

# FOCUS

December/January 2007



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

**EATON BRAY**  
**EDLESBOROUGH**

**NORTHALL**  
**DAGNALL**



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# Focus - The Four Village Magazine

## Magazine Committee

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

Sally Siddons - 34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

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**Northall Representative:** Derrick Bonfield - 'Poppyn', Eaton Bray Road 220013

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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 Cubbage - 'Larums', Eaton Bray Road, Northall

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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## Village Diaries



### December 2006/January 2007

#### 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	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	Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Sheila Beal on 01525 221185
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	Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
2nd Tuesday	Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall

# Village Diaries



## December 2006/January 2007 Cont'd

### Monthly Cont'd

- 2nd Wednesday 8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church  
 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall

### Other Regular Events

- 8th Dec Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am, Sherry & Mince Pies  
 12th Dec Over 60's Christmas Lunch, Dagnall Village Hall, 1.30 pm, Carols  
 13th Dec Christmas Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8 pm  
 10th & 24th Jan Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm  
 12th Jan Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am  
 16th Jan Over 60's 2.00pm in Dagnall Village Hall. AGM & Birthday Tea

### One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 2nd Dec Dagnall Church Christmas Coffee Morning at the Village Hall 10.30 - 12.30  
 3rd Dec 6.00pm North Chilterns Group of Parishes Advent Service at St Giles's, Totternhoe  
 16th Dec Opening & Dedication of new Dagnall Church Extension, 2.30 pm, followed by refreshments in Village Hall.  
 16th Dec 6.00pm Carols at St Mary's, Edlesborough  
 17th Dec 6.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's, Eaton Bray  
 24th Dec 4.15pm and 6.00pm Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's, Eaton Bray; 11.30pm Midnight Mass at St Mary's, Eaton Bray  
 25th Dec 10.00am Family Eucharist & Nativity presentation at St Mary's, Eaton Bray  
 1st Jan 11.00am New Year's Day Eucharist at St Mary's, Eaton Bray  
 19th Jan 7.30pm "The Churches and Family Life" – Open Meeting addressed by Andrew Selous MP at Eaton Bray Methodist Church.  
 21st Jan 4.00pm United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Edlesborough Methodist Church.

### The Salvation Army, Booth Place Weekly Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	
Sunday School	9.45am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	6.00pm
<b>Monday</b>	
Games Night (Ages 5-8)	4.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	
Young Ladies Fellowship (Last Thursday in every month)	
<b>Friday</b>	
Young People (Singing, tambourine & recorder practices)	5.00pm

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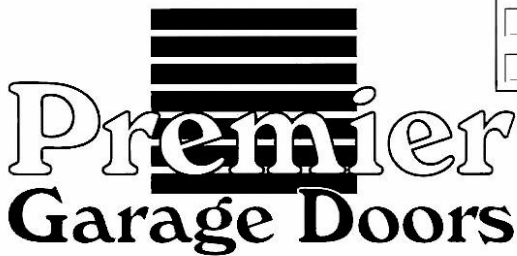
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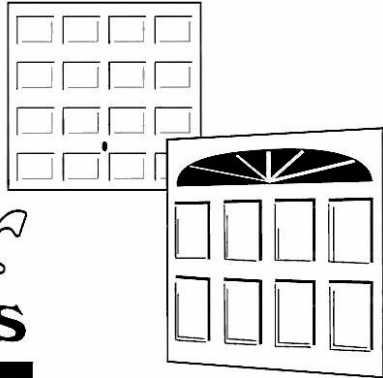
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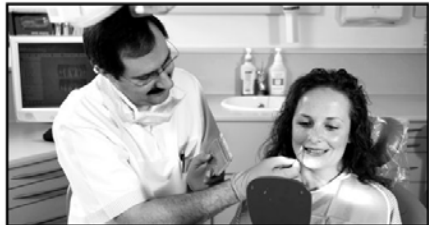
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## Dagnall News

### *Dagnall School*

Dagnall School held a very exciting book week in November. The week began with all the children and staff dressing up as Pirates and a visit from a Storyteller. Lots of fun continued through the week, including treasure hunts, 'Pirate PE' and story writing. The week was brought to a close by a visit from a puppeteer.

The children are now busily rehearsing for their Christmas performance of Whoops-a-Daisy Angel.

Here are puppets made by Yr1 and Yr2 to act out The Enormous Turnip.

### *Dagnall Church*

Christmas Coffee Morning, Saturday 2 December, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm  
There will be a cake stall; bric a brac; Christmas crafts; Traidcraft and Phoenix cards and wrap. Please come along and enjoy a festive morning coffee in the Village Hall.

### **All Saints Church Dagnall - Opening and Dedication of the New Extension.**

Saturday 16th. December 2.30pm. Guest Speaker - Revd. Anne Brown (Chair of the Methodist District). Parking at the Village Hall where refreshments will be served afterwards.

### *Over 60's*

On November 21<sup>st</sup> we had a visit from a comedienne! and our year culminates on December 12<sup>th</sup> with our Christmas lunch with carols, etc. – a really enjoyable occasion for all.

In January we will have our usual AGM and Birthday tea. Also a party will be going to the pantomime in Milton Keynes on January 9<sup>th</sup> and we are repeating our successful weekend trip to Eastbourne on January 19<sup>th</sup>. A busy start to the New Year!



## **All Saints' Church,**



**Dagnall**



## **Christmas**

### **Coffee Morning**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
10.30 am - 12.30 pm

There will be a cake stall;  
bric-a-brac; Christmas  
crafts; Traidcraft and  
Phoenix cards and wrap

**Please come along and enjoy  
a festive morning coffee in  
the Village Hall**

## **All Saints' Church, Dagnall**

### **Opening and Dedication of the New Extension**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
2.30pm**

**Guest Speaker  
Revd. Anne Brown  
(Chair of the Methodist District)**

**Parking at the Village Hall  
where refreshments  
will be served afterwards**

## What's On - Ian Rennie Hospice at Home

**Friday, 1 December 2006, 6pm onwards**  
**BERKHAMSTED FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**  
**Berkhamsted**

Come and join Santa Claus to enjoy a special local occasion. The Christmas lights will be officially switched on. Look out for the Ian Rennie Hospice at Home stall!

Free of charge - all welcome.

**Sunday, 3 December 2006**

**ANNUAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING**  
**Union Baptist Church, Easton Street, High Wycombe**

An opportunity to remember the lives of family and friends including those nursed by IRHH. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the church hall.

Service commences at 2.30pm and is followed by our Light Up a Life Dedication Service.

All welcome.

**Wednesday, 13 December 2006, 6pm-9pm**

**BEACONSFIELD FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**  
**Beaconsfield New Town**

The annual Festival of Lights ceremony in Beaconsfield. This year IRHH will have a Beaujolais Tombola stall.

Free entry - all welcome.

**Saturday, 30 December 2006, 12 noon**

**CARE TO WALK**

**Coombe Hill, near Wendover**

In 2005 over 400 people participated in this event. Our aim in 2006 is to cover 800 miles between all participants, representing the 800 patients IRHH has cared for this year. For further details please call us on 01442 890222.



