

FOCUS

December/January 2010

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THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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NORTHALL
DAGNALL

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to confirm booking)

20th to 23rd January



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For Booking Details Tel: 01525 220231
www.thewhitehorseatonbray.co.uk

Focus - The Four Village Magazine Magazine Committee

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

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

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

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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

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

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

General Assistance (Recommended Number) 01234 841212

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/P.C.Viv Dady 01582 473418

P.C. Viv Dady Mobile 07908520148

PCSO Joanne Glenn Mobile 0796 1067867

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

Email: SNT.Leighton-Rural@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

0845 8505505

Village Hall Bookings

To book your local village hall for an event please contact the following:

Northall: Lorna Cabbage, Tel: 220361

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee, Tel: 222831

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates, Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Beverly Sage, Tel: 01525 229509

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Village Diaries December/January 2010



Weekly

- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468
- 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 01525 222199
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Kay 07956 526635
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7- 10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Sarah 01525 229194
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Baby's First Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 161680
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, Totternhoe Village Hall, 07986 730922
- Tuesdays Northall Toddler Group, 9.30am-11.30am (10am-12noon Summer School Holidays Only), Northall Village Hall, Naomi 01525 376575/07977 564449
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly
- Weds Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's Playtime, 1:00pm - 2:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Louise on 07784 165259
- (term time)
- Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7-8.30pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya 01525 853360
- Thurs Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45 - 2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) Contact Michelle Tel 01442 842 676
- (term time)
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- Thursdays Keep fit, 2-4pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304
- Thursdays Kfa Body Moves 40+, Fitness through movement, exercise & dance. 8-9pm, Edlesborough School, Pat 01582 668735
- Thursdays Baby & Toddler Group, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 9.30-11.30am
- Thursdays Keep Fit Edlesborough School, 8pm Tel: 01582 668735
- Thursdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Thursdays Karate, 7-9pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Brian Bates 07958 348086
- Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Saturdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208

Saturdays Drama Class for Children, 10.35am-12.35pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Claire Casey, 07792 508591

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
1st & 3rd Sunday Grace Baptist Church Service, 3pm, all welcome, David Coleman 01582 664990
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 & 4th Tuesday Grace Baptist Church Bible Study, 7.30pm, all welcome, David Coleman 01582 664990
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 Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

9th Dec Christmas Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
11th Dec, 8th Jan Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30am
15th Dec Dagnall Over 60's Christmas Lunch Village Hall 2pm
6th & 20th Jan Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
19th Jan Dagnall Over 60's AGM & Birthday party Village Hall 2pm

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

4th Dec Edlesborough School Christmas Market, 5-7pm
5th Dec Christmas Fair, 10am-2pm, Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
5th Dec Christmas coffee morning at All Saints Dagnall. 10.30-12.30
13th Dec Village Carol Service, All Saints Dagnall, 4pm
15th Dec Salvation Army Coffee Morning, 10-12noon, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
20th Dec Carol Singing Dagnall Village, meet 6pm at Village hall
20th Dec Family Carol Service, 10.30am, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
20th Dec Salvation Army Carol Service, 4pm, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
23rd Dec Carol Singing Dagnall Village outskirts 7pm at Village hall
25th Dec Family Service, 10.30am, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
25th Dec Salvation Army Christmas Day Service, 10.30am, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
20th-23rd Jan Village Panto, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Box Office 01525 222283
20th Jan Light Touch & Supper, Eaton Bray Methodist Church, 7.45pm

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Tuesday 15th December

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per child will be payable per day.

To Leighton Buzzard

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Totternhoe Cross Keys	7.51
Totternhoe Lancotbury Drive	7.54
Eaton Bray Chequers (Moor End) (for Edlesborough)	7.58
Eaton Bray School Lane	8.00
Eaton Bray 5 Bells	8.01
Eaton Bray The Rye	8.02
Arrive Cedars	8.40

From Leighton Buzzard

Leave Cedars	3.55
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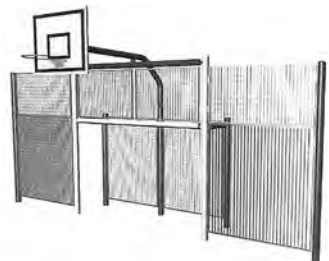
Proposed ‘Kick Wall’ for Edlesborough Green

In the November issue of ‘Focus’, Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) indicated that it was investigating the provision of a purpose designed kick wall, which would be located somewhere appropriate on Edlesborough Green. Having taken account of the space required, existing football and cricket pitches, access for Carnival vehicles, proximity of roads, houses and other matters, we believe that there are three possible locations. These are shown in white and numbered 1, 2 & 3 in the aerial photograph below:



Location No.	Location Description
1	Near the children’s playground, backing on to the trees, and between the full size and mini football pitches.
2	Near the cricket nets, backing onto the trees, near The Green road.
3	Near the basketball stand and Memorial Hall car park

An example of a typical kick wall (sometimes known as “goal ends”, or multi-use games areas), is shown right. They come in various sizes and styles, are robust, heavy duty, and hard wearing, provide plenty of play value for various games, such as football, basketball, hockey, cricket, and general kick abouts. EPC is currently considering a version about 6m long x 3m high, without a basketball net (as we already



have one elsewhere on the Green), and with a grass tiled surface about 6m wide x 15 – 20m long in front.

Colour, and improved resolution pictures of the Edlesborough Green locations and the kick wall, can be seen on www.edlesborough.gov.uk You can also see a typical example on Ivinghoe Green.

EPC would very much welcome parishioners' comments on the above - including those from children and teenagers! Please let the Clerk have these by **Monday 4th January 2010** so that they can be fully considered at the Council's next meeting. We will then update parishioners with another 'Focus' article, and if appropriate, some idea of the timescale to raise the necessary funds and possible implementation.

LinSargeant,ClerktoEdlesboroughParishCouncil.parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk Tel: 01525 220859



Table Corner

Some good old traditions...

As it is traditional in a December issue to talk about the festive season, I thought that I would explain a little bit more about Christmas in Belgium (you might remember that this is where I am from).

The first elementary fact is that we do not celebrate Christmas on the 25th of December. It is celebrated on Christmas Eve, i.e. on the 24th, in the evening - with a rather elaborate meal that is eaten with all the family before the Midnight Mass and/or the opening of Christmas gifts if you are not a church-goer. You are very unlikely to find any turkey on the table. And even more unlikely (despite its name) to eat any of these smelly, little, green, cruciferous vegetables otherwise known as Brussel sprouts (would the "Love a Sprout campaigners" please refrain from writing in). What you will find though is the best food that a family can afford. So after the aperitif, the first course might be seafood followed by let's say beef en croute. The dessert is more traditional with a "bûche de Noël" (meaning 'Christmas log') being served. All it is, is a really rich creamy cake in the shape of a log. It is down to its maker to decorate it. You can add little trees, miniature houses, a Father Christmas or little baubles. In recent years, Belgians have also started having the iced version of the bûche. On Christmas day, the bakeries will be open especially to sell for breakfast the traditional "cougnon" meaning Bread of Jesus which is a sweet bread shaped like a baby Jesus.

Did I tell you that Belgian children don't get so excited about Christmas? I can already hear gasps of horror. The reason though is fairly simple. The main festival for children in December is called St Nicholas, on the 6th December. This is the day they get plenty of toys and lovely food. Christmas is more of a family gathering. But this is for another letter... Just for fun I thought that I would enclose a drawing of St Nicholas.

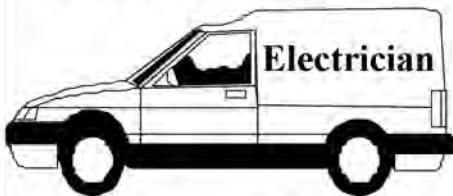




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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: The Reverend Roger Chapman

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

Churchwardens: Chris Banks (221556) and Peter Bennett (221284)

First of all, I would like to begin this letter with a sincere expression of my thanks to all of you who helped with my licensing to Eaton Bray with Edlesborough on November 2nd. It was lovely to meet so many of you who came to support me on this occasion. Many, many thanks. I generally read Morning Prayer at 9am. and Evening Prayer at 5pm in St Mary's and so if anyone would care to join me for these times I would be delighted.

I have been very lucky in my life to be able to travel, and have been periodically to northern Europe and Scandinavia. I have found that Sweden in the winter months, and particularly around the month of December and leading up to Christmas is a real wonder of little spots of warmth and light. I can remember wandering around the old town in Gothenburg in flurries of snow, and wondering where I could find a place to eat. Only then to realise that most of the restaurants had become underground basement retreats, down intriguing stairways lit with enormous beautiful outdoor candles shining the way. Once inside, there was always in abundance, a welcome of warmth and hospitality. For me, therein lies the magical mystery of this time of year; our intention to find or to carry ideas and memories of warmth, light and a regained sense of wellbeing in order to illuminate the darkness, perhaps in the most unusual or unlikely places.

It is this theme of light in the darkness that is central to our celebration of Christmas. We have the stories of the first Christmas which abound with images of light. The star which shines in the night sky, in order to guide the wise men to the place of Jesus' birth, is bursting with radiance, and the night sky is filled with light as the Angels bring the news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds keeping watch over their flocks.

