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lighting with carols will take place on Friday 8th December at 6pm on the playfield. Edington Brass who will be playing at the tree lighting are a newly established Brass Ensemble, read more about them in this newsletter.

We also have some disappointing news about the number of motorists exceeding the speed limits on the roads in Edington in just one week. The team are looking for more volunteers to help record speeding motorists, contact the Parish Council to find out more about volunteering.



Welcome to the forty-third edition of the Edington Village News.

In this month's edition we have our usual selection of articles ranging from Ducks around Edington part 2 to the recipe for making your own Christmas cake.

Some events not to be missed in the coming weeks in the village include the annual charity Christmas card sale in the Parish Hall on Saturday 18th November between 10am and 12 noon. This is followed in the evening by the annual Parish Hall quiz night starting at 7.30pm, if you haven't booked your team yet there are only a few tables left, deadline Wednesday 15th November. Then to start getting everyone in the mood for Christmas the annual Christmas Tree

**1 in 4** fatal crashes involve someone driving too fast.





## Local surgeries latest

### White Horse Health Centre and Bratton Surgery

Westbury surgery TELEPHONE 01373 828330



Bratton Surgery TELEPHONE 01380 831911  
For medical emergencies dial 999

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

GET WINTER STRONG

Get vaccinated

Flu spreads more easily in winter and can hit children hard. Help them to defend themselves with a quick and easy nasal vaccine spray. If you have a child aged 2 or 3, contact your GP practice to book their vaccine.

who live with someone with a weakened immune system, people living in a care home and frontline health or social care workers.

The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is offered every year to protect children against flu. It is for children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2023, all primary school children and some secondary school aged children.

[Find out more and book your vaccination now by clicking here](#)

### Dr Edwards & Partners

[www.westburygp.co.uk](http://www.westburygp.co.uk)

### Courtyard Surgery, West Lavington



Telephone 01380 813 300  
For medical emergencies dial 999

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

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

## Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated

Eligible people who've not yet come forward for the flu and COVID-19 vaccines are being urged to 'get winter strong' and join the millions of others in taking up the offer ahead of the festive and new year season when flu and COVID-19 are expected to peak.

Eligible people for the flu and COVID-19 vaccines include pregnant women, those aged 65 or over, carers, people with certain health conditions including a learning disability, those



## Coffee Morning Drop In

Every Tuesday

10.30 - 11.30 am

in the Three Daggers.

Transport available contact

Pauline or Joy.



## Wiltshire Police

**Inspector Kevin Harmsworth writes:**



### **Business Crime.**

An issue recently dominating the news headlines is thefts from businesses and how this is – or isn't – prioritised by policing. I know this is something communities are keen to see an improvement in service from us. Locally, we've continued direct engagement with retailers, helping develop improved support to through our community policing teams. One of the Chief Constable's key priorities is Safer Public Spaces, and she has been requesting regular updates across the County and Swindon to ensure we are monitoring our performance in this area. We take all reports of crime seriously and will follow all reasonable lines of enquiry to hold people to account for their actions.

We recently took part in a national week of action, holding Safer Business Action days to support businesses and reduce business crime, particularly shoplifting. In the week commencing October 16 th, our Neighbourhood Teams engaged with retailers and communities to raise awareness of business crime. Advice and support were given to retailers in the form of crime and violence prevention advice and the opportunity to join the Force-wide Business Watch initiative through the Community Messaging system [Home Page - Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging \(wiltsmessaging.co.uk\)](https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk). The public were also asked to be alert and help report shoplifting offences to shop staff or directly to Wiltshire Police.

From September 2022 to August 2023 Wiltshire Police had 4050 reported incidents of shoplifting, but we know this is just a fraction of all crimes. Under-reporting is widely acknowledged by the retail sector to be between 16% and 38% with the large supermarkets facing the brunt of the thefts. We continue to target intervention on known prolific offenders to reduce crime. We also use out of court resolutions primarily for low-level offending where the crime or incident can be resolved without going to Court. This offers a timely end to an incident, providing education and rehabilitation for offenders and reparation for victims. This demonstrates how we recognise there are societal (not just individual) drivers to crime. Upbringing, health, and social background can change the direction we take in life. Many offenders have mental health issues, alcohol abuse and/or substance abuse problems. We seek to divert offenders from further offending whilst dealing with the underlying contributory issues on a case-by-case basis.

Please continue to report any issues regarding shoplifting to us and please be assured that we are taking it incredibly seriously as we pursue the Chief's priority of Safer Public Spaces.

I'd also like to remind everyone that you can find information about local policing events and meetings in your area by using the 'Your Area' section on our website. This directs you to the right place to report all your concerns to us, from crime and antisocial behaviour, to contacting an officer directly. You can also tell us about something you are concerned about in your neighbourhood.

***Inspector Kevin Harmsworth is the local Inspector for the Warminster area.***





## Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner

### PCC secures almost £1M Safer Streets funding for Swindon and Wiltshire

Almost one million pounds of additional funding will be invested in Swindon and Wiltshire to support targeted community projects tackling neighbourhood crime, such as burglary, robbery, theft and vehicle theft, as well as reducing violence against women and girls (VAWG).

This follows a successful bid from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to the latest round of the Home Office's "Safer Streets Fund" where £998,251 was secured from the £42M pot.

The OPCC worked with Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council as well as the Community Safety Partnerships, which includes representatives from the Fire Service and the NHS, in both areas to identify areas where investment was needed and the organisations who could provide the services to meet those needs.

The money will be used across three projects and split between twelve separate schemes in Wiltshire focusing on a safer night-time economy, preventing burglary and anti-social behaviour (ASB) and improving mentoring services for young people.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said:

"The latest figures show we've seen a 15% increase in knife crime compared to a 3% rise nationally in Swindon and Wiltshire.

