

FOCUS

August/September 2006

*Eaton Bray W.I.
invite you to join
them at their
monthly meeting
on the first
Monday of the
month at 7.30pm
in the village hall*



*Good speakers
Good social occasions
Good company
Good refreshments*

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THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm



Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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

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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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Edlesborough School are holding an

Open Day

for prospective parents on

*Wednesday 27th September 2006
from 9.30 – 11.00 a.m.*

We look forward to seeing you



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

In Memory of Cyril Baines

Mildred, Roger and family would like to thank everyone for all the cards, letters of sympathy and offers of help during Cyril's last few months and since his death, it is much appreciated. Thanks also for the generous gifts totalling £612 which have been sent to Macmillan Nurses in his memory. We would also like to thank the Rev Peter Dudeney for the lovely chapel service. Cyril is sadly missed.

Mildred Baines and family

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL

Booking Clerk required to manage
Hall bookings.

**Please telephone Roy on
01525 220749 for further details**

THANK YOU

The Residents of Taskers Row Sheltered Housing Scheme wish to thank everybody who supported their recent Cream Tea. A total of £177 was raised for 'Dreams Come True' (a charity helping to fulfil the dreams of terminally & seriously ill children)

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Village Diaries



August/September 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
Mon-Fri (term time)	Edlesborough Under 5's Pre-School, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Sue Connor 01525 222739
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

Aug 9th & 23rd, Sep 6th & 20th	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm
Aug 11th	Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am,
Aug 15th	Over 60's Garden Meeting at 1, Chestnut Close, Dagnall
Sep 19th	Over 60's Lunch at Cross Keys, Polluxhill, with afternoon tour.

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

Aug 7th-11th	Summer Club at Northall Village Hall 10am – 12 noon 'Come and be a Pirate!'
Sept 8th	Coffee Morning, 10.30-12noon, 3 Mill Tower, Eaton Bray
Sept 9th	Sale of Goods, 10.30-12noon, Coffee Tavern
Sept 16th	Dagnall Church Ironing Day, 10am – 4pm at the Village Hall
Sept 16th	Traditional Jazz, 8pm at St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray. 01525 221597
Sept 22nd	Eaton Bray Lower School HSA Quiz Night
Sept 30th	Family Barn Dance, 7-10pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall. 01525 221576

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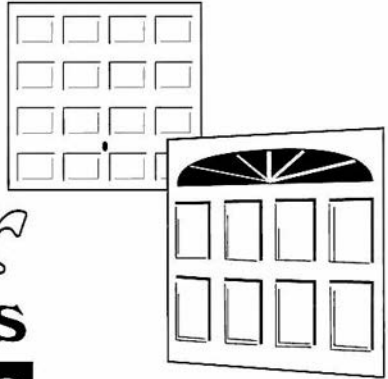
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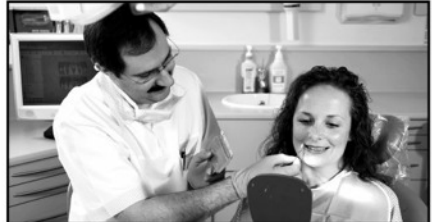
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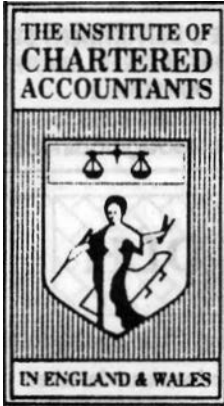
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Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights of the meeting – Monday 3rd July 2006 at 7.30pm

Chilterns AONB Grant – Village Signpost.

The Parish Council has received an offer of a grant, which will now be claimed, to go towards the cost of a Traditional Signpost, it will show points of interest around the village.

Traffic Calming:

All Councillors were reminded of the open meeting on Thursday 6th July.

New Byelaws:

There has been no response from Defra regarding the letter sent by the council asking for clarification on the 12 week advertising period.

Coffee Tavern:

Letter from Fire and Rescue Service 11-5- 06

Stair lift not appropriate in such a confined space.

The Luton and Beds Company who carry out the annual testing to be asked:-

- For Annual Test Certificates.
- If they are able to carry out PAT tests on small electrical equipment at the same time as their annual inspection.

Redecorating

Cllr Pearson and the Clerk have drawn up a specification; once approved the specification should be sent out as a matter of urgency.

Chimney Flashing

The proposal was made to ask a reputable builder to put up scaffolding and give an estimate for the work required, if this was considered reasonable the go ahead should be given. Agreed.

So that the work can begin as soon as possible it was proposed , ‘ To effect speedy repairs to the Coffee Tavern the Parish Council resolve to give a grant for the full cost of the repairs and decoration to the Coffee Tavern’ Agreed unanimously.

GP Committee Report:

Mill End Ransom Strip.

Clerk to contact contractor concerning upkeep of the area.

Letter to be sent to residents to explain; item has been researched and the area is a walkway and it is a designated legal requirement that it should be kept clear at all times.

Conservation Area.

Fence near bridge and mesh on bridge in need of repair. Contractors to be asked for quote.

Children’s Play Equipment.

Handyman will finish painting equipment in School Lane by end of July, will then start at the Rye.

A new quote received from Wicksteed to complete the repairs as advised by ROSPA. It was proposed that the council should accept the quote and instruct Wicksteed to proceed as documented.

Carried Unanimously.

Other Matters Arising:

Cemetery

There was a general discussion about the condition of the Bower Lane Cemetery

The Clerk is to attend a Burial Ground Management Course.

Cllrs. to visit to inspect work carried out on extension and condition of the cemetery.

Draining of Football Pitch

It was agreed that the Sports and Social Club could proceed with the drainage of the pitch.

Signing of Annual Accounts for Year to March 31st 2006

It was proposed that the Council accept the annual return and authorise the chairman to sign.

Carried 5 votes for 1 against.

The chairman signed the accounts.

Planning:

There were no objections to the following Planning Applications:

SB-TP-06-0669	Roebuck Garage
SB-TP-06-0624	Springfield
SB-TP-06-0606	15 Greenways
SB-TP-06-0582	5 Bower Close

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

A special thank you to everyone who helped to run and those who came along and supported our Garden Party and lunches in June. A cheque for £500 has been sent to the Bible Society - Four Homes of Mercy and the balance given to our Chapel maintenance fund. We are especially grateful to Jane, James and Nikki Mcfarland for organising and running the event in their beautiful home and gardens.

