

FOCUS

October 2007



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

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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

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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Focus would like to remind contributors that the deadline for articles is the 10th of the preceding month

**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MOBILE NUMBER
FOR PC VIV DADY IS 07900 051367**

All Saints, Dagnall - Services and Meetings in October 2007

Wed. 3rd Oct	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Rev'd Peter Dudeney
Sun. 7th Oct.	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 10th Oct.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Sally Thorne speaks about the <i>Marathon des Sables</i> in which she took part
Thu. 11th Oct.	7.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun. 14th Oct.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Wed. 17th Oct.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Speaker: Janet Munro from the National Trust
Sun. 21st Oct.	10.30 am	Family Communion
Wed. 24th Oct.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Speaker: Brian Caveney, Methodist Youth President
Sun. 28th Oct.	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist for the Festival of All Saints
Wed. 31st Oct	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – with a speaker from the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home
Sun. 4th Nov.	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.



Village Diaries October 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, 9.30-12 noon, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Under 5's Pre-School, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Sue Connor 01525 222739
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Kay 07803 925254
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays (term time) Mums & Tots Group, 1-2.30pm, Grace Community Church
- Tuesdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm 01525 377542
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Baby Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
- Tuesdays FITKID, 6-7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Caroline 08445 606432
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, Totternhoe Village Hall, 07986 730922
- Tuesdays Fortnightly Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Weds (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 Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Thurs (term time) Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45 - 2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) Contact Michelle Tel 01442 842 676
- Thursdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm
- Thursdays Keep fit, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304
- Thursdays Kfa Body Moves 40+, Fitness through movement, exercise & dance. 8-9pm, Edlesborough School, Contact Pat 01582 668735
- Thursdays Baby & Toddler Group, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 9.30-11.30am
- Fridays SOCATOTS,12:45, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Daniel Walker 07968 778681
- Fridays (term time) The Venue for 8-12s @ Grace Community Church, 7.00-8.45 pm, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
- Saturdays Jazzercise, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 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 at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For 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 (opposite Wilkinson)
- 2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 2nd Wednesday 8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church
- 2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3rd Sunday Grace Community Church Service, 11am, all welcome, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 12th Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am
- 16th Dagnall Over 60s, Sausage & Mash, Village Hall 1.30 pm
- 17th & 21st Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 3rd Autumn Bazaar, 2-4pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 5th Quiz, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Bookings: Ross 221411
- 6th Ironing Day at Dagnall Church 10am – 4pm
- 6th Coffee Morning, 10.30am - 12noon, St. Mary's Eaton Bray
- 6th Yoga Day, 9.45am, Stanbridge & Tilsworth Village Hall, £20
- 7th Harvest Festival, 11am-6pm, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- 16th Salvation Army Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy Sale, 10am - 12 noon, The Bungalow, Bower Lane,
- 16th-28th "FairTrade Trevor", Display of photographer, Trevor Leighton's, work, Lounge Bar, Leighton Buzzard Theatre
- 17th Age Concern Coffee Morning, 10-12noon, Northall Village Hall
- 22nd Nearly New Clothes Sale, 2-4pm, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- 24th "Black & Gold", 8pm, Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Tickets: 221780
- 26th Beetle Drive, 7-9pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Tickets: 01525 221576
- 27th French Supper Evening 7.30 Dagnall Village Hall in aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home (see separate advert) Book 01442842857
- 30th Fashion Show, 7.30pm Dagnall Village Hall, Book 01525 221470



Edlesborough Under 5's

Monday - Friday **9.15 am - 12.00 noon**
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"Children come into the group happily, eager to take part in the activities"

"Children's creative skills are promoted very well through a stimulating range of opportunities"

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 Tracey on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.

For registration details, or to place your child on the waiting list, please phone Sue Pickering: Tel - 01525 222199.

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Coffee Morning at Hollywell Cottage

I would like to thank all those who so generously supported the coffee morning on 14th September at Hollywell Cottage in aid of Fibromyalgia Awareness Week. It has done a little to raise awareness about this condition and raised the fantastic sum of £600, part of which will be donated to a Fibromyalgia Support Group. The rest will go to help with the publication cost of a new book about Fibromyalgia. Profit from the sale of this book called "Pain 24/7 The Fibromyalgia Jigsaw©" will go to research.

Joan Chappell

Barnardo's Collection

Many thanks to all the residents of The Green, Edlesborough who contributed to the Barnardo's Annual Appeal in June. The sum raised this year was £52 which goes towards the charities many projects helping vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

Many thanks, Diane Webster

Is Your Will Still On Your 'To Do' List?

We all need a Will, yet many of us keep putting off making our Will. Our loved one's will not thank us if we do. However, the tax man could be very pleased!

Wills are not just for the elderly. Death can strike at any time. Wills are vital to the young married couple, those in a civil partnership, the single person and to those in a common law relationship.

Your Will determines what happens when you die, who gets what, who administers your affairs, who are to be guardians and much more. A Will can save a couple's family over £100,000 in inheritance tax and protect the home from an enforced sale to meet long term care fees.

Without a Will we are all subject to the Rules of Intestacy. The Rules are arbitrary and do not reflect your personal wishes. You will pay the maximum inheritance tax and your assets could be handed to the Crown. Intestacy is often a source of financial hardship as well as unnecessary family stress and potential conflict.

Making a Will should be a high priority for everyone over 18. For those with assets over £300,000 a Will should be mandatory. *It just does not make any sense not to have an up to date and valid Will.*

Your Will is one of the most important documents you will sign in your life time. It is essential that you avoid the traps that can be met in the unregulated Will writing market and obtain expert guidance on all the options available to you, ideally in the privacy of your home, and that your Will is drafted by specialist Law Society regulated solicitors who afford you the optimum legal protection. Sovereign Will & Probate Services Ltd provide this service for a very competitive fee.

KEY POINT: Your Will is your final instruction. It must record your current requirements and be efficiently structured if your wishes are to be followed on your death and, for example, any inheritance tax is to be avoided.

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Will writers for The TIMES Will writing service, national charities, financial advisers etc.

How green is our pleasant land?

England is not alone in becoming increasingly dependent on imported gas and oil. We are one of 27 oil producing nations who reported declining output in 2006.*

In an era of vanishing cheap oil, the best gift any individual of this generation is likely to be able to make to his or her children, will not be the extended loan**. It will be the proof of not having used natural resources entirely selfishly. Passing on a home and lifestyle which contributes positively to a low carbon community may be just the proof that tomorrow's children will be looking for.

So, how do we move towards low carbon living? Well, first things first. 85% of the energy we use in our homes is used on space and water heating. The most cost-effective way to reduce this consumption is to better insulate our homes.

For information on insulation grants and discounts, contact the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre on **0800 512 012**.

* 27 of the 51 oil-producing nations listed in BP's Statistical Review of World Energy reported output declines in 2006 - The Times, 16 July 2007

** A barrel of oil was priced at \$10 as recently as 1999. In July 2007 oil hit \$77 a barrel.



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Poppy Appeal

On behalf of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal I would like to say a big thank you to the residents of Edlesborough for their continuing support of the appeal. I recently collected from the village store yet another poppy collecting box, this was the second box filled since November 2006. The amount of £26.48 was gratefully received.

