorities reflect those of local communities."

People can ask questions at the events or submit questions in advance to communications@wiltshire.gov.uk

New 130-pupil SEND school to open in Wiltshire following DfE announcement

Published 3 March 2023

A new free school to provide 130 places for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) will be created in Wiltshire following a Department for Education announcement.

A new free school to provide 130 places for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) will be created in Wiltshire following a Department for Education announcement.

The new school for children with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs (SEMH) will be for children aged 4 - 19. The new school will help address the growing numbers of SEND places needed in Wiltshire.

The DfE will fund and build the free school likely to open in 2026. Location is being determined and will be shared as plans progress.

Cllr Laura Mayes, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills said: Every child and young person deserves their school to be a place where they can learn and thrive. Wiltshire Council is committed to having the right specialist support for pupils with SEND so they can enjoy their time at school, and this is good news for our Wiltshire children.

Cllr Jane Davies, Cabinet Member for SEND said: We already have allotted significant investment to creating extra SEND places but this DfE commitment to building a new school for SEND pupils is a very welcome addition and will help address the need for SEMH provision.

We will be sharing more news with parents and carers as plans move forward.

Wiltshire Council is investing in additional SEND places around Wiltshire. Silverwood School is having an additional investment to extend the existing campus to provide a high quality provision for 350 pupils.

Also this week it was announced the Salisbury Academy for Inspirational Learning (SAIL) which is a free school for SEND pupils will open in September 2023 [Salisbury special school takes significant steps towards official opening - Wiltshire Council.](#)



HELP CLEAN UP YOUR VILLAGE

MEET IN THE PARISH HALL
CAR PARK @ 9.30AM ON
SATURDAY 18TH MARCH



2023





Edington Parish Council News

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 number of litter picking tools and will supply black sacks.

20 mph limits. The work to install this is now nearly complete and hopefully will have an impact to improve the safety of all road users. Already it is apparent that some drivers find difficulty reading the number 20 on the signs both on the posts and painted on the road surface and think they can drive at whatever speed they like. To help these drivers please ensure that when driving along these roads you stay under 20mph to help educate other motorists.

Parking problems around the village. Due to a person's property being repeatedly hit by passing vehicles Wiltshire Council have increased the white lines around the green in Tinhead Road, please ensure that you do not park on these lines as they are there to help protect other people's property. There have been a number of occasions when vehicles have been parked partly on the grass. Please ensure that if you park in this area you keep all of your vehicles wheels on the road, **the grass area is not a car park.** The Parish Council have been told that if vehicles damage the kerbing by driving across it the parish council may have to pay for repairs which could be in the hundreds of pounds.

Double yellow lines. We are still waiting to hear from Wiltshire Council as to when the relevant legal orders will be issued to implement double yellow lines in part of Long Hollow, part of Tinhead Road and part of the Westbury Road.



Neighbourhood Watch. The Parish Council are in the process of setting up Neighbourhood Watch again in the village. More details next month about the scheme and how villagers can get involved.

Forthcoming roadworks.

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.

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

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



Village Musings

I wonder how many of us had a night time walk or drive last week to try to spot the Northern Lights that might just have been visible in our area? Such a rare occurrence! My husband and I went up onto the downs at midnight to see whether we could see the brilliant lights flaring across the sky. We didn't see anything dramatic, but there was a definite pink glow across the sky



in a spot where usually we just see darkness, so perhaps it was a glimpse? Certainly, there have been wonderful photos of the Northern Lights from the Westbury White Horse and from Stonehenge.



We have the best skies in Edington, situated as we are halfway up the escarpment of Salisbury Plain. Watching the weather stride in from the south west as it usually does, or enjoying dramatic and wonderful colours of sunrise and sunset, we are placed in the most perfect position to look up.



And at this time of year, we find ourselves looking down as well, as we peep into hedgerows or along the verges for the little gems of wild flowers that are the vanguard of spring.

