

## **The Digital TV Switchover Help Scheme**

The Digital Switchover for television is heading our way very soon now. The first phase of the switchover will take place on February 8th (Hannington) or March 7th (Rowridge) -depending on which of the two main transmitters supplies your TV signal - followed by the second phase on February 22nd (H) or March 21st (R). Everyone will have to re-tune their TV even if they already have digital TV through a built-in digital receiver or through a digital set top box. Analogue transmissions will cease and only digital television signals will be broadcast after the switchover.

The Digital Switchover Help Scheme is still available for those who meet the eligibility criteria below and who have not yet 'converted' a TV to receive the new digital signals.

Those who meet the criteria are entitled to free help to switch-over or to partake of the standard offer of help for a fixed fee of £40. The help includes equipment to convert one TV to digital, full installation by an accredited TV engineer, an aerial check to ensure that digital TV can be received and if necessary a replacement aerial, a remote control to access the digital channels and a free helpline providing 12 months of after-care.

A person is eligible for the Help Scheme if they:

are aged 75 or over, **or**

have lived in a care home for 6 months or more, **or**

get (or could get) Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance or mobility supplement, **or**

are registered blind or partially sighted.

The standard offer of help costs £40 however help is **free** if a person is eligible **and** receives:

pension credit, **or**

income support, **or**

income related employment and support allowance, **or**

income based Jobseeker's Allowance.

**Anyone still wishing to take up the Help Scheme offer needs to telephone 0800 40 85 900**

### Note

There will be the need for an additional re-tune on April 18<sup>th</sup> for those who receive their signal from the Hannington transmitter. Viewers may find that they get more channels or better reception after this additional re-tune.