With the help of those who support the British Legion through donations we are able to help the ex service community who are in need, this work is done among both the older generation and the young.

Last year the Poppy Appeal raised nationally £26 million pounds but actually spent on welfare £86 million. Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding villages raised £17,450, which was a marvellous outcome.

There are so many ways that help can be given it ranges from providing large items of equipment (Electric wheelchairs and buggies) short holiday breaks for recuperation, right down to providing a school uniform for a child who has lost a parent in the current war zones, the needs are endless, and unfortunately the problem is getting worse. Barbara Cookson, Poppy Appeal Organiser



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2007

Our house to house collectors will be making their rounds between 27th October and 10th November and once again we are asking that you give as generously as you can to help the Legion as it works tirelessly to help ex-servicemen and women who have encountered difficult times and hardship. Without the Legion and without your help many would be in dire straits. One ex-serviceman who had been supported by the Legion summed up the help he had been given with these words. He said "The help I have been given has enabled me to stop looking back with sadness and encouraged me to look forward with hope."

For a variety of reasons several of our long serving house to house collectors are no longer able to help so we have a need for volunteers willing to give a little time during the dates mentioned above to this deserving cause. Jean organises the list and would be delighted to hear from anyone able to help. Our telephone number is at the end of this note. House to house collections are an important aspect of the appeal both financially and in keeping us all aware of the Legion's valuable work. It takes only a little time to make a real difference to the life of someone in real need. Thank you, Keith and Jean Stanley. Tel. 01525. 220608

Totternhoe Pre-School Update

This term the children are exploring colours and we have lots of colourful activities planned. We're also looking forward to our annual Halloween party on 31st October 5pm – 7pm in St Giles Hall. All pre-school aged children (and older siblings) are welcome to join in the fun, so why not book your ticket now?

Totternhoe Pre-school welcomes children from the age of two to learn through play on Monday to Thursday mornings in Totternhoe Memorial Hall. Call Kay on 07803 925254 for more details.



A Letter from Edlesborough School

As we start a new academic year I am writing this letter to thank all children, parents governors and villagers for the considerable help and support which they give to the school.

As a staff we work very hard to ensure that the children receive a good education. We strongly believe that children learn best in an environment where they are valued and taught to value other people, where it is important to 'do' your best irrespective of your particular strengths and talents or indeed weaknesses and difficulties.

The Government's 'Every Child Matters' policy has five main aims for children:

- Staying Healthy
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Keeping Safe
- Contributing to the Community
- Social and Economic Well Being

It is impossible to get things right all the time and one system does not fit every child. However by working together as a community we can achieve a great deal and give the children in the villages the best start possible.

We are very fortunate to have an excellent Parents' Association, FOES (Friends of Edlesborough School) who work so hard to provide social events and much needed additional funds, a dedicated Governing Body who support all aspects of the management of the school, parents who run many events such as the book fairs and the travel program. Many of you will have seen the crocodiles of children walking to school every day. We also have a group of volunteers who regularly work in school with the children, or on administrative and IT tasks. The support of all these people significantly enriches the lives of the children and the community.

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who contributes to the life of the school.

Janet Hatfield (Headteacher)

Carnival Dog Show 2007 – Results

On behalf of the Carnival Committee I would like to thank Julie, Steph and all the Team at Appledown Boarding Kennels on Harling Road for organising what was the most successful event to date. The principal results were as follows:

	Name	Breed	Owner(s)
Best in Show (Pedigree)	Cassie	Toy Poodle	Mrs & Mrs RJ Fountain
Best in Show (Novelty)	Compo	Jack Russell cross	Sophie Moriarty
Best in Show (Puppy)	Blake	German Short-haired pointer	Liz Stedman
Reserve Best in Show (Pedigree)	Amy	Border Terrier	P. South

Congratulations to all the winners whether best in show or of an individual class and thank you to all the Owners who entered their dogs – see you all again next year.

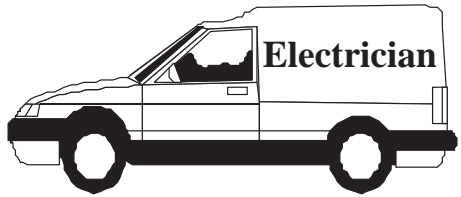
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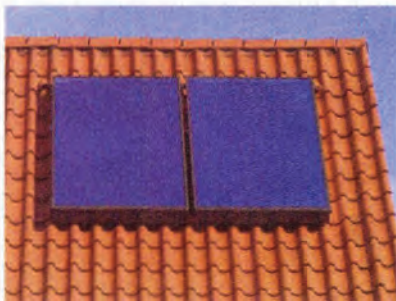
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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Canon Malcolm Grant

The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261

Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer

35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

This summer has been dominated by pictures of a missing child. Ever since her disappearance was first reported, we have been surrounded by pictures of Madeleine McCann, with her playful eyes and mischievous grin. We may have been angered by the excessive journalistic speculation about this tragic case and the intrusive reporting, but no-one can deny how those pictures have seized our hearts. None of us knows the child, and yet we feel for her, and we are gripped by a deep sense of tender compassion for her. When something terrible happens to a child, we all feel a love for the victim, however hard it may be to explain our feelings rationally.

Our reaction to a lost child can give us a window on to God's love for us. If we are able to feel like this for a child we have never met, how much more does God feel for us? Jesus told many stories which underline God's love and compassion for us. There was the story of the shepherd who found that one of his flock had gone missing, and he left all the rest behind to go and search for the lost one, and came back, full of joy, when he had rescued it. And there was the story of the father who welcomed his prodigal son home, delighted to have him back safe and sound after all his misdemeanours and stupidity. Jesus told us these stories to show us how much God loves us, and to what lengths He is prepared to go to bring us back when we stray from His ways.

Of course, Jesus did not show us this only in words: his whole life was a demonstration of God's love expressed in human terms, terms that we can relate to directly and understand. In the gospels we see Jesus caring for the sick and the outcast, glad to be in the company of folk that respectable people shunned, reaching out across barriers to the neglected and the despised. Supremely, we see Jesus embracing the terrible ordeal of crucifixion for us. "God so loved the world ..." – we look at the cross and are overwhelmed by the reality of divine love, a love that embraces all of us.

We are all precious to our heavenly Father – our care and concern for one little girl who disappeared in a holiday resort in Portugal helps us to understand how God can love each one of us individually and how He acts to save us. And how do we respond to that amazing love? Can we love a little in return, and show our gratitude by extending our love towards other people? The Church exists as a community of people who recognize that God loves them and want to try to show their love for Him by living in a way which pleases Him. That is the start of Christian discipleship: our feeble response to God's great love for us. But we can encourage one another by coming together, and you will always be welcome to come and share the life of your local Church, where Sunday by Sunday we celebrate God's love and goodness and enjoy one another's friendship. Why not give it a try?

MALCOLM

THANK YOU

The Residents of Taskers Row Sheltered Housing Scheme wish to thank everybody who supported their recent Barbeque. A total of £165 was raised for 'The Horse Trust.'