During June the Ladies of the Bright Hour held a week of celebrations to acknowledge the closure of their group. The Thursday meeting was led by our minister the Rev. Peter Dudeney and the ladies and their special guests then reminisced over a scrumptious afternoon tea. The following Sunday a special service was led by Mrs Joan Gregory with the help of the Bright Hour members. Thank you Kitty and all the ladies for the special times they have shared with us all.

A reminder that there will be a Pilgrimage around the Churches in the new Chiltern Downs Circuit on Saturday August 12th from 10.00am culminating with a picnic tea and a service at Edlesborough Chapel, contact either chapel for details.

Our Harvest Supper will be held on Saturday September 23rd. Please contact Chapel members for tickets and information.

Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday September 24th at 10.30 am. This will be a Family Service lead by Mr Bob Harris with the help of members of the Sunday School.

Monthly lunches will resume on Saturday October 14th at 12.00 noon until 1.30 pm, everyone will receive a warm and friendly

We were very sad to hear of the passing of our dear friend Mrs Alice Patrick. She was a loyal member of our congregation and attended chapel as often as her health allowed. As with anyone in their late nineties, her health began to fail, but her mind continued to be as active as ever. Alice always had a ready smile of greeting and loved to know your news, taking a genuine interest in hearing about what you had been up to. Although small in stature she will leave a large gap at chapel and will be remembered with great affection by us all.

We extend our condolences to her family in their loss.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners June 2006

Number	Name	Winnings
78	Carole Dixon	£100
27	Neil Cartwright	£25
7	Ross Bagni	£25
81	Ann Worley	£25
185	Alan Ambrose	£25

Drawn on 15th June 2006 at Eaton Bray PreSchool.

July 2006

Number	Name	Winnings
73	Dave Fensome	£100
69	Graham Chappell	£25
65	Roy Simmons	£25
104	Sheila Wright	£25
66	Peter Bennett	£25

Drawn on 13th July 2006 at Eaton Bray PreSchool. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

M.J. POULTON

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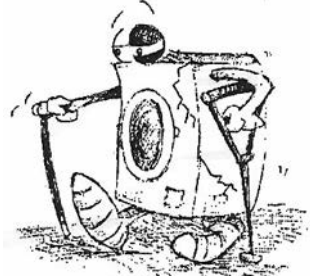
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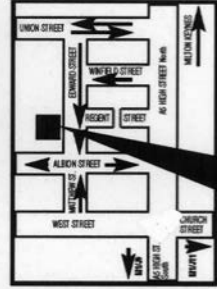


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Vicar: Canon Malcolm Grant - The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261
Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

The World Cup is over for another four years, and even casual watchers are likely to remember the red cards shown to Wayne Rooney and Zinédine Zidane for acts of violence on the pitch. It now appears that each action was a response to vicious personal insults, intended to rile them as key players in their teams. No-one can condone outbursts of violence on the football pitch – or anywhere else for that matter – but we must also condemn the decline of sportsmanship which tolerates the trading of insults on the field in an attempt to undermine the opposing team. So much for sporting ideals!

Sports personalities become national idols, and however much we may regret it, these stars become role-models for many of our young people. This is why their behaviour is more than just a matter of good sportsmanship. For one of them to lash out in the heat of the moment seems to give permission for folk in the street and in pubs and clubs to respond similarly when verbally provoked.

Modern society has a problem with respect and with self-control. The general rise of anti-social behaviour, binge-drinking, street crime, road-rage and dishonesty are the result of not nurturing habits of restraint and respect from our earliest days. We have to learn how to control our violent instincts, and to give proper consideration to the rights and needs of others. It is alarming to hear how many young people in towns and cities carry knives “for self-protection”, and recent news stories how tragic the outcome can be. It is no use muttering, “the government should do something about it”, because it actually needs a change of attitude among the general populace for any government policy to be effective. It is up to all of us to do something positive.

But it goes deeper than that. It is not true to say “sticks and stones may break your bones, but names can never hurt you”, because we all know that carefully targeted insults can be deeply wounding. But to lash out is not an appropriate response; that is the lesson we all need to learn, and the earlier in life the better. It has been truly said that civilization is the difference between what goes on in people’s heads and what they actually do. We all have violent thoughts and fantasies, and we are all tempted to a violent response, but these have to be restrained in a civilized society. And those who live in the public eye and grow rich on publicity have a responsibility to set the example for others to follow. If we pay footballers such grossly inflated salaries, then, surely, we have a right to expect something in return from them. But everything depends on our learning how to control our reactions to minor provocations first – only after that can we hope to develop the self-control we need to behave properly in the face of real aggression, physical or verbal.

Self-control is a much under-valued quality these days. Perhaps the World Cup 2006 has reminded us of its true importance; if so, that is something for which we should all be grateful. But we also need to take the lesson to heart.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

Confirmation – *“May they daily increase in your Holy Spirit”*

25 June – Confirmed by the Bishop of Bedford

Gemma Frances Johnson
Matthew Robert Johnson
Nathan Thomas Killen
Catherine Lee
Emilie Clémentine Sanders
Sam Thomas Tickell



North Chilterns Group

This year’s Annual Service for all the parishes of the group will be held in Whipsnade Church on Sunday, 10 September, at 6.00pm. An invitation to attend is extended to all parishioners.

Services at St Mary's Church

- SUNDAYS :**
- 8.00am** – The Eucharist
 - 10.00am** – **PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST** (with Sunday School).
On Second Sunday of each month
 - 10.00am** – **WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE** – a less formal service with Holy Communion
- WEEK-DAYS :**
- Tuesday: 7.30am** - Eucharist **2.00pm (2nd Tuesday)** - Toddlers' Church
 - Wednesday: 9.30am** - Eucharist **8.15pm (2nd Wednesday)** - Healing Service
 - Thursday: 7.30pm** - Eucharist (**2nd Thursday only**)

Goodbye!!

We bid a fond farewell to all our friends and acquaintances we shall be leaving when we make our move to Herefordshire in July.

We have a great many happy memories of life in Eaton Bray. It's been fun living here...so much going on, the carnival, the beer festival (congratulations to all those involved in this years!), history talks and walks, pantomimes, open gardens, school events.....We are lucky to live in a village with such a strong community. Please continue to support these events and more.

It's down to the hard work of volunteers and if people don't offer their help, these things won't happen! If you think you have something to offer to the community, then get in touch with someone and 'do your bit'...It's very rewarding!

Take care

Beccy, Shaun and Calum Haydon.

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St Mary's Parochial Church Council Meeting

St Mary's PCC met on 13th July 2006, in the Coffee Tavern, since the usual venue of the All Saints' Dagnall church hall was out of action owing to continuing work to enlarge the accommodation .

