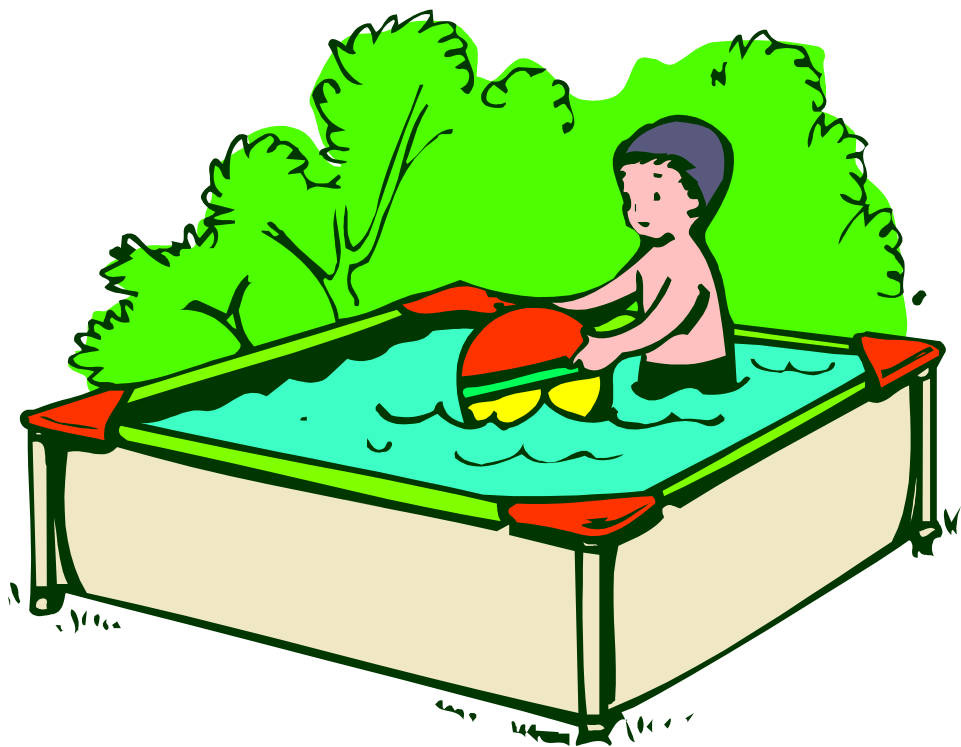


FOCUS

July 2006



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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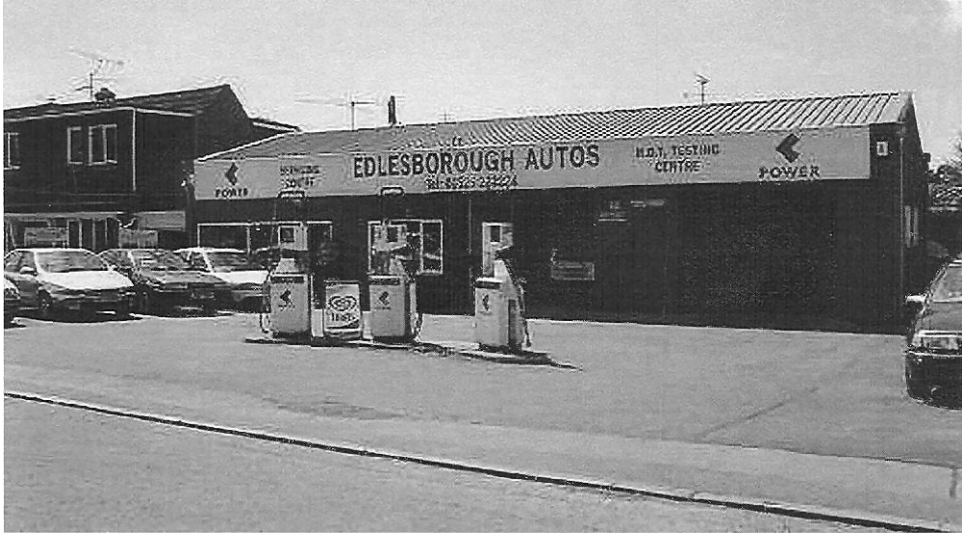
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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

Joint Editors: George Crutcher - 7 Summerleys, Eaton Bray 221637

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Advertising: Sally Siddons - 34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

Production Manager: Tracey Moren (Moren Associates Limited) 01525 229695

Copy for publication to the Editors or one of the following by the **10th of the month:**

Kevin Cabbage - 'Larums', Eaton Bray Road, Northall

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

Focus accepts no responsibility as to the accuracy or content of any advertising or articles published in 'this' magazine neither do they reflect the opinion of members of the Committee.

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August Focus will be a joint issue for August & September. Don't forget to send in your September entries by 10th July. Editors



National Trust Friends of Ashridge Events Programme

Friends of Ashridge. WALKS and TALKS:

Wednesday 5 July 7pm. An Evening Walk in the Woods. (Booking Required)

Wednesday 12 July 7pm. Evening Walk around Pitstone Hill. (Booking required)

Friends of Ashridge. GENTLE STROLLS:

Wednesday 12 July 2.30pm. Ladies' Walk car park

Sunday 13 August 2.30pm.

Other Events

Thursday 27 July 7.30pm. Chapterhouse Theatre Company outdoor performance: 'ROMEO and JULIET' at Ashridge. (Booking required)

Wednesday 23 August 7.30pm. Chapterhouse Theatre Company outdoor performance. 'THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR' at Ashridge. (Booking required)

**For bookings and enquiries call:
01442 851227**

All Saints' Church, Dagnall

Ploughman's Lunches

Saturday 15 July

at Dagnall Village Hall

due to work commencing soon on our much awaited extension

12 – 2.00 pm

All proceeds will be divided between the church extension project (main benefactor); with 10% going towards the Kagando

Hospital (SW Uganda),
the new Church Project for 2006

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There has been a Baptist Chapel in Northall for more than 200 years. Today we continue to seek to worship God, serve him in our daily lives and support and encourage one another in the difficult and the joyful times.

Village Diaries



July 2006

Weekly

Mon-Fri (term time)	Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Cindy 07773 095624
Mon-Fri (term time)	Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15-12 noon
Tuesdays	Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm
Tuesdays	Keep Fit/Body Conditioning, Dagnall Village Hall, 7.30pm
Tuesdays	Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
Tuesdays	Baby Cafe, 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
Wednesdays (term time)	Eaton Bray Under 5's, 1.15-3pm Eaton Bray Village Hall Cindy 01582 477568
Wednesdays	Chi Kung & Wu Chi classes, Coffee Tavern 11am - noon
Wednesdays	Keep fit, 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Roch 220669
Thursdays (term time)	Mums & Toddlers session, Dagnall Village Hall, 1-3pm
Thursdays	Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm
Thursdays	Eaton Bray Badminton Club, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 8.15-10pm.
Thursdays	Keep fit, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304
Fridays	SOCATOTS, 12:45, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Daniel Walker 07968 778681
Saturdays	Jazzercise, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Angela Veryard, 715208

Monthly

1st Monday	Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
1st Monday	Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Salvation Army Hall, Dunstable
1st Monday	Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
1st & 3rd Tuesday	Dunstable & District Orbit Club meet in central Dunstable at 8pm. For more details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
2nd Tuesday	Toddlers' Church, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.00pm
2nd Tuesday	Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
2nd Wednesday	8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church
3rd Thursday	Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall

Other Regular Events

14th	Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am,
12th & 26th	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm
15th	Ploughman's Lunches at Dagnall Village Hall 12 - 2:30
26th (Wed)	Dagnall Over 60's day trip to The Ferryman Inn, Oxfordshire with lunch & entertainment

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

1st	St Mary's Village Carnival, The Green, Edlesborough, Procession from The Orchards, Eaton Bray at 12.30, arrive at Edlesborough Green at 1.30pm. Followed by lots of events and stalls on the Green.
6th	Eaton Bray Parish Council Parishioners Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
8th	Cream Tea, Taskers Row, Edlesborough, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
15th	Eaton Bray Lower School "It's a Knockout" Summer Fair, 12noon-3pm
15th	Ploughman's Lunches, Dagnall Village Hall, 12 noon - 2pm
22nd	Courses for Horses Coffee Morning, Cake Stall & Bring & Buy, 10 am - 12 noon, 21 Yew Tree Close, Eaton Bray