Nobody really knows the day, the month or the season of Jesus' birth, but surely there can be no accident that Jesus' birth has been associated with the darkness of the winter solstice, and the 'night' time. In the middle of the night, on the longest night of the year, Jesus is born. He is, 'the true light that enlightens everyone, the light of the world'. All of the imagery leads us to see Jesus' birth into the world as an event that will be truly life giving. This shift from darkness to the birth of the one true light I would like to suggest is called in another word, 'Hope'. God comes into the world and brings Hope to all. My wish for this lead up to Christmas is that in all the rush and preparations, we may glimpse once again perhaps in the most unusual of places, the Hope of the Christ Child.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

Roger

St Mary's Ladies Guild

The first meeting of the Guild will be held on Wednesday 13th January 2010, at 2.00pm in the church. The aim of each meeting is to enjoy a speaker, refreshments, social time and friendship. Future meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in the church. A warm welcome will be given to anyone wishing to join us. For more information please contact either Deirdrea on 01525 210426 or Marjorie Mann (Secretary) on 01525 223159.

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS :	8.00am	The Eucharist
	10.00am	PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST (with Sunday School)
	On Third Sunday of each month:	
	10.00am	– WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service (Those who wish to attend a Communion Service on that Sunday are reminded that there is a Family Communion at 10.30am at All Saints', Dagnall, where they are assured of a warm welcome.)
WEEK-DAYS :		
Tuesday:	2.00pm	(2nd Tuesday) – Toddlers' Church
Tuesday-Friday:	9.00am	Morning prayer
	5.00pm	Evening prayer
Wednesday:	10.00am	Eucharist
<i>EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES</i>		



British Legion Poppy Collection in Northall 2009

Well done Northall!! You have excelled yourselves this year! I am beginning to run out of superlatives!! Seriously though, I am very proud to announce that this years total for the British Legion Poppy Collection appears to have broken records – and it is only a “to date” total! So far you have raised £424.78 and I still have some more to collect. That is a pretty impressive total for such a small village.

So thank you all again for your endless generosity and support, especially all those who opened their doors to me on dark evenings and their good humour as I disturbed their suppers or TV. I am sorry if I did not manage to catch you in. Northall is growing and I do the House to House collection myself. It takes longer these days, despite the fact that more people than ever have gates with keypads or no bells or door knockers (how do your visitors let you know they have arrived?.....) The House to House raised £241.13 – thank you everyone!

A special thank you to the customers and staff at “The Swan” who raised a staggering total of £111.34 towards the final amount and a big thank you to the pupils and staff at Edlesborough School who raised the amazing sum of £54.13 in just one week (after half term) I hope to be able to let you know the final full amount of this years Poppy Collection in Northall in the next edition of “Focus” in February.

I'll be out in the dark again dodging the traffic this time next year. So if the bell rings or a knocker sounds and it isn't Halloween – it's only me with my collecting tin!

Thanks again to everyone.
Lorna Cabbage.

St. Mary's Parish, Dunstable

82 West Street, Dunstable, LU6 1NY

Mass Times Christmas 2009

Christmas Eve

11.30pm Carols followed by
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8.30am Mass
10.30am Mass

**For further information ring:
01582 662710**

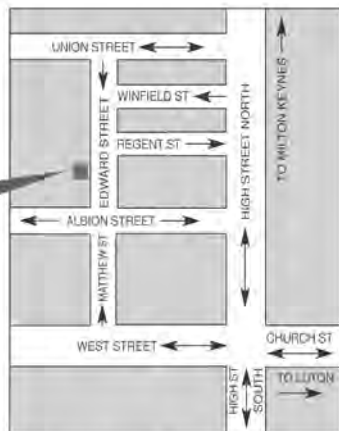
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For more details of current events:

Tel: 01525 220544 or

Email: TheVillage.Swan@virgin.net for our current menu or
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These are just a few of the comments made in our fifth OFSTED Report (March 2008 - available via our website). 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.**

"We are an Equal Opportunities Employer" www.edlesboroughunder5s.org.uk



Some comments from our recent Ofsted report (Jan 09):

Children are consistently offered a stimulating range of activities and opportunities which enable them to make good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

Staff have a good understanding of creating a safe and welcoming environment . . .

Staff support children well and encourage them to be active in their learning and to think critically.

We are a committee run playgroup operating five mornings a week 9:30 – 12:00 for children aged 2½ to school age.

**If you would like to find out if your child would be happy here,
please phone our Playgroup Leader, Ann Tobin on 07816 358 342.**

Carnival 2010 – Will you Bungee?

Have you ever wanted to do a Bungee Jump? Me neither - but there are plenty of adrenaline junkies out there that would relish the chance to leap from a great height, plummet towards the earth and show off in front of their friends.

This could be their chance as we have the opportunity to bring a Bungee Jump to next summer's Village Carnival on 3 July. But, and as I recall saying in a pantomime a few years back, 'I have a very big but'. It will cost the Carnival Committee £3,000 to bring bungee jumping to the Carnival and we have to guarantee the organisers a minimum of 60 people who will each pay £50 to jump.

Clearly, we cannot commit to such a sum on spec, hoping that people will turn up on the day – that won't work. So here is the deal. The Carnival Organisers will bring Bungee Jumping to Edlesborough Green on 3 July 2010 provided that, by the 10 January 2010, a minimum of 30 people have:

1. Contacted Gordon Gray on 220136 to register their interest
2. Paid a deposit of £25 as part payment for their jump costing £50
3. Committed to raising a minimum of an additional £50 through sponsorship

Don't delay – contact Gordon today. This could be the Christmas present your partner/friend has always wanted.

- The jump will be from a height of 160 feet.
- No under 14's
- 14 and 15 year olds require a parent or guardians permission and signature
- Over 50's are required to have a doctors certificate to comply with insurance regulations
- Glasses and hard contact lenses cannot be worn during the jump
- If you appear intoxicated you will not be allowed to jump
- You must inform the organisers if you are taking any form of medication.

If you are not in good health you should **NOT** jump. If you have any of the following conditions you should **seek medical advice from your doctor before proceeding.**

- High Blood Pressure
- Heart Condition
- Suffer from Dizziness or Epilepsy
- Damage to neck, back, spinal column, legs or eyes
- Asthma
- Pregnancy



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



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Swing into Spring - Saturday 13th March 2010

You may think that it is bit early to be talking about Spring, but if you think about it, this is the last chance to talk to you before the February edition so I make no apologies in forewarning you of this fabulous event.

The same team that bring you the masterful Quizzes twice a year are at it again. We (that is the Village Hall & Tennis Club but I am sure you know that) thought what a wonderful idea to give you the chance for a dance.

We have organised a live band, Jim Balls and The Racquets. That is the Tennis club's influence, and they play our sort of music! Whilst the caterers are preparing a sumptuous two course meal, a choice of two main courses plus sumptuous desserts. (I suppose they are not actually preparing it now, probably on the day).

What have you got to pay for all this? Just £16 if booked by the 14th February or £18 thereafter. That is a real credit crunch beating deal!

So to book, just let me (Ross) know your requirements and remember that as usual the first person to ring me with the correct page number of our advert for this event will be given 2 free tickets.

Tel 221411 or email ross.bagni@btinternet.com

Well what about the quiz held on the 10th October, as you may remember I was absent (due to sister's in law 60th, is the apostrophe in the correct place? I am never sure; answers on a postcard please.....). I hear that it was a great success and as usual was all the better for my absence. May I thank you all for coming and all those helpers who made it such a splendid success. Our greatest thanks must be to Keith Blackburn who continues to create the quiz questions for us all to enjoy. Don't forget after the Dance comes the next quiz in April 2010, more info in the next edition of Focus.

One last thing before I stop. The Village Hall front is being renovated and by the time you read this will be looking very smart indeed. You can see where the Village Hall is spending the money. Thank you all for your support throughout 2009 and we hope you will come to our Dance and Quiz in 2010, enjoy yourselves and help keep the improvements coming at your Hall.

Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year





EDaN Project Firewalk Evening Sat 7th Nov

The day started with people registering their Guys ready for judging at 4pm. Some of you may have noticed the Guys in the hedge at the front of Edlesborough Green waving to you!

At 4pm Anne Thompson and Lin Sargeant from Edlesborough Parish Council kindly judged the Guy competition for us and the winning Guy was a fabulous specimen in her cowboy hat and trendy suede boots! We had some wonderful entries and thank you to everyone who took the time and trouble to make a Guy and enter him/her into the competition.

Various stalls and a Bar B Q were opened at 6pm and while this was happening the "Firewalkers" all had to attend a 2hr workshop in the Memorial Hall to brainwash.... sorry prepare them for walking on the Hot Coals!

At 8pm the walkers were marched across Edlesbrough Green by the leader of T4C (the company who managed the Firewalk) holding a burning torch to the pavilion area, through the crowds of people to the main arena where the Hot Coals were in full flame. Gather round the leader said, feel the heat!!!! I think there were probably a few of us who could have easily backed out at this point. We then lined up ready to walk over the coals and before we new it we had done it, with much support from the crowds of villagers who had gathered to see us all BURN! Sorry I mean walk over the coals... It was a marvellous experience and we even had some walkers who said they would do it again!