Gordon Gray and his team were thanked for their hard work in ensuring the success of the 11th June Open Gardens event, as a result of which the PCC was able to authorise dispatch of a first instalment of £2000 to Kagando in Uganda - the Parish Project for the current year. Peter Bennett and his committee were also warmly congratulated for again organising the Carnival, which had proved such a huge success in spite of the conflict with the World Cup.

Work on St Mary's Church roof was reported to be on time, and would hopefully be completed in about a month, while the work to enlarge All Saints, Dagnall had started, and was forecast to end in October.

Ongoing projects included Sunday lunches; invitations for the first one, in the Eaton Bray Hall on 17th September, were expected to be issued shortly to some of the older, single members of the congregation. The Talent scheme was progressing well, and a coffee morning would be held in the Coffee Tavern on 9th September to sell gifts made by scheme members. Proceeds would go towards the Roof Fund, as would those from the Jazz evening to be held in the Church on 16th September and an evening of dance, in the village hall on 14th October. These, and other events would be included in the next newsletter, due out by the end of the month.

The meeting also discussed changes in the pattern of services at All Saints Dagnall, which would come into effect in December, and to the Christmas services at St Mary's, where the coincidence of Christmas Eve and Advent 4 on Sunday 24th December would cause bunching of services unless there was some refinement of the normal pattern. Further consultation would be carried out before details were finalised.

Finally, the PCC awarded itself a month off in August! The next meeting will therefore take place

on 14th September, again in the Coffee Tavern.

The Church Mouse

Coffee Morning

at Val Trantums

**3 Mill Tower,
Eaton Bray**

10.30 - 12 noon

Friday 8th September

Raffle, cakes, plants

**In aid of Raising the roof
at St Mary's**

'Sale of Goods'

**St Mary's Ladies are
holding a sale**

at the Coffee Tavern

On

**Saturday 9th
September**

10.30 to 12.00

**In aid of 'Raise the Roof'
project**

Dagnall News



Dagnall Church

The amount collected around Dagnall village for Christian Aid was £369.46. Thanks to all who contributed.

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

Since the last issue of Focus we have had a very successful Ploughman's Lunch in the Village Hall, and we are now looking forward to the trip to the Ferryman Inn at Northmoor near Oxford for lunch and entertainment on Wednesday July 26th.

On August 15th we are again invited to the home of John and Chris Yorke for our Annual Garden Party. Weather permitting it will be a most enjoyable occasion and we are very grateful for the invitation received each year.

During September we will be going out to lunch at the Crosskeys at Pulloxhill, followed by a coach tour and a visit to a local garden centre. These trips are always popular and this one on September 19th should be no exception.

Dates for the future include:

October 17th, Sausage and Mash Lunch – Free!!!

December 12th, Christmas Lunch – Free!!!

January 9th, Trip to Milton Keynes Panto, "Cinderella" with Bradley Walsh

January 19th, Weekend in Eastbourne.

Dagnall School

It has certainly been a term that has seen contrasting weather. Torrential rain and a heatwave! In May the children danced in the rain at the Dagnall School & Village Fete and in July they danced in an almost tropical heatwave at the St. Mary's Carnival. At both events they demonstrated wonderful co-ordination skills and kept alive the tradition of Country Dancing. Credit must go to all the staff, especially Mrs Quinlan, who worked so hard with the children to ensure polished performances.

The Blue-tits had a wonderful time taking part in a 'Come and Sing' morning at Stewkley. They came back inspired and had great fun teaching the rest of the school the songs they had learnt.

All the children have been busy deciding what they like about their village. They entered two competitions run by the Parish Council and managed to scoop prizes in both. Well done to them all.

Chicks Club continues to thrive under the expert organisation of Mrs Ramsay. As well as meetings at school they have visited Ashridge to see the bluebells, and held a Teddy Bears Picnic at the Whipnade Tree Cathedral.

FODs have also been busy, manning stalls at the fete, holding a treasure hunt, a cake stall and a quiz. It really is amazing how much money the parents raise for the school, considering how small we are. A big 'Thank You' to you all.

The Safer Routes to School working party have continued their hard work running the 'Go for Gold' scheme, Footsteps training and the Biking Basics course. The school has been awarded a Bronze School Travel Plan for excellence in school travel planning, thanks to Heidi Greenfield for all her hard work.

In June the school was also awarded Investors in People, in recognition of how we value our staff and their development.

At the end of term we have to say a fond farewell to Mrs Griffin, who is relocating to Devon, to Mrs Hunter who is leaving to undertake a floristry course and to Mrs Quinlan who is relocating to Lincolnshire. We also have to say a special farewell to Mrs Thorne who will be retiring as Senior Midday Supervisor. Mrs Thorne has been at the school for nineteen years and during that time has nurtured and cared for many, many children. We say a very big Thank You to all our staff, especially those who are leaving, for their dedication, hard work and support that has helped



Year Six's Trip to France



Edlesborough school's Year Six went to France to stay at the Chateau de Chantereine. We left from our school at half past ten on the 30th June. All the school came to wave good-bye. We were obviously going to miss them a lot. We drove to the Euro Tunnel in our coach and arrived at the Chateau around half past six.

We did a number of activities including archery, fencing, scrap heap challenge and team tech. On Saturday we went to the local village Eu to do a village trail. We also did all of our activities that day. On Sunday we visited Arras to see the underground tunnels used in the First World War. Later on we visited Vimy Ridge to see the World War one trenches. After a long day we then went to the German Cemetery which was very sad because of the number of Germans that died in the war.

Finally on Monday we packed and headed back to Edlesborough. We were all exhausted and needed to catch up on our sleep.

Year Four's Visit to a Sikh Temple

On Thursday 15 June Year 4 went to visit a Sikh Gurdwara temple. We arrived and we had to take off our shoes and wear a scarf over our heads to show a sign of respect. We got into lines and walked into the room where the Guru Granth Sahib (their prayer book) was and we sat in rows. We then listened to a Sikh man who told us about his religion. He told us that people come into the temple, put money in a box, and then kneel down to pray. We then listened to a song and prayers. The room was decorated with lots of brightly coloured carpets and where they kept their book was also beautifully decorated with nice colours. We went out of the room and into a side room where we had to sit in a circle and were given food and drink and were told more about the Sikh religion. We were told that all Sikh temples have a yellow flag outside so that people know it is a Sikh temple. We were also told that all Sikhs carry a knife to protect the weak and poor if they need to. The thing I found interesting was that any person can go into a Sikh temple and pray, and on a Sunday they have a large dinner and anyone is welcome, also people go to the temple to meet up and have a chat. It taught me that there is more to other religions and not just the things we see on the news. The Sikhs seem very peaceful.