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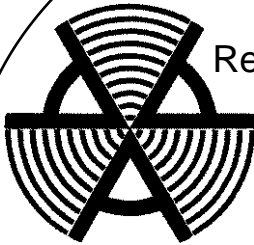
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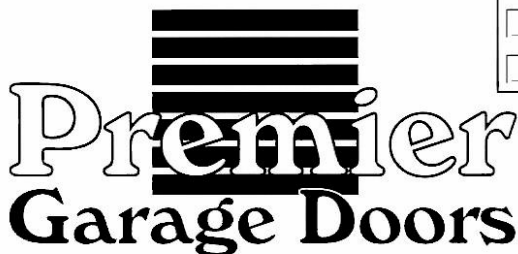
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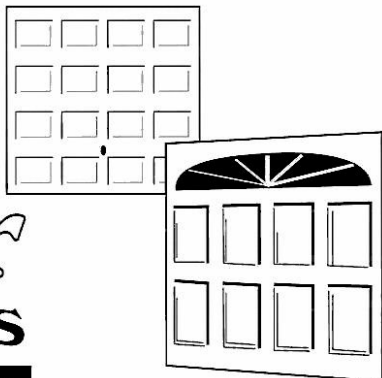
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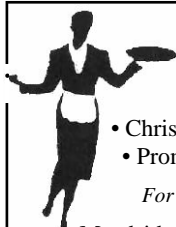
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Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights of meeting – Monday 5th June 2006

Bower Lane Cemetery Fence

Work to commence

Speeding Traffic

The council had been informed the cost of vehicle activated signs has increased to approx. £7,500 each. It has been suggested that existing measures should be reinforced as a more efficient use of funds.

Public meeting 6th July.

Villagers are asked to attend the open forum of July's meeting to put forward their recommendations, or to contact the Clerk.

Coffee Tavern

Awaiting report on feasibility of installing a chairlift.

Specifications for the redecoration of the Coffee Tavern to be drawn up and tenders sought.

Mill End Close

Concern expressed over access to, and maintenance of, areas of land around Mill End Close. G.P. committee to visit the site and report.

Chilterns AONB 40th. Anniversary Fund Grant

It was agreed to submit a claim for a grant to provide the village with a traditional signpost to highlight local points of interest.

Children's Play Equipment

More information required to make the final decision on repairs and maintenance. Some minor maintenance work to commence.

Next Council Meeting 3rd. July 7.30pm at the Coffee Tavern

A full copy of the minutes can be viewed on www.eatonbray.com/council. Or can be obtained from the Clerk; Mr. E. Bird, 8 Garners Close, Dunstable, Beds., LU6 2AJ. 01582 699722. ebpcclerk@surefish.co.uk

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners May 2006

Number	Name	Winnings
46	L Bratton	£100
4	Katrina Hurley	£25
167	Robert Doody	£25
17	R & M Kerr	£25
94	Mrs M Fysh	£25

Drawn on 22nd May 2006 at Eaton Bray PreSchool . Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

Eaton Bray Parish Council Parishioners Meeting

A meeting will be held at the Coffee Tavern on 6 July at 7.30pm for Parishioners to give their views on traffic calming in the Village.

Musical history plays on...in St.Albans

St.Albans Organ Theatre (formerly St.Albans Organ Museum) houses a permanent, playing exhibition of mechanical musical instruments and theatre pipe organs.

The instruments were the private collection of Mr. Charles Hart who was a builder in St.Albans. In 1978 he formed a Charitable Trust – St.Albans Musical Museum Society – to maintain, administer and make the collection permanently available to the public.

The magnificent sounds of the dance organs by Mortier, Decap and Bursens, and the Wurlitzer and Rutt theatre organs can be heard every week of the year, together with reproducing pianos by Steinway, Weber and Marshall and Wendell.

Musical boxes dating from the 1880s are also demonstrated, as well as hand turned table organettes and a rare Mills Violano-Virtuoso which produces its own unique sound of violin and piano duet.

Two theatre pipe organs are housed at the Theatre – a Wurlitzer three manual (keyboard) organ, and a theatre type organ built by R.Spurden-Rutt Organ company.

Aside from opening every Sunday afternoon from 2 to 4.30pm throughout the year and at other times by arrangement, when all the instruments are demonstrated, monthly Saturday evening concerts by top theatre organists are a regular feature of the Theatre's activities.

St.Albans Organ Theatre is at 320 Camp Road, next to Camp school and there is ample parking available. There are also facilities for disabled people.

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

During the summer months our cooks and helpers are to take a well earned break. Our next Lunches will be served on Saturday October 14th from 12.00 noon until 1.30 pm. We look forward to seeing old friends again and hope new ones will join us.

Many will know that from September there will be changes to our local Methodist Circuits. We at Eaton Bray along with Edlesborough and Leighton Buzzard Churches are to join with the Dunstable and Area Churches to become the Chiltern Downs Circuit. On Saturday August 12th from 10.00am we are invited to go on a Pilgrimage and see the Churches in the new circuit. Eaton Bray Chapel will be open from 3.00pm until 5.00pm and we invite you to pop in and take a look around. The day will end with a picnic tea and a service at 6.00pm at Edlesborough Chapel. For further information please contact Jane McFarland or other Chapel members.

St Mary's Church Roof Appeal

Kevin Eagling will be cycling the Ridgeway over 2 days in July to raise money towards the extensive roof repair work needed at St. Mary's Church in Eaton Bray. The Ridgeway National Trail is one of the oldest trails in Britain, covering 87 miles (139km) through ancient landscapes, over rolling, open downland to the west of the River Thames, and through secluded valleys and woods in The Chilterns to the east. Following the same route used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsman and soldiers, the Ridgeway connects Ivinghoe Beacon to Overton Hill, near Avebury Stone Circle in Wiltshire. If you would like to support Kevin on his ride, sponsorship can be pledged at bike_ride@btinternet.com, or by telephone on 01296 660791 (answerphone).

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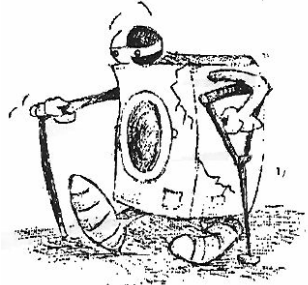
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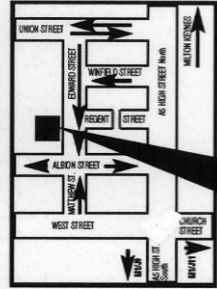
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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Canon Malcolm Grant - The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261
Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

The da Vinci Code has had far more publicity than any other recent release in the cinema, and no fictional thriller has been given more exposure in the press in recent years than Dan Brown's book. And it is a good thriller. Whether on the page or on the screen, it moves quickly, the excitement and the tension both build, and we are drawn into the story, as should happen with any good yarn well told.

But it is a work of fiction, and we need to remind ourselves of that, particularly when we are told that it threatens the very foundations of Christianity. Much of the so-called historical background simply isn't history – and the rest isn't good history. None of the material Brown draws on is new. Most of the ideas have been around for a long time, but few people have ever taken them seriously.

The fact that an isolated fringe-group several generations after Jesus circulated the story that he was married and had a child is not news to scholars. But to construct a whole conspiracy theory of the church trying to suppress it is absurd. For one thing, Brown's theory has no room for the resurrection of Jesus – and the only thing that can explain the existence of the church for two thousand years is truth of its fundamental contention that Jesus who was crucified was raised from the dead and is alive and active in the lives of his followers now.

To recreate Christian history from a couple of sectarian documents and ignore all the rest of the evidence is a bit like treating the writings of David Irving, the holocaust-denier, as the official history of the Second World War. And to treat the fragments of the legends about Mary Magdalene as genuine history is equivalent to regarding William Blake's poem "Jerusalem" as evidence that Jesus visited England. If the true blood-line of the early kings of France was so sacred, why was so little made of it at the time? It is worth remembering that when you build a theory out of a chain of improbable events, the reliability of the conclusion diminishes very rapidly: you have a better chance of winning the National Lottery than hitting the right answer! So much for the reliability of much of Brown's "history" – and that's without taking into account the fact that the "Priory of Sion" has no authenticated basis in history, and we simply do not know the reasons for the suppression of the Knights Templar.