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms – “Brought to new birth in the family of the Church”

2 September Alexandra May Chatterley
William Nash Porter

9 September Annabel Kate Browne

Weddings – “To love and to cherish till death us do part”

21 July Robert John Stock and Kay Burke

4 August Stephen James Coates and Stephanie Louise Holder

Funerals – “Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest”

21 August Phyllis Hewett of Brownlow Avenue, Edlesborough



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

(on 2nd Thursday at All Saints’, Dagnall)

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Parents can complain direct to the Office of Standards in Education (Ofsted) about aspects of education at their children’s school. Ofsted can only investigate complaints about the work of a school as a whole, not ones about the treatment of individual children. Further details are available on Ofsted’s website at www.ofsted.gov.uk. If parents or pupils wish to raise a complaint relating to an individual child, s/he must do so through the usual channels by contacting first the school itself and then the local education authority or governors of the school.

Exclusion from school

From 1 September in England, new rules come into force on school exclusions. Parents face a fine if their children are found in public places during school hours for the first five days of their exclusion. Local education authorities must ensure that alternative full-time education is provided for excluded pupils from the sixth day of their exclusion.

For more information contact the Citizens Advice Bureau, Grove House, High Street North, Dunstable. Tel: 01582 661384. Would you like to join our volunteers? Please contact the above number for more information on volunteering opportunities at Dunstable Bureau.

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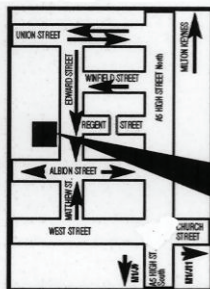


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Edlesborough W.I.

At the first of our two recent monthly meetings Kathie Froud was thanked for making arrangements for our meal at The Plough, Wingfield, and Elizabeth Braiden for garden outings. A certificate had been received from the Yorkshire Tea Co. regarding tokens collected by members in the Tree For Life campaign. A very interesting report on the recent A.G.M. of National W.I. was read out. The resolution, namely: 'This resolution urges H. M. Government to stop the closure of Community Hospitals, which provide essential services to local people', had been passed with a huge majority. Members agreed on the choice of electric cooker we were providing for the Memorial Hall.

Janet Naylor, our speaker, gave a humorous talk on 'Things that make me laugh'. Under various headings, such as: Senior Citizens' Meetings, Notes to the Milkman, Adverts in Newspapers, Children's Howlers, etc., Janet talked about descriptions we come across everyday which can be read in two different ways. We are all used to these, but they always succeed in making us laugh. For instance, such examples as: 'Guard Dogs Operate', 'Piano for sale by lady with curved legs', 'Operations at your Convenience', 'Ears Pierced while you Wait' were quoted by Janet. She said that we always have to smile when we come across these. It was a very light-hearted & amusing talk.

August was a busy month in various ways. There were outings to public gardens and craft events, and we had a very enjoyable coffee morning at Brooklyn Farm, home of Chris Yates. At our monthly meeting it was reported that photos of our two exhibits in the countrywide W.I. exhibition of textiles had appeared in the publication "Textile Treasures of the W.I.". Phrena, our President, read out a very interesting newspaper account regarding the help a pool of 800 W.I. Ladies have been giving to Marks & Spencer. They have assisted by voicing opinions on many aspects of proposed new fashions styles and, apparently, their help has been very much appreciated by M. & S.

Our August speaker was Mr. Martin Clarke, a retired solicitor, who gave some useful information on the subject of protecting our assets and making a will. He was, in fact, impressed by the number of members who had already drawn up wills. He outlined problems which can arise, and advised us on how to deal with them. Mr. Clarke said that there are so many new rules and regulations it would be a good idea to check that wills are not out of date if they were made some time ago.

Numerous points regarding wills were covered. For instance, we were advised: let somebody know where to find it, choose Executors wisely, take care when leaving money to children. Other matters touched on included houses in joint ownership, long-term care, equity release and 'living' wills.

It was certainly food for thought, and Mr. Clarke's advice was much appreciated.

Val Harris

Dunstable & District Orbit Club

have now moved to a new venue. The Club now meets at Dunstable Rugby Club, just past the Thorn turn on the A507, every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 8pm. Orbit is a Social & Charitable Club and welcomes anyone mid 30s onwards married or single.

We would be pleased to see you.
For more information, please contact
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Back Care Awareness Week 8TH -12TH October

Are You Sitting Correctly? St Judes Clinic Team Tips

Nowadays, many of us spend a large proportion of our working day sat at the computer. If we do not sit properly, use correctly positioned furniture and equipment or take regular breaks, this can lead to a variety of problems. Headaches, neck and back pain, and pain in the arms and hands often referred to as Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI) can all occur.

The ever increasing popularity of laptop computers is further compounding these problems. A recent survey indicated that 50% of 16-24 year-olds were suffering from back pain, compared with 18% 3 years ago.

This article aims to provide you with a few useful tips to make sitting more comfortable and reduce your chances of developing problems.

- Ensure your low back is supported – if your chair doesn't have lumbar support, try rolling up a small towel and placing in the arch of your lower back.
- Try to adjust the angle of your seat so your hips are slightly higher than your knees.
- Your forearms should be parallel to the floor, so adjust your desk height accordingly and use a footrest if needed.
- Your eyes should be level with the top of your display screen, which should be straight in front of you if possible.
- Do not wedge the telephone between your ear and shoulder. Consider using a headset if using the telephone for long periods of the day.
- Place your mouse within easy reach and support your forearm on the desk.
- Do not sit for too long – stand up and stretch every 20 minutes or so.

If using a laptop regularly, consider buying a portable laptop stand, which allows you to raise your screen to a higher level when working on an external keyboard.

If you feel you may need more individual advice, St Judes does now offer an Ergonomic and Workplace Assessment service, which is run by one of our Chartered Physiotherapists, who specialises in this field or if you are suffering from aches & pains, any one of our team of Chartered Physiotherapists would be pleased to speak to you. **The Clinic can be contacted on ☎01525 377751, by email on enquiries@stjudesclinic.com or visit our website on www.stjudesclinic.com.**

Saving Used Stamps & Foreign Coins for Cancer Research

Another BIG thanks to all of you who have been snipping away trimming stamps for me to send off to CRC to raise money to fight Cancer.

For those of you who don't know about this, used stamps - carefully trimmed of all excess paper (we do not need to save the postmark as well) - can be used to raise money, also any unwanted coins foreign or British are sent to a dealer in London who buys them by the sackful (ONLY IF THEY ARE TRIMMED) and the money goes to the Cancer Research Campaign.

This year your response has been HUGE, so well done especially to the local schools and Age Concern at Northall. Please carry on putting them through my letter box at 10 Deans Meadow, Dagnall. Many thanks Sue Cawdell.

Super-Santa's Super-Letters

Once upon a time in the dim and distant past Eaton Bray's old tumbledown Village Hall was in a sorry state – and when the people of the village decided to make the Hall all new and swanky panky good they found that the cupboard was bare and that they didn't even have a cow to take to market to sell!

Then one cold winters day while searching through the cobwebs under the stage for some magic beans a wizened old hat-maker found a dusty cracked old piece of parchment with the words "Ye Olde Christmas Santa's letters!" Blowing the dust off the old man found the details of a magical secret portkey that allowed parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to send secret special letters to Santa – and even better the parchment said that Santa would send super-special Santa letters to the children, reassuring them that he hadn't forgotten about them and would make a special effort to get to their house on Christmas morning with all the goodies they (or their parents!) wanted.