**Saturday, 13 January 2007, 7.30pm start**  
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**Saturday, 27 January 2007, 7pm for 7.30**  
**BURNS NIGHT**

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**LIGHT UP A LIFE DEDICATION CEREMONIES**

**Sunday 3 December, 4pm**

St Mary & All Saints Church Beaconsfield

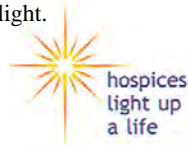
**Sunday, 3 December, 3.45m**

Union Baptist Church, Easton Street, High Wycombe

**Thursday 21 December, 7.45m**

Tylers Green Common

These ceremonies take place OUTDOORS so please dress warmly. Please contact the IRHH Fundraising Team on 01442 890222 should you wish to dedicate a light.



## Eaton Bray Under 5's Playtime

We are busy getting ready for Christmas with lots of activities coming up i.e. making snowmen, Christmas stockings and lots more. In the run up to Christmas we will be selling Christmas items at bargain prices and having a raffle to raise enough money for our Christmas party which is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, where hopefully we will have a big bouncy castle. If you are interested in joining us, give Cindy a ring on 07734320816. we wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy a new year.

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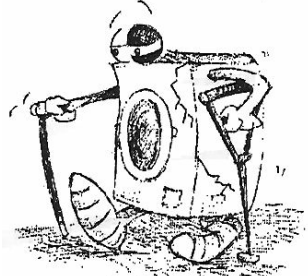
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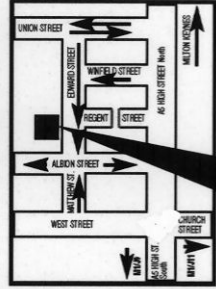


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Wed 8.00pm - Queensbury School, Langdale Rd, Dunstable

Thurs 9.45am - St Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe (crèche - please pre-book)

Sat 9.30am Eaton Bray Village Hall Church Lane

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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

So many of the pains and sorrows of our modern world are reflected in the Christmas story. Because we want Christmas to be a joyful time of family celebration, we sometimes try to push the darker side of the story away, and so miss its resonances with the sufferings of the world today.

It starts with a young unmarried girl being found to be pregnant in a society which ostracized such people. It tells of an expectant mother forced by anonymous bureaucracy to make a long and hazardous journey to complete census- and tax-returns, of a homeless couple seeking shelter, of a mother giving birth in a stable with only a cattle-trough in which to lay her new-born child, and of the murderous jealousy of a psychotic ruler, and the rampage of his troops through peaceful villages, slaughtering little children and all who sought to protect them. It tells of a refugee family seeking asylum in a foreign land.

But these are not anonymous statistics on some register of human rights violations, and case-notes in a dossier of crimes against humanity. These are stories about named people. The young mother is called Mary, and her baby was called Jesus. They travelled the long road from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register for the imperial census, and the only place available for Jesus's birth was a stable. And they fled to Egypt to escape Herod's sword. These are real people – just like the ones in today's stories.

We celebrate this story because it speaks of God's involvement in all these human tragedies, and of God's answer to them. For most of us, Christmas is a time of joy and family celebration, with parties, presents, pantomimes and plenty of fun. But we need to recover the real message of peace and salvation to recognize how Christmas can bring light and hope and peace to people who still suffer these terrible injustices. We need to be reminded when we hear of refugees that the Son of God was once a refugee, that his family had to flee by night from the rampaging militia, that God's own Son was squeezed out of busy, self-interested human society into a stable. There is solace for the victims in knowing that God Himself is with them in their sufferings and Christ still bears their pains in heaven.

That God identifies Himself with today's human victims gives them a new significance - God's concern becomes our concern. That is part of the message of "God with us" at Christmas, and through the pictures we see night after night on our televisions God is challenging us to do what we can to alleviate their sufferings. Christmas stirs our consciences and challenges our charity. We spend a great deal of money on people who already have plenty – can we not do something for those who have little or nothing? Oxfam and Christian Aid have schemes whereby we can send a present to a developing nation of livestock or medical equipment or educational materials; Shelter and other charities provide help for the marginalized in our own society. Would that not be an appropriate response to the darker side of the Christmas story, as we celebrate the bright and joyful side?

May Christmas bring joy and hope for you and all whom you love, and may our generosity bring joy and hope too to those who most need it in today's world. A peaceful and blessed Christmas to you all.

MALCOLM

### From the Parish Registers

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

22 October

Holly Elise Alford

Owen Peter Siddons

Oliver Jamie Siddons

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

4 November

Jonathan Mark Simons and Kim Marie Batson

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

13 November

Leonard Andrews of Church Lane, Eaton Bray

15 November

Valerie Caroline Wood of Dunstable Road, Dagnall



## 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)** - Toddlers' Church  
                  **Wednesday:** **9.30am** - Eucharist **8.15pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)** - Healing Service  
                  **Thursday:**   **7.30pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)** - Eucharist (All Saints', Dagnall)

*EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES*

## DETAILS OF ALL OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

 will be found on the card  
accompanying this  
magazine

### In Memory of Hugh Savage

Cathy, Robert and family would like to thank everyone for their cards and messages of sympathy. Thanks also for the generous donations totalling £560, these have been forwarded to Macmillan Nurses and TiggYWinkles Wildlife Trust in his memory.

We would like to thank the Rev. Peter Dudeney for a wonderful service.

C.M.H.Humphrey.

### The Bashford Family

would like to thank all those kind people who sent letters, and cards of sympathy, and who generously gave donations for the church in memory of Paul.

We would like to thank the Rev. Canon Malcolm Grant for his support and help and for the service of thanksgiving.

### Thank you

to all my neighbours in Church Lane and Rev. Malcolm Grant for your kindness & support following the recent death of my husband Len. It is much appreciated.

Eda Andrews

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

(18-25 January)

**UNITED SERVICE** at Edlesborough Methodist Church – 4.00pm on Sunday, 21 January – Preacher: Lt-Col Brian Knightley of Eaton Bray Savation Army.

**PUBLIC MEETING** at Eaton Bray Methodist Church – 7.30pm on Friday, 19 January – Speaker: Andrew Selous, MP for South West Bedfordshire – “The Churches and Family Life”. Everyone welcome.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION** will begin early in the New Year – anyone interested is asked to let the Vicar know as soon as possible.

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## Edlesborough School

Greetings from Edlesborough School! Year 6 have recently taken their 11+, and are waiting nervously for their results, that are coming soon!

There are lots of sports going on at the moment - football teams for girls and boys, whilst a netball team and hockey team are starting soon. The girl's football team had a match on the 10th November, and trained very hard! Year 5 are thoroughly enjoying going swimming at Green Park sports centre. There have also been some lovely aromas emanating from the cookery area this term as the pupils try their hand at cookery.

We have made a variety of food, from banana bread to macaroni cheese. I personally think that we are going to grow up to be phenomenal cooks. Music lessons are still going, and the range of instruments is getting bigger every year. The year 6 are looking after the little children, making up clubs for them to attend, we think it is one of the better ideas. We have had the reception class settling in so well and we are pleased and proud to have them in our school!