I do not see *The da Vinci Code* as a threat to Christianity. What it asks us to believe is much, much more incredible than the Gospel-story, and I am sure that just as the truth of God has withstood many attacks in the past, it will survive this one, and the church will continue to proclaim the good news of God's love made known in Jesus Christ to future generations, just as it has in the past. Of course the church will make mistakes, and some of its actions will be seriously compromised, as they have been in the past. But if the church's message is God's truth for the world, then it will prevail. Of that I am sure – and, if you want to find out more about it, why not come along to your parish church? We cannot offer the excitement of Dan Brown's novel, but we can offer you the Good News of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms – *"Brought to new birth in the family of the Church"*

21 May Emilie Clémentine Sanders

28 May Callum John Toyer

Weddings – *"To love and to cherish till death us do part"*

3 June Anthony Neil Parr and Claire Louise Preston

Funerals – *"Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest"*

6 June John Anthony Mclean-Hall of The Green, Edlesborough



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10.00am – **PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST** (with Sunday School).
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Wednesday: 9.30am - Eucharist 8.15pm (2nd Wednesday) - Healing Service
Thursday: 7.30pm - Eucharist (2nd Thursday only)

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Beer Festival June 2nd/3rd 2006

THE OLD GI's DO IT AGAIN! (with a little help from the weather)

Yes the sun shone through Friday evening and all day Saturday, the beer flowed right up to 11pm on Saturday. JUST!

What more could we all ask for? The 3rd Eaton Bray Beer festival was held in glorious weather over the weekend.

Friday was by far the busiest night, we think, because of people were worried that we might run out of beer again, as we did last year. Yes, it was a close call with only 3 barrels holding the (real) amber liquor at the end. We even started off with 2 extra barrels and had to go out for emergency rations on Saturday morning! Next year we will get even more beer. A big thanks to Roy Chatto and his (very) merry band of helpers who unstintingly tried all the beers to make sure you all got the perfect pint!

The food was organised by GI's (Gallant Idiots) and it has to be said that the BBQ burgers (from Hines, thanks for your contribution) went down a storm. The baked tatties weren't quite so popular as last year but then look at the difference in weather (about 10 degrees). I could argue, as head chef of "Bagni's Burgers" that it was down to my superb cooking but that would be stretching it!

Music was supplied by Bob Thompson on Friday and Paul Green (Greenie) on Saturday, who both did great sets, along with our very own magician David Andrew who entertained the young and young at heart on Saturday afternoon.

We would also like to say a BIG thank you to all the volunteers who gave their valuable time to help run the event and to all the local and not so local folk who came and supported the event. We hope you all had a wonderful time and not too many headaches the next day!

We made nearly £3000! This is all going to help with stage two of the Village Hall refurbishment. Hopefully this may be able to start next year!

Our next event is a Quiz Night on October 6th in the Village Hall, This will be held in conjunction with Eaton Bray Tennis Club. Look out for further info in Focus.

Thanks again.

The McLean Hall family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral of John on the 6th June and for the tremendous support we have received from friends and neighbours. Many thanks also to those who kindly gave donations to the Pasque Hospice. Iona, Andrew, Mark and Debbie

In the memory of Betty Martin

Betty's daughters and family would like to thank her friends and neighbours for their kindness and donations to the British Heart Foundation. Special thanks also to Joy and Malcolm from the Salvation Army who gave a lovely service. In memory of a much loved mother and grandmother.

Thanks...

Please accept my sincere thanks for the cards, phone calls and good wishes which I have received over the past few weeks. It was quite a shock to be rushed into hospital (first time in 74 years!) but everyone has been really kind and I have been touched by everyone's concern.

Nuisance not being able to drive at the moment, but hopefully I shall be back in action very soon.

With thanks to you all.

Barbara Adams

Sorry this is rather a belated message but I was too late for the June issue.

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For registration details, or to place your child on the waiting list, please phone Sue Connor: Tel - 222739.

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Open Gardens 2006

It was blooming marvellous! Our first Open Gardens event was a great success - the sun shone and crowds flocked to see the gardens that were open to the public. The busiest gardens, six all within easy walking distance of the St Mary's Church, attracted nearly 350 visitors, no doubt delighted to get away from the wall to wall World Cup coverage. What a joy to see so many people bearing their yellow leaflets bringing the village to life on a Sunday afternoon stopping and socialising with one another.

The gardens were beautifully manicured – hardly a weed to be found – just an array of floral colour and delight. May's rain and June's warmth and sunshine had left the gardens in tip-top condition with perennials coming into bloom and even the roses opening up the day or so before the event. If you weren't there you missed an absolute treat. And it was a worthwhile event as well, with over £2,000 being raised, mostly to support St Mary's Parish Project – the Friends of Kagando Hospital in Uganda.

Thanks must go to the eleven owners of gardens and allotments who were the key to the event's success having worked so hard to make their plots look so attractive. Most spent their Sunday afternoon fielding questions about their gardens and, in some cases, talking about and learning from visitors about the history of their properties. In addition, thanks must go to all those helpers who manned stalls, served refreshments, potted up plants, put on displays, helped the garden owners and generally helped to make the afternoon what it was.

Never mind if you missed the Open Gardens, you can see pictures of the event on St Mary's website: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk and, hopefully you will be able to come next year as the event looks set to become an annual event in the Village Calendar. The second Sunday in June seems to be a good date to choose – next year that will be Sunday 10 June.

Already we have new offers to open gardens in 2007 – if you live in Eaton Bray, Edlesborough or Northall and would consider opening your garden next year please get in touch with Gordon Gray on 220136.

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Change on the Way at Dagnall Church...

The building of the long awaited extension to All Saints Church, Dagnall has now started. Final services in the old style building took place on Sunday 4th June.

Now all services and Sunday school are being held at Dagnall Village Hall, every Sunday until the church is available again, during October 2006. The schedule of services will remain unchanged – details of which are posted on a notice outside church, and also at the Village Hall. All are welcome to any of our services and Sunday school.

Our thanks go to the Village Hall committee for making the hall available to us.

...But Services as usual

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St Mary's June Parochial Church Council Meetings

The PCC met in May for the first time after the PCC and Churchwarden elections, we started with the Eucharist, after an opening prayer we welcomed the "old" and newly elected members to the meeting.

Time was spent agreeing to the responsibilities after some good-humoured banter! The refurbished cooker for the village hall has been bought and installed ready to be used and the proposed lunch club for anyone alone in the villages to be started. The memorial garden still has some planting to be done and a discussion took place about the recent grass cutting in the Garden of Remembrancea little too short!!

The PCC and standing committee agreed to the roof repairs being a full quote for all works and not in two parts as the costs would be higher, the works will be undertaken bit by bit to avoid too much distribution. Those who had expressed an interest in "Friends of St Mary's" will soon be approached to discuss ways of stewardship.

It was great to hear the news from Dagnall that planning permission for the extension to the building had been agreed and together with the joint Methodist members "monies had been raised" for the work. Further fund raising took place with the Dagnall Fete on 20.5.06

Many ideas were discussed including "Talents" to raise money for the church roof repairs, £10 will be given to all who sign up for the "Talents" along with ideas on how to use their talents and "multiply the cash".

A memorial bench has been donated along with a sum of money and the bench will be placed at the North door so anyone standing around for photos at weddings (amongst other things) can rest their weary feet!!!

The Church Mouse

The PCC met at the Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray on 8th June. This was a change from the normal venue of Dagnall Church as building work to extend the Church has started there. The project is expected to take 3 months, and during that time services will be held in Dagnall Village Hall. Work is also progressing on St. Mary's Church roof. A regular gardening working party is now meeting on the last Saturday of the month at 10am and anyone is welcome to join the team to keep our Church grounds looking neat and tidy.