And ever since that dark winters day long ago last century the good children of the Four Villages have had super special letters from Santa – and for every letter Santa has donated £2 to the fund to renovate the Village Hall!

So with a mere 80 days to go until the festive season! Remember to watch this space next month for just how to make sure your little ones wake up with a smile on their face and not tears in their eyes – because remember if you don't tell Santa just how good your child has been then how will he know?



directed by Marc and Nick Francis

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But while we continue to drink for our lattes and cappuccinos, the price paid to coffee farmers remains so low that many have been forced to abandon their coffee fields.

After show discussion panel: Hannah Read from the Fairtrade Town Initiative, Fairtrade Foundation and Lisa Rutherford, Oxfam Campaigns, London Region.

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PLUS FAIR TRADE TREVOR in The Lounge Bar, Leighton Buzzard Theatre, 16th-28th October

A chance to see the work of world renowned photographer, Trevor Leighton. Trevor has taken a series of black and white portraits showing high profile celebrities having fun with a range of Fairtrade products from pineapples to cotton.

Why not come early on 24th enjoy a glass of Fairtrade wine or a cup of Fairtrade coffee and view Trevor Leighton's exhibition.

**For further information contact:
Angela Feaviour 221780**



Beetle Drive

Friday 26 October

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

7.00pm – 9.00pm

**Tickets: adult £2.50, child £1
(includes refreshments)
from Sally Taylor 01525 221576 or
Katrina Grant 01525 220261**

Raffle,
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Homemade
Cakes!



**All proceeds to
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January 24th, 25th, 26th 2008

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ENTRANCE 50p

Friends of Dagnall School's



Fashion Show

Tuesday 30th October

Dagnall Village Hall

doors open 7.30pm for 8pm start

Clothes to include Principles, Per Una, Dorothy Perkins, Next etc.

£3 per person to include glass of wine

All clothes available to buy on the night

Cash / cheque/ debit and credit cards accepted

Also raffle and refreshments

Pre-booking is advisable as our previous show was sold out

**Please contact
Tina on 01525 221470**

Quiz

Village Hall

Friday 5th October 2007

This fabulous quiz with quizmaster Keith Blackburn will be the event of the year

(even better than the one in April!)

Free supper included with the questions
Bring you own glasses and drink

7.30pm for 8pm

£8 per person

Teams of up to 8 people

(10 as long as they are not too bright)

This event is organised jointly by Eaton Bray Village Hall Fundraising Committee and Eaton Bray tennis Club

For bookings contact Ross 221411
Jan 220191 or Katrina 01582 661279



Join us for an

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In aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home

Saturday 27th October, 7.30 pm

Dagnall Village Hall

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Charity number 297847

Friends of St. Mary's Eaton Bray

Saturday 6th October

10.30 - 12.00

COFFEE MORNING

Stalls

Refreshments

Bring & Buy

Raffle

At St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

Dunstable & District

Local History Society

Tuesday 9th October, 7.45pm

'The Story of BBC

Three Counties Radio

By broadcaster Ian Pearce

Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable



Edlesborough Under 5's

Autumn Bazaar

Wednesday 3rd October

2pm-4pm

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Entrance is Free!

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- Pocket Money Toys
- Jewellery
- Chocoholics
- Books
- & much more



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Highlights of Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Held on 3rd September 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

Public forum:

Asked why the proposed flagpole has not been erected, the council explained that searches were being made with the utility companies to ensure no underground services would be disrupted.

Residents of Mill End Close reported that there are problems with dead trees adjacent to the ransom strip to the rear of their properties, and that the hedge had been allowed to grow tall. The council was asked who is liable for any damage caused by falling trees. In response, it was explained that the hedgerow and trees are on the adjoining property and thought to be the responsibility of the landowner. The council will check to find out whether the hedge is “shared”, if it is, the council can reduce the height of the trees.

The chairman asked for any fallen trees or branches to be reported to the council so that arrangements can be made to clear them.

Following a report of trees causing problems adjacent to the church, it was explained that the council is awaiting a quote from the contractor.

A comment was made about the Registered Keyholder scheme introduced by SBDC, and the high level of local opposition to the way it is being handled. The GP committee was asked to report on this.

Chairman’s comments & correspondence:

The following items have been received.

A letter of resignation from the clerk. The Chairman reported that a new clerk has been appointed. A handover of responsibility would take place over the next week.

A letter from Victim Support Bedfordshire thanking the council for its donation of £50.

A letter from The Eaton Bray Flood Group reporting that following a site survey, some improvements have been made and more promised to alleviate future flooding problems, and thanking the parish council for its support, in particular Cllr Windmill, Cllr Brand and also County Councillor Brian Piggott.

A letter of thanks from St Mary’s Village Carnival Committee for the council’s support of the carnival, with the news that a record £11,000 had been raised for local good causes.

There has been no response to the advertisements for a Youth Club Leader.

The GP committee was asked to research noticeboards to display summaries of the byelaws at various positions around the village.

The chairman asked members of the public to leave the hall to allow the council to hear a letter received from Mr. Summers.

The Chairman read the letter to the council and after discussion it was decided that the council could not take any action.

Police representation:

There were 15 reported crimes in July, and 8 in August.

Acceptable behaviour contracts are being used in an attempt to reduce antisocial behaviour in the village.

The new mobile telephone number for PC Viv Dady is : **0790 0051367**

PCSO Josh Tonkin reported that he had been active offering security advice to neighbouring residents following a local burglary.

Holman's Field Goalposts:

Mr. Lancefield, Chairman of EB Lions AFC, addressed the council and gave a report of the condition of the goalposts at Holman's field. During maintenance it had been found that the posts are badly corroded, and need replacing.

Mr. Lancefield explained that this would be an opportunity to install posts that meet current safety guidelines. The council was given information about a grant scheme and asked to consider giving financial assistance to meet the cost of buying and installing new posts. The GP committee was asked to consider the request and make recommendations at the next meeting.

Allotments:

A report on the condition and upkeep of individual allotments showed several to be seriously neglected, in breach of rental agreements. Proposals to improve the situation are to be considered further.

It was agreed unanimously to maintain the current level of rent for the 2007/08 year, i.e. £5.00 per annum per plot.

Planning:

The following planning applications were considered:

SB-TP-07-0953 64 Wallace Drive

Objection due to overdevelopment, destruction of trees, overstretched drainage.

The parish council is informed that there is a private sewer serving Wallace Drive.

Items for the September agenda to be requested no later than Fri.21st. Sept. 07

The meeting closed at 22.35

The Parish Clerk can be contacted by email to: clerk@ebpc.co.uk



The National Trust South Beds Assn

**Wednesday 3rd October
In Search of Vikings**

**Trevor Gunton, Lecturer on
Viking culture and wildlife
7.45pm, Salvation Army Centre,
Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable
Visitors are welcome at £1**



www.lbsc.org

Our Swim School at Leighton Buzzard Swimming Club currently have places available for children who would like to learn to swim or improve their swimming.

The Learn to Swim programme is designed for children from 5 years old upwards. We at Leighton Buzzard Swimming Club (LBSC) see a great need for all children to be able to swim unaided in the water, whether that is in a swimming pool or in the sea on holiday.