I love the paintings of Constable, who has taught me how to look at the English countryside in a particular way, seeing little "paintings" through five bar gates, or between trees or across water. Whilst I cannot draw or paint at all, I am very grateful to Constable for showing me how to look at the world made up of glorious little art works in surprising places.



Mercedes Henning



Edington arts

Saturday 18th March at 2.30pm

Edington Priory Church

The **De Beauvoir Trio**



Beethoven, Dvorak, Frank & Boulanger

Followed by tea and cakes

Tickets £20/15/10; 18 and under FREE, 10% discount for Edington Angels

Ring Chrissy on 01380 831256 or email sue@edingtonarts.org

www.edingtonarts.org

Reg. Charity No: 1187289



Wildlife spring in Edington

Spring is once more upon us heralded in by a chorus of bird song and the buzzing of bees. This year it seemed to come upon us even earlier than usual as by mid-February there were crocuses and daffodils in full bloom while there were still banks of snowdrops around the village.

While digging in the garden in mid-February I was serenaded by a male robin from the hedge. This was not really surprising as the robin is one of our few bird species to sing throughout winter. The surprising thing was to find me out in the garden at that time of the year.



A robin singing from a hedge in the Wiltshire countryside (del. S.F. Henning)

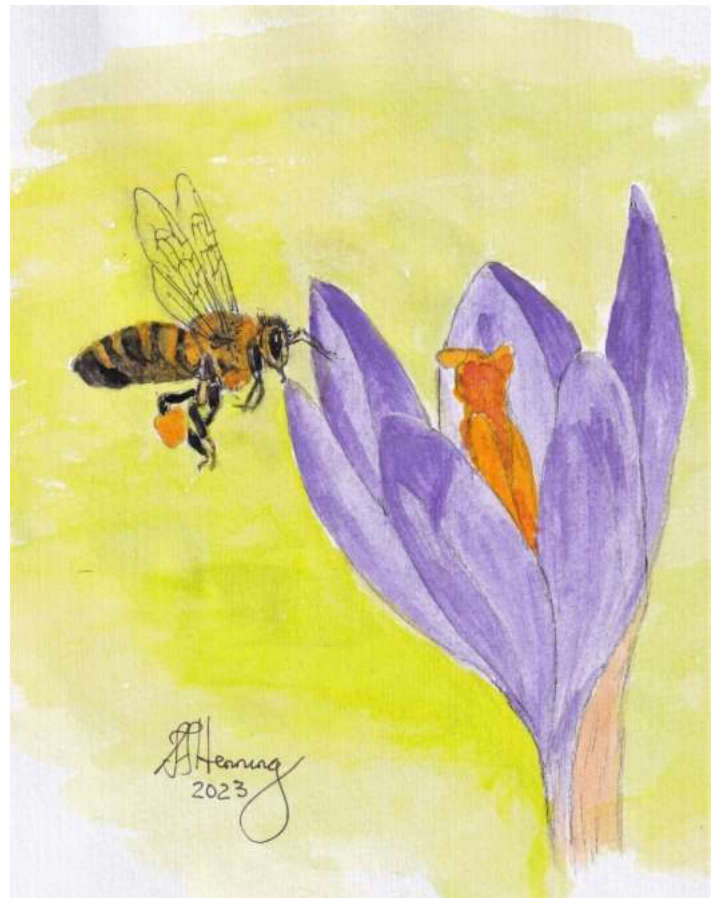
In fact, both sexes of the robin sing, and this is thought to be a way of maintaining territories ready for the breeding season. Depending on the weather, robins are in fact one of the earliest British birds to nest. In mild winters robins can even be spotted starting to gather materials and building nests in January. The breeding season is usually later in the year, typically around early March with egg laying beginning in April and May.

Robins are notoriously territorial – even in the dead of winter. Male robins will always attack any feathered intruder into their space. In the breeding season, males can be particularly ferocious – attacking each other bloodily and they have even been recorded killing a rival.

As fierce as they are, you cannot do anything else but find them adorable as they hop into a hole you are digging or sit on your spade handle and look fiercely at you.