This week the book fair has come, and there are many new books. I assure you that your kind of book will be there. As well as books there is stationery and lots of lovely posters!

Coming so near to Christmas, we are all getting really excited like every year, we're holding a Christmas nativity play, called "moving on." We are working as hard as we can at the rehearsals, so the play will be as good as or even better than the original one. There's going to be lots of singing, dancing and acting, it's so exciting!

Mr Bush our caretaker, and Mr Rinks our chair of Governors, have been making a courtyard in our School garden and have now finished their hard work. They have put lots of effort into it. And we are extremely thankful for what they have done for our School to make it an even better place. Now when we are sitting in assembly we are proud to be able to look at a pretty courtyard, with nothing overgrowing!

The children in Year 2 at Edlesborough School were asked to write a poem about winter, here are some of their poems.

White cold snow on the ground.  
Wet dripping rain from the sky.  
Small red robins in the trees.  
Nice icy frost on the grass.  
by Harrison Ambrose

Winter winter cold and frosty.  
Winter winter no more sunshine.  
Winter winter snowy and icy.  
Winter winter a snowy blanket.  
Winter winter robins in trees.  
by Ollie Mulcahy



Snow is cold in the sky.  
Rain is wet on the grass.  
Robin redbreast on the tree.  
Frost goes on the frozen pond.  
by Louis Roberts

Cold white snow on the ground.  
Dripping blue rain from the sky.  
Freezing icy frost in the trees.  
Small red robins eating bird food.  
by Lee Saunders



### Edlesborough Parish Nurse Charity

This is to remind residents of the old parish of Edlesborough, comprising Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall, of the existence of the NURSE'S CHARITY, the purpose of which is the relief of individual need within this area. If you know of any individual need, please contact John Battley, tel 221057

Thank you.

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These are just a few of the comments made in our fourth OFSTED Report (Sept 2004). The report reflects the high quality of learning on offer to all children at Edlesborough Under 5's and highlighted the quality of teaching by the staff. We are currently operating a waiting list for 2½ to 4½ year olds. If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Kerry or Tracey on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.

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## St Mary's Parochial Church Council Meeting, 9th November 2006

**Lunch Club:** Eighteen people attended the first St Mary's lunch club on 17<sup>th</sup> September and a very positive response has been received. The next lunch will be on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>; it is planned in the near future to issue invitations to people outside St Mary's congregation.

**Eaton Bray Hall:** Ways in which the PCC could support Eaton Bray Village Hall by continuing to discount the rent were discussed.

**Leaves:** Quotations were received for collecting and bagging the leaves from the many trees in the churchyard.

**Christmas:** It has been decided this year, to hold an "After Christmas Party" for Sunday School children as the pre-Christmas period is so busy with activities.

**All Souls Day:** This service was very well attended with over 70 worshippers and many people made appreciative comments.

**Harvest arrangements:** Attendance at the Harvest Lunch has been declining in recent years. It was thought that a new format should be considered; a Harvest Supper the previous evening with barn dance will be considered for next year.

### Parish Project 2007

As usual, the PCC will invite the congregation to nominate charities to be considered for support in 2007. As this year's project is overseas, next year's will be a UK based charity.

**Church Trails:** Thanks were expressed to Barbara Marriage who for the last 3 years has organised St Mary's participation in the Church Trails project; this has included music, tours, records and photos and a very successful Jazz evening. A successor is being sought to organise next year's events

**All Saints Dagnall:** We were pleased to hear that the new building is nearing completion; the dedication service will be at 2.30pm on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Church Mouse

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# **Highlights from the Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting - Held on 6th November 2006 at 7:30 p.m**

## **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Mr. S. Willis addressed the council and expressed the concern and frustration he and his neighbours in Medley Close felt regarding the District Council Planning committee's response to their objections to a planning application for land adjacent to Bower Lane. He has received no explanation from District Council why a cartographical error omitting the land from the green belt has not been corrected. The clerk to write to the District Council in support of Mr. Willis and his neighbours.

PC Josh Tonkin advised the council that PC Viv Dade (5602) has been appointed as Beat Manager. There were 16 offences reported in October; 6 criminal damage; 1 theft of a motor vehicle; 2 thefts from motor vehicles; 1 violence against the person; 1 other burglary; 3 thefts; and 2 cases of fraud. Contact details were given for anyone interested in setting up Homewatch groups, they should contact Brendan Murray on 01582 473440.

## **CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE & COMMENTS.**

£75 will be donated to The Royal British Legion in respect of Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday. The Chairman gave a report on the Parish Council meets the School Council meeting, held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006. The meeting was well attended with 12 children present. The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Heyland, Conner, and Brand for their support, and the children for their interest.

One of the issues raised concerned the rubbish in the School Lane Rec., and the G.P. committee was asked to explore the suggestion of an additional litter bin for this location.

A letter from Chris North and friends, asking the Council to consider facilities for skateboarding. G.P. committee was asked to follow this up.

## **CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR:**

The Chairman explained that advice had been sought to ascertain the correct procedure for voting to co-opt to fill a casual vacancy on the Council.

Six written applications had been received, the councillors were asked to consider these and cast one vote. It was explained that an overall majority of those present and voting was required for a candidate to be successful.

Ballot papers were distributed and councillors cast their vote. It was subsequently reported that it was a unanimous decision.

Mrs. Maria Crace of Church Farm is to be invited to attend the next meeting.

## **G.P. REPORT**

R. Ouzel bridge

Temporary panels are now in place over the R. Ouzel bridge at Mill End Close

Quotes are coming in for fencing work.

Vegetation: Cllr. Brand has agreed to manage this, the P3 team may become involved.

Vermin: SBDC pest control department to be contacted.

## **Traffic Management**

Cllr Beal reported that an evaluation survey had been carried out by SBDC, this found there was no requirement for a school crossing patrol. This is to be investigated further.

Traffic speed monitoring has been completed at two locations, a third will follow.

A report of the activities of the committee regarding traffic management will be displayed around the village and published in Focus magazine.

Funding: One possible source is the County Partnership, and it was proposed by Cllr Beal, agreed unanimously, that an application for funding should be submitted without delay,

## **ALLOTMENTS:**

The proposed changes to the allotment regulations were explained and agreed unanimously. The

allotment holders are to be notified of the new regulations.

It was recognised that the plots are not currently marked out. An effective way of doing this is to be found and implemented as soon as possible.

#### **CEMETERY:**

Cllr Conner reported that 20 kg. of bulbs have now been planted, and that the site is looking better. The Clerk is to attend a burial ground management course, and will work with Cllr Conner to gather existing documentation with the intention of reviewing policy and regulations relating to the cemetery.

#### **CONDITION OF ROADS:**

Councillors were reminded that they have a responsibility to monitor the village, including the condition of the roads. Any concerns should be reported through the Clerk to the relevant authority.

#### **OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM OCTOBER MEETING:**

Repairs to Coffee Tavern chimney and flashing: The Clerk reported that Alan Barnard has now carried out his inspection and given a verbal report. It is necessary to repoint the chimney above the roofline and re-seat the chimney pots and seal them.