Sponsor money is still coming in and hopefully by the next issue of Focus we will be able to tell you how much has been raised for Keech Cottage Children's Hospice and the EDaN Project. If you kindly sponsored a walker could you help them to gather all their money by paying them as soon as possible as they have to have all their monies in by 5th December.

If you would like to view/order pictures of the event go to:

www.lovetroughalens.co.uk

Click on Client, Password is Firewalk

50% of sales go to our cause

A huge thank you must go to all 24 walkers as follows:

Dave Coppen, Sue Waldron Vicky Lee, Kathy & Emma Bovington, Michael Buck, Sarah Dunn, Andy Janes, Neville Bowers, Tim Jones, Darren Price, Jan Perkins, Richard Sunderland, Simon Wilson, Sally Thorne, Dawn Thurgood, Caroline Murgatroyd, Michelle Ward, Penni (Pinstripes), Adrian Bush, Mark Taylor, Paul Hurley, Dave Hobson and Leon.

Very many thanks must also go to all our sponsors including the following
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Edlesborough Parish Council

Tennis Club – for the use of the court lights on the night

Stuart Hutchinson Brownlow Café – Ashridge – Wonderful food

Lin Sargeant EPC

Anne Thompson EPC

Ian Waldron - photography

Love Through a Lens – photography

And finally to the EDaN committee members and willing helpers who without their help this event would never have happened.



EDaN Traffic Management Team

The year end pamphlet of the EDaN Project which was distributed with last months “Focus” showed just how much we have achieved in one year, more than most of us thought possible, but it also shows how much more still needs to be done.

The Traffic Management Team are continuing to use the “Speedwatch” equipment which is still proving to be very effective at reducing traffic speeds, but disappointingly we are recording a higher number of speeding vehicles!! We hope that these are through traffic and that our message is getting across to local drivers to drive within the speed limit. Letters from Thames Valley Police will be arriving through letterboxes soon. We hope that you are not about to receive one!

The long awaited Bucks County Council Speed Review has started. It will consider an appropriate speed for the Traveller’s Rest area, for Northall (A4146) and for other parts of the A4146. Before the outcome of this review is finalised there will be further consultation. Providing we are given sufficient warning of the dates of consultation meetings, we will use this magazine to advise everyone who might wish to attend the meeting. We would be very glad of your support.

Some members of the Team recently attended a meeting where residents of Water End and district were in discussion with the Herts Highways Agency regarding ways of reducing speeds and increasing road safety on the A4146 just south of our three villages. This was an eye opener to all who attended!! Water End appear to have made very little headway so our Team is reviewing how best to approach Bucks County Council in order to achieve a higher success rate by putting forward achievable goals. More on this later.

Drive safely

EdaN Traffic Management Team



EDaN Pavements Action Team (formerly Footpaths and Pavements)

This team is being resurrected in a different form. We met last year but were unable to find a permanent leader or secretary. Since then the Footpaths piece has been taken up by the cycleways team. I have volunteered to lead this revised group for Pavements only as there is some unfinished business that needs to be followed through. Pavements along with footpaths became part of the Parish Plan and so it is important that the issues raised are followed through.

If you were part of the team that met last year I will contact you. If you are new to this and would like to join please contact me. Alan Williams 01525 221926 or via email ajrwilliams@hotmail.com

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

Apologies that the October report was duplicated in the November issue of Focus. The October report informed parishioners of the proposed Road Closures for the Remembrance Sunday service held at Edlesborough War Memorial and the Parish Council would like to apologise to residents that they were not forewarned.

On the Road Project

Also due to appear in the November 'Focus' was information regarding this project which is run by AVDC and the first event would take place on Edlesborough Green on 9th November comprising a skate park, i-van with multi-media and interactive facilities and various sports for 11-14 year olds all free of charge. Notices of this project were on the Parish notice boards and it is hoped that a further date will be arranged for this to take place in Dagnall early in the New Year.

Edlesborough Play Area

The Parish Council are pleased to report that the wooden balancing beams have now been replaced by steel beams and the vandalised Galactica and roundabout have been repaired. The Council apologise for the delay in getting these repairs carried out. Should further damage occur to the roundabout steps have been taken for it to be immobilised until repaired.

P.A.I.N (London-Luton Airport)

The Luton Airport Annual Monitoring Report for 2008 has recently been published. In 2008 the Airport handled 10.2 million passengers compared with 9.9 million in 2007. The number of commercial passenger aircraft movements increased by almost 3% but the total number of aircraft movements decreased by 2% as a result of fewer cargo and general aviation movements. The proportion of scheduled flights compared with charter flights continues to increase. There was a decrease in night movements compared to 2007. The split of Westerly to Easterly operations was very similar to previous years. The report indicates that a large proportion of Olney 26 flight path departures turn north before they reach the Parish, suggesting that during Westerly operations approximately 6% of departing aircraft overflow the Parish instead of 20% if all aircraft followed the designated flight path for longer. The Parish Council will be submitting it's response to the NATS TCN consultation when received.

Allotments

Allotment rents have been collected and the Clerk will be contacting names on the waiting list to offer vacant plots available.

Remembrance Sunday

Having obtained an official Order for road closures, diversion signs were erected thus enabling the service to be conducted without traffic going past the War Memorial and the congregation were able to assemble in the road. A separate article will appear in this issue.

Litter Bins

Additional litter bins to be purchased and distributed around the Parish.

Burial Fees

The present fees will be increasing as from 1st February 2010.

Road/Footpath repairs

Bucks CC have been chased up to carry out work to remove the ‘hump’ in the pavement of Pebblemoor, to establish what can be done to improve the pot hole situation around Brook Street and The Green, to install white lines at the junctions of Orchard End and Jacksons Close and to report on the continued flooding at the junction of Eaton Bray Road, Northall with the A4146.

Thames Valley Police

The Parish Council have held a meeting with representatives of Thames Valley Police concerning the continuing crime and vandalism occurring throughout the parish.

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

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

Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Booking

Secretary: Beverly Sage – Tel: 01525 229509

<p>Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings 3rd Thursday of every month 7.30pm Memorial Hall Next meeting: Thurs 17th Dec 09</p>

Mains Drainage for postcodes

LU2 2EE, 2EH, 2EJ & 2EQ

(Tring Road, Leighton Road, Pine Road – 38 households)

Progress Report No. 4 20/10/09

This report is the information given to me during my telephone call with Anglian Water Services Ltd (AWSL) on 20th October 2009.

First Time Sewage Appraisal at Edlesborough (Section 101A, Water Industry Act 1991)

The AWSL sewage survey questionnaires issued to each dwelling in our area at the end of September 2009 were completed and returned by 50% of the householders (about the norm I am told).

Looking forward, an on site survey to establish liquid dispersal will take place during the period December 2009/January 2010.

AWSL will complete a report by May 2010 when a decision will be made as to whether or not mains drainage is necessary to solve our problems or if it can be solved by individual local action. This report will also be issued to the EPC.

If it is accepted that mains drainage is required the time scale for funding and work starting is not immediate.

I am advised that it could be in the 2011-2015 budget period – if AWSL receive ‘Offwatt’ financial support, or it could be in the 2015-2020 budget.

My thanks to householders for returning the questionnaires.

See your ‘FOCUS’ magazine for future reports.

Talbot Griffiths (No. 5 Leighton Road)

- •
- **Things that make me fume...** •
- A new dog bin in Holmans field, yet •
- someone has allowed their dog to •
- leave a deposit at the foot of the bin, •
- plus on that particular morning, 5 •
- other deposits round the field. •
- **Things that make me happy...** •
- Watching DAOS perform a superb •
- performance of My Fair Lady at •
- the Grove Theatre. Of all their •
- performances I think this was their •
- best to date, congratulations all •
- involved locally. •
- •

The Bell

Church End Edlesborough

Under New Management

Ian & Elle would like to welcome you to The Bell, we have many years experience in running pubs and we intend to bring the pub back into the community and will soon be having Meat Raffles, Lottery Bonus Ball, Karaoke, 60's/70's/80's Disco, Quiz Nights, Pool, Darts, Poker plus much more. We will also be doing Traditional Home-style Pub Grub & Sunday Roasts. Christmas & New Year Eve Party.

We now have lower Prices on all Draft Ales & Lagers... Stella £2.95 - Fosters £2.85 - Guinness £2.95 - Strongbow £2.85 - Greene King IPA £2.85 - Adnams £2.85

We also need Male & Female Pool & Darts Teams. If you haven't been in The Bell for a while come back and give us a try, for a warm welcome.