Harry Rogers, Year 4



Mothers Union Eaton Bray with Edlesborough

We met in the Coffee Tavern on 14th June, with sixteen members present. June opened the meeting with prayers and then welcomed Jenny, a new member.

The speaker was Suzanne Tote, masseuse and beauty care specialist, and Jenny (at her first meeting!) was the model, lying very still at full length on the modelling table. Suzanne has been in practice for twenty years and also teaches students. We were told that the cleansing movement must always be in an upward direction, and is very relaxing. A beauty routine should start from the collar bone, and we were reminded to always use sun cream in hot weather and take plenty of liquids. Marie had brought her camera for the 'before and after' photographs!!

Deirdrea gave the vote of thanks for a very interesting and informative demonstration.

Three members' birthdays were celebrated with cake and glasses of wine. The meeting closed with

It's a Blockbuster!

Thank you very much to everybody who turned out to support St Mary's Village Carnival and make it our best ever. The costumes and procession and Best Dressed Houses were fantastic and despite the lure of national sporting events on our big day, you helped us raise the magnificent sum of over £10,500 for local charities and good causes.

It was a superb event with more stalls and attractions than we have ever had before and a range of entertainment to suit all ages for a fun day out.

Special thanks must go to all members of the carnival committee who have worked so hard during the year to plan the event, and to everybody who rallied round to help with collecting goods, setting up the green, tidying up, running stalls, collecting money, selling tickets. Every helper is very important and is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to those who generously sponsored prizes, bought raffle tickets, or supported Clarabel or helped in any other way. We couldn't do it without you.

This year, as well as the fabric fund of our beautiful parish church, the main beneficiary will be Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, and the remainder of funds will be distributed to other local charities. If you wish to nominate a charity to benefit from the proceeds of our carnival, please speak to Carnival Chairman, Peter Bennett, tel 01525 221284. Later in the year, details will be published explaining how the funds will be distributed.

For lots more information about our carnival and for a superb photo gallery of the event, log on to our website, www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

A selection of the main winners – more results on the website!

Procession Pre-School & Lower School: Eaton Bray Lower School
School Age Organisations: Friends of Edlesborough School
Family & Business: The Bell pub

Best Dressed House Eaton Bray, McVeigh, 100 High Street for Star Wars
Edlesborough, Janes' shop for The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Grand Draw See next page

Duck Race 2006



All along the backwater, by the rushes tall ducks were a dabbling, up tails all.

The crowds were out in force, well around 25 people, to see the final event of this year's Carnival when 300 plastic ducks were launched into the River Ousel for the annual race to Pooh Sticks Bridge at the top of The Meads.

The early leader failed to negotiate one of the early obstacles in the river leaving duck number 250, purchased by Mark Kennel and T L Griffiths, to cruise home a winner by a record distance of 6 feet. In second place was duck number 261, both tickets purchased by Mrs Marshall and in third place, head down was duck number 69 purchased by A Lewis and Roger Payton.

These winners share 30% of the takings which this year was £600, therefore winners each received £45, second place £30 and third place £15.

My thanks to everyone who supported the event either physically or financially, and especially to those people who generously bought ducks on their way out of the car park on Carnival day as they rushed off to see the football. And, off course, thanks to the Water Authority for giving their permission for a few grown-ups to spend a short while paddling in the stream.

THANK YOU to everyone in Northall who gave me such a warm welcome while collecting for the Carnival. I expect I will see you same time next year.
Gordon Gray

Clarabel

The telephone number of the winner of the CLARABEL Square, announced at the carnival has unfortunately been mislaid. If the winner wishes to claim, please contact Beryl Bishop on 01525 220868. If the prize money is not claimed, it will be donated to the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

Grand Draw 2005

<i>Prize</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Winner</i>
1 Weekend in Rome	Hotel Quirinale	Trevor and Viv Rix, Eaton Bray
2 Visit to Houses of Parliament	Andrew Selous MP	Maggie Kerr, Eaton Bray
3. Teeth Whitening	Pieter Le Roux	Catherine Evans, Edlesborough
4. Dinner for two	Tom Hodge, Bellows Mill	John and Sue Parker, Edlesborough
5. Case of wine	Peter and Eileen Bennett	Carla Hoad, Northall
6. Golf for two	Mentmore Golf Club	Jean Grace, Edlesborough
7. Gliding lesson	London Gliding Club	Mrs. Merrick, Northall
8. Golf for two	Dunstable Golf Club	Bev O'Brien, c/o Gordon Gray
9. Two tickets	Milton Keynes Theatre	Mrs. Dewsbury
10. Greetings cards	Sally Taylor, Phoenix Cards	Phil Gillam, Dunstable
11. Ornamental tree	Brian McMahon, Grass Roots	Kim Baldry, Edlesborough
12. Meal for four	The Swan, Northall	David Mann, Eaton Bray
13. Meal Voucher	The White Horse	Liz Fry, Eaton Bray
14. Fly Fishing at Bellows Mill	Mrs. Racheal Hodge	Gary Watkin, Eaton Bray
15. Meat Voucher	D. & E. Hines	Mrs. Toms, Eaton Bray
16. 'Hairdo'	Gary's, Eaton Bray	Guy Valling, Maulden
17. Family ticket	Mead Open Farm	Yvonne Ransom, Eaton Bray
18. Tyre discount	etyres	Mrs. Porzio, Eaton Bray
19. 'Hairdo'	Profile Hairdressing, Edlesborough	Mrs. A Morrea.s, Eaton Bray
20. Sunday lunch	The Bell, Edlesborough	Tia Fry, Eaton Bray
21. Theatre tickets	Leighton Buzzard Theatre	Mrs. E. Hines, Eaton Bray
22. Fishing at Watermead	David and Valerie Richards	Mrs. Williams, Edlesborough
23. Cinema tickets	Empire Cinema, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead	Pat Brook, Edlesborough
24. Bowling tickets	GoBowling, Dunstable	Mrs. C. Mosley, Eaton Bray
25. Sunday Lunch for two	Café Masala	Mr. & Mrs. D. Larby, Dagnall
26. Harper's voucher	Harpers of Studham	Alison Lane, Edlesborough

My thanks go to everyone who sold and bought tickets - without you it wouldn't work - and to my team of Norman, Deirdrea and Gaynor, for the great help I am given in achieving a very pleasing result – and to the winners – please enjoy your prize and if you have any feed back (which I'm sure can only be good!!) please let me know. Ann Lee 222831



Hoofing it in the procession



Vivienne & Mel Grundy at the opening



Edlesborough Tennis Club

The Edlesborough 'Road to Wimbledon', part of a LTA national under 14 tournament was well supported producing some excellent, hard fought and closely contested matches. culminating in a final between James Kight and Charlie Morris with James winning and going on to represent Edlesborough in the Bucks County qualifying rounds for eventual entry into the final section of the tournament on the grass courts at Wimbledon. Apart from James and Charlie the other entrants were Jack and Martin Coates, Ian Brown, Will Sanders. Jamie Chesterman, Sam Blumson and Rhys Dalkin who will all receive certificates from the LTA. Next year we hope to run both a boys and girls group in this annual tournament.