---

## **Eaton Bray Parish Council**

We hereby give notice of the following proposed changes to the byelaws in respect of pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces of Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire. These proposals to be advertised for a period of twelve weeks prior to submission to the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs. Any representation regarding these proposals should be addressed to: The Parish Clerk, 8 Gardners Close, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 2AJ

#### **Fires**

##### **This currently reads**

19(1) No person shall in the ground intentionally light a fire, or place, throw or let fall a lighted match or any other thing so as to be likely to cause a fire.

19(2) This byelaw shall not prevent the lighting of a properly constructed camping stove or cooker in any area set aside for the purpose, in such a manner as not to cause danger or damage by fire.

The changes are to delete the original para 19.2 and add words from the model byelaws 12(2)(a) and is now to read:

“Byelaws shall not apply to the lighting of a fire at any event for which the Council has given permission that fires may be lit.”

#### **Golf**

This is a new rule reading from the model byelaws para 35 and reads “Golf prohibited. No person shall drive, chip or pitch a hard golf ball.”

#### **Skateboards**

This is a new rule from the model byelaws para 26 and reads “Skateboarding permitted but must not cause danger or annoyance. No person shall skate, slide or ride on rollers, skateboards or other self-propelled vehicles in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons.”

#### **Horses**

This is new rule recommended by the GP committee to be inserted after the vehicles section (para 2) the following words to read “ There is no bridleway on this land and the riding of horses or ponies is prohibited”

#### **Wildlife**

This is a new rule from the model bye laws Para 9 “No person shall without the consent of the Council, turn out or permit any animal for which he is responsible to graze on the ground” followed by the words recommended by the GP committee “unless by licence of the Council”

**Dated 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

**Clerk to the Parish Council**



# Eaton Bray Parish Council

## Traffic Calming

As a continued action to calm traffic in the village, Eaton Bray Parish Council together with four interested members of the community have formed a committee to evaluate possible traffic calming measures in certain area's of the village.

To date the actions are:-

Police Traffic Management

Working together with advice from the police traffic management, measurement of traffic speed and density in certain roads for 24 hours over 7 days.

School Crossing Patrol at School Lane

This has been evaluated by the Road Safety Education & Training dept at Beds C. C. and found to be not enough pupils crossing the road at this point to put a crossing patrol into place.

School Signs

Requested roadside School Signs to indicate to traffic that children are present in the area of School Lane.

Funding

Research into possible funding for traffic calming measures that may be judged to be required.

We are grateful to the help and assistance freely given by the members of the public and the expertise given by the professional bodies concerned.

---

## Eaton Bray Youth Group

An opportunity will occur in January 2007 for a Youth Club Leader in Eaton Bray as the present Leader will be leaving.

This established and successful club provides a vital and rewarding position giving an essential facility for the young folk in the village.

The needs are:-

- To organise and oversee Youth Club Activities at the Coffee Tavern as well as on special arranged outings
- To liase with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity Team and Luton & Beds Youth Association on organised events

Supported by:-

- Two experienced helpers and a treasurer
- Support from the Parish Council
- Help for special projects from the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity Team & L&BYA

The rewards are:-

- A monthly salary during school term time
- All school holidays off

For further information contact M Beal (01525) 221185

or apply to

The Parish Clerk

Mr E Bird

8 Gardner Close

Dunstable

Bedfordshire LU6 2AJ

Tel: (01582) 699722



### National Trust South Bedfordshire Association Talks

**Monday 4th December, 2006**

**The Unicorn in Art and History** - *Chloe Cockerill, she works for the Church Conservation trust and has a special interest in heraldry and fabulous beasts*

**Wednesday 22nd January, 2007**

**Llamas at Home and Abroad** - *Joan & Rodney Newth, keepers of llamas and alpacas*

**2.30pm, Salvation Army Centre,**

**Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable.**

*Visitors are welcome at £1.00*

*For further information phone 01582 527790*



## Charity Christmas Puzzle 2006



Once again Christmas is drawing close, so it is nearly time to distribute this year's Charity Christmas Puzzle. The Puzzle, which has a theme designed to help completion, will appeal to people who enjoy doing Crossword puzzles, such as in the Daily Telegraph (though it is not a Crossword puzzle). Puzzlers have plenty of time to find the answers and Puzzles should be returned, with donation, by 21 January.

### **Four winners will each receive a £25 prize.**

This is the sixteenth annual Puzzle that Gordon Gray has set and, so far, raising a total of over £21,000 that has been distributed to various charities. This year's puzzle will support three charities: Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, Emmaus, St Albans and NOAH Enterprise.

### **It is hoped to raise more than last year's £3,000.**

Gordon plans to post Puzzles on Friday 8 December, so those already on the distribution list should receive their copies by 12 December. Anyone else who would like a copy of the Puzzle and isn't on the distribution list should contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136 or it can be accessed on the web at [www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk](http://www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk) from 8 December. Copies of the Puzzle will also be available from **The Book Castle, Dunstable** and St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray, from Sunday 10 December. If any errors in the Puzzle are found these will be identified on the website master copy which Puzzlers will be able to refer to in case of doubt.

### **Everyone who enters will qualify for a £25 prize draw.**



## Wanted – Homes For Mary And Joseph

There is an old Mexican custom where, during Advent, people dressed as Mary and Joseph travel around their villages knocking at peoples' doors to see who will give them hospitality.

The Mothers' Union has adapted this custom through the idea of a Travelling Crib, which was initiated, throughout our villages, for the first time last year. Many of you who attended one of St Mary's popular Christmas Eve Candle Service last year will have witnessed the return of our Mary and Joseph crib figures after they had spent December travelling from one home in the parish to another, symbolising Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus.

Our Mary and Joseph are crib figures made from olive wood and carved by Christians in Bethlehem. After a blessing in church on Advent Sunday (3 December) they will journey around the parish staying one night in any house that will welcome them. A short service is held on their arrival and a candle lit to signify they have a home for the night. Eventually they will be brought back to church on Christmas Eve for this year's Candle Service.

We do hope that St Mary's Travelling Crib will find a welcome in your house. If you would like to have Mary and Joseph in your home for a night this December please sign up on the form on the Notice Board in St Mary's Church.

All are welcome to participate in this lovely ritual. If there are more offers of hospitality than days in Advent then we will also be looking for homes for three wise men who have a long journey ahead of them before they can come and worship the Christ child on Epiphany.