The Talents Scheme, where members of St. Mary's have been given a sum of money to use to make more money, is now running. To provide an outlet for those participants who are making items for sale, a table will be available in Church on the first Sundays of July, August and September. Almost £4000 was raised during Christian Aid Week and thanks go to all those who helped in any way to raise this admirable sum. A Jazz Evening is to be held in St Mary's on 16th September and it promises to be a very enjoyable evening, with refreshments in the Village hall.

Six young people are to be confirmed on 25th June at St Mary's, and on 15th October Bishop Benezeri Kisembo, Bishop of Ruwenzori in Uganda will be visiting St Mary's at the 10am service. Plans to start the Vision for Action course in the autumn were discussed, when it is hoped that many in the congregation will be able to join in the 6 part course to explore their faith.

The Church Mouse



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Dagnall News

Dagnall Village Hall

Dagnall Village Fete –May 20th 2006

The weather forecast was watched anxiously all week – would we experience the atrocious weather of 2005? In the event it was better, but not before a few nerve-racking hours wondering if the wind would die down enough to let us erect the marquees safely.

We got the recreation ground set up and looking better than ever – the grass manicured, the tents and gazebos lined up with near military precision – all the stores and equipment arrived as it should – in fact, dare I say it, we were ready to go with time to spare!

Within an hour of opening the car parking area was full, as the families of the many children involved came to see the Playgroup and the school children perform for us. We were also entertained by line dancing demonstrations from Kim's Laughter Lines, and later on by the Ellesborough Silver Band, and the Dunstable Sea Cadets. It was a shame that by this time the rain had started, and so the Sea Cadets got rather wet doing their gun run – but without dampening their enthusiasm! One of the most amusing sights was the troop of umbrella holders trying to keep the band and their music dry – after their assigned shelter had surrendered to a strong gust of wind!

We were very well supported with stalls and sideshows, many of them raising money for good causes, and our thanks go to everyone who spent so generously again this year. We managed to raise £3704.79 exceeding last year's profit by over £100, another fantastic achievement. Proceeds will support Dagnall School and Dagnall Village Hall. Mrs Julie Thatcher won the sweepstake with a guess of £3706. Well done Julie, a cheque is on it's way.

All that remains is to thank **everyone** involved in the fete – from the organising committee - to all our sponsors who provided goods, money or services. To all the staff and parents of Dagnall School who donated goods and manned (womanned?) stalls, and to all the other villagers and friends who helped set up and clear away.

See you all next year!

Dagnall Church

On behalf of the Social Committee of All Saints' Church, Dagnall; I would like to thank Wendy for helping me man the stall through the pouring rain and howling gales passing through the easyup, and those brave souls who ventured out to visit the cake stall at this year's Village Fete on Saturday 20th May. All in all, we raised £176 for our extension appeal.

Unfortunately at the time of writing this article, there is doubt that the Quiz Nite on 10th June will take place due to lack of interest. May I take this opportunity to thank all the contributors towards the quiz questions, and offer my sincere apologies.

Just a reminder: our Ploughman's Lunches on 15 July from 12.30 pm will be held in DAGNALL VILLAGE HALL.

However, here are two advance dates for your diaries:

- Saturday 16 September, 10-4, Ironing Day - possibly in the Village Hall (venue to be confirmed).
- Saturday 14 October, 7.30 - 10.00, Beetle Drive, Dagnall Village Hall (definitely!)

Over 60's

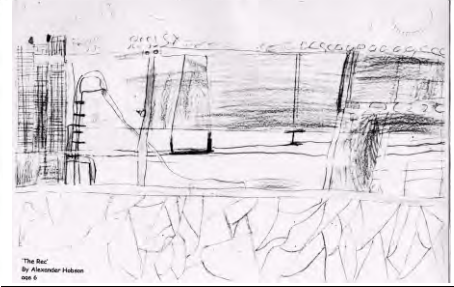
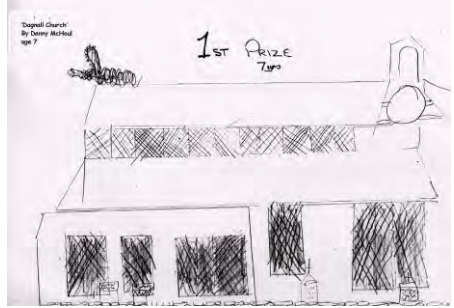
Following a very successful visit to the Houses of Parliament in May, as these notes are being written we are looking forward to the June meeting which is the annual Ploughman's Lunch in the Village Hall.

During the month of July we are visiting the Ferryman Inn for lunch and entertainment. Members please note that this is on **Wednesday July 27th**, not the usual Tuesday.

On November 27th we are planning a trip to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular, and we have received details of a repeat visit to Eastbourne for a weekend in January 2007.

How did we find time to go to work?

Dagnall School - These are five drawings entitled 'Things I like about Dagnall':



Three poems written by Year 6 pupils at Edlesborough school

Friendship

By Cameron Johnson

Friendship is a fragile thing,
 Like a little glass made ring,
 If you drop it, it will break,
 Then your heart will start to ache.
 If you're losing your best friends,
 Go and try to make amends,
 If the mending doesn't fix,
 Go and buy your friend a Twix.
 If you see someone alone,
 And you hear them start to groan,
 Go and try to make them smile,
 An your friendship could go a mile.

Friendship

By Alex Ellis

Friends are important in life.
 Really good friends are loyal.
 Interesting friends are the most fun.
 Excellent friends are vital in school.
 Never disrespect a friend.
 Don't leave a friend on their own.
 Stupid friends are the worst kind of friend.
 Having a good time is what friendship is all about.
 If something happens to you, your friends will always be there,
 Parting with your friends is one of the worst things in life.



Friendship

by Abigail Heffer

A friendship forms between two people,
 It is fragile and shatters easily.
 Depending on how strong your bond,
 Your friendship will be longer or shorter,
 Maybe even eternal.

Friends help each other through tough times.

They wipe away sadness,
 And mend broken hearts.
 Without friends,
 Life wouldn't be worth living.
 Sometimes it's found in the most desolate places,
 Sometimes in open plains.
 But if you look hard enough,
 It will always be found.

Church Extension Gets Under Way

Dagnall Church needs more space - and it's about to get it! For several years it has proved increasingly difficult to house a growing Sunday School and a morning service in the space available at the church, which is shared by Anglicans and Methodists.

Dagnall Church was built as a schoolroom with a shut-off chancel in 1863 by Earl Brownlow (of Ashridge House), and was a chapel-of-ease within the Parish of Edlesborough until that parish was amalgamated with Eaton Bray in 1974. When the Methodist Chapel in the village had to be closed, the Methodist congregation was invited to hold its services in the Anglican Church, and that was the beginning of a fruitful ecumenical partnership.

All Saints' Church is the only place of worship in the village, and now has a congregation representing a range of Christian denominations, worshipping and working happily together. A small hall with kitchen and toilet was built on in 1987, and the new extension will give more space for Sunday School and social activities, but in such a way that it can all be opened up to the main church building for special occasions.

The contract between the church authorities and the selected builders, ROK Building Ltd from Milton Keynes, was signed in the church on Friday morning, 9 June. The photograph shows the Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough, the Revd Canon Malcolm Grant, and the Church Wardens, Deirdrea Ellins and Sally Taylor, with Mr Ian Mason, Team Leader of ROK Building Ltd., and Bruce Osborn, Senior Steward of Dagnall Methodist congregation. *(Left to right: Mrs Ellins, Mr Mason, Canon Grant, Ms Taylor and Mr Osborn.)* The extension has been designed by Kevin Sherwood of the Levitt Partnership in Eaton Socon.



Work will commence on 12 June and is due for completion in mid-September. Meanwhile, Sunday services will be held at the usual times in Dagnall Village Hall, by generous arrangement with the Village Hall Committee. The picture shows the church already stripped for action - all the furniture had gone into store ready for work to begin, and the contract had to be signed on top of the piano!

When the work is finished, the dream which the joint congregations have had for several years of being able to hold a regular morning service every Sunday with Sunday School at the same time will actually come true.