Call Elaine today on or call Joanne today on

01525 221991

01296 688761

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month

7.30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 1st Oct 07

The Yoga for Health and Education Trust

When the Yoga for Health Foundation closed on 31 March 2006 we were faced with the possibility of letting all of the great work that went on there be consigned to memory. The Foundation was based at Ickwell Bury, near Biggleswade and was founded in 1973. It was a magical residential centre where yoga was shared with people from all walks of life in a beautiful environment.

Carol Smith, a very well respected Teacher and Teacher Training facilitator has generously taken on the task of Teacher Training courses for the Trust and the first 'Fundamentals of Yoga' course will begin at the end of September 2007. This course will accrue points towards the accredited courses by Bedfordshire University leading to a degree in Yoga studies and Teacher Training.

My own personal journey to the Yoga for Health Foundation came as a result of diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in 1980. There I learned that 'Yoga is for all' – the practice is not defined by physical fitness or age or any other qualification – it truly is a science that can be used to enhance physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. It can help prevent, or aid recovery from, physical and mental ailments returning a sense of control over ones own health and well-being – an invaluable tool to a mind/body feeling very out of control when faced with a serious diagnosis of disease.

As Chair of the Trust, it is my hope that we forge strong relations with the British Wheel of Yoga and other schools of Yoga. Between us we have a vast knowledge and expertise that we can share and contribute to the World. *Alison Tucker, Chairman*

The Yoga for Health and Education Trust has two fundraising yoga events coming up, see details below:

Saturday 6th October 2007, 9.45am – Yoga Day, Stanbridge and Tilsworth Village Hall, near Leighton Buzzard. Cost £20 for members, £25 for non-members

To book your place, please contact Alison Tucker on yogalison@hotmail.com

Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th November 2007 – Residential Yoga Weekend, Staverton Park Hotel, Daventry. Cost £199 for members, £235 for non-members. To book your place, please contact Alison Francis on allyfrancis@yahoo.co.uk

If you would like to learn more about the Yoga for Health and Education Trust please contact: email: info@yoga4het.co.uk website: www.yoga4het.co.uk tel: 01525 210553

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

A reminder that our monthly lunches will resume on Saturday October 13th and our Charity to be supported will be the Keech Cottage Childrens Hospice.

Our lunches are served from 12.00 noon until 1.30 pm on the 2nd Saturday of the month. We normally offer a choice of three hot dishes for main course and a selection of hot and cold desserts followed by tea or coffee. This is an opportunity to meet with friends old and new and also support various local and national charities. A warm welcome awaits.

November lunches will be on the 10th and our December ones on the 1st when we offer you the chance to do a little Christmas shopping and enjoy a full Christmas Lunch.

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The First Aid Guy

Imagine you're walking down a road. Cars going by left and right but you take little notice of them because you've got your mind on your work. You carry on, lost in your own thoughts. Suddenly, a loud 'bang' from twenty yards ahead brings you back to reality and you're startled to see a young woman flying through the air, her crash helmet giving her the appearance of a human cannonball.

It's a ridiculous thought but one I remember clear as a bell even though this happened 14 years ago. Her landing was awful; a slow-motion, sickening 'thud' as she hit the tarmac and lay motionless for an agonising few seconds. I was by her side immediately, my brain a whirr of activity now a memory from distant scouting days telling me not to let her take her helmet off. Another passer-by called an ambulance and as we waited and the woman tried to sit up I made her put her head between her knees in case she felt faint. Her right arm was badly swollen but thankfully only badly bruised and a nasty lump had appeared on her forehead as her helmet was the type that only protected the back and side of the head.

She was taken to hospital and the remains of her scooter were left on the side of the road. The car that had pulled out in front of her was drivable but the large dent in its front wing would have to receive professional treatment. I returned to work but for the next few days I was haunted by the thought that when I was by the woman's side, I had very little idea what I was supposed to do to help her.

And that's when my interest in first aid really started. I did a day's course a little while later, refreshing myself on those scouting basics and realising an awful lot had changed in the intervening years. Later still I started teaching scuba diving and one of the prerequisites was to be a first aid instructor. As diving was something people learnt after work I began to focus on offering full day first aid courses to local businesses on weekdays and working with families over a couple of evenings or on weekends.

The courses I run offer the essentials of first aid and in terms of health and safety they qualify participants to the level of 'Appointed Person' in the workplace. This covers scene assessment, rescue breathing and CPR, spinal injury, bleeding and shock management, choking etc... for both adults and children. Secondary Care includes splinting and bandaging with 'patients' looking like Egyptian mummies by the time we finish! Manuals are included and certification cards are issued on completion of the course. These last for two years, after which it is best to refresh your knowledge as protocols can change in that time.

First Aid has taught me many valuable skills and given me the confidence to deal with emergencies that fortunately only rarely come my way. With the right training you will learn to stop, think then act, and ultimately realise that you did everything humanly possible to help in a given situation.

When I think about first aid these days, as well as the woman on the motorbike, I think of a time when *I* was the patient and a former student of mine came to help. I was teaching diving in the far east and reading a book in my hammock after work when a rope gave way and dropped me three feet onto concrete on my right side. It was clear from the pain that I'd broken a rib or two and as I lay on the ground groaning I saw a

couple of feet approaching slowly enough for their owner to be obviously conducting a scene assessment. A voice out of the darkness of my squinting eyes introduced itself as Geoff and asked if it could help. Geoff went by the book, straight through to treating me for shock management. After about 10 minutes the pain had subsided enough for me to talk and for us both to ascertain that the injury, whilst painful, was not serious.

Geoff had come round to get some money I owed him. He had to help himself to the contents of my wallet while I lay on the floor making comments about kicking a man while he was down but I'd have paid him a hefty tip at that point. He was a lovely chap and I was very proud.

For more information on First Aid courses call Guy on 0772 9178119 or go online at www.theguy.org.uk and click on First Aid.

Bees - Getting Ready for Winter

I did not go to Whitby after all, so no holidays for the bees on the Yorkshire Moors. The honey flow from the borage started very late and was so good that I decided not to move the hives north. I have just brought the hives back to the apiary in Tring Road, one month later than last year.

Ivy blossom is coming on and it looks good as is the weather. Bees get a lot of pollen and nectar from ivy blossom, the honey tends to be very dark and strong and it is usually blended with other honeys.

I have extracted honey from the permanent hives left in the apiary and it is very nice. Lime blossom most probably as there are several lime trees on the road to Dagnall very near the apiary. I am keeping this one for me, well if you insist!

September is the month in which the bees get ready for winter. There is not much blossom around and the days are short and cool. Many beekeepers feed and treat the hives for verroa, fit the mouse guards in the hive entrance and relax. I tend to run the show a bit longer.

Inside the hive a kind of consolidation takes place, the queen slows down egg production and the drones are eliminated. This is done by stopping them getting in to the hive to feed so they starve to death.

Drones are bigger than the worker bees but they are in a minority and what is more important they have got no sting. The poor blighters charge in to the entrance flapping their wings trying to frighten the entrance guards, only to be kicked back or stung.

So chaps if you are down and feel that the world is against you think again, you could be a drone!

PS The treatment of drones by bees may appear to be extreme but every move in the hive is linked to the survival of the colony. If you are no longer needed you go!!! (so much for human rights).