"We need to get to the root cause of these offences and engage with young people before they're dragged into situations they find difficult to get out of.

"This latest investment will allow my office, our new Serious Violence Duty Co-ordinator, and our partners to work towards that goal through these projects.

"The projects address the issues that matter to people, such as anti-social behaviour, making

the streets safer for women and girls, and burglary and robbery. This focus on prevention backs the work of Wiltshire Police as they get tough on offenders, reducing the number of innocent people becoming victims.

"By using this funding from Government efficiently and effectively, working in partnership, we will see projects that make a positive difference in these areas, delivering the priorities in my Police and Crime Plan to reduce violence and serious harm and to tackle crimes that matter to local communities."

"We know this funding will not only lead to safer communities, but also create opportunities for young people to thrive across Swindon and Wiltshire"

**Published Tuesday 31 October 2023**

### Wiltshire PCC statement: Clare's Law disclosures

Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: "These failures by Wiltshire Police to carry out its duty – to the fullest – and to protect those at risk of domestic or sexual violence is truly shocking. There are no words which can convey how appalled I am.

"While I commend Wiltshire's Chief Constable for her open and honest approach to informing our communities of this, and her subsequent apology, I am horrified at the prospect there may be more victims of domestic or sexual assault who could have been safeguarded by the Force beforehand.

"My primary concern is for any victims – or potential victims. The Chief Constable and I both agree the need to offer immediate advice, support and protection, as necessary, is of utmost importance. Anyone who thinks they may be affected should follow the guidelines from Force and contact them immediately, especially if they feel they are in immediate danger."

**Published Thursday 26 October 2023**



## Wiltshire Council

### News from Wiltshire Council

#### Health activity tracker watches and blood pressure monitors available to borrow from Wiltshire libraries

You can now borrow activity tracker watches and blood pressure monitors for up to six weeks from Salisbury and Trowbridge libraries as well as the North and South mobile libraries.

#### Published 3 November 2023

People aged 16 and over are being encouraged to stay healthy and active with activity tracker watches, available to borrow from libraries in Salisbury and Trowbridge as well as the North and South mobile libraries.

Activity tracker watches enable people to track their steps, heart rate, sleep quality and much more. Moving more and sitting less is proven to improve sleep quality, mental health and many other aspects of life.

Physical activity can also help prevent long-term conditions such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers, and help to reduce limitations and falls later in life.

Also available on loan from Salisbury and Trowbridge libraries and the North and South mobile libraries are blood pressure monitors. People can use these to take their blood pressure at home and see how any changes in lifestyle are having an impact.

If blood pressure is too high, it puts extra strain on heart and blood vessels. If left untreated, it can lead to a number of health problems including heart attacks, stroke, kidney disease and some forms of dementia. High blood pressure is one of the most important

contributors for cardiovascular disease.

Steps that can be taken to reduce blood pressure include:

- Regular physical activity
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Eating a healthy balanced diet
- Stop smoking
- Measure blood pressure at home
- Stress management

People must be 16+ to borrow an activity tracker watch or 18+ to borrow a blood pressure monitor. They can be loaned for up to six weeks.

To borrow an activity tracker watch or blood pressure monitor, people must be a member of Wiltshire Libraries. To become a library member, people can sign up for free by visiting a Wiltshire Council library or at [Join the library](#)

For more information people can visit [Borrow an activity tracker or blood pressure monitor](#)

#### Rogue traders ordered to pay victims back over £35k

Two brothers from Minety and a third man from Aldermaston have today been ordered to pay their victims around £35K under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

#### Published 26 October 2023

In April, Matty Rossiter, 18, and James Rossiter, 24, were given custodial sentences for participating in a fraudulent business and fraud by false representation. A third man, Dean Smith, 21, was given a custodial sentence for participating in a fraudulent business.

The initial prosecution related to unnecessary and overpriced work carried out at 18 properties, with customers aged between 44 and 90, who were defrauded out of approximately £45,000. Many customers had to then pay others to correct the initial





sub-standard work. The convictions followed an investigation by Wiltshire Council officers, supported by National Trading Standards, South West Regional Investigation Team.

The men had traded under a number of business names, including Southern Homecare, Chippenham Roofing and Skyling Roofing, with offences carried out in Wiltshire, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire and Bristol between October 2020 and March 2021.

Following their conviction, a Proceeds of Crime investigation was conducted by Wiltshire Council, assisted by Portsmouth City Council. Proceeds of crime is the term given to money or assets gained by criminals during the course of their criminal activity. Following the investigation, the men have been ordered to pay compensation of £35,265.83 to 17 victims. This value has been determined based on the money that the victims were originally defrauded of and the incurred costs of any additional repairs. They have been ordered to pay within three months or face a further prison term, in addition to their original sentences.

## Household Recycling Centres switch to their winter opening times

All of our Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) have switched to their annual winter opening hours. The opening hours of all 10 of our HRCs is now 10am to 4pm on each day that they're open.

Like previous years, Salisbury, Trowbridge and Stanton St Quinton HRCs will also be closed for an additional day a week, so will not be open on Thursdays and Fridays. The opening days of the other centres will remain as they are.

If you are visiting one of our recycling centres, please remember to sort your waste before you arrive, so that together we can recycle as much as possible.

## Recycle batteries responsibly

This week we joined the Take Charge national campaign to encourage residents to recycle

batteries responsibly.

Batteries contain valuable materials that can be recycled, yet fewer than half of all batteries discarded in the UK are recycled. This is not only wasteful but can be very dangerous. Batteries contaminating household waste or recycling bins can also result in fires or harmful chemicals being released into the environment.



Support this campaign and our goal of recycling more of Wiltshire's waste, by making sure you place your batteries in a clear bag on top of your blue lidded bin, or next to your blue weighted bag on collection day.

## Have your say on the Wiltshire Citizens Advice service

Have you used Wiltshire Citizens Advice? If so we'd like to hear from you.

