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the evacuation of Imber village.

We also have an invitation to join the Festival of Remembrance in Trowbridge Civic Hall on Friday 27th October.

Apologies in advance for mentioning the C..... word but now that the supermarkets are selling mince pies and stollen cake plus the fact that there are adverts on the television promoting items for C..... we felt it only right for us to start promoting forthcoming C..... events in Edington. Starting with the annual Charity Christmas Card Sale organised by Jacky and Pauline in the Parish Hall on Saturday 18th November between 10 and 12 noon. No need to buy your Christmas cards anywhere else and at the same time socialise and drink coffee and eat mince pies. Final mention of the C..... word we are giving advanced notice of the the annual Christmas tree lighting on 8th December at 6pm, another date for your diary.



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

In this month's edition we have our usual selection of articles ranging from Ducks around Edington to a double helping of recipes which this month are for making chutneys.

An article from SSE our power supplier for those in possible need of additional assistance is not to be missed and our monthly Homeopathy Corner with Anne giving advice as to what could be included in a first aid kit.

In these times when everything appears to have a price attached to it there is an opportunity to hear the Bratton Community Brass Band for free on Saturday 28th October at 2.30pm in the Priory Church when they will be presenting an Autumn Concert marking the 80 years since





## 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**

## FLU VACCINATION CLINICS 2023

Are you aged 65 years or over, or born before  
1.4.1959?

Are you aged 18-64 years old and in any of  
these 'at risk' groups?

Diabetes, COPD, Asthma, Chronic Heart  
Disease, Chronic Kidney Disease, Chronic Liver  
Disease, Neurological condition, Carer, Preg-  
nant, Spleen problems, BMI greater than 40,  
Immunocompromised, Household contacts of  
immunocompromised patients, Frontline health  
and social care workers

If the answer to any of the above is yes, then you  
are eligible for the vaccination.

If you were unable to attend either of the drop-  
in clinics please make an appointment by  
contacting the Health Centre on 01373 828330

**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/>

## 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**



## Wiltshire Police



**Inspector Kevin Harmsworth writes:**

**Is anti-social behaviour (ASB) ruining your life? Are you scared and not sure what to do? Do not suffer in silence. Get help and advice!**

ASB has many forms which are divided between the Police and Local Authority (including landlords/housing providers where applicable) to investigate as described in the [Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership \(SVPP\) - Anti-social behaviour \(wiltshiresvpp.org.uk\)](http://wiltshiresvpp.org.uk).

ASB is defined as 'conduct that has caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person, nuisance, or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person'. My teams continue to problem solve incidents of ASB in your local communities, but victims of persistent ASB may not have heard of ASB Case Review. The ASB Case Review gives victims of persistent ASB the right to request a review of their case, where relevant agencies work together identify any further action necessary to find a resolution. An ASB Case Review can be requested by any victim of ASB, or another person acting on their behalf, and with their consent (e.g., family member, carer, local councillor or other professional). This person is referred to as 'the requester.' A requester can be an individual, business or a community group. Formal applications for an ASB Case Review are made via the relevant local authority <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/community-safety-anti-social-behaviour> requests can also be made by email or telephone if the requester

is unable to complete the online form. While ASB in general can be reported anonymously, the ASB Case Review process requires communication with the requester throughout the process, so reports cannot be made anonymously. There is an associated threshold that needs to be met consisting of 'three or more separate, qualifying reports of ASB made to the police, council or housing provider in the past six months. Each incident must have been reported within one month of it taking place'. Where the threshold is not met, a formal ASB Case Review will not take place, but the relevant agencies may review the case to determine any further actions that may resolve the matter. Where the threshold is met a case review will take place within 15 working days, and the requester has the opportunity to speak at the review. Every partner agencies response to each incident will be discussed, as well as the wider context of the issue(s) presented, with partners collaborating to identify any further actions that may be appropriate to resolve the matter. The requester is updated at every stage of the process, including on the progress of any actions agreed. The Wiltshire Council ASB risk assessment conference (ASBRAC) then ensures progress on delivery of any action plans, including any further actions agreed through continuous review. If the requester is unsatisfied with the way in which an ASB case review has been conducted, an appeal can be made within 15 working days of being notified of the outcomes/decision.

A good source of further information outside of Policing and Local Authorities is [Home - ASB HELP](#). I encourage local communities to report all instances of ASB, which greatly helps us understand the full extent of the issue(s) and target our problem-solving activity to best effect. No one should have to suffer in silence.

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





**As part of a regional crackdown on county lines drug gangs, our communities are being urged to report any suspicious activity in their neighbourhoods.**

The regional intensification campaign – called Operation Scorpion – is a focus for all five south west forces and Police and Crime Commissioners with exact locations and timings being kept under wraps.

Op Scorpion, now in its sixth iteration since inception, harnesses the collective powers of the region to disrupt drug-related crime. Alongside targeting increased disruption, this iteration will also ensure young people – and their families - are being warned about the dangers of exploitation and how to spot the signs.

