

April 2025

Village Newsletter

Incorporating Netheravon, Haxton and Fittleton



APRIL 2025

Issue no. 9

April 2025

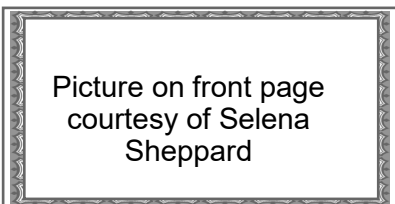
Welcome to the April issue of the Newsletter. The photo on the front cover is a postbox topper from last year by Selena Sheppard in preparation for Easter. Please can I ask people to send in any photos or artwork they wish to have on the front cover. The deadline for the May issue is the 18th April. Happy Easter everyone.

Dates for your diary...

1st April 10 am - 12pm	Cheerful Cuppa Fundraiser, In aid of Pembroke Unit	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
6th April 2pm	Friends of Netheravon PTFA Prize Bingo	Phoenix Hall Netheravon
8th April 7pm	Enford Gardening Club	Enford Village Hall
17th April 7pm	Netheravon Parish Council Meeting	Phoenix Hall Netheravon
8th May	VE Day 80 Exhibition	See pages 8 & 9
11th May 2 - 4pm	Plant Sale	Phoenix Hall Netheravon
13th May 7pm	Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council Meeting	Phoenix Hall Netheravon
28th May 6:30pm	The Story of Rena Stewart talk	Enford Village Hall

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The next Newsletter deadline is

Friday 18th April 2025.

Emails are preferred but all items for inclusion, whether they are handwritten, typed or via e-mail, **MUST be submitted by the deadline date.**

Emails must have editable attachments so that we can fit them into available place

Please send e-mails to NetheravonNewsletter@outlook.com

Hand written submissions can be submitted to Susan Birks, Netheravon Newsletter C/O the Phoenix Hall and please post in their mailbox on the wall just inside.

We reserve the right to reject or omit from publication any material that is considered to be detrimental to any person or which is not in the best interest of the community as a whole. All letters and articles must be signed, but we will withhold the name of the writer if this is requested.

Fittleton cum Haxton Allotments

There is just one allotment left at Fittleton. If you have the energy and enthusiasm to cultivate your own plot, contact Councillor Sheila Symes for full details.

Email:

sheilaksymes28@gmail.com or phone/message 07976 879494



A word from Rev Simon Pope, our Team Curate.



April – Easter and New Beginnings

As we travel through Lent, by the end of this month we will have enjoyed the biggest Christian celebration of the year – Happy Easter! Easter is a fantastic time. We think about the vibrant colour of spring bulbs, (hopefully) some warm sunshine, leaping lambs, and renewal. This Easter for me is a moment of big change, where we move from my time in curacy here in the Avon River Team, on to become the Vicar of St Thomas' Trowbridge, and St John's West Ashton. We look forward to what the future brings, however, as many of you will know, change often brings mixed feelings. We have enjoyed our time here, with many cherished friendships formed. It has been an honour and a joy to stand alongside and walk with you all. This part of Wiltshire will always have a place in my heart.

So on to something new. New beginnings are what Easter is all about. The opportunity Jesus gave us for a fresh start. The rubbish that holds us back has been dealt with, and we can look at a future with renewed hope.

It reminds me of the words from Romans 15.13 -

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope
Hope – Joy – Peace ... all things we need in our world right now. If
you'd like to find out more, perhaps come and join us at our services
over Easter?

Thank you for all the love and support you have given to me and my family over the three years we have been here. May your April be filled with sunshine, joy, peace, and hope for a fresh future.

Every blessing, Rev Simon Pope (Team Curate)

Website: www.avonriverteam.org.uk

For more information about the Avon River Team Churches contact:

The Team Office: 01980 655457

Rev. Philip Bromiley: 01980 258549 or philip@avonriverteam.org.uk

www.avonriverteam.org.uk/



April Church Services for Avon River Team



Parish \ Date	6 April	13 April Palm Sunday	18 April Good Friday	20 April Easter Sunday	27 April
Bulford	11.00 HC			11.00 Easter Communion	10.45 Family Service
Durrington	09.30 Fun Church	10.30 Team Service		09.30 Easter Communion	09.30 Informal HC
Enford	09.30 HC		14.00 Hour at the Cross	09.30 Easter Communion	18.00 Evensong
Figheld ean	11.00 Morning Worship		10.00 Family Worship	11.00 Easter Communion	10.45 Breakfast Church
Fittleton cum Haxton	With Nethera- von			11.00 Easter Communion	16.00 Communi- on and Cake
Milston	09.30 HC BCP			09.30 Easter Communion BCP	09.30 HC
Neth- eravon	11.00 HC			11.00 Easter Communion	11.00 Morning Worship