At long last we are able to announce the appointment of a new head coach Leon Leenders a full time professional fully qualified LTA coach. He will initially be taking groups. Junior and Adult on Tuesdays and Fridays and will also be available for individual coaching during the rest of the week.

We end our report on a sad note. John Mclean-Hall passed away on Saturday 20th May a much loved character, who flew with the RAF and rose to the rank of captain with Monarch airlines. A keen gardener who enjoyed his tennis at both league and social levels. One of the original founder members who kept us entertained with his stories and always had time for everybody. we have all lost a friend.

Stop Press

Old GI'S join forces with Church and Tennis Club

Yes as the above headline suggests our gallant GI's (Gallant Idiots to new readers) have joined forces with both the Church and Tennis Club to create even better entertainment for your late summer and early autumn fun!

Firstly on September 16th the same fabulous Traditional Jazz band that entertained so many of us last year, make a return visit to the St Mary's Church to help us get in the mood for a drink and nibble in the hall at half time, only to return and get in the "groove" for the second half, which will no doubt include all our favourite tunes/songs. Price? A measly £8

Do come along and **support** the Church Roof Fund along with the renewal of the toilets in the village hall.

n.b. the present ones will be open during the entire concert!

Tickets available from Barbara 221597 Sally 221576

Well, having got you excited about that, what about joining the Eaton Bray Tennis Club and the (yes you have guessed it) them there GI's in a great quiz to be held in the Village hall on Friday 6th October. Price £8, to include a delicious supper (we haven't actually make our minds up on that yet, but the healthy tennis players are pushing for salad and the GI's Fish and Chips, my money is on the **Healthy Fish & Chips**).

These quizzes are really fun and you can have teams of up to 8 people. The last such event was extremely difficult and modesty forbids from saying that I was part of the winning team. Seven brains and one GI!

Keith Blackburn (that well known local question setter) will be our question master for the evening and a good time is guaranteed for all.

Tickets from Katrina 222503 Ross 221411

Look forward to seeing you all at both events.

A Gallant Idiot.

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8pm

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Phone Barbara 221597 or Sally 221576.

Proceeds to St Mary's Roof Fund &
the Village Hall Refurbishment Project

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2006

For a variety of reasons several of our team of house to house collectors are leaving so we are very keen to recruit new faces to our ranks. Volunteer collectors play a vital part in the success of the annual appeal, accounting for over half of the total collection.

All we would ask of you is a little of your time in early November to help this most deserving charity whose work offers help and support to ex-servicemen and women in time of need.

Each year Jean organises the house to house collection list and obviously, the more volunteers we have, the less each of us has to do and the larger the area we can cover.

If you, or better still, you and a friend would be willing to offer help or would like to know more about the local appeal, please call Jean. Our telephone number is at the end of this note.

Over many years the annual poppy appeal has been supported splendidly by our village and the volunteer house to house collectors play an important role by being ready to knock on doors hail, rain or shine.

To those who are leaving us we record our humble gratitude for your help over many years and our best wishes for your futures.

To those who may volunteer we say, 'Come and join us. A little time freely given could make the world of difference to someone in real need.'

Thank you.

Keith and Jean Stanley. Tel. 01525. 220608.



Support Your Local Pharmacist in her Egyptian Fundraising Campaign

I have just committed myself to raise a minimum of £2,750 for the British Heart Foundation (Registered Charity Number 225971) and I need your help to get me there!!

I shall be cycling 408km through Egypt next November. This extremely tough challenge will take its 40 participants through contrasts of flat to undulating routes, and from fertile green vegetation to desert - all along the lifeblood of Egypt, the River Nile.

As you may know, heart and circulatory disease is still the BIGGEST killer in the UK, touching every one of us either personally or through family and friends.

I would be enormously grateful for any pledges or sponsorship towards this truly worthwhile cause (and ongoing support for all the cycling and training I shall now have to be getting into - if I look exhausted at work from now on, you will know why!!) Please don't hesitate to pop into Edlesborough Pharmacy for more information or to make a pledge whenever you are next passing.

Many thanks and wish me luck!!

Claire Davies

For those of you wishing to sponsor Claire or make a donation to help her cause, she now has a direct completely secure online sponsorship page arranged by the British Heart Foundation. If you would like to sponsor her in this way, the address is: www.bhf.org.uk/sponsor/claireldavies (with an 'l' for Louisa between Claire and Davies!!) and simply follow the links as instructed. She would be grateful for any donations made as she still has a long way to go to reach the targets she needs to take part in this experience.

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

Further news will be available in the next issue of Focus on the date of Parish Plan meeting, roundels and yellow backed signs for the villages and the installation of the Basketball Goal and this newsletter represents the lighter side of the Parish Council activities.

As promised in the last report the answers to the Quiz held at the Dagnall fete are as follows:

Q: Can you name 3 of the 4 listed buildings in Dagnall:

A: The Church, The Gatehouse, Crosskeys Farmhouse, 38 Main Road South/Dornadales

Q: What special birthday does Dagnall School celebrate in 2009?

A: 100 years

Q: Where was the petrol pump station in Dagnall?

A: Main Road North outside Gerald Green's House

Q: In 1817 where was murdered John Payne, a sack carrier from Billington, found?

A: Outside the Red Lion Pub

Q: How much do you think was spent by the Parish Council on Dog Hygiene (emptying and 1 new bin) in 2005/6?

A: £3,926.58

Q: How many pictures are there on the Parish Council website?

A: 232

Q: Dagnall village hall was built on land belonging to which Dagnall family?

A: Ashby's

Q: How often, and what day of the week does Edlesborough Parish Council meet?

A: Once a month except August, on a Thursday

Q: In 2004 what was the population of Edlesborough Parish?

A: 2760

Q: Edlesborough Parish Council comprises of how many councillors

A: 9

Q: Parish Council elections are held every 4 years, when is the next Edlesborough election due to be held?

A: 2007

Q: Which local authority determines planning applications submitted from Dagnall, Edlesborough and Northall?