### **Five forces**

The regional focus is a result of the region's five PCCs – from Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Avon and Somerset – agreeing with their respective Chief Constables that their Forces, supported by the South West Regional Organised Crime Unit (SWROCU), would combine operational powers to tackle cross border drugs supply, drug-related crime and associated anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Regional policing lead for this phase of the operation, Wiltshire Police Assistant Chief Constable Deb Smith, said: "Intelligence from our communities will be fundamental to this operation being a success as it allows us to target specific locations where people are telling us they have concerns of illegal drug activity taking place.

**"We need to know where this criminality is happening so that we can build an intelligence-rich picture which allows us to take decisive, enforcement activity.**

"It is crucial that our communities know what signs to spot and how they can report their concerns to us and other agencies.

"We know that drug dealing is something which causes great harm to our communities

across the south west and these drugs dealers have no thought or regard to the misery they are creating.

"These illegal enterprises bring with them violence, intimidation, exploitation and anti-social behaviour, and I hope that operations like Scorpion, show the public that it will not be tolerated.

"Although this is the sort of enforcement work which is ongoing 52 weeks a year, this operation sees a combination of resources with other agencies and organisations, to carry out focused and targeted work, both through enforcement and education, to make a real difference.

"Our message is clear – the south west is no place for drugs."

### **Spotting the signs of County Lines activity in your community:**

- An increase in visitors and cars to a house or flat
- New faces appearing at the house or flat
- New and regularly changing residents (e.g different accents compared to local accent)
- Change in resident's mood and/or demeanour (e.g. secretive/ withdrawn/ aggressive/ emotional)
- Substance misuse and/or drug paraphernalia
- Changes in the way young people you might know dress
- Unexplained, sometimes unaffordable new things (e.g clothes, jewellery, cars etc)
- Residents or young people you know going missing, maybe for long periods of time
- Young people seen in different cars/taxis driven by unknown adults
- Young people seeming unfamiliar with your community or where they are
- Truancy, exclusion, disengagement from school
- An increase in anti-social behaviour in the community
- Unexplained injuries

**If you have information about drug dealing or suspicious activity in your community please**



**report it to us. No matter how small the piece of information is, it will be recorded and used to build up a bigger intelligence picture that officers can then act on.**

**There are a number of ways you can report - You can report it online by visiting your local police force website, you can ring CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555111, or you can call us on 101.**

## **Police and Crime Commissioners lead campaign to tackle rural crime**

Wiltshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Philip Wilkinson, has joined with his counterparts in the south-west to lead a new campaign and bring together all police forces in the region to combat the involvement of Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) in rural crime.

Under the new initiative known as Operation Ragwort, the OCGs who target rural communities and are at the forefront of crimes such as burglary, the theft of farm vehicles and equipment, poaching and hare coursing, will be the focus of a regional, co-ordinated, campaign led by the south-west region's Police and Crime Commissioners.

Mr Wilkinson said Ragwort - with mutual support and cooperation across the south-west - will provide an intelligence rich picture of the level of criminality enabling forces to better disrupt and apprehend those responsible, making Wiltshire safer for rural residents.

He said:

"We need to further build our capability to tackle those OCGs engaged in acquisitive rural crime, not only in Wiltshire but regionally and nationally and that is why there is a real need to create a new collaboration called Operation Ragwort.

"Operation Ragwort will be an intelligence, evidence and data-led south-west Regional collaboration to robustly tackle rural and heritage acquisitive, and other rural crimes, where information will be collated, analysed and shared with the National Rural Crime Unit.

"I want to help build the capacity of police

forces across the south of England - not just in the south-west - in order to better understand the networking of these organised criminal groups so that we can engage more proactively in enforcement, interdiction and disruption operations when the intelligence and evidences allows."

As the south-west's response to serious, organised, acquisitive crimes and rural crime, the operation will utilise and coordinate intelligence from our smallest communities through to local policing areas and across to other force areas and national and international borders.

The National Rural Crime Network has commissioned research into the link between rural crime and organised criminal gangs, and preliminary evidence suggests that rural crime is being used by gangs to fund other criminal activities including links to the international drugs trade.

With this in mind, Operation Ragwort hopes to build upon the successful partnership work in the south-west which is being done to disrupt the illegal drugs in the region, which was launched in 2021 as Operation Scorpion.

Assistant Chief Constable Mark Cooper is leading the operation:

"Rural communities are all too often victims of opportunist theft yet, over recent years, there has been a distinct shift towards Organised Crime Groups moving in to steal high value items such as vehicles and electronics. By working across our borders in a clear and supportive way to share intelligence, Operation Ragwort provides the right framework to make this happen and bring offenders to justice.

"As rural crimes are often under reported we seek to increase public engagement and encourage reporting across the region and build the intelligence picture."