The work is expected to cost around £100,000, of which the magnificent sum of £50,000 was contributed by the Dunstable Methodist Circuit Advance Fund. Special events arranged by the congregation have raised over £20,000 in the last three years, and money has been contributed from the funds of the two congregations. Last year, one quarter of the proceeds of St Mary's Village Carnival, held on Edlesborough Green, went to the Extension Appeal. The annual Carnival, one of the largest voluntary efforts in the area takes place this year on the afternoon of Saturday, 1 July. Other fund-raising activities will be held in Dagnall in the coming months.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM The Revd Canon Malcolm E. Grant, The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray, Dunstable LU6 2DN (01525 220261)

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Singing in the Rain!!!!

Some of you may recall the weather on Sunday, 21st May. It absolutely poured with rain for most of the day, the worst we have had for weeks. Despite this out of the 230 tickets we sold for the charity day at Edlesborough Mill, at least 170 of you turned up to support us. People sat under their gazebo's, rain pouring down their necks and in their wine glasses. The jazz band had to play in the garage as they dare not risk being electrocuted with their equipment, and the rain kept coming...

The event ended earlier than anticipated, by about 4 o'clock everyone had gone home. One group determined to be the last to leave were heckling early leavers and calling them "wimps" for leaving as they struggled out with tables, chairs and soaking wet anoraks.

We would like to thank Anne and Richard Grant for the use of their beautiful home once again and Edna and Percy Moore for taking on the raffle. Thanks to Rowena Dean, from the Iain Rennie Hospice at home for attending the event and we are proud to say we have presented them with a cheque for £2600

Oh and by 6 o'clock the sun came out, there is no justice!

Many thanks for your valued support

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Farm, Roxton, Bedford. MK44 3EB**

The Salvation Army, Booth Place

Weekly Activities

Sunday

Sunday School	9.45am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	6.00pm

Monday

Games Night (Ages 5-8)	4.30pm
------------------------	--------

Wednesday

Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm
------------------------------	--------

Thursday

Young Ladies Fellowship
(Last Thursday in every month)

Friday

Young People	5.00pm
--------------	--------

(Singing, tambourine & recorder practices)

Photos from Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club's Play Tennis Day

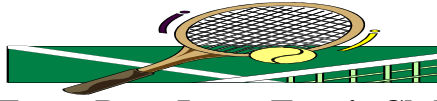


A Very Clever Cow Indeed!

Clarabelle, famous for her special performances at our village carnival has got to be the smartest cow in the area for she must be the only bovine for miles around to clock up visits to 3 schools in as many days. Clarabelle would like to say thank you very much to the headteachers of Ashton Middle School in Dunstable, Eaton Bray Lower School and Edlesborough School for allowing her to come and visit the children. At Ashton school, to the delight of the children, she even helped our vicar with an “a-mooing” assembly! Here is Clarabelle pictured in Eaton Bray High Street making sure we all “herd” about the carnival.

Thank you very much to everyone who supported Clarabelle- both inside and out! We look forward to an “udder” successful visit from Clarabelle again next summer.





Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

As I write this in early June, the weather is turning from several weeks of solid tennis-spoiling rain to some good old court-inducing sunshine. Out of interest, after the third week of non-stop rain and hail and the inevitably consequential hosepipe ban, I reluctantly took the advice of Three Valleys Water and invested in a water butt. It took four weeks to arrive due to 'excessive demand' for the Slimline version (a bit like me). By the time DHL turned up with it, we'd had another four weeks of downpours, and I was looking forward to enjoying seeing it fill to capacity within hours. As co-incidentally it had stopped raining the day it arrived, I ventured outside with instructions and a hammer, installed the thing using a rather nifty device to my downflow drainpipe, and returned indoors to await the next storm. What's happened? Not a drop since. Eighty degrees and blue skies for over a week now. My butt's as dry as a bone. A dormouse is using it as a sauna. I'll have to hose it down to stop it cracking up. Oh I can't, there's a hosepipe ban. I'll use the water from the water butt. Oh there's none in it. Catch 22. I've been done.

Sorry back to tennis things. The sun was there shining brightly on the evening of 31st May for our 'Play Tennis' event. Over 60 people, half of them youngsters, came along to the courts to enjoy some shots and a spot of coaching from Nick Boys and other ~~press-ganged~~ willing volunteers like John Jones and Mike Abercrombie. Some sat and watched over a cup of tea (or at least that's what we told Ross was in the cups), some brought their own picnics and chairs and made an evening of it, but everyone, and I mean everyone, wanted one of my deliciously tasty sausages or burgers made from the finest ingredients by Hines butchers, cooked to perfection over searing hot coals, served in a fresh bun or roll with a choice of fried onions and several accompanying sauces, presented in an England flag type napkin with a friendly smile from my lovely assistants Jane Hosey and Lorraine Stonelake. And all for only a pound you know. You couldn't get a daytrip to Bangor for that these days. For the first time ever, we sold out! Fruitless cries of 'more sausages Mr Chairman' went unheeded. Overall it was an excellent evening which was a lot of fun, and has encouraged half a dozen new members to join our merry throng!

Last month we held an Indoor games night in the Village Hall which proved very popular by becoming more confusing as the evening wore on. One hundred people were divided into teams named after pubs and competed against one another in games such as shove ha'penny, skittles and bar skittles, Quoits, Bung Hole, and Roll a Penny to name a few. The committee, one of whom was stationed at each game as adjudicator, were trained and drilled on the rules of each game by Judy Venn, and the rules of the scoring system by Chairman Ross, which proved far more complicated than the games themselves. The affect of a pint or two on the adjudicators didn't help the matter and by half time during the excellent fish and chip supper, there was much frantic running around by those committee members still able to run (or even walk) to try to determine which team was in which position. So we had a raffle to give us some more time to try and work it out. By the end of the evening it was only down to the Eurovision Song Contest type scoring system invented, installed and implemented by Mike Abercrombie (which took up more space than any of the games themselves) that enabled us to declare a winner. I'm afraid I can't remember who it was (or any details of the scoring system) but we've had so much feedback on what a good evening it was, games, convivial atmosphere, confused committee, raffle prizes, food and all, that we must have got it right! Judy, Jan and Ross, all is forgiven, and let's have another one soon (but with a slightly smaller scoreboard). Also can you ask if Carol Vorderman is free to pop along to help?

For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at the School Lane courts, or our various activities, please call either Chairman Ross Bagni on 01525 221411, Coach Nick Boys on 07810 832774, or if they're all out and I'm not hosing down my butt, me, Andy Cross on 01582 477114.

YOUR WILL & PROBATE

PROBATE is the official procedure followed after a death. It starts with determining who is to administer the deceased's estate: clear debts, prepare tax returns, distribute any assets etc. A Will nominates a person(s) (Executor(s)) for this role. The Probate Registry has to confirm the Executor(s)'s authority before they can act.

INTESTACY: To die without leaving a Will is to die Intestate. The Probate Registry determines who is to be the estate's Administrator. The Administrator applies the Rules of Intestacy to the distribution of any assets. This can be the first point of dispute within families. The Rules lays down a hierarchy for the distribution of assets. Its application can be inequitable, potentially leaving family members not provided for. Ultimately the Rules provide for assets to pass to the Crown. (see April FOCUS article on INTESTACY)

THE WILL: Your Will and any associated codicils (endorsements: alterations/ additions incorporated with the original Will) record your instructions on who is to administer your estate, how the assets are to be distributed, who are nominated as guardians for any children etc. The Will may also be accompanied by a Memorandum of Wishes which requests that the Executor(s) implement specific actions, e.g. funeral arrangements; specific gifts etc., if practical and affordable. Before the Probate Registry accepts a Will and any codicils, it must be evident that the Will is your last and final testament and that the Will is a valid Will. The content of the Will and its witnessing must be complete, consistent and not indicate any suggestion of your being placed under pressure when the Will was drafted and signed. There must be no evidence of any tampering with the Will, or that the Will is incomplete e.g. staple marks suggesting previous attachments.

The witnesses to your Will must be appropriate, their having no interest in the benefits provided by the Will. The Probate Registry can ask a witness to attend for interview to determine that the witnessing process was completed correctly.