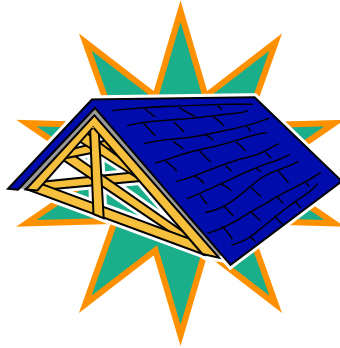


**REVIEW BY**



*The Edlesbray Players*

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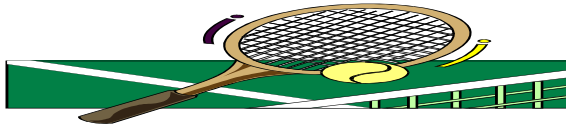
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**OPEN JAN 2ND 2007**



## Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

A quick one this month following our revelations in last month's Focus regarding the fabulous expansion plans for our club revealed by Russian billionaire Servya Racketov. I haven't had much time to concentrate on my normal duties over the last few weeks due to the enormous number of planning meetings I have had to attend following our development strategy for the School Lane courts and bringing Wimbledon to Eaton Bray. Apparently there's a potential issue with School Lane not being quite wide enough for the envisaged dual carriageway. No problem however, as Servya's newly appointed American architect U. Kanbe-Zerious Jnr has slipped a few dollars to the Parish Council for a new floodlit footpath between the White Horse and the Five Bells (with refreshment points along the way) and we're assured all will be OK; limited housing demolition will be required along School Lane (you'll get a few quid and a bit of bog-land in Kazakhstan) and the central reservation will include a fully equipped motorway service station complete with Q8 petrol, beef and salami sandwiches (half price on Wednesdays) and a Travelodge for those visitors who wish to enjoy the magnificent facilities on offer in Eaton Bray without the requirement to limit the night out to just two bottles of Smirnov and a pot of Stroganoff with sprouts.

With regard to our recent improvements, I am obliged, nay delighted to offer out thanks and appreciation to the Foundation for the Sports and the Arts who contributed magnificently to our new courts and fencing. I don't think they know about the aforementioned 'enhancements' with our Eastern European colleagues, so best not to mention them if someone from that organisation happens to knock on your door one day for a chat and a cup of tea. Just say that everything is in hand and ask them to call John Prescott who took a personal interest in our planning application; I have no explanation for why two Jaguars were parked outside our Chairman's house for most of November, but who am I to ask. I just write the articles and generally get sued afterwards, but I've played tennis with Tony Blair so there. And anyone who disputes that, just read Focus back in the late 90s sometime. That was a great report; political misunderstandings, wrongly-called line faults, our chairman being arrested by the flying squad, straightjackets, all night court sittings, oh what a weekend that was. And we're still here to tell the tale, albeit mostly about prison food, and some bloke called 'Lucky Bunny' which he probably was but our chairman certainly wasn't.

The Winter League has commenced and Eaton Bray is doing fine so far— our Men's team have beaten, no thrashed, Slip End (I'm sure they'll improve once their M1 bridge has been widened) and we expect to continue our magnificent results in this year's summer league where we were presented with no less than three trophies at the awards ceremony in October at the Luton & Vauxhall club. We collectively took over two tables and left all other clubs in no doubt as to which club was the rising star in 2006! So why not come and join us for what promises to be an 'Absolutely Fabulous' 2007, commencing with a Valentine's Dance at the village hall on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February, starring the 'Best UK Live band in 2006 (Eaton Bray South of High Street section) Jim Balls and his Racquets (don't ask...)' who served us well last year. Served us... get it? Oh never mind, just join us on the night!!

Finally, congratulations to club coach Nick Boys and his wife Karen who have recently become the proud parents of Daisy Elizabeth. Mother and daughter are doing well; husband is running around like a headless chicken. Mind you, don't all us new fathers do the same?!

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 'where've I put that baby?' Boys on 07810 832774, or if they're all out and I'm not at a planning meeting, me, Andy Cross on 01582 477114.

## Mothers' Union, Eaton Bray With Edlesborough

### October 2006

We met in the Coffee Tavern on 11<sup>th</sup> October – 12 members were present. Marjorie opened the meeting with prayers.

June then introduced Flora, who explained various changes in the Administration of the M.U. which include the loss of some committees and travelling expenses in an effort to cut costs. She has served as the Diocesan Vice-president for the Dunstable Deanery for six years, and retires from this office in December.

Peggy then volunteered to talk about incidents in her life. She was born in April 1929 in London. When war was declared she and her brother and sister were evacuated to St. Ives in Cornwall. To get some pocket money she helped repair fishermen's net. When her parents visited and saw the conditions in which their children were living, they took them back to London, even though the bombing was still continuing. The family then moved to Tilsworth and Peggy went to Stanbridge school.

June thanked both Flora and Peggy and the meeting closed with Grace at 4 p.m.

Our Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December. Further details at our next meeting.

### November 2006

We met in the Coffee Tavern on 8<sup>th</sup> November, with fourteen members present and Marjorie opened the meeting with prayers.

June then introduced Mrs. Ruth Deacon and her friend Jenny from Stopsley, to talk about China. They are both teachers and have visited China on a number of occasions. It is the third largest country in the world, with a population of 1.3 billion people. The Government is trying to reduce the population by limiting families to having only one child.

Beijing (formerly Peking) is the capital; the main religion is Buddhism. It is a communist country, which is being 'threatened' by Christianity, but people cannot go out as missionaries. Tourists, students, Christians, and Industrialists are all welcomed, and English is a sought after language.

In 1998 the first team from Stopsley Baptist Church visited the orphanages – a recent programme on TV showed the appalling conditions in which the children live. However, conditions are now improving and many children are being adopted. Boys are considered the most important for a family, and many girls just 'disappear.' The children are all very polite, and the women work very hard. Bicycles are the main form of transport, but there are more cars now. Mrs. Deacon brought along literature, photographs and beautiful embroidery, including tie-dye work.

June thanked her for a most interesting talk and the meeting closed with grace at 4 p.m.

New members are welcome.

### Eaton Bray Cricket Club

#### 100 Club Results

£100	Basil Ruffett	No.85
£50	Stuart Homes	No.104
£25	Edna Quinn	No.68
£10	Joan Flitton	No.22
£10	Derek Holt	No.101

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

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**Please contact Sonya on  
07961 155 870 or 01525 221278**

## Your Will & a Change in Circumstances

Last month I concluded my comments on Deeds of Variation – the important opportunity to change (vary) the Will or intestacy of a person who has died within the past two years, usually to avoid inheritance tax but also useful for other purposes.

**CHANGE:** When it was drafted your Will was prepared with your wishes and circumstances in mind. However, your circumstances and wishes and the circumstances of those mentioned in your Will can change making your Will inaccurate or at least no longer a reflection of your current wishes.

To manage change it is recommended that you review your Will regularly and up date it whenever a significant change has occurred.

Common changes include

- alteration in the distribution of benefits, e.g. a change in a money legacy
- addition or deletion of beneficiaries, including arising from the birth of a child
- replacement or addition of an executor, trustee or guardian. The current entry may have died. They may no longer be suitable, willing or be your choice.
- getting married, remarried or registering a civil partnership.
- getting divorced, dissolving a civil partnership or separating
- the inclusion of a trust

A change in personal status does not necessarily cancel a Will. For example, in the case of divorce, whilst any gift to a divorced spouse would lapse, unless a contrary intention is stated in the Will, other elements of the Will remain valid. Getting married or remarried cancels a previous Will unless the Will expressly states otherwise.