"Our rural communities must feel empowered, recognised and confident in the Police who are working with them and with partners to make the countryside safe and welcoming for residents and visitors alike."

**Published Thursday 21 September 2023**



## Wiltshire Council

### News from Wiltshire Council

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

#### Published 5 October 2023

This second allocation of funding for the period 2024 to 2025, is from the Government's Bus Service Improvement Plan Plus fund and follows an earlier allocation in May for 2023 to 2024. Both nationally and locally, bus passenger numbers have struggled to increase back to pre-COVID levels, and this has been compounded by the challenging economic climate, high fuel prices and a national bus driver shortage. This bus funding is aimed at helping address these issues, maintaining and growing bus service levels across the county.

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

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

We are committed to supporting the local economy, leisure and tourism, improving services to support vulnerable and elderly residents, and reducing carbon emissions, and this is reflected in our success in retaining bus services across the county and we are pleased to see passenger numbers increasing.

In recent months we have launched our new on-demand service in the Pewsey Vale area, stretching from train stations in Hungerford and

Great Bedwyn via Marlborough, Pewsey and surrounding villages to Devizes. This service allows people to book a bus from a local stop using the Wiltshire Connect app or by phone on a semi flexible timetabled, or fully flexible, basis.

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

Additionally, we have just launched our public transport policy consultation, which will enable local people to help us shape the future of bus services in the county.

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

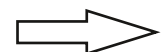
**Wiltshire Council's Local Plan consultation events continue with in-person drop-in sessions being held at Leighton Recreation Centre Monday 16th October (4.30pm - 8.30pm) and County Hall in Trowbridge Thursday 12th October (3pm - 7pm). There is also an online information session on Tuesday 10 October, from 6.30pm to 8pm.**

#### Published 6 October 2023

People can just turn up at the in-person events - there is no need to book. However, anyone who wishes to attend the online event must sign up beforehand.

These events are the latest in a series of 16 in-person and one online events that the council is holding during the consultation, with the final events being held during week commencing Monday 16 October, and the consultation itself closing at 5pm on Wednesday 22 November.

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, said: This is your opportunity to have your say on the Local Plan before it is considered by a Planning Inspector, so I'd urge everyone in the towns and surrounding areas of Marlborough, Malmesbury, Corsham,





Royal Wootton Bassett and Trowbridge to attend next week's events and find out more about the Plan and how to make representations.

Local Plan policies will ensure we only build as many homes as we need to over the next 15 years, while also maximising building on brownfield sites, and also make sure we build enough affordable homes. The Plan also sets groundbreaking zero carbon and biodiversity standards to help shape a more sustainable future for our county's growth.

Following this consultation, the Plan will be reviewed by a Planning Inspector through the examination in public before it can be adopted, and so this is your chance to have your say on this important place-shaping document for Wiltshire.

People can share their views through the council's online portal, and anyone without internet access can visit a library to use the computers there or contact the council to get a written copy of the representation form and find out how to view the documents. To find out more and to sign up for online event, people should go to [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-plan](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-plan)

## 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 18th October, venue Parish Hall car park.**

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

## Annual Christmas Card Sale



The annual Charity Christmas Cards Sale in November has been a date in the village calendar for many years now.

Originally Heather George, a past villager started the event, her daughter held a similar event in her own village where she was living. Starting in 1996 the venue was at the old Methodist chapel room, it then moved to the Old School, and for several years now it is held in the Parish Hall. When Heather moved away Jacky and Pauline took up the baton.

Just 8 charities are invited to attend – there is no charge, with all the sales going to their own charity. It is no longer just cards for sale but other items too. The charities also promote themselves. The proceeds from the refreshments go towards the cost of the Hall hire and the remainder goes to a separate smaller charity (chosen by the organisers).

Over the years over 40 different charities have been helped. It is one of the few events that monies are raised for charities outside of the village.

Of course, it is also the first tasting of mince pies for the festive season! And it has become a good social occasion for the village.

This year it will be held on Saturday 18th November from 10-12noon.

Come along and enjoy coffee and cake, and mince pies, and support us.





## Edington Parish Council News

The Parish Council have recently heard that their request for double yellow lines in the Tinhead Road, Westbury Road and Long Hollow has been successful. We now await the painting of the lines to reduce the problems of parked vehicles in this area causing problems for people trying to move along these roads.

The Wiltshire Police speed enforcement officer recently visited the village and in the time that she was here near Longlands Close she reported that

“Depending on previous convictions and history:

- 8 drivers will be offered a speed awareness course

2 drivers will receive a Fixed Penalty Notice and 3 points.

Proceedings will now be undertaken to ensure the most appropriate outcome for the offenders takes place.”

The Edington Community Speed Watch (CSW) team were also active during September and in the 14 sessions that they undertook 91 motorists were reported for speeding. 58 were driving at between 36 and 39 mph, 31 were driving at between 40 and 45mph and 2 were in excess of 45mph.