The Will's wording must be unambiguous, and not contain conflicting texts or financials; have no significant inaccuracies in spellings, names or titles, and comply with legal conventions. Wordings too, where appropriate, must satisfy case law and Inland Revenue requirements if an instruction depends on such.

VALID WILL: The Probate Registry's acceptance of only correctly drafted and witnessed Wills places a high priority on your Will being prepared by a specialist solicitor, such as available from my Practice. With a specialist solicitor you will consider the full range of options available ensuring your Will is bespoke to your personal needs, and include, for example, any wordings necessary to satisfy the Inland Revenue to avoid inheritance tax, saving potentially over £100,000. The risk of your Will being invalid will be minimised, whilst you will have the protection of the Law Society and the solicitor's professional indemnity insurance.

HIDDEN WILL: Too many Wills stay undiscovered. Your Will's location must be known to your Executor(s). Its instructions could require prompt action re your funeral etc. The need for the Will to be immediately available, together with it not being exposed to tampering or loss or damage, makes the use of a secure storage facility a sensible arrangement. Several organisations provide secure fire proof document storage. Some, like my Practice, supply a copy Will and advise executors of the Will's location together with sources of advice that may be needed when death occurs.

KEY POINTS: The Probate Registry requires your Will to be properly drafted, complete and witnessed. Hiding your Will, or dying intestate, makes no sense at all.

Next month: Wills & Business.

Tony Duke: BA (Hons) FCII

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Edlesborough Parish Council (including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) News

Finance

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2006 have been agreed and are currently with the Internal Auditors.

Community Policing

A PCSO is currently undergoing training and should be seen around the Parish from early July onwards. Thames Valley Police are urging members of the public to come forward if they consider that they would like to become Police Community Service Officers, full training will be given and for further information please contact the Thames Valley Police telephone number 0845 8 505 505.

There has been an increase in car crimes and parishioners are asked to make sure that valuables are removed from cars and that garages, sheds etc. are securely locked.

Thames Valley Police have stressed the need for Parishioners to report immediately any acts of anti social behaviour, crimes or nuisance. The telephone number to ring is 0845 8 505 505, except in an extreme emergency when the 999 call should be made. If callers are not willing to divulge their personal details a telephone call can be made to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 and although this may take a little longer it will be reported to the Police.

Traffic Calming

Buckinghamshire County Council have promised to supply the required quotation for yellow backed signs and roundels shortly.

A site meeting has been arranged to discuss the Dagnall 'Build Out'. Arrangements are being made to carry out a speed survey through Dagnall.

Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall Villages

Dagnall Fete was once again a great financial success despite the inclement weather. The Parish Council were pleased to welcome Thames Valley Police who allowed the children to sit in the police car and turn on the sirens etc. Dagnall and Edlesborough school children provided many attractive drawings for the competition and the winners were presented with gift vouchers. Dagnall Playgroup submitted an excellent book of what the children liked about their village and an insight into what they would like to see in the future, the Playgroup would be presented with a donation from the Parish for all the hard work involved. 15 Quizzes were successfully completed with three people reaching the top score, namely Geoff Spencer, Basil Thorne and Steven Mead, a draw took place for the winner who was Geoff Spencer. Answers to the Quiz will appear in the next edition of Focus together with the answers for the Edlesborough Quiz.

The Parish Council have been informed that the new Edlesborough village sign will be erected very shortly and confirmation received that the request for a reduction of the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph through Northall is to be reviewed in 2008 when the Speed Limit Review for this area is due to take place.

Parishioners are requested to notify the Clerk of any overgrown footpaths. Several potholes have been reported and are awaiting repair.

An inspection of the allotments will take place shortly to ascertain those which are not being 'worked'. There is a waiting list for allotments and any overgrown plots will be taken back by the Parish in accordance with the Tenancy Agreements and re-let.

The Parish Council thank the Parishioners for their responses concerning a Basketball Net for Edlesborough. The purchase and siting of a Basketball Net and request for a second Junior football pitch will be discussed at the full Parish Council meeting in June.

Roving Village Refuse Freighter Service

Letter has been sent thanking the driver of the Freighter for his help and the considerate way in which he assisted parishioners with the disposal of their items particularly in Edlesborough.

Parish Plan

A public meeting is currently being arranged by the Parish Council with a speaker from Bucks. Community Action - further details to follow.

Allotments

The Parish Council would request that Dog Walkers do not allow their dogs to roam onto cultivated allotments

Lin Sargeant- Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council: Tel. 01525 220859

E-mail: parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk



Edlesborough Book Group



Once again it is time for the Orange prize for Fiction to be awarded (it is only given to female writers) and so we try to read the shortlisted books between us.

We managed to cover every novelist with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Two of us had read Ali Smith's 'The Accidental' and although the story was interesting we did not find it compelling literature. Another two had read Zadie Smith's 'On Beauty' and wondered why she seemed to dislike white people so much. Neither were they over impressed by her literary style. Meanwhile the story line of Hilary Mantel's 'Beyond Black' came across as quite dark and sinister and our reader was not sure it stood out as a great creative piece. 'The History of Love' by Nicola Kraus seemed similarly uninspiring and so we were left with either Sarah Water's 'The Nightwatch' or Carrie Tiffany's 'Everymans Rules for Scientific Living'. 'The Nightwatch' seemed to possess the main ingredients for success in that it was a good story, quite enjoyable and was also written by an author who has already tasted success with 'Tipping the Velvet' and 'Fingersmith'.

As a group we were not sure we could spot this year's winner but we were keen to meet the novelists and learn more about them at the British Library.

Bedfordshire Crafts at Willington Dovecote and Stables

Come along on Sunday afternoon July 23rd. 2006, between 1 and 5 p.m. Crafts made by many people from Bedfordshire and the surrounding counties will be on display and most will be for sale.

There will be hand-made cards, decoupage, embroidery, jewellery, knitting, lace, soft toys and portrait dolls, stained glass, table ware, walking sticks, wood carving and more!
Artwork by the children from Willington Lower School will also be on display.

**Admission 50p, children under 16 free.
Tea, coffee and cakes will be on sale in the nearby church.**

You could also hear about the history of these unique Tudor buildings and take a walk round Willington village while you are here.

**This event is arranged by Bedford Association for National Trust Members.
For more information contact Dorothy Jamieson 01234-404879.**



EATON BRAY LINE DANCING CLUB

If you enjoy music and dancing and would like to find a form of exercise that is good fun, then Line Dancing could be for you.

Our Line Dancing Club meets at Eaton Bray Village Hall from 1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. every Tuesday. Beginners are welcome and there will be some more challenging dances for those with some experience of Line Dancing.

Please call Lyn Stubbs on 01525 220731 if you would like to join our friendly group.



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Have you got babies or toddlers?.....

...then you might be interested to hear that there is a thriving network of parents with young children in Dunstable and neighbouring villages waiting to hear from you. Some of you may have heard of The National Childbirth Trust (NCT)TM. It offers support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood. You don't have to be a member to join in with the activities and services on offer.

Some of the things that are organised by the **Dunstable & District branch of the NCTTM** are:-

Bumps & BabiesTM

Fortnightly get together at people's houses for mums-to-be and parents with babies under nine months of age (or until they are mobile). **Please contact Colette** on 01525 873718 to find out more.

Friday Coffee

A good way for you and your babies/toddlers to meet new friends in the Dunstable/ Toddington area. Every Friday at people's houses. **Please contact Catherine** on 01525 874764 for more information.

Bumps Babies & Bundles of Fun

A toddler group incorporating antenatal and postnatal support. Nice venue, great range of toys, healthy snacks for children, craft tables for older tots. Help appreciated to set up and tidy away. 10-11.45am every Monday at the Salvation Army Hall, Bullpond Lane, Dunstable, entry £1 per family. **For more information please call 0870 421 1032.**

Nearly New Sales

Our branch organises at least two of these a year, one in Dunstable and one in Toddington. They are a great place to pick up good quality secondhand toys, books and baby equipment. The next sale is a table top sale in Toddington on **15th July**, Toddington Village Hall 10-11.30. Sellers need to pre-register. **For more information please call Colette** on 01525 873718 or Sarah 01525 632884.