We are asking people for your thoughts on the service as we plan for how we provide help and support in the future. The short survey has 10 questions and will take less than five minutes to complete.

Your answers will be kept anonymous and will be used to shape how we commission a future citizens advice service.

The deadline to have your say is Friday 15 December.

[Have your say on the Wiltshire Citizens Advice service now](#)



## Edington Parish Council News

We are fortunate as a village to have a visit from the Parish Steward for two days a month in most months unless he gets called away to drive his gritting lorry. Unfortunately we cannot get him to undertake all of the jobs that are identified in the village. At this time of the year he concentrates on checking that all of the drains are clear and cutting back any vegetation that is causing a safety issue on roads.

The village volunteers help out where possible tidying the village but they are limited in numbers despite numerous pleas for more people to join the group, consequently their efforts are limited. To help keep the village tidy why not help by tidying the area near your property. November is leaf fall month, so clearing the leaves near your property will help keep the village tidy. As Wiltshire Council are no longer sweeping the gutters around the village the gutters are getting very weedy! If possible why not help to ensure that the rainwater reaches the drains by clearing the weeds from the road gutters near your property.

We know that some people do not consider that it is "their job" to keep the village tidy but we have to accept that Wiltshire Council have limited funds and cannot do everything that they may have done in the past. In Utopia this would happen but we do not live in Utopia so we rely on everyone in the village helping to keep the village tidy and not adopting "it's not my job" approach!

Don't forget the lighting of the village Christmas tree on Friday 8th December at 6.00pm on the playfield when Edington Brass will be performing helping us with the carols.

If you have walked past the Coal Path Field recently you may have noticed the bench that has appeared there. The bench was very generously donated by a villager and will provide a welcome addition to this area of the village. The parish council are now looking at placing another one or two benches in the field and would welcome donations from villagers either for an

entire bench or a donation towards another bench.



### Forthcoming roadworks.

**B3098, Bratton Road, Westbury** from its junction with Westfield car park, to its junction with Alfred Street. Road closed to all vehicles for widening footway and associated works. **27 Nov 08:00 - 8 Dec 17:00**

**Castle Road, Port Way, Bratton. 4 Dec 07:00 - 5 Dec 19:00** Carriageway patching, removal of road studs and adjustment of ironworks and other 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](mailto:parishcouncil@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)



## Edington Parish Council



Invite you to the turning on of the  
Christmas tree lights with carol singing  
led by Edington Brass



**Where:** - Village  
Playing Field

**When:** - Friday 8<sup>th</sup>  
December 2023

**Time:** - 6.00pm

Mince pies and mulled wine

Tree generously donated by  
The Three Daggers





## *Village Musings*



Edington village in autumn is a spectacularly beautiful place. A walk down any of our lanes or footpaths brings a vignette of the season in our rural idyll.



This year, the leaf fall has been unusually late, and the gardens continue to flower abundantly, giving us extraordinary views of late summer flowers and autumn trees appearing together against the bright autumn skies.

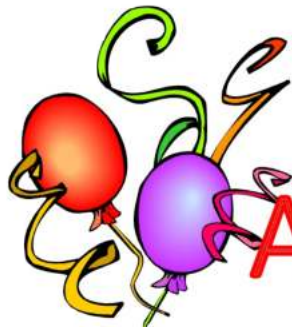
The golden, shorn fields appearing between fruitful hedgerows glow in low sunshine. The carved pumpkins and the full moon of Hallowe'en draw us into the hushed, mysterious atmosphere of the season.



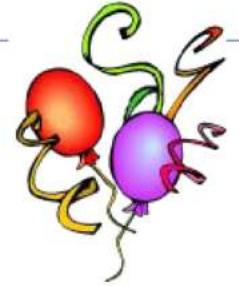
Autumn, with its sense of wistful nostalgia and farewell, and also of anticipation as the nights draw in and we snuggle up early to plan for our winter celebrations, is such a special season. For me perhaps the best of all seasons.



**Mercedes Henning**



## Annual Charity Christmas Cards Sale and other items



*Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023*

*In The Parish Hall*

*From 10 – 12 noon.*



*Cake, Coffee, Teas, Chatter,*

*the first mince pies of the year!*

*A village social occasion!*

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*(8 charities come along raising monies for their own  
charity and promoting what they do.)*



## Ducks around Edington - Part 2

At this time of the year, we start seeing all the winter migrants arriving from northern Europe. Among these migrants are a number of different species of duck which we will only see at this time of the year. In the first part of this article, we discussed the various species of dabbling duck found around Edington. We now discuss the diving ducks we may be lucky enough to see over the next few months,

### Diving ducks

As the name suggests, diving ducks feed mainly by diving deep below the surface of water to catch fish, chase insects, or to pull up aquatic plants. Many will eat frogspawn and tadpoles including tufted ducks and pochards. While scaups and pochards eat roots and tubers. Most diving ducks, including scoters and goldeneyes eat fish, but this tends to make up just a small portion of their diet. The only species that eat a significant number of fish are the mergansers, also known as the sawbills or fish ducks, who have specialised bills with serrations that have adapted for catching their prey. They eat a wide variety of fish, including salmon, trout, sticklebacks, minnows, and eels. Diving ducks also eat invertebrates and prefer aquatic species of insect. For example, the lesser scaup, a diving duck, eats clams, snails, crustaceans, and aquatic insects. Greater scaups, which eat mainly molluscs, aquatic plants, and aquatic insects. The more carnivorous diving ducks (those eating fish) usually nest in a tree hole or similar cavity. On leaving the nest the young may have to leap to the ground from great heights. Being very light and covered in down they usually come to no harm during the fall. Diving ducks who just eat plants and invertebrates, nest on the ground near the edge of water.