Last spring, I was amazed how many birds actually bred in our garden. We had jackdaws, black birds, blue tits, long-tailed tits, dunnocks, house sparrows, wood pigeons, collared doves, goldfinches, wrens, and robins all breeding in our hedges and trees. I have started to see and hear the songs all these species again in our garden and hope they will all be here nesting again over the next few months.

Also, the sound of spring is the buzz and hum of honeybees and bumblebees feeding on the spring flowers. The honeybee workers start emerging from their hives as the days get longer and warm up. The first thing they do is to start foraging on the spring flowers to build up the reserves of food in the hive that became



Honeybee attracted to a crocus flower (del S.F. Henning).





depleted over the winter months. In the hive the queen will be starting to lay more eggs and the colony will be using more of its supplies of food for the brood. If the workers cannot find enough nectar from the spring flowers, often at this time of year the hive can die from starvation. This is because by early spring all the stores of honey from the previous autumn will have been used up.

The only bumblebees that one will see on the early spring flowers are the new queens that have been hibernating over winter. The old queen from last year, the workers and the males all died the previous autumn.



Buff-tailed bumblebee queen biting a hole through the side of a daffodil flower (del S.F. Henning)

Once out of hibernation a bumblebee queen searches for a nest site, and once found, will provision it with nectar and pollen. The queen lays just a few eggs at first and uses her body as an incubator. The eggs hatch into larvae and are fed nectar and pollen, before pupating and becoming worker bumblebees.

These bees then forage for pollen and nectar, and raise further eggs laid by the queen who no longer leaves the nest. All workers are females, and the males (drones) are produced later in the season, along with new queens. The new queens will feed and mate before hibernating, ready to establish new colonies the following spring.

I saw my first buff-tailed bumblebee queen of the year about a month ago. These bumblebees are short-tongued bees. They normally prefer short, open flowers, such as white clover and comfrey. They are hole-biting, 'nectar robbers' of tubular flowers as they can't access normally because of their short tongues. I saw one a couple of weeks ago on a daffodil biting a hole through the side of the tubular flower.

The buff-tailed bumblebee is one of the most common and largest bumblebees in England. The queens hibernate over winter and emerge in early spring as temperatures rise. They use ground nesting sites often in old small mammal nests.



The brimstone butterfly is one of first to be on the wing in spring (del. S.F. Henning)

One of the other joys of a spring day is watching a fluttering, lemon-yellow brimstone butterfly alight on a flower - an early sign that the seasons are changing. At this





time of year, it is commonly spotted in our gardens around Edington. It is a fairly large, pale-yellow butterfly, with distinctive, leaf-shaped wings. The adults hibernate through cold weather, so may be seen flying on warm days throughout the year, although they are most common in the spring.

The other butterflies seen flying in early spring are the other species that also hibernate as adults in the winter. So as soon as the days are warm enough, they can start flying and foraging for nectar. The ones we will see here in Edington are the small tortoiseshell, the peacock, the red admiral, and the comma.



Small tortoiseshell butterfly that hibernates as an adult during winter

The one mammal I always look out for in March is the brown hare. With its long ears, long legs and an even longer stride, it is Britain's fastest land mammal.

You have all heard the phrase, 'mad as a March hare'. This odd saying comes from the seemingly erratic boxing displays of hares in March, at the beginning of their mating season. It is one of our most memorable wildlife spectacles. These 'mad March hares' do this because they are in their mating season, with the males (bucks) seeking out any females (does) that have come into season. The boxing usually occurs when a male is being too persistent with a female, chasing her across fields in an attempt to mate. When she's had enough, she'll turn around and try to fend him off in a fierce boxing match!



Mad March' hares boxing (del. S.F. Henning)

The best time to see hares is at dawn and dusk, out in open fields, farmland, and woodland edges. Hares need cover to hide from predators, so can often be found near hedgerows.