HC: Holy Communion; HC BCP: Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer
FS: Family Service; BC: Breakfast Church

Netheravon Parish Council

Netheravon Parish Council News from March APM meeting on the 13th March 2025

Cllr. Burke welcomed the 20 members of the public to the meeting; he chaired the meeting as Cllr Ayling was away. He said it has been a very busy year for the Parish Council. We welcomed Cllr O Grady who was co-opted on in May. We had the retirement of our very experienced and knowledgeable Clerk Mary Towle who has spent time training the new Clerk in her handover, Debbie Corbett, who has also been attending some training courses too. He read out some of the highlights of the councils work over the year (available in the minutes).

He announced our Chairman, Cllr Richie Ayling is standing down after many years on the council and as chair, and we want to give him thanks for everything he has done which this year included taking the Christmas tree down on his own in a storm on New Years Day! He has been a formidable councillor over the years, and we hope he continues to be a village asset for a long time to come.

Our village handyman is also leaving and thanks for all his help throughout the years.

Thank you to all the Councillors who are volunteers and give up a lot of time to make sure the village looks and runs smoothly he said they have done an excellent job and thank you for their loyal service.

We had reports from the Wiltshire Councillor – the Church, Netheravon Day Centre, Phoenix Hall, All Saints School, the Village Newsletter, the speed watch team, the Art Group, Cheerful Cuppa, and the Local Community Police.

Plans for VE day were communicated, more details in this newsletter. And lovely pictures from the Art Group was on display.

The Cemetery noticeboard has been refurbished, the village clock has been repaired, and the bench at the bus stop is being repaired.

We have two new litter wardens who will start on the 1st April.

NEXT MEETING

17th April 25 @ 1900hrs
Phoenix Hall

All are welcome, please come and
have your say.

ENFORD GARDENING CLUB



National Garden Scheme

with Ros Ford

Tuesday 8th April 2025

Bring and buy plant stall, Raffle

Tea and coffee

7.00 for 7.15 pm Enford Village Hall

Entrance £5

Everyone Welcome!

Contact steve.stringer@outlook.fr
Tel 07899 758222



Brought to you by the NFH Jubilee Committee

VE DAY 80 EVENTS

THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2025

0900 Flag raised at the War Memorial

1215 Wreath Laying at War Memorial

1300-1600 Cheerful Cuppa Afternoon Tea at the Phoenix Hall with music and memories

1300-1600 Exhibition of WW2 artefacts from the Royal Artillery Museum and owned by villagers

1830 Peal of bells from All Saints' Church

To book your free afternoon tea please tear off the strip at the bottom and hand in to Morrisons, High St Netheravon by Friday 25th April



We would like to attend the afternoon tea in the village hall:

Number of Adults

Number of Children.....

Any dietary requirements.....



VE Day 80 Exhibition

The Jubilee Committee are planning an exhibition of World War 2 related artefacts to run alongside the afternoon Tea Party in the Phoenix Hall on Thursday 8 May. The Royal Artillery Museum is signed up to provide an exciting display of items but we also need your help to make this a success!

Do you have WW2 related items tucked away which you would be prepared to display? We are after: photographs; maps; bits of uniform; equipment (steel helmet!); medals; letters; diaries; ration books and so on. Anything that would bring the exhibition to life - pupils from the Village School will be dropping by.



Message Richard Aubrey-Fletcher on 07890
138135 if you can help.



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Email: hskadmin@homestartkennet.co.uk

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Bletchley Park and beyond: new biography and talk

Imagine 40 women in the 1940s, tapping away at typewriters in a big, cold room at Bletchley Park, willing the war to be over. Well, May not only brings the 80th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe but also one of the last accounts of a Bletchley Park Girl. I was lucky to meet 100-year-old veteran Rena Stewart in 2023, and I'm now excited to share her story.

Rena (1923-2023) was born in Scotland and studied languages at St Andrews University. On graduating, she volunteered for war service.