The Speed Indicator Device (SID) which has recently been located near Longlands Close recorded the following for traffic entering the village from Bratton. Of the 33858 vehicles passing the SID only 40.4% were travelling at 30mph or less, 35.4% were travelling between 30 and 35mph, whilst 24.2% were in excess of 35mph. The highest speed recorded was 76.5mph!

The Parish Council are still in conversation with Wiltshire Highways to install speed reducing measures on the Westbury Road coming in from Bratton, hopefully the conversation will move forward in the near future.

In the meantime we have also received the results of the traffic census on Lower Road that was undertaken back in September and this

recorded 84.3% of all vehicles travelling in excess of the 20mph! A fact that many of us knew but we needed the evidence. The Parish Council will now start another conversation with Wiltshire Highways to identify and hopefully implement speed reduction measures. The CSW will hopefully restart sessions on Lower Road in the near future but this can only happen once they have received permission from Wiltshire Police.

Now a date for your diary, the not to be missed event of the year, Friday 8th December at 6.00pm on the playfield, the village Christmas tree and lights will be turned on accompanied by the local musicians.

We have now been able to secure the services of a local contractor to cut the grass in the playfield and the Coal Path field for the rest of this season and the Parish Council are in the process of drawing up a specification for future grass cutting in the village and will be inviting contractors to submit their quotes later this year. In the meantime we would like to thank Bob Miles for his service to the village over many years keeping the grass areas neat and tidy.

### Forthcoming roadworks.

There are no reported roadworks scheduled in the area for October

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)



## Coffee Morning Drop In

Every Tuesday

10.30 - 11.30 am

in the Three Daggers.

Transport available contact

Pauline or Joy.



## *Village Musings*

At the heart of our village lies a really extraordinary church – cathedral-like in its space and proportions and completely unexpected for such a small village. Visitors are always amazed at this treasure hidden away here amongst us.

Especially in winter, you will catch a glimpse of it from various footpaths and walks, stately and quiet against the sky.



Whether you stop in Lambourne lane for a moment, or from the top of the Downs, or the footpath beyond Inmead, or walking down the Weir, you will suddenly notice the church from a different angle and be delighted.

Whatever your faith or non-faith philosophy, the church can be a place of quiet welcome and reflection, with the sense of peace that very old buildings acquire over the centuries. Sitting in the pews, with the sun filtering through the high windows or the rain drumming on the roof, one feels a real sense of serenity and calm.

The church is open during daylight hours, and everyone is most welcome to pop in and wander around or sit and breathe in the

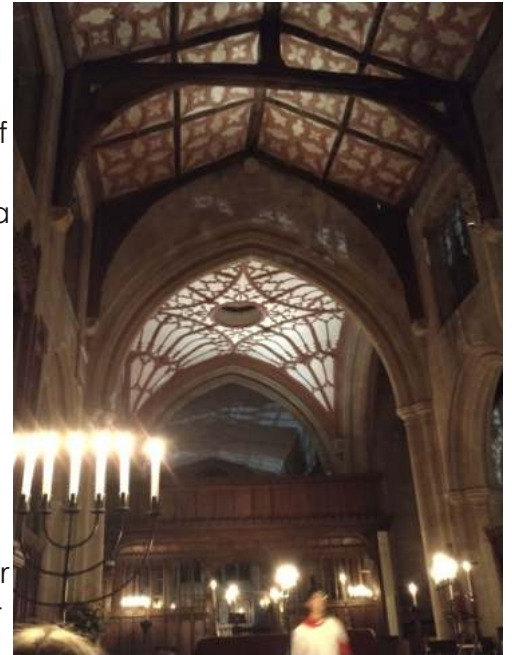


atmosphere. It is our church, our own place of refuge and we all have a right to be there.

If you are thinking of attending a service, the details are available in the church or by looking at the website

<https://www.edingtonpriory.church/>.

If you would like to attend the harvest festival which is coming up, and is always a great celebration, do come along on Sunday 8th October - at 11.00 a.m.



People are invited to bring non-perishable produce that can be donated to the Westbury Food Bank. (Donations can be made at any time in the plastic box in the church porch). The service will be followed by a bread and cheese lunch – you will be made very welcome if you would like to attend.

**Mercedes Henning**



## Ducks around Edington - Part 1

During my trip to the Norfolk broads earlier in the year I was amazed at the number of different species of duck I saw all swimming together in the water in front of one of the hides. The species I saw were mallards, shelduck, tufted duck, pochard, widgeon, gadwall, and teal. How could all these ducks live together in one place – surely, they are competing for similar resources?

First of all, as we all know, ducks are web-footed for efficient swimming. They also have a large wide bill with a specialized tongue that allows water to be sucked in the front of the bill. An array of plates traps food particles as the water is expelled out the sides of the bill. Not all species feed this way, some graze on plants and some also catch fish.