It's also worth being wary of where you step if you know you are in the presence of hares – some leverets (baby hares) are born as early as March and often appear in fields looking as though they have been abandoned. It's vital that you don't touch them - it's actually fairly common for leverets to be left alone for long periods of time (their mother will come back and check on them intermittently) - and touching them will leave your scent on them, which may lead to abandonment.

Dr Stephen Henning



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



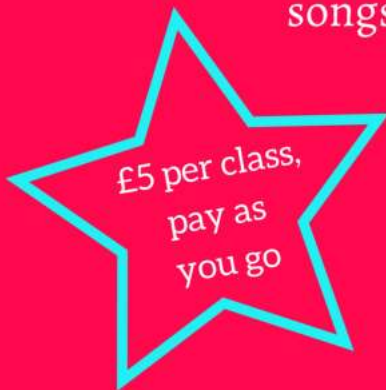
Let's Move!

DANCE FITNESS

Low Impact Dance Fitness
Edington Parish Hall
Tuesdays 10-10:45am
(Beginning 7th March)

A low impact class suitable for beginners, seniors and those looking to get moving and become more active.

No prior dance experience needed. It's all about having a good time whilst keeping active and dancing along to some well known songs. A great way to start the day!



Dance Fitness is a great way to meet new people, help boost confidence and burn calories. It's all about feeling good through movement to music.

Fully certified and insured instructor.
Please contact Ellen Wilkinson
Email: letsmovedancefit@outlook.com
Text/Whatsapp: 07925 051525
Facebook: Let's Move Dance Fitness





Dodgers steam on.

After a long lockdown hibernation the Dodgers are back on the march. Well, maybe not march exactly, more a kind of leisurely amble. With coffee.

The first Dodgers trip of the year was to Bristol by TVM to visit Brunel's SS Great Britain, followed by an afternoon of ten-pin bowling. The SS Great Britain was an awe-inspiring experience. After touring the impressive dry dock, the steerage-way and first-class decks, the kitchens and engine room, none could be left in any doubt about Brunel's energy, vision and genius, or of the engineered beauty of his creation. The ship itself plays host to its own museum and picture history gallery and there was interest at every step, every turn and in every display.

After a lunch at the local wharf-side pub the Dodgers climbed back on board TVM and headed for ten-pin bowling at Longwells Green. The bowling was enthusiastic, if perhaps a little wayward at times, and several Dodgers found muscles they hadn't used for well over half a century, but all came through relatively intact.

Special thanks go to our driver of the day, Paul Zaman. Taking on the driving duties allowed the rest of us to fully relax and enjoy the day, the ride and to indulge our Dodger friendships. Even to doze. Thanks Paul!



Roy Zaman, Mark Holden, Jasper Dorgan, Pete Grist, Eric Mitchell, Keith Girt, John Biddlecombe, Andrew King, John Richardson and Steve Forward



Four Villages Link Coffee Morning

The coffee morning at The Duke, Bratton, was attended by 24 people, including 18 from the Link and 12 drivers. The presentation by Wiltshire CC Road Safety Team was excellent, providing many of us with new information and provoking several questions. Thanks also to the local police who attended and elucidated some points. We also hope to have enrolled at least one new volunteer! If you would like to find out what Four Villages Link has to offer, or use our services, please the coordinator.

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



The Trustees of
the Friends of Edington Priory Church

Invite you to a

Celebration Dinner for the new church lighting **In the Crossing of the Church**

Bruce Kirk, of Light Perceptions,
will give a demonstration of the new lighting.

On Saturday 22 April 2023 at 7.30pm

Tickets are £30 each

to include drinks and canapes before a two course dinner.

Catering by Fit for a King

Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

RSVP by 14 April please to:

secretary@edingtonfriends.org.uk or 01225 754626

Payment to Friends of Edington PC

BACS, reference Celebration Dinner: 40393436 20-05-06 or

cheques sent to Dunge Farm, West Ashton, BA14 6AX



Homeopathy Corner with Anne Tottingham homeopath for nearly 30 years

Homeopathic remedies can be used for many conditions and are generally helpful to suit the individual. They work alongside conventional medicine.