Support your local pub

All Saints, Dagnall - Services & Meetings in Dec 09 & Jan 10

Wed. 2nd Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Peter Dudeney
Sat. 5th Dec.	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
Sun. 6th Dec.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 9th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting - Rupert Kaye speaks about his sponsored walk along Hadrian's Wall
Sun. 13th Dec.	4.00 pm	Dagnall Village Carol Service
Wed. 16th Dec.	7.45 pm	Quiz Evening
Sun. 20th Dec.	10.30 am	Family Communion
Christmas Day	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 27th Dec.	10.30 am	Carol Praise
Sun. 3rd Jan.	10.30 am	Covenant Service
Wed. 6th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Speaker: Revd Roger Chapman
Sun. 10th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
Wed. 13th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Peter Dudeney
Sun. 17th Jan.	10.30 am	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed 20th Jan.	7.45 pm	An Evening with Christian Singing Duo - 'Light Touch' at Eaton Bray Methodist Church
Sun. 24th Jan.	10.30 pm	Family Service
	4.00 pm	United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Northall Baptist Church
Wed. 27th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Lucille Kaye
Sun. 31st Jan.	10.30 am	Informal Worship
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Wed. 3rd Feb	7.45 pm	A Musical Evening with Revd David Jenkins
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.		



SWING INTO SPRING DANCE

Jointly organised by Eaton Bray Tennis Club & Village Hall

SATURDAY 13TH MARCH 2010

At

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL

7PM FOR 7.30PM START, DINNER AT 8PM

LIVE BAND – JIM BALLS AND THE RACQUETS

2 COURSE HOT DINNER

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND GLASSES

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or £18 IF BOOKED LATER**

ROSS: 221411

ross.bagni@btinternet.com

or

BERNIE: 222531

bernadettehillman@hotmail.com

We would like to invite you to

An evening of light music with
Christian singing duo

Light Touch

followed by a buffet supper
at Eaton Bray Methodist Church
on Wednesday, 20th January
at 7.45 pm

*Donations on the evening to
the Hospice of St. Francis,
Berkhamsted*

*CD's will be available for
purchase*

*For information contact:
Chriss (01525 222288) or
Dorothy (01442 843237)*

All Saints' Church,
Dagnall

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 5th December
10.30am - 12.30pm

Cake stall
Christmas crafts
Fairtrade stall

Proceeds in aid of the church project for 2009

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER

10am - 2pm

SALVATION ARMY
BOOTH PLACE, EATON BRAY

ENTRANCE: 20 pence

FAIR TRADE TEA, COFFEE AND
HOT CHOCOLATE
CRAFTS, CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND
GOODIES, SWEETS AND CAKES,
KEY-RINGS, CHRISTMAS CARDS
AND TAGS

BRING A GIFT TO OUR
WRAPPING SERVICE

ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO THE
YOUTH GROUPS OF EATON BRAY
SALVATION ARMY

Thai Curry & Quiz Night

Saturday 6th February 2010
Edlesborough Memorial Hall

7.30 - 11.30pm

? £12.50 per person ?
or 4 tickets for £40

Singles, couples or teams all welcome

Thai chicken or vegetable curry
with rice, dessert & tea/coffee
served from 8pm until 9.15pm

Quiz starts 9.30pm

Bring your own drinks

Call or text Kath Mead 07786 061959 or
email kmorrison2@hotmail.com
for further information or to book tickets
This is an Edlesborough Under 5's fundraising event


Friends Of Edlesborough School

CHRISTMAS MARKET

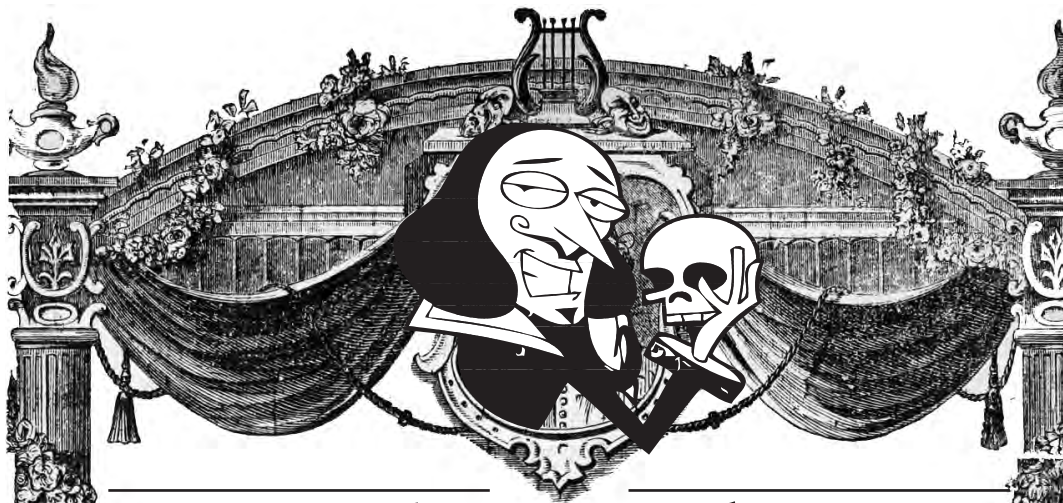
Join us at our Christmas Market
on **Friday 4th December** from 5 - 7pm

Let our fabulous choir get you into the Christmas spirit!

Visit Santa, have a go on the tombola, enjoy mulled wine,
roasted chestnuts, hot dogs and candy floss

Lots of stalls full of perfect gifts for Christmas

We look forward to seeing you there!



Much Ado About
Roll up Roll up

**MEET
TITANIA,
BOTTOM,
AERIAL &
THE
WITCHES.
VOTE WHO
HAS THE
X FACTOR**

Roll up Roll up
*Join in the fun and
frolics at the
Palace for
Henry's wedding*

*Does
Juliet get
her
Romeo or
Shylock
get his evil
way?*

**ONE FREE DRINK FOR ANYONE IN FANCY
DRESS THE FIRST NIGHT ONLY.**

January 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd. Matinee 23rd. See front cover for details...

Report from PCSO Chris Baker

Recent News

This month Inspector Emma Garside joins the Neighbourhood Team. She will have responsibility for Neighbourhood Policing and crime management across all of the rural neighbourhoods in Aylesbury Vale. Emma is based at Buckingham Police Station and can be contacted on 0845 8 505505 or by email on emma.garside@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Inspector Garside says “I look forward to the challenge of my new role and hope to get to meet as many of you as possible over the next few months. For me Neighbourhood Policing is all about the community knowing their local officers and being confident that we are tackling the issues which mean the most to you. I expect my teams to be visible and engaged with their neighbourhoods and delivering a high quality of service at all times.”

In conjunction with Bedfordshire police and local farmers we now have Operation Animal in place to combat hare coursing. If you see any suspicious vehicles or people entering fields please report them. By working together we hope to catch these criminals who show no regard for farmers' land or livestock.

We continue to be involved with the community in as many ways as possible. PCSO Dodson and PC Levens call in at the Ivinghoe Youth drop in every week and this month PCSOs Dodson and Baker have talked to the Ivinghoe W.I., PC Levens is taking the Beavers to see the custody suite at Amersham police station and PCSO Dodson is talking to the brownies about being safe and seen at night and PCSO Baker will be leading the All Age service at St Giles church, Cheddington on Sunday October 18th. If you would like us to visit your community group then do please contact us.

Nag Info

The Wing South Neighbourhood action group met in September and the next meeting is scheduled for November 16th. We continue to work on our priorities of speeding, theft from vehicles and anti social behaviour.

- PC Levens has been out with the laser gun in Ivinghoe at Station Road, Ivinghoe and Pebblemoor, Edlesborough. PCSOs Dodson and Baker have the SID booked this month and residents of Cheddington and Edlesborough have been out with their community speedwatch devises.
- Patrols of beauty spot car parks, where many thefts from vehicles occur, continue to be a priority. Extra patrols in these car parks and surrounding villages are carried out not only by us but also special constables and plain clothes officers in unmarked cars. Members of the NAG and PCSO Dodson, with the aid of an AVDC display on car crime, were in Pitstone Hill car park on Sunday September 20th to educate the public about not leaving valuables in cars. This successful venture coincided with the Chiltern festival and a similar operation by Hertfordshire police at the monument car park.
- Our priority on anti social behaviour in Edlesborough has been hampered by people's reluctance to phone the police. We would encourage everyone who is affected by any sort of anti social behaviour to ring 0845 8 505505. By calling us when events are happening gives us a better chance of catching those responsible.

Offenders brought to Justice

Recently three youths were arrested in Edlesborough at 3am for stealing and riding a

quad bike. They are currently on bail pending further enquiries. This was an excellent response to a crime in progress and hopefully this will send out a strong message to young people and their parents that the police will take tough action against anyone committing crime.

Crime Stats

Overall crime is down in Wing South by 6% from the same period (April – August) last year. Sheds and garages are currently most at risk of being broken into in our area so we encourage you to ensure that these are kept locked and secured. Where possible good outside lighting will help deter criminals. There are good sensor alarmed padlocks on the market at good prices.

Up coming events

If you have any issues you wish to discuss with the Wing South team we are holding a police surgery on Tuesday October 27th at the Nup End Café, Methodist church, Nup End Lane, Wingrave 10.30a.m. – 1200 p.m. Come along for a chat and enjoy a cup of coffee at the same time. Surgeries are booked for Dagnall, Marsworth and Mentmore in the coming months and details will be on the website once the venues have been confirmed.