**Mallards are strong fliers and often rise almost vertically from the water (del. S.F. Henning)**

So, they feed then on a variety of different things. Some vegetarian species just feed on water plants or grass. Others are omnivorous feeding mainly on insects and their larvae, water snails, worms and spawn of frogs and fish, although most will also eat roots, buds, leaves and fruit of pond weed and water lilies. Yet other species can be said to be carnivorous as they feed just on crustaceans (crabs and shrimps), mollusc (cockles, mussels) and other invertebrates. A few species also just feed on fish.

Also, they can be broadly divided into two groups depending on how they forage or find their food. One group feeds on the surface of the water and are called dabbling ducks. They tend to be found more in shallow water where they skim the surface of the water with their bills. They also can be seen “up-ending” with their bottoms in the air as they search for food below the surface. These ducks are strong fliers and often rise almost vertically from the water. They all also nest on the ground near water.

The second group are the diving ducks. They dive from the surface of the water and swim under water to find their food. They also differ from the dabbling ducks by running along the surface of the water before take-off. Also, a number of diving ducks nest in a lined tree hole or other cavity, while dabbling ducks' always nest on the ground.

Duck nests are usually a lined or unlined hollow about 18-20 cm in diameter and 3-5 cm deep. Once the nest is built, the egg laying will start within 1-3 days. For those species nesting on the ground, they can be covered with any form of vegetation available within the area to hide them from predators. Ground breeding ducks usually nest in dense vegetation about 24 inches high, such as native grasslands and reed beds. They lay between 5-15 eggs depending on the species. Again, depending on species, the eggs can range in colour from white, cream, yellowish-white, to greenish and blue green. For those species nesting in tree holes, these





cavities can be lined or unlined with down feathers plucked from the female's breast.

The sexes in ducks have very differently coloured plumage and a good example seen commonly around Edington is the mallard. The females tend to be much drabber in colour probably because they incubate the eggs and must not be too conspicuous.

## Dabbling ducks

Dabbling ducks tend to live in shallow water and feed by dipping their heads underwater to scoop up vegetation and insects. They also graze on land for seeds and grain.

Some dabbling ducks, such as gadwalls and wigeons prefer the leafy parts of aquatic vegetation including grasses, sedges, pondweed, and rushes, others such as mallards, pintails, and teals prefer the seeds of wetland plants. In winter many ducks, such as mallards, and wigeons eat agricultural crops including rice, wheat, corn, and barley. Ducks also eat berries, buds, seeds, and flowers.

Many species of ducks also eat fish eggs, frogspawn and tadpoles and will also eat froglets and toadlets, although for most species adult amphibians are too large to consume comfortably. Both dabbling ducks and diving ducks eat invertebrates. Dabbling ducks tend to eat more terrestrial species and diving ducks prefer aquatic species. The wigeon, for example, eats midges, horseflies, and beetles,

Some of the dabbling duck species you will be likely to see around Wiltshire and occasionally around Edington are the following:

The **Mallard** is a typical dabbling duck and is common and widespread throughout the year in Wiltshire in a wide variety of aquatic habitats from wild marshes to city-centre ponds and lakes. Here they can be very tame. The males metallic green head is a common sight wherever one goes near water. It swims, up ends, and takes off and lands on water or the ground. A pair successfully bred on the Edington village pond a couple of years ago. The nest is a

lined hollow on the ground. It feeds on aquatic plants, seeds, and any invertebrates it can catch.

The **Gadwall** is a rather nondescript grey and brown duck. It is mainly a winter visitor to Wiltshire but has bred here at times. It is usually found in freshwater marshes, lakes, reservoirs, and gravel pits. It feeds mainly on aquatic vegetation. Like the mallard, its nest is a lined hollow near water.



Male Gadwall (del. S.F. Henning)

The **Garganey** is a scarce summer visitor to Wiltshire – it winters in Africa and is Britain's only summer migrant duck. It is to be found visiting open freshwater and marshes. It swims, and up-ends to feed on aquatic invertebrates and plants. It has been recorded in small numbers to breed in Britain in wetland habitats.



Male Garganey (del. S.F. Henning)





The **Common Teal** is Britain's smallest duck. It is a fast flying and highly gregarious duck. It often forms compact flocks that fly in twisting, turning formation. It swims, wades, and walks and takes off and lands on the water or the ground. It feeds on aquatic vegetation and seeds. It breeds in Wiltshire and its nest is usually a lined hollow on the ground in a marsh.



**Male Common Teal (del. S.F. Henning)**

The Eurasian Wigeon is a winter visitor to Wiltshire, often forming large flocks on mudflats and inland wetlands. The male has a golden blaze on its forehead on a chestnut head and neck while the body is grey. The female is a rufous colour. It is usually found on inland wetlands, marshes, grasslands, and at the coast



**Male Eurasian Wigeon (del. S.F. Henning)**

frequents estuaries and the shore. It feeds on grass and aquatic vegetation. It does not breed in Wiltshire but does so in Scotland.