If you want to use homeopathic remedies for yourself in an "acute" situation, i.e. one that will get better on its own, you can take an appropriate remedy to speed the process up once you have checked all the symptoms and matched it to a remedy. Contact me for free advice. **07905748359**

Take as little as possible as homeopathic remedies help the body to heal itself

Below are some remedies you can take for colds. Choose one that you feel suits your symptoms.

Gelsemium

The number one flu remedy, with symptoms slow to come on, where there is much heaviness and drooping, fatigue, clammy skin, flushes of hot and cold, dizziness and congestion.

Pulsatilla

The symptoms change a lot, but the main thing is the discharge from the nose is thick yellow or yellowy green, or the nose is completely blocked up with a loss of smell. A cough is loose in the morning and dry in the evening or at night. Coughing can be constant from tickling in the larynx. The person is much better for walking quietly in the open air. **Worse for warm, stuffy rooms. A keynote of this remedy is the person is not usually thirsty.**

Aconite

First stages of common cold. **Sudden onset.** From exposure to cold or cold dry wind. Dripping clear, hot, watery discharge, frequent sneezing. Maybe headache, fever, thirst sleepless, one cheek red, one pale. Cough is short, constant, **dry.** Wakes with suffocating feeling. Worse at night, anxious fearful, restless.

Phosphorous

Colds go straight to chest, with a hard, dry, tickly cough. Become hoarse, throat can be painless, but hurts to cough. Is worse for talking or breathing cold air. Feel there is a heavy weight on chest. Looks well, despite high fever. Thirsty for cold drinks, which may be vomited as soon as warmed in the stomach. Worse from getting wet in hot weather. Easily exhausted, may be normally a very bright outgoing person who has gone "out like a light!"

Nux Vomica

Nose stuffed up at night and in open air, fluent discharge by day and in warm room. Very cold, hugs the fire, shivers from slightest movement. Very irritable, very sensitive to loud noise and smells

There are many other remedies, and a cold can change within a day. You may need more than one remedy. Generally let a cold happen and don't treat it, so long as you feel reasonably well and know you will soon be over it. Increase your intake of vitamin C and drink plenty of fluid, not milk as this can increase the amount of mucous you already have. In fact reduce your intake of dairy products for the duration of a cold.



Edington Parish Hall

Edington Parish Hall AGM Wednesday 29th March at 7.30pm. An opportunity to hear about events and activities in the hall and catch up on the management and financial challenges of the past year. All welcome.

The committee is looking for new blood to join them, so if you are interested in joining the committee, please email parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk

A new Low Impact Dance Fitness class has just started in the hall each Tuesday morning – see poster on page 12. Having attended the first session, I can honestly say that it is a fun way to get fit and is a great way to blow away the winter blues. Why not come and join in!!

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

Carpet Bowls Challenge and Pizza Night (BYOD)
– A fun competition with friendly rivalry between local teams. Teams of 4, previous experience not necessary! Thursday 13th April at 7.00pm

An evening with VocalEase– Saturday 22nd July at 7.30pm. We are pleased to welcome Edington's own Andrew King and VocalEase back to the Parish Hall for an informal and enjoyable musical evening with a light supper. Please note that this a change of date due to a clash with an Edington Arts Concert on the previously publicised date.

Summer Sunday Afternoon Tea at the Parish Hall
-date to be confirmed.

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

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

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

Wendy Pollard

Coronation Well Dressing

We will be holding a Well Dressing at the Spout in Tinhead on Sunday 7 May.



It is to be a village event. During the morning we invite you to help construct the dressing, clay boards with a design already drawn will be provided. Children welcome. We need your help to start collecting small pebbles, seeds, shells, feathers or any other natural

medium with which to dress the pictures. Petals and flowers will also be used.

We invite you all to join us in the afternoon for a village picnic by the pond. The completed dressings will be fixed around the spout when finished. Anyone wishing to bring posies of flowers to also lay at spout are welcome.