The **Common Pochard** is a diving duck with prominent sloping forehead and large bill. It is

found throughout the year in Wiltshire on freshwater lakes, reservoirs, and gravel pits, but along the coast it will be found on the sea and estuaries. It is highly gregarious and forms huge rafts at times. Flocks spend much time sleeping during the day. It dives mainly for aquatic vegetation but will also eat any invertebrates it comes across. Its nest is a mound of vegetation at or near the water edge.



**Male Common Pochard (del. SF. Henning)**

The **Tufted Duck** is a dainty diving duck with a round head, drooping crest and short neck, The male is black with white underparts while the female is sooty brown. It is found throughout the year and breeds in Wiltshire. It favours freshwater lakes and gravel pits sometimes in an urban setting. It swims and dives from the surface to



**Male Tufted duck (del. S.F. Henning)**





catch mainly aquatic invertebrates but will also eat plants. It nests in a lined hollow in waterside vegetation and is usually well hidden.

The **Goldeneye** is a medium-sized diving duck found on freshwater and often on the sea. It is a winter visitor to Wiltshire. The male has a black, green-glossed head with white spot between bill and eye while the female has a chocolate brown head and white neck band. It swims and dives from the surface to catch molluscs and crustaceans. It nests in unlined tree holes.



**Male Goldeneye (del. S.F. Henning)**

The **Smew** is a small sawbill duck, a group of ducks named for their serrated bills. It is a winter visitor to Wiltshire from the artic. Most birds do not arrive until at least December and leave again by the middle of March. Males are black and white, while the females have a chestnut



**Male Smew (del. S.F. Henning)**

crown on their heads. It favours fish-rich bodies of water such as lakes, reservoirs, and flooded gravel pits. They are diving ducks which spend a lot of time under the water hunting for food - mostly aquatic insects in summer and small fish in winter. Its small, serrated bill helps it catch fish. It nests in unlined tree holes in its northern European breeding grounds.

The **Goosander** is a handsome diving duck and are also a member of the sawbill family, so called because of their long, serrated bills, used for catching fish. It dives well and for long



**Male Goosander (del. S.F. Henning)**

periods in search of fish. It is found mainly on freshwater throughout the year. It is a winter visitor to Wiltshire and breeds in the north of England and Scotland. It nests in lined tree holes or similar cavities. The male has a green-glossed black head while that of the female is reddish.



**Male Ruddy Duck (del. S.F. Henning)**





The **Ruddy Duck** was introduced from North America to the midlands where it now regularly breeds. From there it has spread southwards to Kent and Sussex in winter. It has also been recorded in Wiltshire in winter. The male is russet and has a dark head cap and white face while the female is brown above with a distinctive dark line across the white face. Both sexes have long stiff tails often held upright or trailing horizontally and invisible. It swims and dives from the surface to catch aquatic larvae and seeds. It nests on a floating mound.

**Shelduck-sheldgoose** subfamily is another group of ducks which are somewhat intermediate between geese and dabbling ducks. Only two species in this group and they both nest in tree holes. Both have been recorded from Wiltshire.

The **Common Shelduck** It is a large goose-like duck showing bold black and white pattern with a chestnut breast band. The male has a red knob on its bill. It has on occasion been recorded from Wiltshire but is mainly found at the coast where it favours estuaries and muddy shores, although it often breeds inland. Most



### Male Common Shelduck (del. S.F. Henning)

migrate in late summer to northern Germany where they moult and return in autumn. However, some birds just move to Bridgewater Bay in Somerset for their summer moult. It swims

and wades and catches crustaceans, molluscs, and other invertebrates. It breeds in a down-lined cup in a burrow or hollow tree.

Also found in this group is the **Egyptian Goose** which was introduced in the eighteenth century to England from Africa. It is in fact not a goose but a goose-like duck. I remember it well from South Africa where it could be seen on every body of water you encountered. Originally introduced into East Anglia but has in recent times been recorded from Swindon and other parts of Wiltshire. It has a brown back, grey underparts, dark brown eye patch. The Egyptian



### Male Egyptian Goose (del. S.F. Henning)

Goose is not usually confused with any other goose, thanks to its distinctive face. It is found on a variety of wetlands, including gravel pits, as well as in large urban parks. Their ideal habitat has open grass with a few trees, close to freshwater. They usually nest in cavities in old trees, but will also nest under bushes on islands, or in the nests of crows or raptors.

**Dr Stephen Henning.**



## Edington & District Gardening Club

Our meeting started on a sad note, we had a few moments of silence to remember Roger Mussell who had died a few days earlier. Roger was one of the founder members of the Gardening club back in 2004, he also enabled the village allotments to start up on his patch of ground near Sandy Lane. His Christmas trees were also a popular addition for villagers to purchase, ('zero miles' was in our village some time ago!). our condolences go to Carol and the family.

After Liz Pike was officially presented with her two salvers, we welcomed Joff Elphick to give a talk.

The intriguing talk 'Crayfish on the lawn' showed us how gardeners see more than most in the garden when down on our hands and knees! Together with lovely slides, Joff showed us what an eclectic variety there is to be seen especially at ground level. Not just beautiful combinations of flowers but also the moths, beetles, fasciations, snails, and fungi. We were treated to a poem by Pam Ayres about 'The Last Hedgehog', spoken by Pam Ayres herself (Joff tends her garden!). Yes, we did also see a crayfish on the lawn, one of the invasive American varieties, probably dropped by a passing bird!

Next month Pam Lewis will be giving a demonstration on Christmas wreaths, a little early for Christmas but come along and enjoy the evening. Take home your own efforts!