Her

language skills got her assigned to Bletchley Park, where she worked (on a typewriter) on secret German messages, with 40 other women.

However, for Rena, Bletchley was just the start. At the end of the war, she and some Bletchley friends were sent to Germany, to translate the statements of captured Nazi officers. While there, Rena and her friend Margery received an extra, top-secret task: to translate Hitler's will. They did so with great care; proud to have made a small contribution to history.

However, Rena had always wanted to work in the media. On returning home, she found work as a clerk at the BBC World Service and worked her way up from there. Eventually, she became the first female leader in the newsroom – her proudest moment.

I hope you will find *The Story of Rena Stewart* fascinating and entertaining. It will be published by Pen and Sword on 30 May and is available to pre-order on their website.

I'll be giving a free talk about the book on Wednesday 28 May at Enford Village Hall. Doors will open at 6.30 for canapes and drinks, and the talk will start at 7.30. See you there!

Victoria Walsh



Netheravon Working Mens Club

Forth Coming Events April 2025

Thur 3rd April	Bingo
Fri 4th April	Spring Loud Shirt & Golden Key
Sat 5th April	QUIZ
Thu 17th April	Easter Prize Bingo

EASTER SAT

EASTER SUN



Easter Mon

Sat 26th April

Easter Quiz
Easter Cake Competition &
Auction . Decorate an Egg.
Adult & Children
Easter Bonnet Competition
and Raffle.
OPEN 12:00.....2 ish



CHEERFUL CUPPA

FUNDRAISER

IN AID OF

PEMBROKE UNIT

On Tuesday, 1st April

10.00am - 12noon

At

Phoenix Hall

Entertainment by

Michael and Tim

Everyone welcome

Teas, Coffee, Cakes, Raffle, Cake Sale

Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council

The recent meeting of Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council took place at Phoenix Hall Netheravon on the 11th March.

Our Wiltshire councillor, Ian Blair-Pilling, updated the meeting on the Wiltshire Council budget and its commitment to keeping services running.

We had an update from the Jubilee committee who are now working towards the VE day celebrations in May, and a running order of events for the day as follows:

- Wreath laying at 12.15 Netheravon High street at the memorial.
- Phoenix Hall for afternoon tea, provided by the cheerful cuppa.
- Bell ringing at 6.30pm at Netheravon church.

A vote of thanks was raised for two councillors who have recently stood down. Cllr Greg Morgan has departed due to work commitments, we thank him for his time and efforts and note that he is still available to assist with the Christmas Lights!

The second councillor to leave was our Chairman Cllr Dorothea Georgeson due to personal reasons. Dot has been a stalwart for the Council and villages as a Parish Clerk, Councillor and Chairman over a number of years.

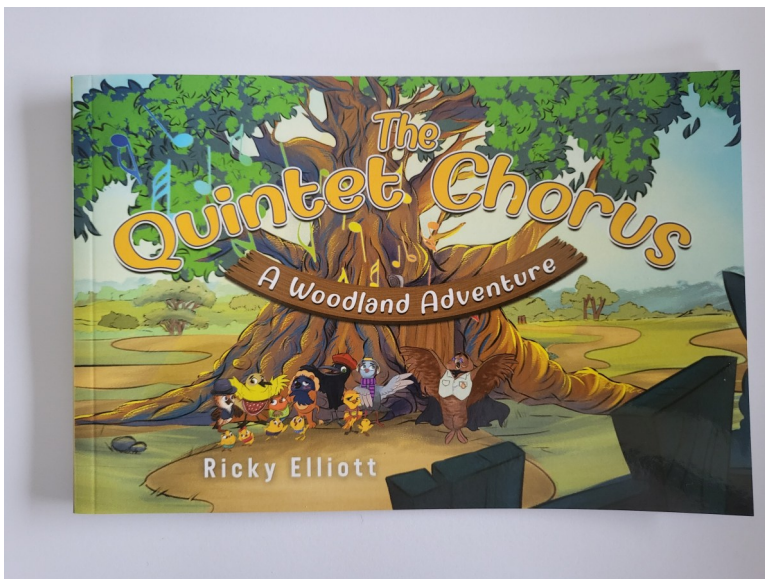
If you are interested in joining our Parish Council please get in touch.

Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council's next meeting is on 13th May at 7.00, at Phoenix Hall Netheravon. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting. If you have any questions, please send them, in advance, to clerkfittletonhaxton@gmail.com

If you would like to catch up with all things regarding Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Council, the website address is <https://www.fittletoncumhaxton.co.uk>. Don't forget that you can also keep up with information by checking out the parish notice boards. There is one opposite The Pound, Haxton, near the junction with Lower Street. The other notice board is near church path, Fittleton, on the wall of Fittleton Manor.

Laura Turner

Clerk Fittleton Cum Haxton Parish Council



Richard Elliott from Fittleton cum Haxton, writing as 'Ricky Elliott' had his first children's novel, 'The Quintet Chorus - A Woodland Adventure' published on World Book Day - 06 March 2025.

The book is aimed at young readers aged 6-10 years of age, and is set in the magical kingdom of Willow Wood. Join the Quintet Chorus, a magical group of feathered heroes in the battle for Willow Wood and the lengths they will go to in saving their homes forever.

Richard says, "if I say anymore at this stage, I'd be giving the plot away."

The book is available to order online from Amazon, Waterstones, W H Smith, Foyles and from all good bookshops.



CrimeStoppers. Speak up. Stay safe.	WILTSHIRE CRIMESTOPPERS	0800 555 111 100% anonymous. Always.
We work with County Police Forces to help reduce crime in our communities and to protect vulnerable individuals.		
The national website is www.crimestoppers-uk.org . should you want to find out more.		



Please visit:  www.netheravonspast.co.uk/audio-stories/



In 1984/1985 Eileen Power and Tony Mills interviewed a number of the residents of Haxton, Fittleton and Netheravon to record and capture their memories and life experiences.

Please visit the website address above to listen to their stories

If you have time and would like to join our history group and help to contribute, research and capture the history of Netheravon, Haxton and Fittleton please do contact us at contact@netheravonspast.co.uk

If you are new to the area and interested to find out more about this area, please do get in touch.

Friends of Netheravon School PTFA

Monthly prize Bingo

**Netheravon Phoenix Hall:
Doors open at 2pm, Eyes down 2.30pm**

Sun 6th April 2025
Sun 4th May 2025





Unplug to Unwind



Leaving small electrical devices on charge overnight has been the cause of multiple house fires in recent years, so we are urging people to 'Unplug to Unwind'.

Only large appliances such as fridges are designed to be left switched on all the time, so ensuring that everything else is unplugged before you leave the house or go to bed is a simple routine that could protect your home from fire.

To help reduce the risk of a fire in your home, take these simple steps:

- Make sure an electrical appliance has a British or European safety mark when you buy it.
- Remember – one plug per socket. If you need more plugs than there are sockets, use a multi-socket extension lead with integral fuse, never a block adaptor.
- NEVER 'daisy-chain' extension leads or adapters – daisy-chaining involves plugging one extension into another in order to reach further or plug more appliances in, and creates a huge fire risk.
- Unplug appliances at night or when you're not using them to reduce the risk of fire – unless they are designed to be left on all the time (for example, a fridge or freezer).
- Make sure you follow instructions for all electrical devices and that you use the correct chargers in line with the manufacturer's guidance. If the wrong charger is used for an electrical device, the internal battery can't handle a different voltage and it can catch fire.
- Always buy from a shop you know and trust, an approved retailer or direct from the manufacturer of the same name as the device.
- Never leave items on charge when you are sleeping or when you are not at home.



PHOENIX HALL NETHERAVON

(Netheravon and Fittleton Village Hall - Charity No. 1003542)

Jointly owned by Netheravon & Fittleton cum Haxton Parish Councils

Managed by the volunteer Phoenix Hall Management Committee:

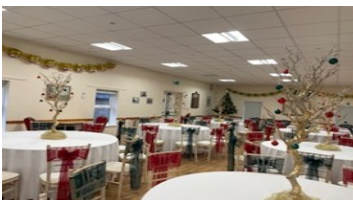
PHOENIX HALL NETHERAVON Managed by volunteers.

The Phoenix Hall is at the heart of the village and is located next to our village school.

It is a spacious venue perfect for all kinds of activities and special celebrations. With its smart decor and sound system, it's a great spot for your next gathering. There are 3 separate kitchens one of which is a full catering kitchen. All are fully equipped and the cost is included in the room hire. We have a large outside patio area. Plus, the hall has full disabled access with its front door and ramps.