Over the course of this month a number of road safety checks will be conducted as we work with the Roads Policing Department. As the nights get darker it is a good opportunity to educate drivers and prevent serious accidents occurring.



National Minimum Wage increase

From 1 October, the adult rate of the National Minimum Wage (NMW) increases to £5.80. The other rates also increase.

Also from 1 October, tips and service charges paid to a worker through the employer's payroll do not count towards the NMW.

Redundancy pay increase

From 1 October, the statutory limit on a week's pay for statutory redundancy pay increases to £380 (from £350). This increase also applies to the calculation of compensation for unfair dismissal and other claims, for example, failure to consult over collective redundancies.

Tax refunds

From 1 April 2010, the time limit for claiming a tax refund will be reduced to four years from the end of the relevant tax year. This applies to all claims submitted on or after 1 April 2010. For example, a claim for the tax year 2005/2006, which ended on 5 April 2006, must be made by 5 April 2010.

People who may be entitled to a refund should be encouraged to make claims promptly to avoid the possibility of losing the right to claim for the earliest years.

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

**Highlights of the Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting
held in The Coffee Tavern on Mon 2nd November 2009 at 7:30pm
Vacancy For Parish Councillor**

There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor on Eaton Bray Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the council please contact the Parish Clerk.

Mobile Skate Park

This has now been installed and being used. The Parish Council wish to thank the police for all their hard work in getting this organised.

Skate & Ride Area

The Parish Council are pleased to announce that the Skate & Ride area is nearing completion

School Lane Recreation Ground

Due to previous covenants placed on School Lane Recreation Ground ending, the Parish Council is now looking into the possibility of registering the land as a Village Green.

Leasing of Land

The Parish Council reviewed the feedback from residents affected by the proposed leasing of land off School Lane Recreation Ground. The Parish Council agreed that as the majority of residents were not in favour of this land being leased, they would not be proceeding any further with the application at this time and for the land to remain as it is.

St Mary's Church – Flower Beds

A design has now been agreed for the new church flower beds, with the help of school children from Eaton Bray Lower School.

River Ouzel

Due to low rain fall in recent months, concerns had been raised with the water flow of the River Ouzel. An inspection of the area was carried out which showed that although there is Yellow Flag Iris growth in the water, there is still a clear area for water to flow and heavy rain fall during the winter months will flatten this growth and give a clear flow.

Letter of Thanks to the Parish Council

The Parish Council received a letter of thanks signed by many of the youngsters who were involved in the skate & ride. They wished to thank everyone who gave up so much of their time, supported the project and for making the skate & ride possible, not only for them, but for the youth of the parish. An area where they and other youngsters can go and enjoy themselves, in a purpose built, safe environment, away from the busy roads.

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website.

Parish Council Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

[Please note that the views or comments expressed on this website (forum) are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. The Webmaster reserves the right to remove any defamatory, derogatory or libellous statement or words from the site]

**Eaton Bray
Parish Council Meetings
1st Monday of each month
7:30pm The Coffee Tavern
Next Meetings: Mon 7th Dec
Mon 4th Jan**

Contact Details For Eaton Bray Parish Clerk

Clerk contact times: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answer phone]

Parish Office: 20 Good Intent, Edlesborough, LU6 2RD [Tel 01525 222601/Email clerk@ebpc.co.uk]

Dagnall News

Over 60's

During November we had a speaker - Mrs Parsons, who gave us an interesting talk which she entitled 'Rhymes and Reminiscences'

In December we are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch on the 15th and following this we will be holding our A.G.M. on January 19th. Another year ends ! Where did it go?

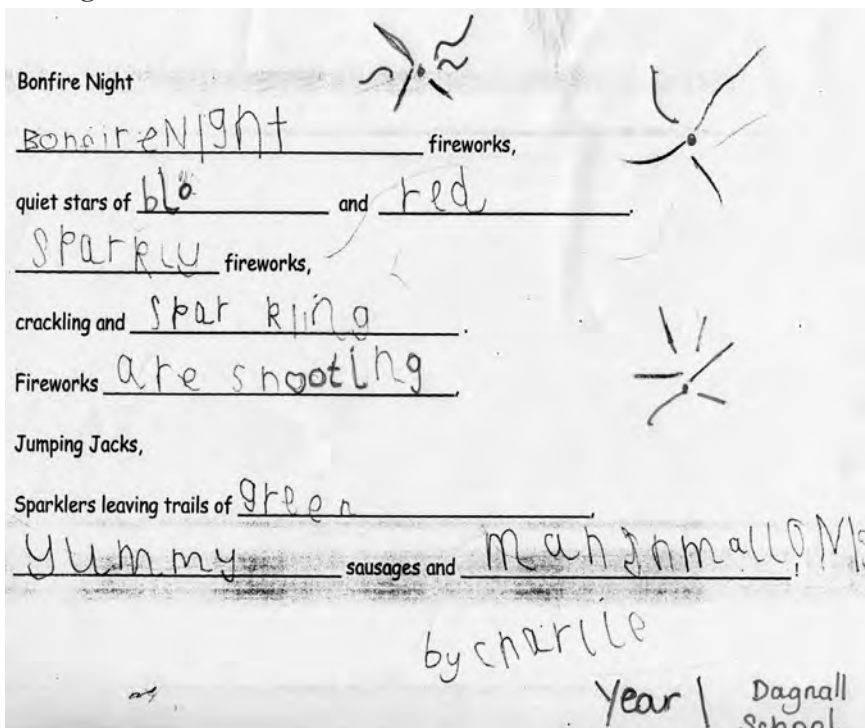
Dagnall Church

All Saints' Church, Dagnall, Christmas coffee morning, Saturday 5th December, 10.30am - 12.30pm, cake stall, Christmas crafts, Fairtrade stall. Proceeds in aid of the church project for 2009.

You are invited to an evening of light music with Christian singing duo, Light Touch, followed by a buffet supper at Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Wednesday, 20th January at 7.45pm.

Dagnall School

Bonfire Night



Stuart Ball

*Ceramic Wall & Floor
Tiling Specialist*

Over 26 yrs Experience



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Facilities include all mod cons including air-con, satellite TV, fully equipped kitchen, swimming pools, excellent clubhouse and tennis courts. Many golf courses and all weather bowling greens nearby. Climate makes this ideal for holidays throughout the year. Rates vary according to season (£300 - £750)

For a brochure and details call Peter or Celia on **01525 220173** or visit the website at www.479losnaranjos.co.uk.

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For The Elderly

- Pick up / Take home by car
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 - Fully trained staff
- Visiting hairdresser/beautician/podiatrist
 - Full daily programme
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Katrina Fountain (01296) 429785
E-mail : susantearle@tiscali.co.uk

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or mowing doesn't move you,
you need someone to **Do It for You**

For your General
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**Contact Carl Bird on 01582 703039
or Mobile 07773 230055**

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Loft Boarding Gardening etc.*

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Please come and help to run your village

The Parish Council is nine members of the public

We come to each Parish Council Meeting in the Coffee Tavern on the 1st Monday of each month and spend on average around two hours each month advising and helping to run our village.

At present we have one vacancy – will YOU come and join us?

If yes, please contact:

Mrs Heidi Head, Clerk to Eaton Bray Parish Council
20 Good Intent, Edlesborough, Dunstable, Beds, LU6 2RD
Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk Telephone: 01525 222601
Website: www.ebpc.co.uk



Edlesborough W.I.

At the beginning of our last meeting Ann Brinklow & Kathy Froud were thanked for arranging our recent successful Birthday dinner. Thanks went to Kathy also for again baking and decorating our Birthday cake. We all enjoyed a slice during the evening.

That same evening, and the Beacon Group meeting the following week, brought back quite a few memories for us. We did not have a speaker, but were entertained by Close Harmony, making a return visit. The group consists of nine lady vocalists accompanied on the keyboard by the only gentleman. We were treated to a wide range of music including ragtime, songs from musicals, old time favourites, nursery rhymes and a very amusing song about the W.I. entitled “Four Girls Bright & Beautiful”. The singers encouraged us to join in whenever possible - an invitation never ignored by Edlesborough W.I. ladies.

Close Harmony are a really talented group. It was a lovely evening, and we all enjoyed joining in all the old and new songs. They finished with a song entitled “What would we do without our music?” One good thing they certainly do is to raise money for the Air Ambulance Charity by donating all their fees.

The Group meeting the following week brought back many memories for most of us. We were taken back to the 1950's and early 1960's by a talk about that era. We recalled pop music, final stages of rationing, fashion, London smog - to name a few. Most of the talk centred on how different London was at that time, compared to the present day. The famous docks were still in use and post-war rebuilding was taking place on bomb sites. Some ladies in the audience would have been too young to remember those years. However, most of us were taken back in time for a really interesting evening. Two very different occasions this month have certainly taken us down memory lane.
Val Harris

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity December Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st Supporter's Christmas Luncheon, The Harrow, Bishopstone at 12.30pm. 3 course meal plus tea/coffee & mince pies. £18.50 per person. Spaces limited - call early to avoid disappointment.

Saturday 5th Charity Bingo with Fish & Chip Supper, Hawkslade Community Centre. Just £7 per person for a great night out!