**CODICILS:** Under no circumstances must you alter your Will with pencil or ink amendments or attach anything to the Will – this will almost certainly invalidate any change you wish to make and probably the Will itself. Instead, most changes can be addressed by the use of a codicil. A codicil is a supplement to a will which makes some alterations but leaves the rest of it intact. A codicil can be prepared by the Will writer who drafted the Will but it need not be so. Each codicil must be signed by the person who made the Will and be witnessed in the same way as a Will. However, the witnesses do not have to be the same as for the original Will.

**A NEW WILL:** More significant changes such as the inclusion of a trust in your Will to minimise your inheritance tax liability or to make the best provision for any children, will normally require a new Will to be prepared. The new Will should commence with a clause stating that it revokes all previous Wills and codicils.

**KEY POINT:** You should review your Will regularly to ensure that it is up to date and continues to accurately express your wishes. Home owners, please check that your Wills have trusts in them to minimise any inheritance tax liability and/ or provide the best provision for children. Do contact me for more information or refer to my previous FOCUS articles that explain how a couple's Wills can operate in conjunction with their home being owned in Tenancy in Common rather than in Joint Names to provide these valuable benefits.

**Note:** The Will & Probate Practice now trades as Sovereign Will & Probate (Home Counties). The business remains unchanged including the specialist solicitors employed.

Tony Duke, Regional Director

**Sovereign Will & Probate**

*'A Solicitor's Service in Your Home at a Time to Suit You'*

### Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next meeting: Thurs 21st Dec 2006

Thurs 25th Jan 2007

• • • • •

### Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month

7.30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 4th Dec 2006

Mon 8th Jan 2007

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

Parish Plan – due to difficulty in arranging a date for the Public Meeting prior to Christmas and the New Year, this will now be on the Agenda for late January/early February 2007.

Quotations are being sought to provide a hard surface play area for the Basketball Net. The play area equipment is being repainted and repairs carried out to the roundabout. The existing goal posts require repairing or replacing.

The planning application for a further Dentist's Surgery in Edlesborough has been refused.

Further traffic calming measures are being investigated for the Church End/Leighton Road area of Edlesborough.

The result of the recent streetlighting survey carried out in Northall did not receive an overwhelming response. 66 letters were distributed with 31 responses received, 19 in favour and 12 against.

Police had to be called to a disturbance in Edlesborough on Halloween Night where approximately 50 youths from neighbouring villages converged and caused extensive vandalism.

Please Note that the date of the January Parish Council meeting will be changed from Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

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

E-mail: [parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk) Website: [www.edlesborough.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough.gov.uk)

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### **DLA and AA - Special Rules**

People who are considered to have no more than six months to live can make a claim for disability living allowance (DLA) or attendance allowance (AA) under the special rules. This means that they can get DLA or AA without having had the condition for a particular length of time or having to fill in all the boxes about the care needs on the claim form.

From 25 September, an award made under the special rules will be for a fixed period of three years (instead of for an indefinite period as previously). If the claimant is still alive after the three year period, a renewal claim can be made in the normal way.

DLA claimants will have to fill in all the boxes on the claim form if they wish to apply for the mobility component. This may be awarded for the same three year period or for an indefinite period depending on their circumstances. If claimants are already receiving the mobility component, the length of the award of the care component made under the special rules may be adjusted to more or less than three years. This is because the two components cannot be awarded for different fixed periods.

Far 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.

---

### **Eaton Bray Pre-School Playgroup**

We are currently getting ready for Christmas and this term our theme is celebrations, numbers and colours. We are also planning a Christmas concert on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and our party day is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Please give Cindy a ring on 07773095624 if you want to come and join in. We come back on January 4<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



## **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Collection in Northall - November 2006**

Many thanks to everyone who supported the British Legion Poppy Appeal Collection in Northall in November. I am delighted to be able to announce that we had another very successful year and raised a total of £315.47 (including donations from Edlesborough Parish Council for wreaths.) The House to House collection alone raised £157.02 which is pretty impressive as I didn't manage to reach every house in the village. Apologies if I missed you - I'll try to do better next year! Many thanks to the customers and staff at "The Swan" for their generous support and also a big "thank you" to the staff and pupils of Edlesborough School, who also made a generous contribution.

I have been collecting for the Poppy Appeal for over 20 years now, and never fail to be amazed at the generosity and good nature of everyone I meet, as I play "Russian roulette" with the traffic on those dark November evenings! Thank you for your kindness and good humour and for opening the door to me despite the dark and the possibility that I might be a "trick or treat". (I don't actually collect on "Halloween"!!)

As far as I am aware there is no regular Poppy collector in Edlesborough, although the shops and school are covered by myself and the Eaton Bray co-coordinators. If anyone feels that they would like to help with next year's collection by extending it into Edlesborough, please make contact with me, or with the Eaton Bray co-coordinators.

Thank you all again for your support.

Lorna Cabbage, "Larums", Eaton Bray Road, Northall, Nr. Dunstable, Beds. LU6 2EU Tel: 01525 220361 e-mail: [lornacabbage@larums.com](mailto:lornacabbage@larums.com)



### **Wanted – Gardens**

#### **In Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall**

Following on the success of the 2006 Open Gardens event we need volunteers to open their gardens next June.

If you would be prepared to do this, or would like more information, please contact Gordon Gray on 220136.

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## Letters to the Editors



*To whom it may concern*

*In reply to the concerns raised by the parishioner in October's 'Focus' regarding the basketball hoop that's recently been erected on the Edlesborough Village Green, I'd like to welcome the positive comment on this facility for the youth of our village.*

*The writer was correct in that it has taken a long time coming and when we finally had the monetary resources to purchase we did quite extensive research and consultation in the product and its positioning on the Green.*

*The Parish Council consulted with AVDC's Green Spaces Officer for Recreation who visited the Green, as well as the youth and local residents over the siting of the basketball hoop.*

*The present site was agreed as the best location taking into consideration safety, other Green users and the need for the activity to be played away from the car park and the sun if it's bright.*

*At the village fete the parishioners were shown the proposed plans and of the siting of the hoop and we requested their comments with no adverse ones being received.*

*The Parish Council are now looking into the possibility of providing a firm playing surface beneath the hoop so it can be used in all weathers.*

*Steve Munday*

---

### *Putting Edlesborough on the map?*

*You are a near neighbour, and I hope I will meet you before long. I moved to Edlesborough from London last month and I love my new home and village. First of all, I'd like to say how useful Focus Magazine has been to me as a newcomer to the village in finding out about facilities, services and what is going on; many thanks.*

*This might well have been raised in the past, but have any other Edlesborough residents had trouble establishing their address? I thought I lived in Summerleys, Edlesborough, Buckinghamshire. However, when my postcode is entered into any computer database, Edlesborough does not exist! All official documents, for example my new driving licence, and most other correspondence, arrives with Eaton Bray on the address and make no mention of Edlesborough. Recently, British Gas and a company making a parcel delivery have had difficulty finding me because of this. I, of course, mean no disrespect to our good neighbours in Eaton Bray! But Edlesborough has a strong identity and community in its own right. Wouldn't it be good to have the name of our village on our letters? I understand postcodes and district addresses are set by Royal Mail. Only they can make the decision to change them and, rightly so, only with consensus from residents. Might we join together to try and put Edlesborough back on the postal map? I would be willing to co-ordinate the cause.*