The **Northern Shoveler** is perhaps the most outwardly distinctive of the dabbling ducks thanks to its large spoon-shaped bill. In fact, no other duck has such a huge spatulate bill. It feeds with broad sweeps of its bill through shallow water and wet mud. Its uniquely shaped bill has comb-like projections along its edges, which filter out tiny crustaceans, mollusks, and seeds from the water. The male has a bottle green head, white breast, bright chestnut belly and a black back, while the female is much drabber, being mottled buff and brown. It breeds in Wiltshire on reed-fringed lakes and



**Male Northern Shoveler (del. S.F. Henning)**

marshes. It nests on the ground in a lined hollow near water. Greater numbers can be seen in winter as there is an influx of migrants from further north.

We will look at the various species of diving ducks in next month's newsletter.

**Dr Stephen Henning.**



## Edington & District Gardening Club

Another successful show was held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 2nd September, the entries certainly brightened up the Hall. Thank you to Mercedes for her article and pictures in the September E-News.

Thank you to all those who came along, either entering a class or just marvelling at the entries and enjoying tea and cake.

This is always a social event for the village and judging by the chatter this is just so!

Thank you to the committee and other helpers stewarding or in the tearoom and for the lovely cakes made for consumption! And to those who stayed to put everything away including the marquee.

Congratulations go to Liz Pike who retained both trophies (Best Gross and the Silver Salver best 10 nominated).

We always welcome any guests to come along and join us and see what we are up to.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd November when Pam Lewis will be running a Christmas wreath workshop.

For more details ring 830133.

**Jacky**

**The results of the show can be found on the following page.**



**Let's Move!**  
DANCE FITNESS

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

## BECIE Churches Together Day

**Saturday 18th November, 10am – 4pm**

Thank you to everyone who completed the Church Questionnaire which was recently delivered to all homes in the villages. We are in the process of analysing the responses and are excited to take the next step in the process of serving our communities better.

The churches of Bratton, Edington, Coulston and Erlestoke are getting together for a day, on 18th November at Fullingbridge Farm Barn, BA13 4NB. It's a chance to plan for the future and to review what has been happening over the last two years. It's also an opportunity for everyone to have a say.

Our key-note speaker will be Canon Harold Stevens, on the theme: Salt and Light in a Rural Community.

The day will also include, worship, and discussions, with the responses to the Questionnaire taking a central part. Everyone is invited to attend, whether or not you are a regular member of one of the churches. If you would like to attend please sign the list at the back of church or contact Andrew King, [apking1@sky.com](mailto:apking1@sky.com).



## 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 & District Gardening Club Flower & Produce Show 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

### A - Flowers & Pot Plants

1 <sup>st</sup>	Liz Pike 21
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mercedes Henning 14
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Edward Callaway 12

### B - Floral Art

1 <sup>st</sup>	Dee Perkins 8
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mercedes Henning 6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Helen O'Donoghue 4

### C - Fruit

1 <sup>st</sup>	Helen O'Donoghue 14
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Edward Callaway 9
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Keith Girt, Liz Pike 8

### D - Vegetables

1 <sup>st</sup>	Edward Callaway 20
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mercedes Henning 15
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Keith Girt 12

### E - Miscellaneous

1 <sup>st</sup>	Edward Callaway 10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gwynnifer Henning, Martin Killian, Seanan Thomas 4

### F - Cakes & Preserves

1 <sup>st</sup>	Liz Pike 24
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Holly Alp 7
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Helen O'Donoghue 6

### G - Handicrafts

1 <sup>st</sup>	Gwynnifer Henning 10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Susan Zaman 7
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cynthia Hogbin 6

### H - Art & Photography

1 <sup>st</sup>	Stephen Henning 8
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cynthia Hogbin, Martin Killian, Dee Perkins

### I - Children's Classes

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bradley Gibson, Daria Thomas, Henry Dorgan, George Zaman 4
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**Best in Show: Jane Drake**

**Best Gross Score: Liz Pike 64, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edward Callaway 41, Mercedes Henning 37**

**Silver Salver Winner: (10 best nominated entries by exhibitor) Liz Pike 26, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edward Callaway 22, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mercedes Henning 20**

**Children's Cup: Bradley Gibson, Daria Thomas, Henry Dorgan, George Zaman 4**

**Youth Award, 16 and under: George Zaman**

**Village Rose Shield Award: Edington & Tinhead WI**

**Judges Special Mentions: 3 sweetcorn - Gwynnifer Henning, Autumn Arrangement - Dee Perkins, pumpkins - Seanan Thomas, Picture - Stephen Henning, Home-made crown - Henry Dorgan,**

**WELL DONE! EVERYONE - SEE YOU NEXT YEAR**



FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER 2023  
The Civic, Trowbridge

# *Festival of Remembrance*

**LEST WE  
FORGET**

*Dambusters 80th Anniversary*



Tickets £12.50 from

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



## Recipes of the Month – October

As Autumn draws in, many of us will have windfall apples and pears or those with blemishes that will not keep; similarly, the last of the home grown tomatoes remain green! This month, the recipes are for two Chutneys that use up this less than perfect fruit and if made now will be ready for, dare I mention, Christmas? These would also make a nice homemade Christmas present. Why not keep a jar until next September and entered it in the 2024 Produce Show?