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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

As I write this one Sunday morning, I just don't know which channel to watch. BBC1 for the

European football qualifiers, ITV for the Rugby World Cup and Formula One Grand Prix, Sky for the Tennis US Open or ITV4 (or is it 5 or 6?) for the Cricket. I'm sitting in front of my telly in a state of confusion; smoke pouring from my remote control due to over-exertion of the programme buttons, empty cans of SkolsbergCarlbrau carelessly surrounding my armchair, and my England flag flopping aimlessly from the curtain rail. Let's face it, the possibilities of England winning, or even featuring in the finals of any of these events is slightly less than the chances of my daughter's guinea-pig designing and building a spaceship, launching from our back garden beside the potted bamboo, and becoming the first rodent on Mars (after Anne Robinson). So, with no hope of a national victory (with the possible exception of the Formula One Championship if Lewis can 'sort out' Monsignor Alonso) I decided to switch off the box and get down to the tennis courts in order to motivate my fellow Sunday morning social players to bigger and better things, so that one day we may once again stand proudly at the top of the world tennis mountain.

Unfortunately it wasn't to be. Our club is blessed with several top class players (I'm too modest to count myself amongst them) but the motley crowd of eight that gathered this morning to take on the elements and one-another were not part of that elite group. The top people were apparently watching the cricket. So with goodwill and brave hearts, we set to the task of splitting ourselves into pairs and commencing battle. Now lets look at the day-jobs of these eight people, We had a hat seller, an X-ray equipment seller, a Construction Material Testing engineer, a retired Vulcan and Easy jet pilot, a Silverlink train driver, a Cambridge graduate, an office worker and an about to be student. But bring these together with the single objective of winning the best of five games and all day-jobs fade into oblivion. Victory is the one and only objective! Such an example was when one of my superbly executed topspin lobs landed clearly right-on our opponent's baseline, only for it to be called 'out' by my opposite number. Now this is a man who back in 1982 (even when he had much better eyesight and a co-pilot to boot) couldn't hit a runway 2 miles long and 300 feet wide over Port Stanley, so what chance has he of calling a ball in or out over a 27-foot line just an inch wide? The hat-seller agreed with me, but the train driver sided with the pilot (must be some sort of transport union) so the point was replayed whereupon I served a double fault to settle the matter unequivocally. Moral of the story? Always play against the Student because you can threaten to tell their parents about the latest scratch on their car, and hence take away their allowance if they don't award you the point. Firm but fair I'm sure you'd agree.

Almost finally, some good news about our recent accomplishments. Our third court has just completed its resurfacing programme at a cost of around £18,000. We have received £2000 from the Flagship Fund towards this through South Beds District Council, along with a grant of £1920 from the Local Network Fund, both for which we are extremely grateful. Now we are now one of the few lucky clubs in Bedfordshire to have three brand new courts all with floodlighting, and a growing membership

wishing to avail themselves of the facilities (1 in every 19 villagers, remember...).

To end on, many congratulations to Junior member Alison Lowe, who took a magnificent runners up place in the Beds County Mini Tennis Green competition under 10's. This is a major feat as there were some excellent youngsters from clubs all over Bedfordshire competing, and we should all congratulate Alison on her achievement. No pressure Alison, but Wimbledon starts in eight months time... ☺

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

Special Trees and Woods Project

The Special Trees and Woods Project hopes to record and celebrate special trees throughout the Chilterns. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the success of the project is down to volunteers such as Steve Girling from Lords Mead, Eaton Bray.

Liz Manley, volunteer coordinator said "It is great to be able to welcome Steve as a new member of the volunteer team. There are many volunteer opportunities available with this project including researching special trees and woods and recording people's memories of the local woodland."

The Special Trees and Woods Project hopes to record many oral history interviews over the next two years. Steve has received full training and hopes to interview those with memories of the trees and woods of the Chilterns.

Steve said "I am looking forward to recording some real-life stories from people that can remember the orchards that used to be such a feature of our local area – farmers, plum pickers and other casual workers and even those that worked in the hat factories that used the dye from the plums."

You might think that your experiences are not important enough to be part of this project – but you are probably wrong! The Special Trees and Woods project is all about recording local stories about local trees and woods.

So, if you used to work in association with the orchards or can remember your father or mother doing so, or would like to know more about oral histories, contact Steve on 07946 652 949.

For more information about the project, forthcoming events and the varied volunteering opportunities available go to www.chilternsaonb.org/special

Liz Manley, www.chilternsaonb.org/special tel: 01844 355525, mob: 07979 497688

Eaton Bray Lower School Calling All Past & Present Pupils

We would never forget you, but just in case

Pay for your print - To be put in our new place!

To help raise funds for our new nursery we are asking for donations from past and present pupils, so they may literally become part of the building! The choice would be hand or footprint and this would then appear with name and the year of starting and leaving EBLs. Please contact EBLs 01525 220468 or eaton@deal.bedfordshire.gov.uk

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'Pupils make very good progress'

'Pupils are very well behaved, want to learn and work hard to meet the many challenges they are given'

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Salvation Sound.October 2007

Harvest time.... Genesis 8:22.

'As long as the world exists, there will be a time for planting and a time for harvest'.

Harvest, the season for the gathering of grain and fruits. In Canaan, it all began on the 16th day of Abib,(or April, seasons being different in the East). A handful of ripe ears of corn was offered as a first fruit before the Lord, and immediately after this the harvest commenced. It began with the feast of the Passover and ended with Pentecost, thus lasting for seven weeks.

The Egyptians excelled in agriculture, and after the Israelites entered the promised land, they too became quite remarkable in the development of this type of work. Wheat, figs, pomegranates, grapes and olives all produced abundantly. However, the whole land was 'rested' every seventh year, when all agricultural labour would entirely cease.

It was the custom in those days for a passer by to be at liberty to eat any amount of corn, grapes etc. but he was not permitted to carry any away with him. The poor were able to claim the corners of the fields and the gleanings. A forgotten sheaf in a field was also to be left for the poor.

"Toiling through the seasons
In the sunshine and the rain,
Zealous sowing with compassion
Yields a wealth of golden grain."

Canaan was the land of plenty. There God said His people would, "Eat food without shortage and lack nothing"....Deut. 8:9.

We are such a fortunate people here in this land, for this also is a land of plenty, and very few of us ever go hungry to bed, or thirst because the well has run dry.

Many people nowadays forget the meaning of harvest, the nearest they come to it is in the purchasing of an organic loaf! Harvest Festival is not just a quaint custom of the church, it is a time to recognise what sustains the body and the symbols of what feeds the spirit.

The origin of the word harvest is obscure, we come closest to it when we say we 'crop what was rooted'. Poets call this root-cropping sequence an everlasting circle. Moses called it 'the pilgrim feast of ingathering'.

Think on this then, Harvest Festival has to be a double celebration, of field crops and of ourselves; praising God for His bounty; God's love creates all things, He works within us, just as He does in the nature of the countryside.....

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The Salvation Army, Eaton Bray **Baby & Toddler Group**

We wish to announce that we have just opened our baby & Toddler group in our church building in Booth Place. The session is held on Thursday Mornings from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. The charge is £1.00 per adult and child with 50p for each additional child. Come with your child and both of you will enjoy the fellowship.