Activities at the Phoenix Hall

- **Cheerful Cuppa:** Join us every Tuesday from 10 AM to 12 PM to meet the villagers and have a chat over hot or cold drinks and homemade cake or savouries!
- **ART Group:** All skill levels welcome! Every Tuesday from 2 PM to 4.30 PM. Contact Alan Wood at wood94@btinternet.com for more info.
- **Netheravon Day Centre:** Every Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM. Please contact Caroline Aubrey Fletcher for more information at cfaubreyfletcher@gmail.com
- **Pop-Up Market:** First Saturday of each month, 9.30 AM to 2 PM. For details, reach out to Paula Brown at paula-brown998@btinternet.com or call 07592 991989.
- **Prize Bingo:** Hosted by the Friends of Netheravon School PTFA on the first Sunday of each month from 2 PM to 5 PM.
- **Fortnightly Craft Group:** Every other Wednesday from 2PM to 4PM. Contact Alex Sawle Email Alexandra_sawle@hotmail.com or call 07749449275



There are a variety of exercise classes weekly:

- **Light Dance Exercise for Over 60s:** Thursdays from 2 PM to 3 PM with Cherryll Beswick. Email cherryllbeswick@gmail.com or call 07516 580923 for details.
- **Yoga.** All levels welcome. Fridays from 25th Apr 09.30AM to 10.30AM contact Leonora Philipps: leophilipps1@gmail.com or call 07739582342

Book Your Event at the Phoenix Hall!

Got an event or special occasion coming up? We'd love to help you make it happen! The hire charge includes all equipment tables and chairs, Check availability and book at www.phoenixhall.org or email phoenixhall@live.co.uk or Contact Pam direct at 07826 262306 to discuss your requirements she is always happy to show you around.



PLANT SALE
Sunday 11th May 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Netheravon Phoenix Hall
High St, Netheravon, SP4 9PJ
Free Parking & £1 Entry.
Come and stock up your gardens.
High Quality Plants: perennials, annuals,
bedding & vegetables. All reasonably priced.
Teas and scrummy cakes from
Florence & Opie.



NETHERAVON DAY CENTRE
(SUPPORTING THE ELDERLY IN OUR COMMUNITY)
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1019494

The Netheravon Day Centre meets every Wednesday
at approximately 10 am - 3 pm at the Phoenix Hall.

It is open to the over 65s and the cost for the whole day is £6.50 per head
with tea, coffee and biscuits on arrival.

The morning is then taken up with board games, chat
and taking part in a gentle exercise programme if desired.

Home cooked lunch at midday with a wide choice of menus;
a quiz and/or bingo with a cup of tea and cake before going home.

We organise an annual outing and various events
at the Phoenix Hall throughout the year

We are able to arrange lifts within a reasonable distance

For more information please contact:

Caroline A-F - 07855 441874 (Chair)
or
Philippa Lackford 07906 814176 (Organiser)

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Wood Turning Gift Certificates

Gift Certificates are available for both half and one day wood turning taster sessions. Coombe based professional turner George Shapland offers a bespoke package of one to one or one to two training for anyone wishing to have a go.

In addition to offering tuition, George also has a range of hand turned items for sale, mostly from local timber and also takes commissions.



Contact: George Shapland
01980 671321
george@butterwood.co.uk
www.butterwood.co.uk



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- ** Feeling isolated
- ** Losing confidence

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Lipreading classes in Amesbury

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Michelle: tutor.wordofmouth@gmail.com



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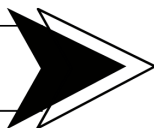
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Salisbury
Wiltshire SP4 9ED

075 4636 8485

davidg@accountancynow.com

David Goddard

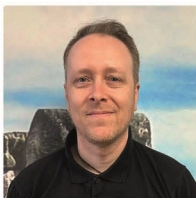
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James Watson says

As a Netheravon man I've been working for Rangers Garage for over 20 years as Service Manager and many of the other staff have worked for the Ranger family business for years.

Along with our busy MOT bay we carry out servicing to all makes of vehicles and specialise in cam belt, clutch replacement,

diagnostics and air conditioning service.

We also have the fantastic Avon Motor Company on site. We have known these guys for decades so if you're buying or selling a car we can't recommend them highly enough.