Enjoy the last of the late summer sunshine,

Kind regards,

**Jacky**



## 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**



**READY FOR A QUIZ?**



**Pit your wits against  
friends and neighbours**

**at THE ANNUAL PARISH HALL CURRY and**



**on SATURDAY 18th November 2023**

**at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Cost £40 per team of 4 (£10 per person).**

**Pay on the night by cash or card.**

**Please Book your team by Wednesday**

**15<sup>th</sup> November**

**email [parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)**

**or phone Wendy - 01380 830441**



**BYOB**





## Edington and Tinhead WI

### JoAnne Hartley – A Load of Old Lace

At our meeting this month we were treated to an entertaining and informative presentation which chronicled and demonstrated the art of lace-making.

It would be fair to say that no-one present had any knowledge of lace-making, apart from distant memories of playing with pretty, delicate cloths at a grandparent's house. JoAnne is an enthusiastic and passionate maker and collector of fine lace.

But what is lace? Basically it is cloth which has holes in it. However, it is not crochet, it is not woven and it is not broderie anglais. It is a delicate fabric made of yarn or thread in an open weblike pattern, made by machine or by hand. There is some dispute as to where lace originated. Perhaps Italy, maybe France or Belgium, sometime in the late 15th or early 16th century.

During the 16th century squared patterns developed onto scrolled designs. The Victorians copied both designs but using fewer stitches on a larger scale. The introduction of bobbins speeded up the process with lighter weight fabrics demanding much more delicate techniques.

Making lace by hand is a very labour intensive, time consuming process; taking 2 hours to produce one square inch of needlework. In the late 18th century machines could reproduce the old styles in a fraction of the time. Chantilly lace, however, continued to be popular unto the 20th century.

JoAnne's most prized possession was a piece of black lace made from wheat straw thread in about 1850.

In the early 20th century machine made lace was still popular but world War 1 ended home-working and its popularity declined almost

completely. Apparently lace making is still taught in Belgium today but the techniques are so treasured that only Belgian nations may enrol.

We will be meeting next month on 14th November and will be sharing and demonstrating craft ideas in preparation for Christmas.



## Four Villages Link

Community First reports that the 42 Link schemes in Wiltshire drove nearly 700,000

miles in 2022, putting in over 100,000 hours. In the past 3 months our own 24 volunteers drove 2500 miles and spent over 200 hours on the journeys and other actions such as good neighbour tasks. If you would like to join our wonderful group of volunteers, please call the coordinator on 0785 225 6939. If you are a potential client, remember that we do not charge for services, although we welcome donations. In the weeks before Christmas you might like to go shopping or need help with decorations as well as trips to appointments; do call the number above between 8am to 6pm on weekdays.

**Catherine Elliott**

**Let's Move!**  
DANCE FITNESS

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



## Recipes of the Month – November

### ITS NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAKE!

(as enjoyed at the Parish Hall Christmas Lunch)

#### Cake Ingredients

200g(8oz) plain flour

200g(8oz) dark brown sugar

200g(oz) butter

1 tablespoon black treacle

4 large eggs

50g(2oz) ground almonds (or replace with flour)

Rind and juice of 1 large lemon or orange

1 teasp cocoa powder

1/2 teasp coffee powder / granules

1 teasp mixed spice

200g(8oz) currants

200g(8oz) sultanas

200g(8oz) raisins

100g(4oz) mixed peel

or 700g (1lb 12oz) mixed dried fruit

100g (4oz) chopped glace cherries

50g (2oz) chopped almonds (or replace with fruit)

2 tablespoons of brandy/rum/sherry to marinate fruit plus extra for 'feeding'!

22cm (8") deep round cake tin or 20cm square tin



**Almond paste / marzipan** - 500g – 750g pack depending on thickness required. Sieved apricot jam or honey to stick the marzipan to the cake

**Fondant / ready to roll icing** as marzipan quantity

#### Oven Temperature:

130°C, Gas 2 for 2 hours

120°C, Gas 1 for 2 hours

Cover with baking parchment / greaseproof paper after 2 hours

Test with a skewer / cocktail stick after 4 hours; continue to cook until skewer / cocktail stick is clean when removed

#### Method

1. Grease and line the tin with a double layer of parchment / greaseproof paper. Put a thick layer of newspaper around the outside of the tin, hold in place with string (this protects the cake and helps with even cooking)





2. Prepare the fruit and place in a large bowl with the chopped nuts and the grated rind and juice of the lemon. Pour over the alcohol and mix well. Cover and leave in the fridge overnight.
3. Place the butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl and cream until light and fluffy. A mixer makes it easier!
4. Crack the eggs into a jug/bowl and gradually beat into the creamed mixture.
5. Add the black treacle and beat in.
6. Stir in the ground almonds
7. Sieve in the flour and the spices; mix well.
8. Stir in the marinated fruit and mix well.
9. Carefully spoon into the tin, level then top and then hollow out the centre of the mixture to form a saucer shape.
10. Bake in the oven remembering to **lower the temperature after 2 hours and to cover the top**. Test after 3 ¾ hours but the cake may take at least 4 hours to cook.
11. Remove from the oven and allow to cool in the tin overnight.
12. Remove from the tin, wrap in greaseproof / parchment and place in an airtight tin/ container and feed regularly with alcohol!! (prick the top of the cake with a skewer or cocktail stick and spoon over a tablespoon of alcohol at each feeding)

**To finish** about 2 weeks before Christmas.

Place the cake on a cake board about 2cm larger than the cake

**TIP** measure the cake with string. Start at one side, over the top and down the other side and cut the string, use this piece as a guide when rolling out the marzipan and fondant icing.

**Marzipan** – warm the sieved apricot jam or honey and brush the top and sides of the cake. Roll out the marzipan and cover the cake. Allow to dry out for a few days before applying the icing.

**Fondant/ ready to roll Icing** – brush the marzipan covered cake with a little boiled water (this sticks the icing to the marzipan). Roll out the icing and carefully cover the cake smoothing it to obtain a smooth surface.