One day in late September as I cleared a flower bed,
 A blackbird came and spoke to me, from a branch above my head.
 "The summertime is over, the nights are closing in,
 Insects are hibernating and the pickings getting thin.
 The worms have burrowed deeper, your neighbour, Mr.James,
 Won't let us peck his apples, and calls us awful names.
 If we could find somebody to help us in our need,
 Supplying us all winter with water, nuts and seed,
 We birds would be so grateful, and so we'd like to make
 A tempting proposition for the year 2008."

"Now how do you feel about making a deal?
 We won't de-bud your hedge, or vandalise your veg.
 Never strip shrubs of berries or nibble your cherries,
 De-seed new -sown beds, peck off crocus heads.
 So please, feed and protect us the cold winter through.
 When day lengthens, sun strengthens, we will all help you;
 We'll devour your bugs and slaughter your slugs,
 Keep aphids at bay - you won't need to spray –
 Delight you with song the whole summer long.
 So now, how do you feel? Have we got a Deal?.
 Nell what could I say? I agreed right away!!
 (Written by Joy Summers, I just changed the date).

Sunday October 7th
HARVEST FESTIVAL
 At the Salvation Army Hall,
 Booth Place. 11am & 6 pm
 (not as announced in the last issue
 of Focus)

The COFFEE MORNING
October 16th, will be held at Nikki's,
 The Bungalow, Bower Lane, **NOT** in
 The Hall, Booth Place. All will be
 welcome. Please come and support us.
 From 10am - 12 noon
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 seek to worship God, serve him in our daily
 lives and support and encourage one another
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**The Salvation Army, Booth Place
 Weekly Activities**

Sunday
 Sunday School 9.45am
 Morning Service 11.00am
 Evening Service 6.00pm
Monday
 Games Night (Ages 5-8) 4.30pm
Wednesday
 Home League (Ladies Meeting) 2.30pm
Thursday
 Young Ladies Fellowship
 (Last Thursday in every month)
Friday
 Young People 5.00pm
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Edlesborough Parish Council **(including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) News**

Village Freighter Refuse – November Collection

The Village Freighter will be returning to the Parish villages as follows:

DAGNALL – Thursday 15th November 2007 7.30am until 11am

EDLESBOROUGH – 20th November 2007 7.30am until 11am

NORTHALL – Wednesday 21st November 2007 12noon until 3.30pm

Items the Freighter is not allowed to take were published in the August/September Focus

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

The Memorial Hall floor, internal and external decoration has now been completed

Employment Changes

Following the retirement of Sue and John Parker after many years of service to the Parish a new Booking Secretary/Manager and Cleaner have been employed. Bookings for the Edlesborough Memorial Hall should now be arranged with Beverley Sage Telephone Number 01525 229509

Basketball base

This has now been constructed and enjoyed by the youth during the Summer holidays.

Cemetery Access

Specifications have been drawn up and put out to tender

Highways/footpaths

Various problems with overgrown hedges, footpaths and bridleways have been reported for action to be taken.

DOG FOULING

Despite sufficient dog litter bins placed around the villages dog fouling is becoming increasingly noticeable particularly on Edlesborough Green and dog owners are reminded that if they are seen not to be clearing up after their dogs they are liable to be reported and face a £1000.00 fine. Dogs should always be kept on a leash and notices are displayed informing them of this. The Green is used constantly by all parishioners, sports groups and young children and is becoming a health hazard.

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 18 Oct 07

Councillor's Newsletter - From Terry Jones AVDC councillor for Edlesborough, Dagnall, Northall and Ivinghoe Aston

After a very busy induction period since my election, I would like to thank you for electing me and to say that I will try to keep in contact with everyone by means of *Focus*.

To get in touch with AVDC, you may find these phone numbers helpful: (all 01296 numbers unless stated)

Main switchboard	585858	Planning Applications	585426
Council tax	585299	Pest control	585159
Aqua Vale Pool	488555	Housing advice	585197
Benefits	585618	Grass cutting	0800 389 3395
Dog bins service	585605	Dog bins service	585605
Grass cutting	0800 389 3395	Potholes	482102
Swan Pool	01280 817500	Benefit cheats	585570
Refuse & recycling	585510	Fly tipping	0845 330 1856
Environmental Health (inc. noise Pollution, licensing & food safety) 585605			
To report: Litter, graffiti, Abandoned Vehicles 585235			

Community Chest Grants

AVDC and the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust award grants of up to £25,000, to be used within the Vale to provide community activities or services for the benefit of local residents. Contact Sarah Rothwell on 01296 585634.

AVDC Project Grants Scheme

Organizations providing leisure or community activities can apply for grants of up to 30% of the cost of a project, usually up to a limit of £5,000 but sometimes higher. Contact Anne Vujanic on 01296 585186.

Aylesbury Vale Business Grant

Do you need extra capital to help your business grow? Up to £3,000 may be available for business start-ups, and up to £5,000 for existing businesses. Contact AVDC Economic Development Team on 01296 585634.

Affordable Housing

For information on rural affordable housing, contact Jean Fox Rural Housing Enabler at Bucks Community Action on 01296 421036.

Housing Developments in Neighbouring Counties

Proposals have been made for in excess of 5,000 new houses in Newton Longville as part of the Milton Keynes developments. Also there are plans for the 'Leighton-Linslade' overspill in Bedfordshire. Although this building may take place a long way away from us, there is a very real danger that it could have a huge effect on the volume of traffic through our area. We need to keep a careful eye on this.

Terry Jones,
Tel: 01296 630062, Mob: 07884121657
email: tjones@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

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Eaton Bray Lower School

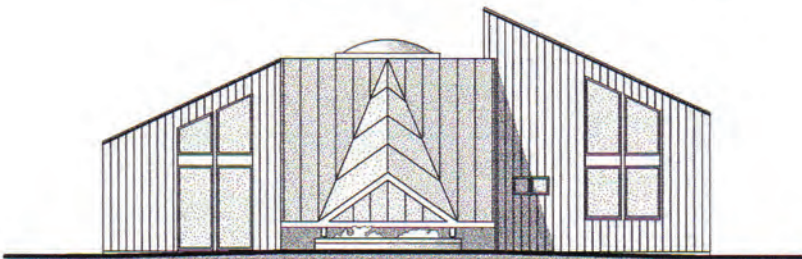
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Ofsted Nov, 2005

“All of the girls working at the nursery make it their interest to know each and every child and are aware of each Child’s character. Clearly the children are happy as on my duty as parent helper you hardly ever heard tears, and any arguments over sharing are quickly noticed and dissolved by excellent staffing.” **letter from parent, 2006**

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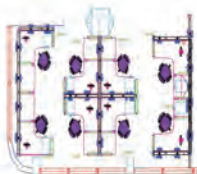
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Dagnall News

Over 60's

During the month of September we have met on two occasions. On the 15th we welcomed the return of Jean Martyn for an organ concert in the Village Hall. We had a sell-out audience who all enjoyed the occasion. On September 18th for our normal monthly meeting we enjoyed lunch out followed by an afternoon tour.

During October we will be having our Sausage & Mash lunch followed by apple pie and custard. We are certain this will be well supported.

Dagnall Church

Please support the Ironing Day on October 6th in aid of church funds. £6 per hour. See separate advert.

French Evening

Don't forget your tickets (£12) for the French Supper Evening, in aid of the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, in the Village Hall on Oct 27th. It promises to be a fun evening and places are limited. Tickets available from Pascale on 01442 842 857.