As well as servicing we are known as the areas largest tyre centre and on our website www.rangersgarage.co.uk we have a very handy online tyre pricing checker; simply enter your registration number and it will find your



vehicle tyre size and give you options of budget / mid- range and premium tyres available to you allowing you to order and make an appointment online for fitting or call us for advice and booking slots.

So, whatever your motoring needs Rangers Garage, Bulford Road, Durrington (established 1920), SP4 8DL has you covered.

LARGEST TYRE DEALER IN THE AREA

opposite Tesco in Durrington



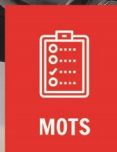
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Avon Motor Company

has been set up by Mark Francis after more than 35 years buying and selling cars in the Salisbury area. Having been employed to run a busy used car dealer locally for the last 26 years, the time came to set up on his own using the experience and customer goodwill he has gained over this time.

Avon Motor Company are based on Bulford Road in Durrington, close to both Salisbury and Andover, a few minutes off the A303 and very near to the army camps in Bulford, Larkhill and Tidworth. Based on a site owned by

Rangers Garage, a very long established family run business and with car preparation and MOT testing carried out through their workshops, Avon Motor Company are able to offer first class preparation and after sales backup.

All our cars come serviced prior and include a 12 month MOT certificate, 12 month AA breakdown cover along with a 6 month AA warranty which allows authorised repairs to be undertaken nationwide, giving our customers the confidence that should the unexpected happen, issues can be dealt with in a professional manner.

Warranty extensions are also available.

We are able to offer car finance through our website or in person from selected lenders including Motonovo finance and Close Brothers.

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Find out how to leave a gift in your Will at juliashouse.org/alwaysthere 01202 644220

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Private outdoor space with seating and fire pit. Dedicated parking area

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www.danielsturnerfuneral.co.uk

MINI DIRECTORY
(01980 unless otherwise stated)

Phoenix Hall Bookings (Pam/Steve Perry)	670021
Day Centre (Caroline A-F)	670364
Rev. Philip Bromiley, Avon River Team	258549
Rev. Barry Davis, Amesbury Baptist Centre	622355
Christ the King, Catholic Church, Amesbury	622177
Rev. Steve Hawkes, Amesbury Methodist Church	01722 697841
SSAFA Forces Help	632567
Plainwatch	674700
AWS JOBS, Pre-Schools, Creche	673379
Scout Group for Boys & Girls	077680 579314
Enford Football Club, Children's Coaching Club	670634
Wiltshire Councillor, Ian Blair-Pilling	07518 942216
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers	Girlguiding.org.uk/ joinus

Newsletter

Collator - Susan Birks
Treasurer - Steve Perry

All information - Email Netheravonnewsletter@outlook.com

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USEFUL NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES

DOCTORS

DURRINGTON Avon Valley Practice Surgery	01980 652378
LARKHILL Larkhill Medical Centre	01980 845266
UPAVON Avon Valley Practice Surgery, Fairfield	01980 630221

HOSPITAL

SALISBURY DISTRICT HOSPITAL	01722 336262
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POLICE



POLICE

OTHERS

ELECTRICITY	105
ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY	0800 80 70 60
FLOOD LINE	0345 988 1188
GAS	0800 111 999

DURRINGTON LINK

LINK (Durrington & District)	07484 533559
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SCHOOLS

DURRINGTON, Avon Valley Secondary School	01980 652467
NETHERAVON, All Saints' C of E Primary	01980 670339
RUSHALL, Rushall C of E Primary	01980 630360
PEWSEY, Pewsey Vale Secondary School	01672 565000

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

BIN COLLECTIONS telephone	0300 456 0102
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For more information on Rubbish and recycling visit:

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling

HQ SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA

999 MOD Police Control Room - **Crime in progress**

01371 854444 - MOD Police Control Room - *Non-emergency crime on SPTA only*

01980 674951 to call 24hour Range operations - *To report suspicious activities or dangerous issues.*

01980 620819 Complaints Line - *The only way to make a complaint.*

0800 022 3334 - Landmarc National Service Centre - *To report damage to training area or fly-tipping*

For Salisbury Plain Training Area News, giving times of live firing, current and upcoming exercises go to

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter>

Health & Safety reminder for all Military Training Areas & Ranges:

Do not touch or tamper with Military debris. Wash your hands before you eat.
Clean your footwear before you enter your car or home.