Wednesday 9th Tree of Light - 'Light up a Life' by sponsoring a light which will shine through Christmas and the New Year outside the Hospice. The tree is lit following a short service which starts at 7.30pm & you have the opportunity to view the Book of Honour & chat with staff and friends at the Hospice.

Saturday 12th Christmas Bazaar at Bedgrove Community Centre from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Sunday 13th Santa Dash Run, walk or trot the 3.5km course which starts and ends in the Vale Park, Aylesbury. Entry fee (including your Santa suit) is £10 for adults and £5 for children. Proceeds shared between St John Ambulance and the Hospice.

Sat 19th - Thurs 24th Christmas Wrapping in Friar's Square, Aylesbury. Buy your presents and have them wrapped by our volunteer 'wrappers'. If you would like to give a hour or two of your time, to wrap gifts, please add your name to our rota.

Thursday 31st New Year's Eve Dance with 'Southbound' at Aylesbury Grammar School - 8.00pm to 12.15am. Tickets on sale now and up to 23rd December. Bring your own food & drink and have a fun evening with friends, old & new, at just £15 per person.

Further details of all events are available on 01296 429975 www.fnhospice.org.uk

Edlesborough Under 5's

Recently the children have been learning about hygiene, Autumn, fireworks/bonfire night and people who help us. The children had a visit from Jackie, the police community support officer. They tried on a police jacket and police hats and sat in the police car and sounded the siren.

Just before half term the children dressed up in costumes for the halloween party and enjoyed spooky fun games and activities. The staff, committee and parents transformed the memorial hall into a halloween style grotto.

The Thursday morning children have started their school visits in preparation for starting school in January. We wish them all the best at school. We also welcome the new children who will be starting with us next term.

To enrol call Sue on 01525 222199.



Sylvia Mary Thorne

Sheila, Glenis & Judith would like to thank everyone for the kind messages of sympathy and support following the death of their mother, Sylvia.

It is very evident that Mum was held with great affection by very many people in the village, a fact that probably would have amazed her.

Thank you to Commissioner Bill Cochrane and Captains Ray and Linda Charlton.

Special thanks to Joan for always being there when she is needed.

Another special thank you for all the generous donations to Keech Cottage Children's Hospice.

Charity Christmas Puzzle 2009

It is nearly time for Gordon Gray to distribute this year's Charity Christmas Puzzle. This, the 19th annual puzzle that Gordon has set, has a theme designed to help completion and 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 24th January.

Four winners will each receive a £25 prize
Everyone who enters will qualify for a £25 prize draw

Gordon plans to post puzzles on 7th December, so those already on the distribution list should receive their copies by 9th December. Anyone else who would like a copy can access it from the web at www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. You can register early to receive a copy on the issue date of 8th December.

Nearly £32,000 raised for charity
£4000 donated last year

This year's puzzle will support St.Mary's Fabric Fund plus six other charities. if you want further details contact Gordon Gray on 220136.

Eaton Bray Village Hall

100 Club Winners - Oct 2009

56	Michelle Reddington	£100
162	Brian Andrews	£25
143	Moirra D'Arcy	£25
70	Barbara Collier	£25
65	Roy Simmons	£25

Drawn on 31st October 2009 at Hines the Butchers. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

Central Bedfordshire Libraries

The mobile library visits Eaton Bray fortnightly on Tuesdays. The next visit is 1st Dec 2009. The times are as follows:

Eaton Bray	Arrival	
Departure		
Greenways	13:20	13:35
Cantilupe Close	13:40	14:05
Church Lane	14:10	14:35
Knights Close	14:40	14:55
Medley Close	15:00	15:15
Moor End	15:20	15:45

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners Oct 2009

£25	A.Fleet	No.38
£10	Mary Jarrett	No.4

Nov 2009

£100	Judy Stop	No.32
£50	Geoff Ellerton	No.100
£25	Richard Piggott	No.35
£10	John Flecknell	No.62

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

Countdown to Christmas – It’s Closer Than You Think!

The countdown to Christmas has started - in fact for super-Santa it started as soon as he got back to the North Pole on 28th February from his month in the Maldives on countdown day 300!

Even though there are only a few short weeks left to get the Christmas essentials there is still time to reassure your child (or grandchild, niece or nephew!) that they are definitely on Santa’s “good children database” (which he is always very careful not to leave on trains or lose in the post!).

All you need to do is email super.santa@talktalk.net to get a special form so you can tell super-Santa how good your child has been this year – super-Santa and his Elves will then write back a super-letter to make sure your child’s Christmas excitement is pumped up more than a shaken bottle of fizzy pop!

If you don’t fancy sending an email just collect a form from the super-Elves safe house at 96a High Street, Eaton Bray – then no matter how you got it just return it with £2 by Friday 18th December in an envelope marked “Village Hall Project” (the super-Elves have little Elves of their own so the codewords are vital!).

Then just sit back and wait for super-Santas letter to land on your doorstep the week before Christmas.

Remember – if you don’t tell super-Santa just how deserving your child has been then how is he going to know? And he has got an awful lot of coal in his sleigh for the unlucky ones! Don’t risk it!

All of the money super-Santa collects will go to the Eaton Bray Village Hall – you know it makes sense!!!

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*** winner of the best spruce 2009 ***

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Edlesborough School

Report From Junior Road Safety Officer Conference

In October Rona and I went to Aylesbury for a conference with many other JRSO's from different schools.

I enjoyed the conference as we got involved in many activities, my favourite was pretending to be in a car crash, which taught me how important it is to drive carefully and also to keep your seatbelt on whilst the car is moving. Another activity was about learning what other things you could introduce to the school and we did one, to get a JRSO notice board, we also have one in the main entrance.

Stephen Tomlinson

My favourite part of the conference was making the poster for the notice board, as there was a wide range of pictures and they let your imagination flow. It was really fun and I learnt loads of new things, such as how to speak properly in assembly. We learnt how the fireman saves people if they have whiplash in a car crash. It was so good, and I wish everyone could have been there.

We both thought it was fun and exciting. It was a good experience and proved how important our role of Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) is.

Rona Wright

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

A reminder that our Christmas Lunches will be served on Saturday December 5th and tickets are available from Graham Carter , 01525 220742. The proceeds from the event will go to the East Anglian Air Ambulance. There will be stalls offering Christmas cards & paper, gifts and coffee and tea from 12. noon until 2.0pm. So if you cannot make lunch do come along and do a little early festive shopping and support this very worthwhile cause.

Christmas Services:

Family Carol Service. Sunday 20th December at 10.30am.

Christmas Day Family Service at 10.30am led by Hyacinth Taylor.

January Lunches will be served on Saturday 9th from 12.noon until 1.30 pm.

February Lunches on Saturday 13th.

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Remembrance Service at Edlesborough War Memorial.

Well, we managed it!! For an hour all was peaceful on the A4146 as the Sunday traffic was diverted away from the War Memorial at Edlesborough. Upwards of fifty children and three times as many adults, stood in ranks safely around the memorial instead of perching unsteadily on the steep bank or crowding on to what little pavement there is. Our new vicar hardly needed his microphone as, for the first time that I can remember, we were able to hold our Remembrance Service without struggling to hear the names over the roar of passing traffic.

We have many people to thank for our peace and quiet. Thank you to Edlesborough Parish Council, and to Lin Sargeant in particular, for working hard to get the Road Closure order approved by Bucks C.C. Lin has also worked very hard during the past few weeks organising warning signs to be placed in position, and also ordering and organising all the diversion signs and barriers.

Thank you to Mark Wilson, Mike Scott, Vince Taylor, Norma and Jim Wright and Kevin Cabbage who gave up their Sunday morning to stand in the cold at the barriers and oversee the traffic diversion. It was very much appreciated.

Thank you also to our PCSO's Jackie and Denise who helped to make the closure effective and safe.

Finally many thanks to William Pratt, and his huge trailer, who helped us to put out and collect all the diversion signs and barriers with remarkable patience and good humour.

This first closure has been something of a learning experience. We have made notes to remind us of things we hadn't considered, and will try to improve in 2011. Our apologies go to local residents who may have been inconvenienced by the road closure. Next time our advance warning signs will be placed on the affected roads much earlier, giving people time to make alternative arrangements. I will also make sure that there will be a reminder in the October 2011 edition of "Focus".

Thank you again to everyone who was involved.

Lorna Cabbage

British Legion Poppy Organiser. Northall.

Dunstable Downs and the Chilterns Gateway Centre

Forthcoming events and activities at Dunstable Downs include:

Sat 5th and Sun 6th December, 12am to 3pm - Christmas is coming at the Chilterns Gateway Centre with Santa in his Grotto, mulled wine and mince pies in the cafe, Christmas pudding food tasting with Harpers of Studham, children's crafts and face painting, Christmas Carols and on Sunday 6th December we will also be hosting our monthly Farmer's Market.