Social events

A range of events occur throughout the year to suit all tastes. Recent events have included a banquet, Theatre trips and Mexican evenings. The more the merrier! **For more information on forthcoming events call the branch** on 0870 421 1032.



Mothers Union Eaton Bray with Edlesborough

On Wednesday, 10th May we met at the home of Audrey, which she kindly opens to us for our meeting each May.

We opened, as usual with prayers which were led by Sheila. This was followed by a demonstration of Sugar Craft, by Mrs Edna Moore. Edna had brought along a selection of "The one I made earlier," some of them being several years old, and these were all real works of art. She kindly donated two of these for raffle prizes. There are so many stages to making even the smallest flowers, so patience is indeed a virtue, but the finished result is amazing.

At 3.30 p.m we had a break for an excellent tea, plus a raffle and bring and buy. The Venue, the weather and the company all added up to a very pleasant afternoon.

Marjorie Cook

New Members and visitors are always welcome.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Results - June 2006

£25 Paul Harris No.88

£10 G.Pearson

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins and M & M Properties.

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month
7.30pm Memorial Hall
Next meeting: Thursday 20th July 2006
.....

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month
7.30pm The Coffee Tavern
Next Meeting: Monday 3rd July 2006



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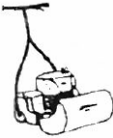
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All Saints, Dagnall - Services and Meetings in July 2006

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Sun. 2nd July	9.00 am	Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sun. 9th July	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Sun. 16th July	9.00 am	Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Sun. 23rd July	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Sun. 30th July	4.00 pm	Fellowship Service



Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am



Eaton Bray Lower School

Head Mrs. S. Hounslow

Telephone Number: 01525 220468

Fax: 01525 223057

School Lane

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Bedfordshire

LU6 2DT

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- ◆ Closing date 12/07/06
- ◆ Interviews 14/07/06
- ◆ Start date 05/09/06

Pukka Food at Eaton Bray Lower School!

Jamie Oliver has not visited Eaton Bray Lower School, but he would be proud of the pukka recipes and boundless enthusiasm of everyone involved with the School dinners.

The Governors of the School held meetings with Scolarest and came up with the winning formula, a new cook and a new healthy option menu.

Head, Mrs S Hounslow, said we are a high achieving School and we wanted a School dinner to match. The children are now being given freshly cooked healthy food. The next step is to create a real restaurant atmosphere where plastic trays are replaced with plates, and children fully engage in conversation and debate!

Winners at Eaton Bray Lower School - K'Nex Challenge

As winners of Eaton Bray Lower School K'Nex challenge, Benjamin Baker and Benjamin Johnson were invited to attend the Bedfordshire and Luton finals. Fifty-seven schools took part, including middle schools. The task was to create a fun fair ride.

The winners were... Benjamin and Benjamin. Well done boys.

Onwards to the South East finals.

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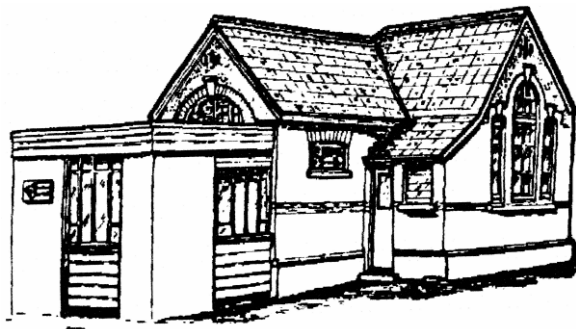
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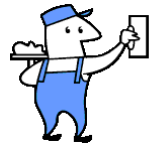
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Salvation Sound. . . . July 2006

Cookery. - So many of us are hooked on watching the programmes on television showing us the skills of the modern day chefs.

Most housewives have a collection of cookery books; but do we make use of them? Do we "look up" the recipes? What is the point of this acquired knowledge if we don't put it to the test.

During the 39/45 war, we were a much slimmer, healthier, island people. 'Rationing' did not allow us to indulge our fancies too often; I inherited my mother's cook book - it speaks of using "2 penny-bars of vanilla chocolate", 12 eggs etc. (for one cake - and that was being economical) and that you need 3 eggs to make a Yorkshire pudding..!!

"It is altogether needless to tell housekeepers that breakfast is troublesome to arrange."

"Luncheon, an inconsequent meal."

"Tea - a newly invented luxury for ladies, indispensable for their happiness, so ruinous for their health."

"Dinner, the word, understood, means something more than a satisfying meal". "Supper, neatness and garnishing, give a comfortable finished look to the simplest of dishes."

My mother was "Cook" in a large country house !!

Just as I like to indulge in cookery books, I wonder if she ever referred to that famous cook/housekeeper Isabella Mary Beeton-(1836 - 1865) whose "Book of Household Management" was published when she was just 25 years old. She was a farmers wife, a wonderful cook and a really good housewife; she needed to be, for she kept house on the money she made from selling home-made butter and fresh eggs from the farmhouse door. Granted she fed her poultry on the surplus corn from the barn, and she had all the milk and cream she could produce from the house-cows her husband allowed her, but from him she never received money!

Cooking, preserving, curing, storing, marketing, churning, cheese making, she was, at the same time, blessed with a kindly disposition and good nature.

Proverbs 31. 25:28. states...

"Strength and honour are her clothing, and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."

Isabella was only 29 years old when she died. I wonder if she would have appreciated all of today's easy meals. Ah well - I'm off to the supermarket - now what can we have for dinner --?

A pound of tea at five and three, and a pot of raspberry jam;

Two new laid eggs, a dozen pegs,

And a pound of rashed ham.

I'll say it over all the way, then I'm sure not to forget,

For if I chance to bring things wrong,

My mother sure will fret.

A pound of tea at five and three, a pot of-er- new laid jam,

Two raspberry eggs and a dozen pegs,

And a pound of rashed ham.

There in the hay are children at play, they're having such fine fun,

I'll join them too, that's what I'll do

As soon as my errands run.

A pound of three at five and tea, a pot of new laid jam;

Two dozen eggs and raspberry pegs,

And a pound of rashed ham.

Now here's the shop, outside I stop,

And run through my errand again; I haven't forgot; I'd better not ,

It shows I'm quick that's plain.



A pound of three at five and tea,
 A dozen of raspberry ham; a pot of eggs with a dozen pegs
 And a rasher of new laid jam.....
 1 Sam.8.
 And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people,
 "He will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers".



Eaton Bray Lions A.F.C. End of Season Awards 2006

On Saturday 10th June over 200 players and parents of E B Lions AFC gathered in the hall at Edlesborough School for their annual end of season awards ceremony. All the players received a trophy in recognition of their contribution and hard work and each team manager nominated players for the special individual awards of “Winner of most Man of the Match Awards”, “Most Improved Player of the Year” and “Player of the Season”. The club would like to thank Dave Jones for doing such a great job as “Master of Ceremonies” (loved the shirt, Dave!) and also Edlesborough School for kindly allowing us to make use of their premises and facilities.

League Results

Under 8's	7 th in Division 2 of the Chiltern Junior Sevens League
Under 9's	5 th in Division 2 of the Chiltern Junior Sevens League
Under 10's	2 nd in Division 1 of the Chiltern Junior Sevens League
Under 12 Girls	3 rd in the Chiltern Junior Sevens League
Under 12 Boys	7 th in Division 4 of the Chiltern Youth League
Under 14's	9 th in Division 5 of the Chiltern Youth League

Trophies

The Under 10's were runners up in the Chiltern Junior Sevens League Cup.

Player Awards

	Player of the Season	Winner of most Man of the Match awards	Most Improved Player
U8	Dominic Ryan	Aaron Svoboda	Paolo Lombardo
U9	Harry Rogers	Matthew Glover	Cameron Abdullah
U10	James Pearce & Nathan Sears	Declan Tomlinson	Jack Bramston
U12G	Millie Abdullah	Hannah Mustoe & Megan Luxford	Hannah Fox
U12B	Jack Coates & Matt Storey	Gus Thorne	Lee Cavendish
U14	Daniel Law	Rob Gadsden	Dean Clark

The following boys received special awards for 5 years of continuous play for the club: Sam Blumsom, Stephen Broughton, Dean Clark, Martin Coates, Alex Kirkwood, Daniel Law and Dylan Taylor.