**Royal icing** can also be used especially if a “snow” effect is desired

500g (1 lb) sieved icing sugar, 2 egg whites, 1 Tbsp lemon juice, 1Tbsp glycerine. Lightly beat the egg whites, lemon juice and glycerine. Gradually beat in the icing sugar until the icing is a stiff consistency and stands in soft peaks. Apply to the cake and smooth out or rough up to achieve a “snow” effect.

**Decorate** with cut out Christmas shapes or sugar paste foliage or bought cake decorations. Finish with a ribbon around the cake.





## Who are we?

**John** originates from south London and first turned his hand to metal fabricating, serving as an apprentice and working his way up the ranks quickly for a large contractor working on big projects. He always had a love and passion for woodwork and decided he could transfer his skills into cabinet making and woodturning. By the early 1980's John had started his kitchen business and now has over 40's years' experience in designing and making bespoke kitchens.

**Tom** has been involved in the construction business for over 30 years. Starting as a labourer for a building and decorating contractor, he soon took an interest in the conservation and sustainability side of the industry. He graduated from Swansea university in 2007 with a 2:1 honours in building conservation management. After 3 years of working with a conservation contractor where he gained knowledge and experience with lime washes, plasters and natural paints he set up his own business and honed his skills hand painting and spraying bespoke cabinetry and kitchens.

## Where are we based?

Kitchen Renovations Inc. 10 Edington Station Yard,  
Edington, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4NT.

## What do we do?

We offer sustainable wood kitchens that are made to a high quality in our local workshop based in Edington, Wiltshire. We transform your existing cabinets, using bespoke handmade frames, doors and drawers, which cuts down on materials, labour and therefore cost.

A new kitchen project from start to completion can present a number of complications and expenses. Kitchens Inc Renovations can take all the headache out of the project by fitting beautifully handcrafted pieces to your existing cabinets.

We are way beyond just a door replacement company and offer a number of solutions to make your kitchen look and feel brand new. We also offer additional features such as over mantles, Willow baskets, wine racks and larders and can convert base units to accommodate Belfast sinks, as well as supplying and fitting granite or solid wood worktops. We are the designers, makers, fitters and finishers, so are always there from conception to completion, meaning there is only one point of contact through the whole project.

## Contact us

<https://kitchensinc renovations.co.uk/>

CALL 07542 606 191

EMAIL US [info@kitchensinc renovations.co.uk](mailto:info@kitchensinc renovations.co.uk)



This is the first in an occasional series that we are hoping to run highlighting local businesses. If you run a local business and would like to be featured in a future issue please contact us at the usual address. [newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)



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## Welcome to Edington Brass!



### November 2023

Hi, I'm Anna, extending a warm welcome to 'Edington Brass,' a newly established Brass Ensemble in Edington since September 2023.

Comprising a diverse range of brass players, our group ranges from ages 15 to 82, all passionate about creating beautiful music.

Every Friday, from 6 pm to 7.45 pm, we gather at Edington Parish Hall. We enthusiastically invite any brass players to join us for just £2 per week. For further details or to join, feel free to reach out to me, Anna Cottle, at 07876 222616.

Keep an eye out for our performances during the festive season. On Friday, December 8th, catch us at The Three Daggers for the Edington Christmas Lights Switch-on. Additionally, we plan to spread cheer by carolling around the village to raise essential funds for music purchases.

This is an exciting new venture for the village, and we're excited for Edington to be part of the journey!

## Four Villages Link

Do you live in Bratton, Edington, Erlestoke or Coulston and would benefit from a helping hand?

We have a team of volunteers who are happy to help at no cost to you (unless you would like to make a donation). Our services include:

- Driving you to and from appointments – doctor, dentist, hospital
- Taking you shopping
- Visiting you for a chat or help around the home.

Phone 07852 256939 and our friendly coordinator will make the arrangements.

Go to this site if you would like to read more about Four Villages Link:

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

**Catherine Elliott**

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## Wanted

**Volunteers to help carry out maintenance around the village.**

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

**Why not join us at 9.30 am on Wednesday 15th November, venue Church car park.**

**Help to tidy *YOUR* village.  
Contact the Parish Council for more information**



## Follow your SATNAV with care!



A strange occurrence happened in Greatwoods and Greater Lane on Thursday 2 November 2023 @8:43am.

The residents were enjoying their breakfast when suddenly a rather large German coach carrying students appeared.

Apparently it was travelling between Trowbridge and Winchester when it decided to take a short cut!

Having turned up Greater Lane it got to the Westbury Road only to discover that there was insufficient room for it to turn onto the B3098 and so decided to reverse back down Greater Lane to turn round.

Having reached Greatwoods the driver decided to try and turn in there by driving along to the end and then carried out a 20 point turning procedure, much to the entertainment of the residents, especially as the coach took up the entire width of the turning circle. Eventually it succeeded in turning round and was last seen heading back down Greater Lane and was then apparently planning to return to Trowbridge to find another route to Winchester.

## Edington Community Speed Watch

Speed watch has resumed in Edington and will be out and about throughout November. In the first week we were able to undertake three sessions in between the rain showers. We have now been given permission to restart speed watch on Lower Road and held two sessions there last week and we recorded 25 motorists exceeding 25mph. (25mph is the required speed before we can record speeders in a 20mph limit and in a 30mph limit it is 36mph). There were only a total 139 vehicles passing in the two sessions which gives an offending rate of 18% of all motorists. (These were only the ones that were "caught", at times there were too many coming at once to record all of their details) The fastest recorded speed whilst the team were operating was 37mph, obviously someone who has no concern for other road users in either vehicles or on foot. We also recorded 4 offenders exceeding 35mph in the curtailed session held near Longlands Close. All of those motorists found to be speeding are reported to Wiltshire Police who will in the first instance send a letter to the offender and if caught on subsequent occasions may receive a visit from the police.