*Penny Sydenham, definitely from Edlesborough!*



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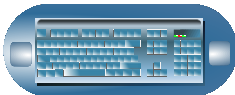
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Sat. 2nd Dec.	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
Sun. 3rd Dec.	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 6th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Lucille Kaye
Sun. 10th. Dec.	4.00 pm	Dagnall Village Carol Service
Wed. 13th Dec	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Brian and Sylvia Osborn show holiday slides
Sat. 16th Dec.	2.30 pm	Service of Dedication of the new Church Extension
Sun. 17th Dec.	10.30 am	Morning Service – Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Carol Singing
Tue. 19th Dec.	7.45 pm	Circuit Carol Service at the <u>Methodist Church, The Square, Dunstable</u>
Sun. 24th Dec.	10.30 am	Family Service
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 31st Dec.	10.30 am	Carol Praise
Wed. 3rd Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Helen Caine
Sun. 7th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Covenant Service
Wed. 10th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Bill Pattison speaks about Life’s Challenges
Sun. 14th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Fri. 19th Jan.	7.30 pm	‘The Churches and Family Life’ – Speaker Andrew Selous MP at <u>Eaton Bray Methodist Church</u>
Sun. 21st Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service - Eucharist
	4.00 pm	United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at <u>Edlesborough Methodist Church</u>
Wed. 24th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Quiz organised by Tony Lumley
Sun. 28th Jan.	9.00 pm	Holy Communion
	10.30 pm	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Wed. 31st Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Malcolm Grant
Sun 4th Feb.	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion

Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.



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### Eaton Bray W.I. Report



Our November meeting welcomed our guest speaker Captain William Wells who has enjoyed a career at sea lasting almost 50 years. A Master Mariner and former Ships Captain he has for the last 35 years been a licensed Commercial Marine Pilot ending his career as the Senior River Pilot in the Port of London.

Captain Wells a New Zealander by birth gave Lord Nelson as his hero and inspiration for a boyhood dream of going to sea. He went on to tell us about his life at sea as a Harbour Pilot in the middle east working at the large oil tanker terminals - often in war zones. Captain Wells as a river Pilot on the Thames saw the many changes taking place from the demise of the busy port of London, to the building of Canary Wharf and the new development replacing the commercial docklands of the city. Our WI business consisted of the members voting that our Christmas charity is to support the work of the “Mercy Ships”.

We will be celebrating our 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday in mid November with a dinner at Priory House Dunstable. Our next meeting is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm. in Eaton Bray Village Hall. New members and friends are always very welcome. Contact Sheila 221185.



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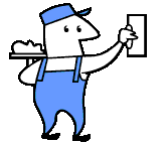
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# Salvation Sound. . . . .December/January 2007

## CONGRATULATIONS.....

Miss Joan Raisey was presented with a long service medal of commendation by The Royal British Legion, on her "retirement", she has sold poppies - door-to-door in this area for 60 consecutive years . Well done Joan. The photograph is of Joan with the Eaton Bray C.O. Lt.Col. Brian Knightley Mr. & Mrs. K Stanley, the area co-ordinators made the presentation at the Salvation Army's Sunday Service on October 19th.



## DIARY DATES...

- Saturday December 2nd. Coffee morning & Bric-a-Brac sale. 10am to 12 noon. at the Salvation Army Hall. Booth Place, All are welcome.
- Sunday December 17th. Christmas Carol Service at 4 p.m.
- Sunday December 24th. Morning Service only at 11 a.m.
- Monday December 25th. Morning service at 10.30 a.m.
- Saturday January 6th. Belated Christmas Lunch. 12.30 p.m. in the Hall. Please pre-book. with Maureen. 01525 221020.

## A Recipe for a Christmas Pastry. (presumed A.D. 1394.)

Take fesaunt, boare, and chykenne, or caponne, of eche oone, with two partruchis and two pygeonnes; and smite hem peeces and pyke clene away therfrom all ye boonys that ye can, and therewith do into a paste made craftly ynne ye lykenes of a byrdes bodye with lyuours and hertys and two kydneis of shepe and farcus (force-meat) andeyren (eggs) made into balles. Cast therto poudre of pepyr, salte, spyce, eysell (vinegar) and fungus (mushrooms) pickled and thanne (then), take ye boonys and let hem seethe ynne a pot to make a goode broth for it; with ye hede of oone of ye byrdes stucke at ye oone end of ye paste and a grete tayle at ye other and dyvers of hys longe fedyers sette ynne cunnynglye alle aboute hym.....

Well I think it would make a change from mince pies, wouldn't it.?

CHRISTMAS, December 25th. all of our thoughts turn to this time of great celebration; but before I write more let me put the record straight about that date.

The early church did not know the exact date of Jesus' birth, neither was there an annual celebration of it. What we do know is that it wasn't in December; for the shepherds and the sheep would have died from hypothermia in the freezing Palestine winter, out in the fields. No, we have to look to the year A.D.336 for the first evidence of a celebration which was found in a Roman document. The date was chosen as a take over of the Roman festival celebrating the unconquerable SUN. The apparently dying sun began to increase its sunlight on DEC. 25th. Augustine was sent by an early Pope to convert the barbaric Anglo-Saxon tribes in Northern Europe. He found them responsive and tried to fit in Christian festivities around local traditions. Our word Yule-tide is derived from the name of an Anglo-Saxon god and again the mid-winter revelries and celebrations concerned the re-birth of the sun. Now we Christians instead of worshipping the SUN, celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ, the UNCONQUERABLE SON, on that day.....

Christmas was declared a holiday - gifts were exchanged - houses were decorated with evergreens - holly, mistletoe, and ivy - to represent continuing life - plays were performed - the original pantomime -; customs and traditions still continue, and they do have some value, but they are only the "wrapping paper" around the "box" in which Jesus Christ, the true meaning of CHRIST-mas lies.

As we decorate the tree,  
Wrap up our gifts and laugh with glee,  
Shall we with wondrous joy recall  
The greatest gift to one and all.





The Saviour of mankind who came,  
 Not as a man of worldly fame,  
 But He who was of humble birth  
 Brought peace and love to all on earth. M. G.  
 ISAIAH 7 : 14.

The Lord Himself will give you a sign: The  
 virgin will be with child and will give birth to a  
 son, and will call him Immanuel.

May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you,  
 dear readers, throughout the year to come.....



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## Edlesborough W.I.

To celebrate our birthday, Kathie Froud had cooked and decorated a lovely cake, and we were each served with a slice at our monthly meeting.

Our speaker that evening was Mr. Roger Evans from the Thatching Centre in Northampton. He spoke on an invitation he had received from Japan to go there and demonstrate English methods of thatching. He and his wife stayed in a small village surrounded by mountains and forests of cedar trees. Black bears, monkeys and wild boar are to be found in the region. Villagers live in small thatched houses and log cabins.