A: Aylesbury Vale District Council

Q: Dagnall is subject to additional planning parameters to Edlesborough and Northall, WHY?

A: Lies within Metropolitan Green Belt and within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Q: Where in Dagnall would you find 'Lucy's Lane'?

A: Up Studham Lane close to Zoo Gateway

Q: Dagnall currently has 2 public houses, there was a third called 'The Bell', what is the name of this building today?

A: Bethshan

Q: Where in Dagnall would you have found the North Bucks Harriers Kennels in 1880?

A: On the Deans Meadow Housing Estate

Q: In what year was the Methodist Chapel opposite the school finally pulled down?

A: 1970

Q: Dagnall lies within the Chiltern Landscape which in 1065 was designated an AONB. What does AONB stand for?

A: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Edlesborough Carnival was a great success with many additional stalls this year. Once again the Parish Council asked the children of both Dagnall and Edlesborough Schools to enter a painting

competition depicting 'What they would like to see in our Village'. The winners were Jessica Osborn (4-5 year category) Charlotte Ketteridge (6-7 year category) and Charlotte Nilsen (8-9 year category). Well done to all who entered. A further Quiz was completed by visitors to the Parish Council stall, the outright winner being Mrs. C. Hayden who was presented with a bottle of Champagne.

Questions and answers to the Edlesborough quiz follow:

Q: Name at least one councillor

A: Representing Edlesborough Ward: John Wilkinson, David Brown, Steve Munday, Mrs. Marily Prys-Jones, Mrs. Julie Ratheram. Representing Dagnall Ward: Mrs. Anne Thompson, (Chairman), Mrs. Karen Coppen. Representing Northall Ward: Kevin Cubbage, Phil Conacher

Q: How many villages are there in Edlesborough Parish? (Name them)

A: Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Q: How many dog bins are there on The Green?

A: 8

Q: What kind of tree is behind the tennis court on Edlesborough Green?

A: Walnut Tree

Q: What year was 'Janes' established?

A: 1891

Q: How many allotment sites are there in the Parish?

A: 4

Q: Where are the allotment sites in the Parish?

A: The Green and Cow Lane, Edlesborough, Main Road South Dagnall, Leighton Road, Northall

Q: What is the name of the river separating Eaton Bray from Edlesborough?

A: River Ouzel

Q: How many Churches are there in Edlesborough?

A: 3

Q: How and when was the Tower at St. Mary's Edlesborough badly damaged?

A: It was damaged by a lightening strike in 1828

Q: How many named 'Lanes' are there in Edlesborough?

A: 2 – Cow Lane and Slicketts Lane

Q: What is the name of the Pub in Northall?

A: The Swan

Q: What is the name of our Parish Clerk?

A: Lin Sargeant

Q: When and where does the Parish Council meet?

A: Every third Thursday in the month, except August, in Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Q: What is the total population of the Parish?

A: Approximately 2,750

Q: Where is the Parish Cemetery located?

A: On the south side of St. Mary The Virgin Church, Church End, Edlesborough

Q: What is the address of the Parish web site?

A: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

Q: Who is responsible for Street Lighting repairs in the Parish?

A: EPC (Edlesborough Parish Council)

Lin Sargeant – Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council:

Tel. 01525 220859

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

Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next meeting: Thurs 21st Sept 2006

.....

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month

7.30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 4th Sept 2006

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Eaton Bray W.I. Report

The president welcomed the members to the June meeting, which was a themed yellow colour evening, with some very original decorative ideas on hats and dresses. The evening raised money for the Pasque Hospice, which we have supported for a number of years.

Business was kept to a minimum, and details were finalised for members and friends day trip to Stratford on Avon in August. Dates for our diaries were noted for various outings and activities during the summer.

Our guest speaker was Mr. Parry who gave a very interesting talk on "Paxton and the Great Exhibition". Paxton designed the Crystal Palace building, which stood in Hyde Park and housed the great exhibition of 1851. He was a "local lad" born in Milton Bryan of humble origins who rose to great heights in the Victorian age.

The Duke of Devonshire invited Paxman to manage and develop the gardens at Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, which included designing a model village for the estate workers.

It is said that a green house was the inspiration for the Crystal Palace building with the original drawing doodled on a piece of blotting paper! All that remains in Hyde Park of Crystal Palace are the entrance gates. A fire destroyed the building in 1936.

Our next meeting is on Monday 4th September at 7.30pm. In Eaton Bray Village Hall.



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All Saints, Dagnall - Services in August and September 2006

During the building of the Church extension, services will be held in the Village Hall

Sun. 6th Aug.	9.00 am	Eucharist
Sun. 13th Aug.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Sun. 20th Aug.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Sun. 27th Aug.	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Sun. 3rd Sept.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sun. 10th Sept.	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 17th Sept.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Sun. 24th Sept.	10.30 am	Family Harvest Service
	4.00 pm	Harvest Thanksgiving



Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am



St Jude's and the "Celebs" raise money for the Fete Charities again this year.

"Celebs", Grace Kelly, Catherine Zeta Jones, Marilyn Monroe and the Karate Kid (alias staff of the St Jude's Clinic), graced the Edlesborough Carnival this year with their presence and helped the Clinic to again raise money for the Fete Charities this year.

The Celebrities would just like to say thank you to all those who supported our £200 Charity Raffle for goods from Janes. **Mr Ian Chandler of Leighton Buzzard** was the lucky winner! They all enjoyed selling the raffle tickets and chatting to the locals.

Grace Kelly, who in her other life as Moira D'Arcy gave all the Fetes tips on looking after themselves physically on the day in the last edition on Focus. She hopes that you all heeded her advice and stayed ache and pain free at the Fete.



Changing Channels

From 31st July 2006, people will no longer be able to buy a TV licence from a Post Office. Instead payment can be made at PayPoint outlets in places such as newsagents, supermarkets and convenience stores.

Those wishing to buy a TV licence from a PayPoint outlet can either buy the licence outright or can save towards it by paying in instalments at the PayPoint outlet.

TV licence stamps are also being phased out and replaced by a savings card.

For more information contact the Citizens Advice Bureau, Grove House, High Street North, Dunstable. Tel: 01582 661384

Do you know anyone who would be good at advising and helping people? If so Dunstable Bureau is the place to be. Please contact the above number for more information on volunteering.

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 (Singing, tambourine & recorder practices)	5.00pm

Your Business & Your Will

Last month I highlighted the importance of your Will needing to be both available for immediate reference on your death and that it must be acceptable (valid) to the Probate Registry. A Will is of little worth if either of these conditions is not met.