Along with the Community Speed Watch group we also have visits from the Wiltshire Police Speed Enforcement officers and Wiltshire Police Traffic Officers who regularly visit the village and anyone recorded by them will automatically get either 3 points on their licence or an invite to a speed awareness course depending upon the speed at the time and whether it is a first offence.

There is also now a 20mph limit in parts of Bratton so please ensure that you comply with the limit wherever you are driving.

**Road Safety Week 2023 will take place from 19-25 November 2023** and the police and speed watch teams will be making an increased presence to deter speeding. See posters on the following pages.

Why not volunteer to help with Speed Watch, contact the Parish Council.

**1 in 4** fatal crashes involve someone driving too fast.



## Five people die on UK roads every day

Let's talk about...

# SPEED

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

**1 in 4 fatal crashes involve someone driving too fast**

Speed is a critical issue for the safety of our roads.

Whoever you are and however you travel, **we need to talk about speed.**

Here are some important facts about speed you can use to start a conversation.

### Why speed matters

Every year, drivers who speed or travel too fast for the road conditions contribute to :



**10,093**  
crashes



**345**  
deaths



**3,388**  
serious injuries

### Why do we speed?

“I didn't notice I was going so fast!”

“A few mph over the speed limit won't make much difference, will it?”

“It's not a crime to speed, is it?”

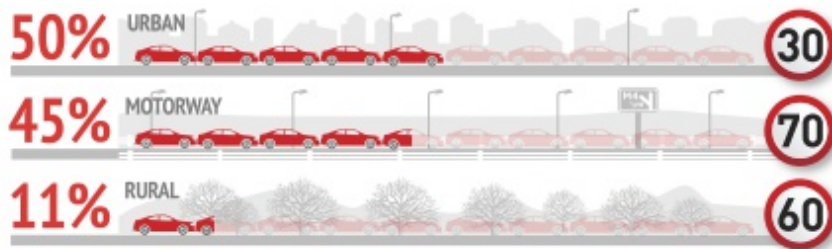
“Everyone else is doing it so why can't I?”

**We all drive too fast sometimes...**

The majority of speeding drivers who cause death and injury are normal people on normal journeys. But because we sometimes drive too fast, together we increase the risk of a crash – and we increase the chance that someone we love will be killed or hurt on a road.

### Which roads have the most speeding cars?

Every 1mph increase in speed, increases crash frequency by **5%**<sup>3,4</sup>.



### Benefits of safe speeds



Fewer crashes



Less impact if a crash happens



Prevents death and injury



More people walk and cycle

Continued →



## The science of speed

The faster a vehicle is travelling, the longer it takes to stop.

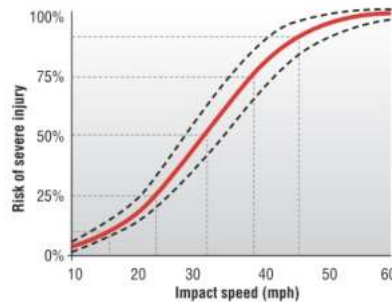


At higher speeds, vehicles crash with greater force<sup>3</sup>



Research by Brake found that **71%** of drivers don't know what distance to keep from a vehicle in front of them.<sup>5</sup>

Risk of injury increases exponentially with impact speed



A crash at 30mph is twice as likely to cause severe injury than a crash at 20mph.<sup>7</sup>

### Speed and the law

The speed limit is the top speed for any particular road. It is often safer to travel at much lower speeds, especially on rural roads and in places where people walk and cycle.

“You must not drive faster than the speed limit for the type of road and your type of vehicle. The speed limit is the absolute maximum – it doesn't mean it's safe to drive at this speed in all conditions.”  
gov.uk/speed-limits

## 20's plenty on roads near schools

**25%** of parents say traffic is too fast for their children to walk to school

**20** Brake is calling for 20mph speed limits around all schools in the UK<sup>6</sup>



### References

- Department for Transport (2022) RAS0704: Reported road collisions, casualties and vehicles where speed was a contributory factor by seventy, Great Britain, ten years up to 2021
- In 2022, 50% of cars on 30mph roads exceeded the speed limit; 45% on motorways; and 11% on single-carriageway roads. Department for Transport (2023) Proportion of vehicles exceeding the speed limits by road class in Great Britain, 2022
- Finch et al. (1994) TRL Project Report 58: Speed, Speed Limits and Accidents
- Taylor et al. (2002) TRL Report 421: The Effects of Drivers Speed on the Frequency of Road Accidents <https://trl.co.uk/uploads/trivdocuments/TRL421.pdf>
- Research by Brake also found that 43% of drivers thought 'two car lengths' was the right distance to keep from a vehicle in front of them, which is only about 8 metres. Even at speeds as low as 20mph, the stopping distance is 12 metres, and it rises to 23 metres at 30mph. At 70mph, the stopping distance is 96 metres. Brake (2023) Driver testing and education report. [www.brake.org.uk/driver-testing-and-education](http://www.brake.org.uk/driver-testing-and-education)
- Brake (2023) Brake calls for 20mph speed limits around schools. [www.brake.org.uk/news](http://www.brake.org.uk/news)
- AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety (2011) Impact speed and a pedestrian's risk of severe injury or death. <https://aaaafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2011PedestrianRiskVsSpeedReport.pdf>

## Managing speed

Effective speed management is a crucial part of the Safe System approach to road safety – a shared approach to prevent death and serious injury from road crashes.

Road death and injury can be reduced by:

- 20** Setting a maximum speed limit of 20mph on roads where people walk and cycle
- Catching speeding drivers using speed cameras
- Building roads with more traffic lights, roundabouts and speed humps, which slow the traffic down
- Vehicle technology to help drivers keep within speed limits

Find out more about how safe speeds can help us all make safe and healthy journeys at  
[www.brake.org.uk/speed](http://www.brake.org.uk/speed)

Let's talk about...