Mr. Evans showed slides of the work carried out jointly by himself and Japanese thatchers. The house they worked on was in a very bad state. Before they began, a crowd of villagers came to witness the blessing of the house. Once the thatching started, the whole process was filmed for Japanese T.V., and many V.I.P.'s visited the site. Mr Evans said it was an uncomfortable climate to work in – very humid. However, he enjoyed the company of the Japanese thatchers, and they all learned from each other's methods.

The scaffolding was made from cedar poles, and the ladders were very short so a few were tied together to make one long one! Mr. Evans showed them how to thatch with reeds, which had to be transported several hundred miles. The Japanese workers completed the work by laying cedar strips across the reeds. It really was a pleasure to see the slides of the finished work.

Two of the young thatchers had visited the Thatching Centre to study our methods but, unfortunately, there are very few young Japanese people taking up this career. Mr. Evans had really enjoyed his unique experience, and had been treated so hospitably when in Japan.

Later in the month a number of Edlesborough members attended the Beacon Group meeting at Aston Clinton, when they heard a talk by Lady Lucinda Lampton of T.V. fame.

Val Harris

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"The ethos of the school is very good and staff are consistent in their expectations of pupils' good behaviour."



"The openness, warmth and mutual respect, which permeate the school, promote a purposeful climate in which effective learning can take place."



"In lessons, pupils behave well because they have good relationships with their teachers and want to work hard for them."



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## Becca's letter from Uganda

Thank you again so much for your support. We've now purchased the pulse oximeter as you can see in the picture. Those of you who have been in hospital in the UK will recognise it as a standard piece of equipment that NHS staff and patients take for granted, but which has the potential to save many lives. It will mean so much to the hospital to have such a vital piece of equipment.



Our machine is a very nice one, it does continuous monitoring, which we need for very sick patients, and can be used on adults and children. It has a battery back up so, importantly, will work when there's no power, and this plus the fact it is light, means it can be used to check the oxygen levels of many peoples' blood. It cost 2,179,250 Ugandan shillings, which is equivalent to about £677 with the exchange rate at the moment.

So it's just arrived. Over the coming weeks I will be teaching the nurses how to use the equipment and, with the surgeon, establish a protocol for how the nurses should react. Next month, once the machine is in use I hope to send you some of the nurses' comments and thanks, and a picture of it being used with a case study.

Thanks to the generosity of your villages, through St Mary's Church we have also been able to place an order for a blood pressure monitoring machine, which we expect to arrive in the next few weeks. Emma who is a nurse on the ward, said "Thanks so much, may you be blessed, this equipment is really going to help so many people".

**Gordon Gray writes:** This year's project has taught me an awful lot about our ability to send aid to the third world. When we read the news there seems to be so much need that it is impossible for us to think that we can do anything to help address the problem of poverty, poor health and the inequality of the use of the world's resources. The simple fact is that as a result of the actions of the people of our villages there are people alive today who would otherwise be dead. Those people have mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, children, husbands, wives who today are not in mourning for a dearly loved family member.

Individually it has cost the people of our villages hardly anything – most people's contribution was little more than the £3 entry fee for the Open Gardens event in June – yet we have done something remarkable and made a significant difference to a village community in Uganda. Thank you everyone for your support so far, throughout the year.

---

## Eaton Bray Methodist Church

A reminder that our Christmas lunch with Festive Stalls will be held on Saturday December 2nd when our chosen charity to be supported will be Ian Rennie Hospice at Home.

Our Family Carol Service will be held on Sunday December 17th at 10.30am and will be led by the Rev Lucille Kaye with the help of our Sunday School. This is always a special service when our young people demonstrate their enthusiasm for the Christmas message. A warm welcome awaits you, do join us.

The Christmas day service will be held at 10.30am. This is always a happy and well attended service and an excellent start to this special day.

January lunches will be served on Saturday 13th January 2007 from 12noon until 1.30pm and the charity donation will be given to Ugandan HIV Appeal. Do come along and enjoy a hot home cooked meal in friendly company and help support a worthy charity.

Date for your diary; our February lunch will be Saturday 10th from 12noon and the charity for our support will be our local Age Concern group.





## Edlesborough Tennis Club

Now the clocks have gone back and the dark nights are here there is no need to stop playing tennis. Wrap up warm, get a floodlight token only £1 for half an hour and blow the cobwebs away. Just in case you've hung your rackets up for the winter, are bored and looking for something to do then go onto the internet, type in [www.etctennis.org](http://www.etctennis.org) and welcome to the new all singing and dancing Edlesborough Tennis Club web site. Whilst we were all enjoying the Indian summer Alistair Bennett our club development officer and Judi Hopcroft from JUPITERWILL were busy creating the site. Log on and have a look; members area, court booking, junior page, mini tennis, coaching & social. The site is still in its infancy so please feel free to make suggestions in the Request Form section to help us make the site as informative and interesting as possible.

Coaching on the green does not stop for winter, and mums and dads, whilst you're watching your offsprings training to become the next Wimbledon champion you can keep warm and relaxed with a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits in the Pavilion. We are a small village tennis club but are fortunate to be able to provide our members with a very high standard of coaching

### EDLESBOROUGH WINTER COACHING PROGRAMME

#### WEEKLY TIMETABLE November to March 2007

##### TUESDAY

|               |             |                 |      |       |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|------|-------|
| 5:00 - 5:45 - | MINI TENNIS | GREEN           | Leon | £3.50 |
| 5:45 - 6:30 - | MINI TENNIS | RED development | Leon | £3.50 |
| 6:30 - 7:15 - | MINI TENNIS | ORANGE          | Leon | £3.50 |
| 7:15 - 8:15 - | UNDER 18    | MIXED           | Leon | £4.00 |
| 8:15 - 9:15 - | ADULT       |                 | Leon | £4.00 |

##### WEDNESDAY

|               |             |        |       |       |
|---------------|-------------|--------|-------|-------|
| 4:15 - 5:00 - | MINI TENNIS | RED    | Terry | £3.50 |
| 5:00 - 5:45 - | MINI TENNIS | ORANGE | Terry | £3.50 |

##### THURSDAY

|                |                              |                    |       |       |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| 9:15 - 10:45am | TENNIS COFFEE & CAKE morning |                    | Leon  | £6.00 |
| 3:30 - 4:15 -  | MINI TENNIS                  | RED in school hall | Terry | £3.80 |
| 4:15 - 5:00 -  | MINI TENNIS                  | RED in school hall | Terry | £3.80 |
| 5:15 - 6:15 -  | JUNIOR                       | supervised CLUB    | Terry | £2.00 |

##### FRIDAY

|               |          |       |      |       |
|---------------|----------|-------|------|-------|
| 5:00 - 6:00 - | UNDER 14 | GIRLS | Leon | £4.00 |
| 6:00 - 7:00 - | UNDER 14 | BOYS  | Leon | £4.00 |
| 7:00 - 8:00 - | UNDER 16 | BOYS  | Leon | £4.00 |
| 8:00 - 9:00 - | ADULT    |       | Leon | £4.00 |

### Do you enjoy good wines?

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