### Green Tomato Chutney (makes 10 jars)

2 kg Green tomatoes (some red can also be used)

900g Apples

450g Onions

450g Raisins or sultanas (I use a mixture)

450g Soft Brown sugar

1000ml Cider vinegar (malt vinegar can also be used or Pickling Vinegar which already contains spices)

4 teaspoons Salt

4 teaspoons Mustard seeds

2 teaspoons Ground ginger

2 teaspoons Ground allspice

2 teaspoons Cinnamon

1 teaspoon Cayenne pepper

} omit the spices if using Pickling vinegar



### Method

1. Wash the apples and green tomatoes. Peel the apples and onions and chop into small pieces and place in a large saucepan or preserving pan.
- 3 Add the raisins and the brown sugar to the pan
- 4 Add the sugar, salt, mustard seeds and spices (if using)
- 5 Add the vinegar and mix well.
- 6 Place the pan on the hotplate and bring to the boil, stirring all of the time. Reduce the heat and simmer gently for about 1 – 1 1/2 hours, stirring occasionally to prevent the chutney sticking, until the mixture is thick and golden brown; no liquid should be visible on the surface.
- 7 While the chutney is cooking, sterilise the jars and lids by placing in a warm oven (or run through the dishwasher) for about 20 minutes
- 8 Once the mixture is thick, put it into the hot jars. Place a wax disc on top to cover the surface of the chutney and seal with the jar with the lid.
- 9 Label and store in a dark, cool, dry place and allow to mature for at least 2 months.

Enjoy with cold meats, pies and cheese.





## Autumn Chutney ( makes about 5 jars)

- 1 kg cooking apples
- 500g pears
- 750g red tomatoes
- 2 medium onions
- 1 kg soft brown sugar
- 125g sultanas
- 125g raisins
- 600ml malt vinegar (or Pickling vinegar)
- ½ teaspoon of mace
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- ½ teaspoon of ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 tablespoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper



} omit the spices if using pickling vinegar

## Method

1. Peel the apples and pears and cut into small pieces.
2. Peel the onions and chop finely or use a food processor
3. Skin the tomatoes by placing in boiling water for a few minutes and then chop them.
4. Put the apples, pears, onions and tomatoes into a large saucepan or preserving pan.
5. Add the sugar, vinegar, salt, pepper and spices (if using).
6. Stir well, bring to the boil and then gently simmer for about 1 ½ hours until tender, thick and golden brown. No liquid should be visible on the surface.
7. While the chutney is cooking, sterilise the jars and lids by placing in a warm oven (or run through the dishwasher) for about 20 minutes.
8. Once the mixture is thick, put it into the hot jars. Place a wax disc on top to cover the surface of the chutney and seal with the jar with the lid.
9. Label and store in a dark, cool, dry place and allow to mature for at least 2 months.

Enjoy with cold meats, pies and cheese





## GET FREE EXTRA SUPPORT DURING POWER CUTS

Register for Priority Services

### EXTRA HELP FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

*We're the people who look after the wires and cables that bring electricity to communities throughout the north of Scotland and central England. We're not the company who sends you electricity bills - our job is to maintain and repair the electricity networks. It's also our job to fix power cuts as quickly and safely as possible.*

We all rely on electricity day to day for various things, but for some, a power cut can be worrying or difficult. That's why we offer extra help and support during a power cut. Registering for our Priority Services helps us to help you when you need it most. All our priority services are free.

You may want to be on our register if you:

- Are deaf or hard of hearing
- Have a disability
- Live with children under five
- Are blind or partially sighted
- Have a chronic illness
- Use medical equipment/aids reliant on electricity
- Temporarily need extra support



Of course everyone has different needs so feel free to contact us to discuss your requirements.



#### Emergency power supplies

If you use medical equipment/ aids reliant on electricity, we aim to provide extra support during prolonged power cuts.



#### Proactively contacting you

When we are aware of an unplanned power cut affecting your home, you will receive proactive updates 24 hours a day.



#### Safety advice tailored to your needs

When requested, we'll offer you advice on how to prepare for a power cut in a format that suits your needs, e.g. braille, textphone, easy read, audio CD, or language other than English.



#### Peace of mind

We offer a service where you can agree on a password to use when dealing with the staff of Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks. That way we can look after your personal safety and home security.