It is envisaged that the display will be up for a week to enable those away on the day to also enjoy it.

Full details of day to be advertised next month.

Liz Pike





EASTER BAKING IDEAS

MAKE EASTER BISCUITS LIKE THE UNDER 5's!

For the biscuits

85g unsalted butter or margarine
100g caster sugar
1 large egg
½ tsp vanilla essence
200g plain flour
½ tsp baking powder

Oven Temperature- 170C Gas 4

Cooking time – approx. 12 minutes



Method

1. Pre heat the oven. Line baking trays with baking parchment
2. Cream the butter and sugar until pale in colour
3. Gradually beat in the egg
4. Fold in the flour & baking powder and mix to form a dough.
5. On a floured surface roll out the dough to approx. 5mm thick.
6. Flour the chosen cutters and stamp out shapes (do not twist the cutter!)
7. Place well spaced out on the baking tray and bake for approx. 12-15 minutes until pale golden brown and firm to touch.
8. Allow to cool for a few minutes and then transfer to a cooling rack and leave until cold.



To make glaze icing

150g icing sugar mixed with 2-3 tablespoons water. Add 1 tbsp water at a time until a spreadable consistency is achieved. Add food colouring if using. Spread the icing over the biscuits and add sprinkles, sweets, cut out shapes etc. while the icing is still damp.

Alternatively, cut 'Easter Shapes' from ready to roll icing and use a little glaze icing to stick them to the biscuit.



Store in an airtight tin and enjoy!



Traditional Easter Biscuits

Recipe

150g butter or margarine
150g caster sugar
1 large egg
Milk if necessary
325g plain flour
1 teasp mixed spice
30g mixed peel
60g currants



Oven Temperature- 170C, Gas 4

Cooking Time: approx. 12-15 minutes

Method

1. Pre heat the oven. Line baking trays with baking parchment
2. Cream the butter and sugar until pale in colour
3. Beat the egg and gradually beat into the creamed mixture.
4. Sieve the flour and the spice into the mixture and fold in; Stir in the mixed peel and the currants.
5. Add a little milk if necessary to make a firm dough
6. On a floured surface roll out to approx. 5mm and cut out with a 7cm (3") cutter
7. Place on the baking tray and prick all over with a fork. Sprinkle with a little caster sugar if liked.
8. Bake until pale golden brown and firm to touch
9. Lift onto a cooling rack and leave to cool.
10. Store in an airtight tin and enjoy.

These biscuits make a lovely homemade Easter gift.



Wendy



EDINGTON CHARITY MAY BALL

Saturday May 20, 2023

7pm- 1am

*Grand
Auction*

*Live
Music*

Raffle

Dancing

*Great
Food*

*Cash
Games*

Supporting:

**Bath Cancer Unit; Dorothy House; Re-Act Disaster
Response; Local & Village Causes and
The Royal British Legion.**

Tickets available from: john.a.Matthews@me.com

Tel: 07982194891

£60 per head

Dress: Black Tie


THREE DAGGERS



Learning How to Cook Up a Storm

Paul Millard reports.

A restaurant kitchen when the heat is on can be a pretty intimidating place. We've all seen Masterchef of course, where the contestants get to cook in a top-notch kitchen – but Masterchef is television and enjoys the benefits of an editing suite, the real thing is rather different.

The speed and scale at which things happen, the need to understand what everybody else is doing and what's expected of you to bringing a complex selection of dishes together at the same time and the stress of meeting the exacting standards of the paying public offer a rather different perspective.



So, it's not exactly a place you'd think you'd volunteer to be and certainly not a place you'd pay to be - except that's exactly what villager Matt Hurley did this month.

Matt's been a curry lover for years and is a

keen cook – his home-made curries are fiery, ferociously hot dishes that can make courageous men cower. So when the opportunity came up to spend a day working in the kitchen of the Eastern Paradise in Warminster Road, Westbury, Matt jumped at it.