Join the conversation  
#RoadSafetyWeek  
[www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek](http://www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek)

©Brake 2023



## Edington Parish Hall

As there seems to be an increase in the number of cases of Covid in the local area as well as the possibility of seasonal flu, coughs and colds, **please do not attend any events in the Parish Hall if you feel unwell** as this will help to prevent any infections spreading.

Thank you

**OOPS!** Apologies to anyone who has tried to book a table for the Curry & Quiz night via email last month and the message was bounced back. Unfortunately, due to a typist error, a dot appeared where it shouldn't have. The correct email is on the posters around the village and in the information below.

**Just a few tables remaining for the Curry & Quiz Night so don't delay, book now!**

**Saturday 18th November at 7.30pm the annual Curry & Quiz Night.**

**Cost £40 per team of 4 (£10 per person).**

**Bring your own bottle.**

**Prizes for the winning team – overall and table quiz as well as the bragging rights for the year!!**

**Pay on the night by cash or card.**

Please book your team by emailing [parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk) or phoning Wendy - 01380 830441 by Wednesday 15th November

If anyone in your team has any special dietary requirements, please mention this at the time of booking. Thank you.

It is hoped that the Carpet Bowls, which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to illness, will be re arranged later in the near future.

**Wendy Pollard**

## 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](http://www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk/hall) Alternatively

email [parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:parishhall@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)

or phone **01380 830441**.

We look forward to welcoming you to the hall.



## YOGA WITH MARILYN

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

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

**When:** Each Friday morning

**Where:** Edington Parish Hall

**Time:** 10.30am to 11.30am



## HOMEOPATHY CORNER with Anne Tottenham Homeopath for 26 years

Contact: [tottenhamanne@gmail.com](mailto:tottenhamanne@gmail.com) or mobile:  
07905748359

Here is the second part of a Sample First Aid Kit.

I can customise a first aid kit to suit your family, these are simply suggestions for remedies to be used in **ACUTE** situations only.

This means the symptoms will eventually change but you are helping the body to heal itself with homeopathic remedies.

As always only take a **minimum** of the remedy.

**LESS is best**

### Hypericum

This is useful to help in the healing of an area rich in nerves, like fingers, toes, ears, eyes. Also good for teeth problems where the nerve ends are involved.

### Mag Phos

Known as the "homeopathic aspirin". Benefits people who are tired and exhausted with an inability to think clearly. Helps with neuralgic pains in head face or teeth or shooting pains anywhere. Better for warmth or pressure and worse for cold and at night.

Merc - is made from mercury, so the symptoms mirror anything that goes from one extreme to the other.

Neuralgia anywhere, vice like headaches especially above the eyes. Chronic conjunctivitis. Mouth problems generally – sore gums, foul breath, metallic taste in mouth, loose infected teeth, ulcers that constrict the throat.

Alternate bouts of constipation and diarrhoea. Blisters or pus filled eruptions on skin. Flu type symptoms with drenching sweats especially worse at night.

### Nat Mur

This is good for cold sores/ mouth ulcers on the outside of the mouth. Migraines with zigzag lines brought on by eyestrain, sunlight, travel, and emotional trauma. Averse to or desire for salt. Symptoms can be worse in thundery weather. Loss of sense of smell. It can also be used for hay fever/colds where there is a lot of sneezing.

### Nux Vom

This is the "hangover" remedy. The core of this remedy is "wants to, but can't". So if you have a stomach problem where you want to be sick or pass stool but can't then this remedy will help the process. 24-hour flu with shivering and stiff aching muscles. Tickly nose which causes sneezing. Symptoms are better for being left alone, being warm, in the evening and sleep and worse for getting angry, eating, noise and being touched.

### Ruta

Headaches due to reading small print or working at the computer too long. Eyes look red and feel hot. Infection of tooth sockets after extraction. Tendon injuries and bruised bones. Sciatica worse at night lying down.

### Silica

Right-sided migraines relieved by pressure. Tinnitus, glue ear, chronic catarrh. Unhealthy looking skin with spots or pimples. Can help to remove foreign bodies. Be aware that the remedy might move anything that is not natural to the body.

### Urticaria Urens

This is made from a nettle, so any rash or allergic reaction that looks like a nettle rash including heat rash.



## THREE VILLAGES MINIBUS (TVM)



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

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

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

The next Edington lunch will be on December 13th.

**Joy Fraser (830426)**

## December Lunch in the Parish Hall



We are holding a 2 Course Special Christmas Lunch (consisting of turkey pie and a selection of puddings) on



**Wednesday December 13th at 12.30pm.**  
in the Parish Hall, Edington.

Price £10.00 in aid of the Three Villages Minibus.  
All will be most welcome to join us.

**It is essential to let Pauline (tel: 830013) know, by Friday December 8th 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	November	December	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	Thursday 2nd	Thursday 7th	9.00am
Warminster - £2.80	Tuesday 21st	Tuesday 19th	1.25pm
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	Every Thursday	1.30pm
Salisbury - £5.00	Saturday 11th	Saturday 9th	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 November	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping Trip	
13th November	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Hall
15th November	9.30am	Village Volunteers	Church Car Park
18th November	10.00am-12noon	Charity Christmas Card Sale	Parish Hall
18th November	7.30pm	Quiz Night	Parish Hall
21st November	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping Trip	
7th December	9.00am	Devizes Shopping Trip	
8th December	6.00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting and Carols	Playfield
9th December	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping Trip	
11th December	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	
19th December	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping Trip	
Every Tuesday	10.00am	Let's Move Dance Fitness	Parish Hall
Every Friday	10.30am	Yoga	Parish Hall

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

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

### Contacting us

Email the newsletter at  
[newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)  
or via the village website  
[www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.edingtonwiltshire.org.uk/newsletter)

and enter your details or email

[newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@edingtonwiltshire.org.uk)

and you will be added to the mailing list.