Here is an important question for many readers.

'What would happen to my business if I were to die tomorrow?'

Business Operated as a Sole Trader:

As sole trader you have skills and experience not easily replaced. Is there someone you have groomed to succeed you – is there an option to purchase? Can the business be sold as a going concern or must it be wound up, and the monies realised added to your estate? Your Will should record your wishes.

A Firm Operated in Partnership:

A Partnership Agreement needs to be in place that includes what is to happen when a partner dies etc. The surviving partner(s) may wish to continue trading but will have to raise monies to pay into your estate. You have no rights to bequeath your position as a partner but you can bequeath the financial interest you have in the partnership.

A combination of a Will and Partnership Agreement will ensure that your beneficiaries and surviving partners enjoy an orderly and planned settlement of your business affairs. The Agreement has priority over the Will, so executors and trustees cannot take an active part in the firm, except as required to secure the financial interest of the deceased.

A Major Shareholder in a Limited Liability Company:

Many former sole traders and partnerships have changed to a limited company or partnership status in recent years. This totally changes the situation when death occurs. E.g. the Articles of Association determine what rights the shareholder has in the disposal of shares. They can include an option to bequeath shares to certain family members usually restricted to a spouse and children. The Articles take precedent over any conflicting clause in a Will and the Executors and Trustees cannot interfere in any way with the operation of the Company.

KEY POINT: The legal status of your business, or interest in a business, determines the options available to you to influence what happens to your business interest on your death. This is a complex topic demanding professional guidance from an accountant, and, on your Will, from a practice such as mine, which provides guidance in the privacy of your home during a day or evening that best suits you.

Next Month: Deeds of Variation – *including avoiding future tax and/or recovering tax after some one has died!*

Tony Duke BA (Hons), FCII

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Paul Tatton

Hospice at Home Volunteers would like to thank everyone who made donations in memory of Paul. Paul had been a volunteer in our organisation since 2001 and will be greatly missed.

The money raised, in excess of £600, will be a huge boost for our charity.



National Trust Friends of Ashridge Events Programme

Friends of Ashridge. GENTLE STROLLS:

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September 15th, starting from the road end of
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Salvation Sound. . . . August/September 2006

It's Only A Game.....

"Never mind, it's not the winning that's important, it's the taking part."

"It's only a game".....

Those words come back to me everytime I see bad tempered tennis players snarling and throwing their expensive racquets down on the floor like spoilt children.

"It's only a game" Whenever I see cricketers and umpires ranting at one another over a disputed decision. This in a sport that was once identified with gentlemanly behaviour.

"It's only a game" comes to mind when I see the mindless conduct, both on and off the field at football matches.

Sport is meant to be fun for both players and spectators. Competitors are regarded as superstars. Money is their master. Newspapers, television programmes, the radio, all analyse and debate the results, the correctness of play, and the umpires decisions as if they were matters of life or death.

IT'S ONLY A GAME.....

A game of golf, or a cycle ride,
Aerobics, swimming, bird watching in a hide;
Running races around a track,
Football, rugby, cricket, hockey,
Skillful riding by a jockey.
Racing in a motor car,
Long jump, high jump, balancing on a narrow bar.
Throwing a javelin, or discus maybe,
Firing arrows at a target, pinned to a tree.
Fishing, sitting by the banks of a country stream,
With nothing to do, save of the 'big one' dream.
These are things that people call leisure;
Doing them is supposed to give pleasure.
To me they mean 'work-outs' and pain,
So I turn on the 'tele, and watch the 'soaps' over again;



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2 Tim. 2:5.

"An athlete who runs in a race cannot win the prize unless he obeys the rules".

2 Tim. 4:7

"I have done my best in the race, I have run the full distance. I have kept the faith. And now the prize of victory is waiting for me."

Remember it's only a game.

Heb. 12:1.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

The excitement of summer holidays is fading fast, as stealthily Autumn creeps in, stretching her fingers out to touch the icy face of winter. Yet what beauty lies in the colours of the trees, with falling leaves twisting and tumbling to the ground, carpeting it with red russets, and browns.

The fields, shorn of their golden bounty are now sporting dark brown furrows, and the hedgerows are covered with the remains of blackberries and rosehips, and lace cobwebs laden with dew, gleam in the early morning sunshine.

Soon it will be time to kindle the fire, or to turn on the central heating; the shades of evening are creeping in earlier each night, soon the earth's annual sleep will begin; but before that comes we will celebrate the Harvest, and give our thanks for the lavish way God gives His gifts to us.

Gen. 8 :22.

While the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, and summer and winter, day and night shall not cease.

Sometimes you may question if God really cares for you. When such thoughts come into your mind think of God's love manifest in nature.

He watches over the sparrow and the lily and He cares for you.

"All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
For all his love."



Edlesborough W.I.

Photos of the seat we recently donated to Edlesborough Churchyard were shown at our last meeting. The seat is provided, on behalf of W.I. Members both past and present, in order that visitors to the graveyard are able to sit quietly and rest.

'Memoirs of a Grocer' was the title of a talk given by our speaker, Mr. P. Nicholls, whose account of his family business was both interesting and amusing. He was born in 1922, when his father was the manager of a high class grocery shop in Wandsworth. Mr. Nicholls senior had always wanted to be his own boss, and in 1933 took over a shop in Studham. During the next few years Mr. Nicholls' family, including his brother and sister, ran a number of grocery shops in this area. Mr. Nicholls served in the army for five years, and upon demob. went to work in their Wendover shop. He bought a house there three years later, and remained in the business until it was sold in 1994.

It was a high class grocers. Many wealthy people opened accounts with them and remained lifelong customers. A number of them were from the world of stage and screen, and Mr. Nicholls related some amusing memories of these customers and how he enjoyed friendly banter with them. Chefs at Halton Camp bought produce from Nicholls. On one occasion this was for a lunch cooked for the Queen, who actually drove past the shop on the way to the camp!

Another big account was with "Chequers", and Mr. Nicholls saw many Prime Ministers come and go. Well known people were entertained there, and General Eisenhower was a guest at one time. Ted Heath lived at "Chequers" most of the time when he was in office, during which time Nicholls received large orders for his yacht. Margaret Thatcher actually visited the shop one Christmas to thank them for their help, when she said: "It is just like my father's shop in Grantham".

In time, Mr. Nicholls and his nephew were the only remaining family members running the business. Supermarkets were coming along and business rates were increasing. In 1994 the grocery shop closed, when it was sold to Threshers for a 'very good price'. So the popular high class grocers came to an end, but what a fascinating life it had been for the Nicholls family. Shops like that are sadly disappearing and becoming just a lovely memory.