Sunday 20th December, 10am - Christmas Walk. Enjoy a two hour stroll to find out more about Dunstable Downs including the history of the site. Includes mince pies and alcohol free mulled wine after the walk. £5 per person, please book in the shop or telephone 01582 500925

Sunday 27th December 12.00pm - Christmas Walk. Join our Countryside Manager for an energetic ramble over Dunstable Downs and Whipnade Downs. Please wear suitable footwear as the walk will include hills and slopes. Free, please book in the shop or telephone 01582 500925.

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News from Terry Jones

Do You Want to Give Young People in Your Parish a Voice?

If so, then why not consider taking a lead from other parishes across the District by setting up a Parish Youth Council. This usually consists of a locally based group of young people who meet regularly as a mirror image of their Parish Council. They can identify the needs of local young people and can act as a voice for them. Youth Parish Councils are not a new idea but they do provide an excellent and effective way of contacting local young people. If you're interested in exploring the idea of a Parish Youth Council then help is on hand in the form of AVDC's Youth Development Manager, Carl Cheevers. Carl is available to discuss the setting up of Parish Youth Councils and can support parishes in getting them established. If you would like more information on setting one up, please contact Carl Cheevers on (01296) 585224 or email ccheevers@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk.

Reactivate Bucks

Help people in your parish to get fit, feel healthier and have fun with Reactivate Bucks. It inspires and connects local people with hundreds of sports and activities available in the county. These can all be found by visiting www.reactivatebucks.org or calling (01296) 585215.

Going a stage further, have you ever wanted to organise fun, and simple sports activities in your parish but don't know where to start?

Bucks Sport can help by hosting a nationally accredited Sports Leaders Course in your parish. This six hour course will provide participants with the self confidence, knowledge and leadership skills they need to organise safe sports activities locally.

The course can take place at a venue you specify and will be delivered by a professional Bucks Sport coach at no extra cost. All that is required is that you identify ten local participants, who will each receive a certificate on completing the course.

For more information, please contact Emma Nichol, Leadership & Volunteering Development Officer, on either 01296 585626, or email enichol@buckssport.org. For information about Bucks Sport (a Local Centre of Community Sports Leadership) visit www.buckssport.org.

Fundraising Training

Following the very successful fundraising training held last year, more fundraising training has been organized for the period October 2009 – March 2010. The tutor is Mike Coker as per last year.

The following courses will be run:-

- 1) Compiling and writing a project grant application form
- 2) Raising Funds from Trusts and Foundations
- 3) Understanding the Outcomes Approach
- 4) Raising Funds from Major Donors
- 5) Compiling a Fundraising Strategy

For more details of the fundraising training courses please contact Liz Evans (01296) 585256 or e-mail levans@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

Planning Appeals – Procedure Changes

Changes to the appeals procedures relate to planning appeals dealt with under written representations, and planning appeals dealt with by hearing or inquiry.

1. There is a Householder Appeal Service dealt with by written representation.
2. A Standard Written Representation Procedure
3. A Hearings Procedure.
4. An Inquiries procedure

Copies of the Planning Inspectorate Procedural Guidance can be found at:
www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/pins/21st_century/procedural_guidance_planning_appeals.pdf

Zap your carbon

Aylesbury Vale District Council is encouraging residents to check the environmental impact of their own lifestyles on the environment by using an innovative new web-based system.

The ZapCarbon website (www.zapcarbon.com) allows householders to manage their carbon emissions and see the positive differences they are making by entering readings from their electricity meter online.

Once the extent of their electricity use has been established, residents are being challenged to go about reducing their carbon footprint by making simple changes, such as swapping ordinary light bulbs for energy efficient ones or switching off electrical items left on standby, which can have a positive effect on the environment whilst actually saving them money.

Residents can regularly enter their meter readings into the system to find out how much their electricity consumption has changed. Graphs are provided to show how much progress has been made.

Householders can also access advice about actions they can take to cut their emissions and arrange online contests with friends, groups or clubs to see who can save the most energy.

Business Grants

More and more businesses are being given a helping hand with grants from Aylesbury Vale District Council.

The AVDC business grants panel recently awarded four grants to new and existing businesses, a total amount of £16,000. It brings the grand total for 2009 to £22,000 of grants from the council for local firms.

The grant scheme is just one of the ways in which AVDC is helping local businesses during the recession.

Councillor John Cartwright, Leader of the Council, said: “We are very keen as a council to support local businesses and the grants scheme has been an excellent way of encouraging new enterprise. A huge range of local businesses have already benefited from it and feedback from them has been very positive. The scheme forms part of a package of measures we have put in place to help the economy during the recession.” The grants of £3,000 to £5,000 have been used to support all kinds of growth in companies, ranging from buying new machinery, expanding premises, marketing and promotion, and training staff.

Find out more about the AVDC business grant scheme at www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/business or call 01296 585657

Terry Jones, AVDC Councillor for Edlesborough, Northall, Dagnall, Ivinghoe Aston
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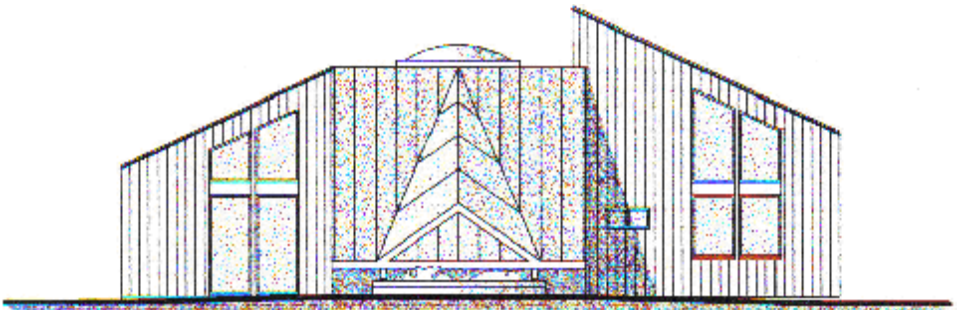
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

The opening paragraph from the OfSTED inspection report, after their October 2007 visit, said this about EBLs:

"Eaton Bray Lower is an outstanding school. It modestly evaluates itself as good with some outstanding areas, but it is better than this. Its self-evaluation is correct in identifying strengths and areas for development. It provides an outstanding quality of education and care for its pupils and excellent value for money. Staff work exceptionally well in partnership with parents and the community for the benefit of all pupils. Pupils' enjoyment of school is impressive. The supportive parents are delighted with all aspects of its provision. Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher's vision for a school at the heart of its community is shared by the highly committed staff and excellent governors. This is set to become more firmly realised with the building of a new nursery with facilities for the local community and visiting professional from children's services."

Please come and visit our friendly village school. Phone 01525 220468 or email eaton@deal.bedfordshire.gov.uk



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Letter to the Editors

It is getting cold.... Not relevant if you live in EB, but ...What should you be paying for LPG & Oil?

Yes I know the above sounds more akin to a Watchdog or an awful sales pitch. Forgive me, perhaps not the tone required for our parish magazine, but I hope in this case the editors will allow the transgression. Most of us live comfortably enough, but fuel poverty is a real issue for some residents. Not an issue if you have piped gas, but many of us only dream of it, so here goes.

The Government has had the Monopolies Commission look at the 'pay or freeze' antics, sharp practice, and contracts tie-downs surrounding much of the LPG supply industry. It has helped, but unfortunately we still have no cost transparency. It is still very likely you pay the current average of 48pence per litre, whereas, your neighbour can be paying as little as 33ppl. That 15ppl doesn't sound like much, but on an average bill around here, that is a £5-700.00 a year difference. In our case, we have neighbours supplied at 46ppl. Whereas, until recently, we were paying 54ppl. Ouch?!

A request to remove the tank last August, backed up by knowledge of what a company pays for LPG used in forklifts, eventually got the rate down to 33ppl - with rental (a std 1200L tank) at 50per annum. For us, this made a comfortable £900.00+ pa saving. For those of you still dreaming of piped gas to your village, bear in mind, at 33ppl per litre this cost pretty much matches any kWh energy rate the more fortunate might pay on a piped mains gas supply. (Go to www.coedcymru.org.uk/calculator.htm for more on this) So it pays to ask. Incidentally, you would need to be paying 36ppl for Oil to match this per kWh rate.

This leaves one question, "Will we ever see a mains supply in our village?" With the installation cost per household variously quoted at £3500-5000, it seems most unlikely. This means, we're all left to secure lower Oil & LPG costs - and if you can do that, there's no need. It becomes weight of numbers, so gone on, ring your supplier.

(Name Supplied)



**The National Trust
South Beds Assn**

Wednesday 7th December

Filming for the National Trust

Harvey Edgington

2.30pm, Salvation Army Centre,

Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable

Visitors are welcome at £1

**For further information
phone 01582 527790**

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- Conservatory overlooking the gardens and parklands
- All weather tennis court.
- Snooker room with full size table
- Small indoor pool, jacuzzi and sauna

Secluded position on outskirts of award winning village yet within 3 miles of beaches and Dartmouth Golf and Country Club. Available for weekly letting or for three plus days out of season.

**For further details please telephone
01525 220957 evenings and weekends**

Dagnall Gardeners' Society Raised £500 for Charity

The society sponsored a talk in the Village Hall on the 13th October by John Branham, which was a great success – with over 100 people attending. John, who is a National Show winner, brought some of his prize-winning vegetables. His carrots and parsnips were around 3ft long, whereas the leeks were more like 4-5ft. He gave tips on how to grow for the garden, and the show bench, and set up a display for everyone to see.