To be more accurate, Matt put his hand up for it – during the auction at last year's Edington May Ball.

Eastern Paradise owner, known universally as Sam, has been a generous supporter of the May Ball for the last five years, offering the experience of a day working in the restaurant's kitchen followed by a dinner for eight people as a regular May Ball auction lot – and it's something that Matt's brother, Ben, and friends from the village had previously bought.

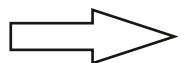
"It was totally different from what I'd

imagined the kitchen there would be like, it was a lot smaller. I mean, I've been in the restaurant when it's been packed but everybody gets served and the food keeps flying out – so I guess I'd been expecting something a lot bigger."

Organisation within the kitchen was very precise and during service each person is responsible for specific jobs – one is in charge cooking

rice and boxing up the take aways, another looks after everything that needs to be cooked on the stove while another is in charge of the tandoor oven.

"The way they work together is





completely amazing, it's a complete hive of industry and nobody appears to stand still from start to finish. All the work surfaces and areas are kept spotlessly clean while you'll never see a pot or wok waiting to be cleaned – immediately one job is finished, its washed and put back in place ready for the next job.

All the preparation work is done early in the day, meats are cooked, cooled and fridged. Base sauces – called gravy - are prepared and garnishes chopped and boxed. Sam explained to Matt that many Indians are vegetarian but the menus are adjusted to include more meat to take account of western tastes.

The preparation work is so detailed that once service starts each order can be dealt with very quickly and the process is very different to the way Matt's been used to making his curries at home.

"Essentially the meat or fish is the very last thing to go in. You start with the sauce and then add the other ingredients – vegetables or pulses and the meat will go in at a very late stage with just enough time to absorb all the flavours. One of the key lessons I learned was how little chilli is used – I had always assumed that the heat in the hot curries came from chillies but Sam explained that their style of cooking relies on heat being generated from ginger and garlic – and black pepper.

I was also very surprised at the huge amount of turmeric used in all the gravies and sauces – and the fact that tomatoes didn't really feature in the sauces - lots of onions, garlic and ginger with all the other spices you might expect such as cumin and coriander. And if its big you're looking for, the size of the pots and pans are industrial – some of them look just too big to lift."

Sam has devised a unique menu for Matt's dinner party, a complete break from the normal restaurant menu and far more representative of the sort of food Sam and his family would eat at home.

The star of the show is a whole leg of lamb marinated in a blend of spices and cooked on a

bed of vegetables to be carved at the table – a complete meal in itself. Also on the menu are chicken thighs cooked on the bone in the tandoor oven; a Bangladeshi river fish dish and a succulent duck chopped into chunks to be eaten with your fingers. Matt was told in no uncertain terms that you cannot use garam masala in the sauce for the fish – as it would simply kill the flavour of the fish!

The whole thing was accompanied by a vegetable biryani prepared in one of the massive pans – another steep learning curve for Matt as it was cooked in milk. The rice itself was washed thoroughly in cold water several times to remove the starches but it was cooked in milk yet remained light and fluffy with all the grains separate. Even Sam who was cooking with Matt had to have his rice cooking checked by the expert – but as Sam said, he should know, he cooks 10 kilos of rice every day.

When restaurant service started, Matt was worried he'd be in the way:" Everything is happening so fast – it made our more popular fast food outlooks look like they were on work to rule and as for multi-tasking, these guys might have half a dozen different things going on at once. Everybody knows what they're doing and what's expected of them it was just so professional – intense, hot, high speed but the operations was just so slick, it was really impressive."

It was, he said an incredible experience, and while there were so many things that impressed him what came as a surprise was that fact that almost everything was done by hand.

"A real eye opener for me," he said. "There are a few tips I'll definitely be taking home with me - but having seen how the professionals do it I'll be changing the way I cook my curries," he said.

And as for the feast at the end of the day? It was incredible, not overly hot but rich and succulent flavours - I was fortunate enough to be there and enjoy the fruits of a hard day's curry cooking.