A few days later we enjoyed our coffee morning at Chris Yates' lovely home & garden, when £191 was raised towards W.I. Funds. Thank you, Chris.

Val Harris

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# Becca's letter from Uganda

## The importance of play

In recent months various people from the UK have kindly donated toys to the hospital. I would like to thank you for these and for your prayers. I thought it'd be nice to give you a broader view of how toys are being used here and how play therapy is developing.

We continue to try and spend an hour each day playing with the children on the Paediatric ward who are no longer acutely ill, but are still recovering. News of play therapy has spread though and we often get kids coming from other parts of the hospital including quite a few children from about 5-14 who are in hospital to attend to their relatives. This means that instead of going to school and playing like we'd expect them to do at their age, they are cooking, cleaning clothes, emptying out catheters, looking after babies etc – so I think it's only fair that they get some fun too.

In many ways play therapy is aimed at the malnourished children. Play is a main component in the treatment of these children. This was not being done before but, having seen the success of daily play sessions, initially 3, and now all 5 of the nurses working with the malnourished children want to be part of it.

The malnourished children are often in hospital for long, long periods of time and receive very little stimulation. They can often develop developmental delays. On top of this children with disabilities are often more prone to becoming malnourished. It's amazing to work with these children. At first they generally just watch and don't participate much, or are too tired to be able to participate, but after a session or two with a lot of attention given, they start joining in little by little and smiling, and then you can't stop them, they're the first ones there and they love it. Each session is different depending on which children are there – but we've got a great bunch of kids at the moment, their eyes light up when we come onto the ward.

It's great to see the children's excitement as we arrive and now the kids have got used to us they often run to get the toys they like. Of course, we do get the kids crying when we leave and take the toys away, but this usually stops when they realise that we'll be back again tomorrow. We provide the kids a time of fun with toys that they just don't have - most kids don't even have a teddy. Sometimes the toys go missing, about half the time we find them again; this is hard as we do try to trust people, but it's little different from the UK where toys are taken from doctors' waiting rooms too.

We don't use any soft toys in the play therapy and to prevent the spread of infection we wash the toys daily between each session. However we do use soft toys to give to children to keep. This is really helpful as, if we are doing physio with a specific child, we can give them a toy that they can continue to use to help the parents carry out the physio when we are not there. We also use them to give to children who have gone through really difficult things for example:

- Helen is a 9 year old girl with sickle cell anaemia. When I first saw this girl the doctors were all surprised that she had survived. She presented as someone who had suffered from a stroke and was unable to sit without support. By the time she left hospital she'd made incredible progress and left us being able to walk. Unfortunately due to her disease, she will die young and quite possibly could suffer from a stroke again.
- Janet was a really sweet 12 year old girl. She had typhoid and had to undergo 2 major operations. Unfortunately she was severely anaemic and the disease continued to affect her gut. She sadly did not survive. However after her first operation we were able to give her a cuddly rabbit, much to her delight, and she often would play with it or cuddle it.

So thanks again

## Prayer requests

- Please continue to pray for the involvement and training of the nurses – we're really seeing them getting excited and joining in, which is great. Please pray that this continues



- Please pray particularly for the malnourished children at the moment. The hospital has a dairy, which provides milk for the children - a really important part of their treatment. Unfortunately the cows have got a virus at the moment so no milk is being provided but, praise God, they've found another source of milk and someone to pay for it for the next week or two. But please also pray that our herd will recover quickly.
- Our paediatric consultant has not been around very much lately as his mother is very ill. This is a great loss for the hospital as he is such a great doctor, gentle, kind, caring and has an incredible amount of knowledge. Please pray especially for him and his mother and also for the hospital and children as they continue without him.



## Check Your Tyres, It Could Save Your Life!

When was the last time you checked the tyres on your car? It is recommended that we all check our tyres for pressure and tread wear every two weeks but how many of us actually do?

Not many. Your tyres are your only contact between your car and the road so making sure that they are not flat, damaged or worn can make the difference between crashing and not crashing in an emergency stop situation. 'So many people forget to check their tyres and the first they know about it is when they have a blow out on the motorway' says Oliver Hall from [etyres.co.uk](http://etyres.co.uk). 'If you continue to drive on a flat tyre or one with a slow leak, then heat builds up in the sidewall of the tyre where it is being squashed under the weight of the car. Sometimes you only need to drive a mile or so before the tyre falls apart. That is why you see so many bits of blown tyres on the motorway because the higher speeds cause the underinflated tyres to overheat more quickly and disintegrate. This is clearly extremely dangerous. You wouldn't believe the number of people who are driving around on damaged or excessively worn tyres without realising it.

If you get a nail in a tyre often it can be repaired for about £20 if it is dealt with early but by driving round with it in the tyre for a few weeks can make the tyre irreparable making for a more expensive replacement.

To check your tyres you need to crouch down to a level where you can see right under the car and see the inside of the tyre as well as the outside. Most tyres have tread wear indicators, usually six or more small ribs across the bottom of the main tread grooves. When the tread surface is level with these ribs, the tyre needs to be replaced. Also check for bulges in the sidewall of the tyre as this is a sign of a damaged tyre and needs to be replaced.

Etyres.co.uk has recently opened up a branch in Dunstable. Etyres offers a totally mobile tyre fitting service so that customers can have tyres fitted on their driveway at home or in their work car park to save them waiting around at tyre fitting depots. By cutting out the costs of large fitting depots they are able to offer some of the cheapest prices on car and van tyres, sometimes offering savings of as much as 40% on prices usually paid. So they save you time *and* money!

Etyres.co.uk offers a national service with a network of over 200 vans around the country. The vans are fully equipped with the latest tyre fitting and electronic wheel balancing equipment and the fitters also use special alloy wheel protection tools to ensure your alloy wheels are kept in pristine condition. They also have the tools to fit the new style Run-flat tyres which are becoming common on new Mini and BMW models. Etyres also come and supply and fit new car batteries. Another service offered is a puncture repair service which means that if you get a puncture in one of your tyres often it is repairable, and they can fix it, saving you the cost of a new tyre.

Anyone wishing to get a quote or try the service should call 08456 445924 which gets straight through to the Dunstable branch, or you can log onto the website at [etyres.co.uk](http://etyres.co.uk) where you can obtain quotes, get information on your tyres and view price comparisons.

### Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Results - July 2006

|      |              |        |
|------|--------------|--------|
| £100 | Charlie Nye  | No. 65 |
| £25  | Nick Pearson | No. 61 |
| £10  | Joan Hing    | No. 89 |

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