At the end, he raffled all of the prizewinning veg. One leek sold for £22!

A total of £500 was donated to the Mount Vernon Hospital Scanner Appeal and Macmillan Cancer Support (made up of ticket sales: £200; raffle: £167; auction: £115, with the balance made up by the society).

We would like to thank all the members for their support.

Cheeky Monkeys Under Fives Playtime

Well, this is our last report of 2009, and we would especially like to thank all those who have helped us make our group such a success since we took over back in January this year. A special mention goes to the Parish Council, the Carnival Committee, Eaton Bray Garden Centre, Eaton Bray Village Hall Committee, parents for donating their toys, Eaton Bray Lower School for promoting the group, and most importantly everyone who comes along on a Wednesday afternoon with their children.

Don't forget our end of term Christmas party on 16th December. Father Christmas will be visiting with a present for every child, and we will be entertained by Jacqui, from "Jacq in the Box." This is an all ticket event, so do make sure you buy your tickets if you haven't already done so!

Please note that we will re-open on 6th January 2010. Why not make one of your new year's resolutions to come along to Cheeky Monkeys and give us a go! You can be assured of a warm welcome.

Cheeky Monkeys is run by three volunteer parents, Sarah, 07904 348113, Louise 07784 165259 and Sue 01525 222387 (suefox4@hotmail.com.) For enquiries please contact anyone of us. All information is on our website, www.cheekymonkeys.btik.com.

Which just leaves us to say, on behalf of all at Cheeky Monkeys, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in 2010!!!

Wednesday
16th December 2009
1:00pm to 2:45pm
Eaton Bray Village Hall

cheeky monkeys
under fives playtime

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come along and join in the fun with
Jacqui in the Box
musical entertainer

Plus a visit from
Father Christmas

Entrance by ticket only!
Tickets available now from Cheeky Monkeys

£1.50 per adult / £1.00 per child / 50p under 1yr

Salvation Sound... December 2009

In the days of 1906 when Edith Holden wrote her diary, she talked of the “very hard frosts” and the snow falls of December. I quote,

December 14th. Heavy fall of snow.

December 20th. Rapid thaw.

December 25th. A snowy Christmas morning - sunshine later - sharp frost at night.

December 26th, Another heavy fall of snow.

December 27th. In the paper today it reports that all Britain lies under snow, from John o’ Groats to Lands End.

It is not difficult to sense a thrill of excitement on her discovering snow on Christmas morning. Our seasons in this day and age have changed so much - plants are flowering that shouldn’t be, bulbs are already pushing their spurs through the earth - the bible tells us that there will come a time when we will not be able to tell one season from another; but one thing does not alter, that is, that Christ starts Christmas...

So what is Christmas all about? A happy mix of seasonal charity and magic? The brilliant glittering fairyland of “the lights”? The shimmering tinsel? The visit to ‘Santa’s Grotto’,? with its elves and automated animals? The everlasting (well from October to December) Christmas music in the stores? the presents, the tree, the carol singers, the brass band, the food? NO - it’s all about:

“The babe who against his mothers breast was curled;

And those who said “He was to be king of the world,

Who would grow and reign in the heart of man,

For this was part of God’s great plan”.

Men, who will tell the world of His birth,

For He was sent to redeem the earth.—

On a cold winter morn,

To a young couple was the child born,

Into this world it came,

A boy, Jesus was his name.”

“It’s good in troubled times to share

The tranquility of that espoused pair -

May their joy in your homes abide

As you celebrate this Christmastide;

With love and blessings untold for

The Christ of Christmas is worth

Far more than gold...

The message of love is as meaningful now as it was on that long-ago night when shepherds followed the light of a star to the stable in Bethlehem. God gave us this child for our encouragement and to teach us the way to fulfilment of

The Salvation Army, Booth Place Weekly Activities

Sunday

‘Footprints’ (Sunday School) 9.45-10.45am

Morning Worship 11.00am

Family Worship

3rd Sunday in month 10.30am

Songs of Praise

3rd Sunday in month 4pm

Monday

‘Champion’s Challenge’ Club
(Age 5 - 9 yrs) 5.30-6.30pm

Junior Club (age 9+)
(Term time only) 6.45-7.45pm

Tuesday

Coffee Morning

Once A Fortnight 10.00 - 12 Noon

Songster and band practice 7.30 - 9.00 p.m.

Wednesday

Home League (Ladies Meeting) 2.30-3.30pm

Weekly Bible Study 7.30pm

Thursday

Parent and Toddler Group
(Term time only) 9.30-11.30am

Thursday Evening

Ladies Fellowship
Last Thursday in every month 7.45pm

For further details please telephone Captains
Linda and Ray Charlton 01525 221156

life and hope for eternity.

She...laid him in a manger. Luke 2 : 7.

He was a baby, he became an adolescent and grew to be a young adult. He wasn't a ready made prophet, but he was and is The Christ of Christmas.

May God Bless You...

Salvation Army
Carol Service
 Sunday 20th Dec, 4pm
Christmas Day Service
 Friday 25th Dec, 10.30am

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

In October we had more rain than September, but it was still on the low side with only 38.80mm. The heavy showers were very local. The temperature remained relatively mild with a high of 18.7°C, with a total of 16 days above 15°C. It only dropped below 0°C, freezing point, on one day.

The Dagnall weather station is now live on the web with 15 mins updates from approx 0800-2200 hours each day. <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/dagnallweather>.

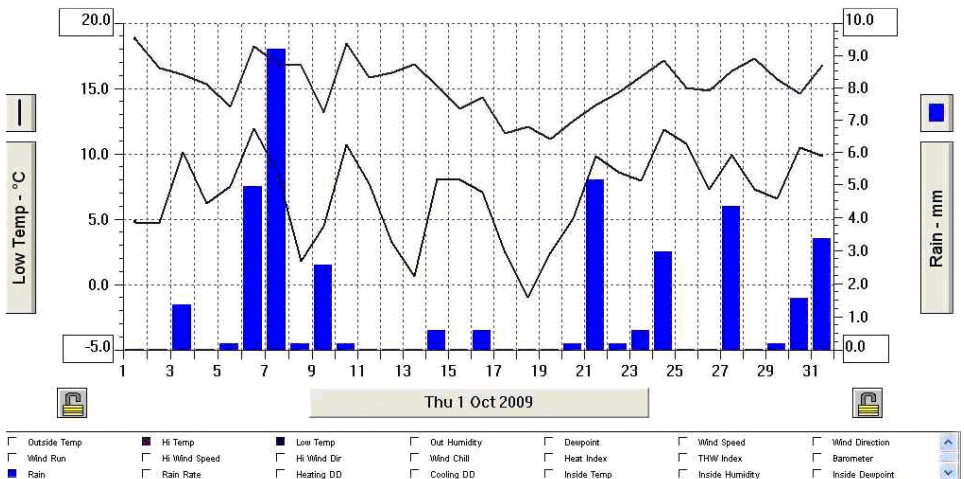
If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email me: davidgkillick@tiscali.co.uk

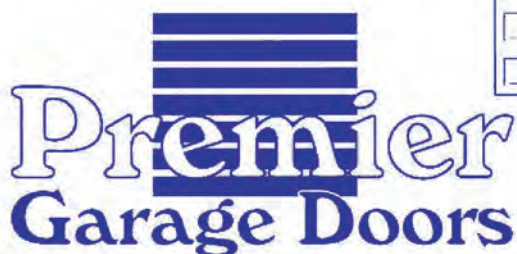
Weather Conditions for October 2009

Elevation: 450 ft Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	18.7°C	1 Oct 16.00	= 0.9°C	18 Oct 07.30
Mean Temperature	10.7°C			
Dewpoint:	16.8°C	6 Oct 15.30	= 2.1°C	18 Oct 05.00
Humidity:	97%	11 Oct 07.30-11.00	48%	1 Oct 16.00
Barometer:	1033.0 hPa	15 Oct 09.30	993.8 hPa	21 Oct 02.00
Wind Speed	35 mph SW	3 Oct 12.30	Months avg.	5.5 mph
Wind Chill:	18.2 °C	1 Oct 17.30	-0.9°C	18 Oct 05.00
Dominant Wind:	SSE			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 18 (T), 11 (R)	Wettest Day 7 Oct		9.19 mm	0.36 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Oct	38.80 mm	0.56 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	10 Months	487.40 mm	19.19 ins

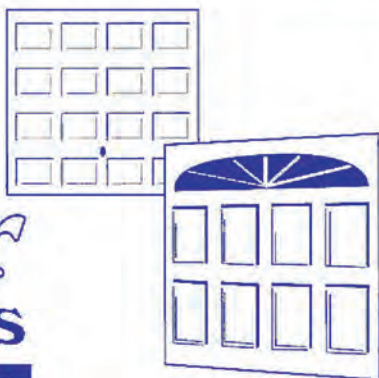
High & Low Temperatures & Rain - October 2009





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