### All of our Priority Services are FREE



Call us  
0800 294 3259



Textphone  
0800 316 5457



**BRATTON COMMUNITY  
BRASS BANDS**  
PRESENT AN

**AUTUMN CONCERT**

FEATURING 'IMBER VARIATIONS' MARKING 80 YEARS  
SINCE THE EVACUATION OF THE VILLAGE IN 1943

AT  
**EDINGTON  
PRIORY CHURCH**

MONASTERY ROAD, EDINGTON BA13 4QN

**SATURDAY 28TH OCT**  
2:30 PM      FREE ENTRY

[WWW.BRATTONSILVERBAND.COM](http://WWW.BRATTONSILVERBAND.COM)      @BRATTONSILVERBAND



## 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, 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

### FORTHCOMING EVENT IN THE PARISH HALL

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@edington.wiltshire.org.uk](mailto:parishhall@edington.wiltshire.org.uk) or phoning Wendy - 01380 830441.

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 year.

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

This month I am sharing part of a **sample first aid kit** with you. The next part will appear next month. I can customise a first aid kit with you using a remedy kit box and bottles. That way you choose what works for you and your family. In the past I have organised a course to learn how to use remedies in the home. If anyone is interested in this, do get in touch.

As always with homeopathic remedies, take one tablet to fit the symptom picture and only repeat if you feel it helps.

**Minimum is best.**

### **Aconite**

This is good for panic when you are watching something happening and you get palpitations. It is also good for the beginning of a cold while it is still at the sore throat stage.

### **Arnica**

The First Aid remedy for physical injury of any kind and for shock where the person says they are well, and it is obvious they are not. I recommend one after an operation with one tablet twice a day up to 3 days afterwards. This is also good for Jet lag.

### **Ars Alb**

For any stomach problems involving bad food or where diarrhoea is also involved. With this remedy the patient is usually anxious and fretting, not wanting to keep still. Thirst is usually for sips of water. This remedy is also good for a

cold/flu where the eyes are sore, and the nose is runny.

### **Bryonia**

It is used where muscles are very reluctant to move, every movement is painful. The remedy can be used for a cold or flu where you don't want to move – a bit like a bear with a sore head - and where there is a deep dry cough, needing to drink lots of water in great gulps.

### **Calendula**

This remedy is good to help with healing of any damaged tissue. It is especially useful for healing of internal tissue after an injury or operation. It can be used with Hypericum which will appear in next month's first aid kit list.

### **China**

This remedy is helpful where there is a very slow recovery from any virus or food problem. Ars Alb is the first remedy to think of, but China will work if Ars Alb does not.

### **Coffea**

Over excited, over sensitive causing severe insomnia. Can be useful if you wake after 3a.m. and then only doze. Headache like a migraine wakes you from sleep. Wants to lie in dark room away from all disturbances.

### **Euphrasia**

Allergies and Hay fever where the eyes are watering and can cause burning around the eyes, the nose runs but does not sting that area. The eyes swell with the allergic reaction. Also good for conjunctivitis where there is a lot of burning cattergagh.

### **Gelsemium**

This is the first remedy to think of for flu that involves an aching back and limbs, very exhausted, can hardly walk, but there is little thirst.



## 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 lunches will be on October 11th & November 8th.

**Joy Fraser (830426)**

## November Lunch in the Parish Hall

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



on **Wednesday November 8th at 12.30pm.**

in the Parish Hall, Edington.

Price £5.00 in aid of Edington Parish Hall

All will be most welcome to join us.

Please let Pauline (tel: 830013) know (by Friday November 3rd) if you are coming as this helps with catering arrangements.



TVM will provide door to door transport



Please book your place with Pauline.

## Shopping Trips starting at Edington

Destination	October	October	Start Time
Devizes - £3.20	Thursday 5th	Thursday 2nd	9am
Warminster - £2.80	Tuesday 17th	Tuesday 21st	1.25pm
Westbury - £2.30	Every Thursday	Every Thursday	1.30pm
Salisbury - £5.00	Saturday 14th	Saturday 11th	9.30am

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

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

**Contact Pauline or Joy Fraser to book a place**



## Edington What's On Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
10th October	7.30pm	WI meeting	Parish Hall
11th October	12.30pm	Parish Hall Lunch	Parish Hall
13th October	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
17th October	1.25pm	Warminster Shopping Trip	
18th October	9.30am	Village volunteers	Parish Hall car park
28th October	2.30pm	Bratton Band Autumn Concert	Priory Church
2nd November	9.00am	Devizes Shopping Trip	
8th November	12.30pm	Parish Hall Lunch	Parish Hall
11th November	9.30am	Salisbury Shopping Trip	
13th November	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Parish Hall
15th November	9.30am	Village Volunteers	tba
18th November	10.00am-12noon	Charity Christmas Card Sale	Parish Hall
21st November	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.