Letters to the Editors

I was born and brought up at Shepherds Farm on the Tring Road, Dunstable and I am currently researching its history and that of the surrounding Area, for a forthcoming book..

If any Focus readers have any information to help me in my work, no matter how small or trivial it may seem, I would be most grateful. Perhaps they may know of someone else who might have lived there once or perhaps another clue which might lead me to discover a new avenue for my research.

I am particularly interested in the area from Dunstable to Ivinghoe Beacon. And the Ancient Icknield Way Route way. Legends, Stories, History, changes in land use, crops grown and why, may be pointers.

Also the spring line Villages of Totternhoe, Eaton Bray and Edlesborough and Wellhead (which has always been a bit of a mystery to me).

I wonder what it is about Edlesborough, in that I have always felt I would like to live there?

If you have any information, please contact me on 01525 237529.

C M Johnson

I came across a web site outlining development plans for South Bedfordshire. It lists Eaton Bray as one of seven villages earmarked for

"potential village expansion". I may have missed it, but I cannot recall seeing any reference to these plans in Focus. The web site is <http://www.shapeyourfuture.org.uk/>

One of the options listed for villages is: "Build urban extensions that could incorporate the villages close to the urban edge and integrate them into the new communities" (I suppose that means swallow them up).

Another option shown is:

"Consider growing some of our villages to increase their size where it would support local businesses, facilities, public transport and services" (turn them into towns maybe?)

Perhaps Focus readers would like to check for themselves and make comments to the planners. Name and address withheld

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners July 2007

Number	Name	Winnings
162	Brian Andrews	£100
43	Lorraine O'Dell	£25
163	Heather Abrams	£25
101	Jean Bates	£25
9	Angela Marks	£25

Drawn on 18th July 2007 at Eaton Bray Playgroup. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

Dagnall Gardeners Society Show Report of 1st September 2007

After a poor start to the season the show turned out to be alright in the end, a few entries down at 315. The following were the winners and runners up:

Founder Cup for most points in Residents Vegetables

3rd V. Barrow, 2nd B. Westwood and 1st E. Killick

Nash Cup for most points in Residents Flowers

Joint 2nd K. Day and D. Moseley, 1st B. Thorne

AM Fehr Rosebowl for most points for Pot Plants

Joint 2nd E. Killick and S. Moseley, 1st A. Elkins

Society Cup for Open Vegetables

3rd A. Bunting, 2nd E.Hull and 1st D. Elkins

Society Cup for Open Flowers

3rd E. Hull, 2nd D. Leslie and 1st A. Bunting

James Mead Trophy for Floral Art

3rd C. Yorke, 2nd L. Bunting and 1st V. Barrow

Wells Cup for most points in Show by a Resident

3rd V. Barrow, 2nd D. Moseley and 1st E. Killick

Clarke Cup for the most points in Domestic Classes

3rd S. Royal, 2nd B. Ward and 1st K. Day

Society Cup for the most points in Childrens Classes

3rd Joshua Thorne, 2nd Robert Bunting and 1st Alfie Bunting

Best Exhibit in Floral Art winner L.Bunting

Best Exhibit in Domestic class winner D.Thorne

Best Flower Exhibit winner of £5 Hut voucher D. Leslie

Best Vegetable Exhibit winner of £5 Hut voucher D. Elkins

Exhibitor Draw for £3 Hut voucher winner A. Elkins

Best Residents Exhibit winner of £5 Hut voucher D. Moseley

Special Award Rosette for Tray Exhibit winner A. Bunting

Dagnall School Childrens Art 4-5 years

3rd Samuel Sheppard, 2nd Maddie Pearce and 1st Annie Taylor

Dagnall School Childrens Art 6-7 years

3rd Sam Ballard, 2nd Jake Thompson and 1st Joe Thorne

A big thank you to all the helpers, exhibitors and visitors which helped make the show a success.

B.Thorne.

Ironing Day

Saturday 6 October

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

All Saints' Church, Dagnall

£6.00 per hour

**Proceeds in aid of Church
extension fund**

EDaN Project Questionnaires

will be collected starting this week (Week commencing 1st October)

If you wish to be included in the £50 Marks and Spencer voucher prize draw for completing this questionnaire please ensure you fill in your name and contact details at the foot of page 1 before we collect.

Further copies if required may be obtained from: Vicky Lee on 01442 843361 or email edanplan@yahoo.co.uk or www.edlesborough.gov.uk click on EDaN questionnaire. Only one entry per resident into prize draw.



Book review

A Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooke



This book charts the year of 1666 in the village of Eyam in Derbyshire to which the plague has spread from London. The tale is told through the eyes of an 18 year old woman named Anna Frith who aided the village rector in his mission to contain the disease. Anna is a spirited, Hardy-esque heroine, uneducated but resourceful, who is taken under the wing of the rectors wife Elinor and quickly becomes a devoted fast-learning protégée. The relationship between Anna, Elinor and her husband forms the novel's core.

Much of the novel charts the self-inflicted quarantine (no one in, no one out) of the village until the plague had done its worst. Some of the villagers, an estimated four-fifths of the population, succumbed to its ravages, and horror and death passes inexorably from house to house, sparing almost no one. The villagers respond to this in a variety of ways: panic, rage, greed, meek acceptance and murderous superstition. Accounts of the gruesome deaths of the villagers are combined with a vivid sense of time and place through rich textured language and thoughtful detail.

The majority of the group thoroughly enjoyed the novel; however there were some questions about the style of writing and the simplicity of the characters which were seen in black or white terms. The strength of the book was that it told a rattling good story, embroidered with homely details of everyday life: the food and clothes, the landscape and passing seasons, together with life in a village at this time. Much discussion focused on the final part of the story and whether it fitted in with the picture of the time that had been created. One of the group found the book lacked gravitas.

Edlesborough Autos

It is with regret, that I am writing to all our local residents via the Focus magazine, to inform you that we will shortly be having to stop the fuel sales side of our business.

As a person who strongly argues the case for local community facilities such as pubs, shops, cafes etc., this is a decision that has not been taken lightly, but has been forced on us by ever changing legislation along with the state of the ageing dispensing and storage facilities at our site. This together with greater difficulty in getting a regular competitively priced product following the Buncefield explosion has meant that it has not been financially viable to sell fuel for a long period now.

I know that following quite closely behind the closure of our other local fuel station, this will be a real disappointment and I can assure you we have agonised over this decision until circumstances have finally forced our hand.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank you all for your patronage and support over the many years we have been in business and also to assure you, that there will be no change to our workshop and Mot operations. Rest assured that Edlesborough Autos will continue to be here to change that brake light bulb, check your tyres and oil levels and for all your other motoring requirements.

Mark Janes Contacts

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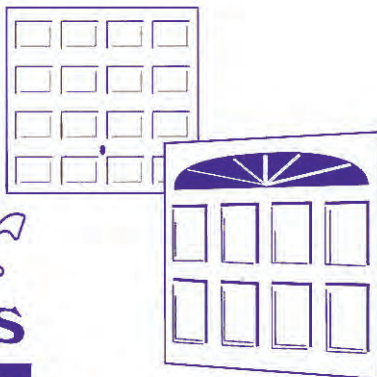
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