The View from the Boundary

With the start of the 2023 season just 5 weeks away, Patrick, our groundsman, has spent a lot of time on the mower and the ground is now looking trim. The moles and rabbits have been busy over the winter, so there is still repair work to be done, but fortunately they have stayed off the square.

For those who joined our Friends scheme last year there will be renewals available from the start of the season, notices will be put up. We have been gratified and greatly encouraged by the take-up of the scheme, £20 for a year's parking, every penny of which goes towards the new pavilion build fund. Speaking of which; the digger will be breaking ground to begin the new pavilion foundations very soon, and it is hoped that the concrete base will be down by mid-summer.

The Saturday team will be playing in the Wiltshire Cricket League Division 2 this season following their promotion. Our first match is away to Swindon United Churches on 29th April. It is to be hoped that they don't have God on their side!

Other teams in the League are Biddestone 2, Bradford-on-Avon, Marshfield 2, Burbage & Eastern Royal, Box, Goatacre 2, Nationwide House and Warminster 2.

Everyone is most welcome to come and see and support us at our home matches, the first being Saturday 13th May against Biddestone 2 – arrive at around 4.30pm and you can guarantee tea and cake.

Junior sessions have moved to Monday evenings and still only £2 per child – just turn up and join in, and the first session will be on Monday 17th April

Fruit Tree Planting at Ralph's Seat

The PCC expressed a wish to establish a small Community Orchard around the picnic tables at Ralph's Seat so, fruit tree saplings acquired, on the morning of 18 February four of us got out our tools and got to work!

None of us can remember when last we were quite so wet and muddy, but it was fun and we hope very much that – once established – the two apples (Bramley and James Grieve), the Victoria Plum and the Concorde Pear will establish happily and provide fruit to scump for a long while to come.



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 Village Fete 2023

SAVE THE DATE

When: Saturday 10th June

Time: 2pm-4,30pm

Where: Coal Path Field and surrounds.

Back by popular demand. Come and enjoy a traditional village fete with a children's entertainer, traditional games, and all the favourite stalls - coconut shy, plant stall, cake stall, ice creams and cream teas and homemade cakes to name but a few.



If there is any village organisation or individuals who have yet to offer to run a stall or to help in general to make the event the success that it was last year, then please contact Andrew King by email- apking66@gmail.com or by telephone 01380 831227

More detail in the coming months, so watch this space.



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.

The next Edington lunch will be on April 12th.

Joy Fraser (830426)

Lunch in the Parish Hall

You are cordially invited to a
2 course Easter Celebration Lunch

(with a choice of casseroles
& a selection of puddings) on

**Wednesday April 12th at
12.30pm.**

in the Parish Hall, Edington.



Price £8.00

in aid of the Three Villages
Minibus All will be most
welcome to join us.



Please let Pauline know by
Friday April 7th if you are coming
as this helps with catering
arrangements.

TVM will provide door to
door transport



Shopping Trips starting at Edington

Destination	March	April	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	Thursday 9th	Thursday 6th	9am
Warminster - £2.80	Tuesday 22nd	Tuesday 18th	1.25pm
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	Every Thursday	1.30pm
Salisbury - £5.00	Saturday 11th	Saturday 8th	9.30am

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

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

Contact Pauline or Joy Fraser to book a place



Edington What's On Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
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
18th March	2.30pm	Edington Arts - The De Beauvoir Trio	Priory Church
22nd March	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping - TVM	
29th March	7.30pm	Parish Hall AGM	Parish Hall
6th April	6.30pm	Gardening Club visit	
12th April	12.30pm	Lunch in the Parish Hall	Parish Hall
13th April	7.00pm	Carpet Bowls Challenge and Pizza Night	Parish Hall
17th April	7.30pm	Annual Parish meeting	Parish Hall
22nd April	7.30pm	Celebration Dinner for the new church lighting	Priory Church
20th May	7.00pm	Edington Charity May Ball	Playfield
Every Tuesday	10.00 am	Let's Move Dance Fitness	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.