After the awards we all enjoyed the scorching hot weather and a barbecue lunch before returning to the hall to watch England's opening World Cup match projected onto a big screen. There was a great atmosphere with lots of cheering, chanting and excitement – but who let the Bramston boys loose with an air-horn?! Then it was back out into the sunshine for more drinks and the youngsters went out onto the field to play football (what else?) and a life-size version of human table-football (don't ask!).

Finally, Vince Moriarty, manager of the U12 boys team is keen to hear from prospective new players for next season. If you are interested and will be in school year 8 in September then please contact Vince on 01525 222017 or 07754 971902.

Liz Coates, Press Officer – EB Lions AFC (01442 842550).

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## Becca's letter from Uganda

Hi hope you enjoyed the Open Gardens event. I hear it was a great success with prayers answered in terms of good weather and lots of people in attendance. The support it will bring to Kagando will be greatly welcomed and appreciated.

I thought it would be interesting to discuss the difference in culture between Uganda and the UK.

Uganda is a community-based culture. This has hundreds of implications; the most obvious is that people spend a lot of time greeting one another. I once went onto a ward where, because I was busy, I went straight to treating the patient. Later that day I was told off by the nurses for having not greeted them first. In England we often greet people as we walk past one another – it was good to hear that there was a lot of that going on in Eaton Bray during the Open Gardens. Here, in Uganda, you have to stop and exchange conversation. It used to be an insult to not greet any person you walked passed, now it is reserved to just people you know.

In this culture there is rarely the problem of loneliness. People don't like living by themselves, they are brought up in large families and are used to people being around. Everyone drops by and visits one another, very rarely is the visit pre-arranged. As Westerners it can seem quite overwhelming to not have space and time to yourself. Yet here it's normal – instead of people finding space by being alone, they find it by thought privacy – in other words, they don't always share everything they are thinking or that's going on in their mind. If someone visits and you are eating, it is polite to share your dinner with them, even if it means that you do not have enough yourself. Similarly whenever someone calls you should give them something to drink and a snack to eat. When they leave you give them a "push" – this means that you accompany them part of their way home.

Funerals and Weddings are big occasions, everyone is supposed to go to them and it's normal for people to leave work to attend. Prior to such events lists go round so that others can contribute and support financially, so it is a community event.

When I first came to Africa as a student I was trying to come to terms with the recent death of a close friend. She was 19 when she died and it seemed so hard and unfair. We feel that we and everyone else has a right to live till old age, and even then we often struggle with death. Here death is a normal part of everyday life, people are constantly praising God for the life that they have. Life is not taken for granted and each new day is thought of and treasured as a gift. This has its downside working in a hospital as sometimes a person's life isn't fought for like it would be at home. However, I still find it a much truer way to view life and liberating in many ways.

Money is looked at in a different way too. There is generally a lack of money so saving is not commonplace. People will spend the money on whatever the next demand is. Money may be earmarked for something, but used for a different need that comes first. There is no social security in the country, so friends and relatives fulfil that role. Someone will have a financial need and they will ask others to help them, with the assumption or hope that they will do the same for you. It is therefore considered good to have as many friends as possible.

Titles and roles are viewed highly. There is a higher rank of people, from men to women to children, and within this there are other ranks too. The elderly are greatly respected, as are people in leadership positions. People acknowledge these by addressing with titles and by kneeling as they greet.

Women spend ages in hairdressers getting hair extensions done, or their hair straightened. It's so important here to look smart. Their version of smart is quite different to ours, for example a top and skirt in the same bright pattern material would be frowned on at home but here it's much smarter than wearing tops and skirt that differ.

There are so many differences in culture - in almost every aspect there is some difference that could be written about. There are cultural rituals that I've not covered here too. One of the things that you notice is how a lot of these are actually changing and in many ways the people here are losing some of their cultural difference and becoming more westernised. However, one conclusion I have



drawn is that, despite the apparent differences, there are many more similarities between people of different races and what drives them all is love and caring and a sense of justice for all mankind.

Much love – and please keep praying for our work here in Uganda.

Rebecca

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## Edlesborough W.I.

Two new members were welcomed to our Institute at our recent meeting.

Discussion took place on the two resolutions to be put to the National A.G.M. of the W.I. this year. Elizabeth Braiden and Sue Parker outlined details of these resolutions. The first dealt with encouraging the use of renewable energy technology such as solar panels, wind power, hydro electric power. The second resolution was in connection with exercise and sport in the community. There should be many more facilities for this, particularly in schools. Hopefully, if action is taken in regard to these two important issues, both our planet and our population would be much healthier. When put to the vote, all agreed on both resolutions, and our representative will act on our behalf at the A.G.M.

We continued the evening with a cheese and wine supper, served by the committee, and participated in what comes naturally to ladies – a good old “chin wag”!!

The following week a group of members enjoyed an evening outing for a meal at Tilsforth Golf Club. Thanks to Kathie Froud for arranging this.

Val Harris

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## Eaton Bray WI Report

Our president welcomed the members to the June meeting. Among the items discussed before welcoming our speaker, were the summer walk and our outing to Stratford on Avon in August.

An invitation has been received to join with our Dunstable WI friends for a back stage tour of Covent Garden Theatre, and the Eaton Bray Methodist Church has invited us to a service and afternoon tea on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

A national WI membership promotion is to take place later this year and discussion took place on how we can participate.

Our guest speaker was from the Peoples Dispensary for Sick Animals, the largest animal charity in Europe. Their aim is to provide free care for animals of people who live in deprived areas and cannot afford veterinary fees. They also aim to promote responsible pet ownership.

The founder Marion Dickin opened a clinic in Whitechapel in 1900, the first hospital opened in Ilford Essex.

The PDSA Dicken Award is given to dogs of “outstanding deeds”. The most recent recipient was Buster, an explosives dog in the Gulf war.

The PDSA annual budget is £37 million with 47 Pet Aid Hospitals and 329 practices who provide one and a half million free treatments a year. All the veterinary staff are professionals and the charity is the biggest employer of veterinary nurses. The charity receives no government or lottery money and relies entirely on fundraising and donations with income from PDSA charity shops.

Our speaker concluded in revealing that the most common pet ailment is obesity!

The next WI meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July in Eaton Bray Village Hall, new members and friends are always very welcome.

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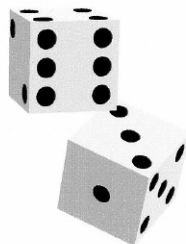
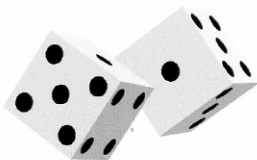
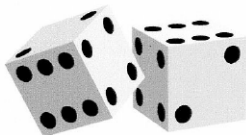
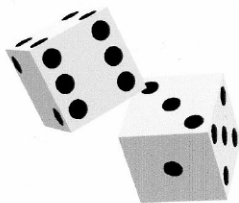
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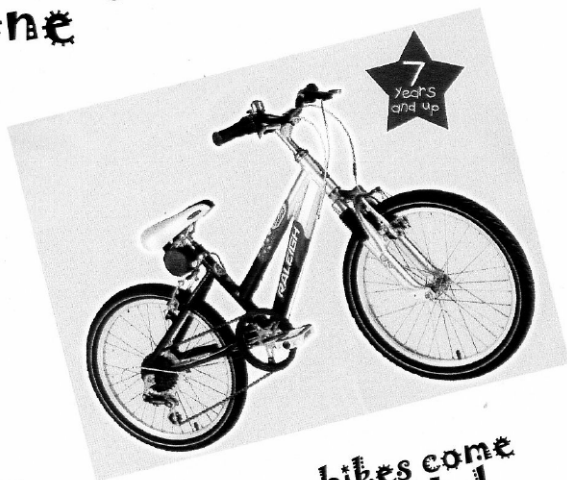
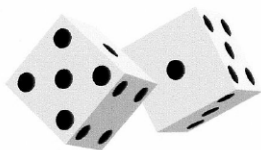
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