

Focus

April 2010



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

EATON BRAY
EDLESBOROUGH

NORTHALL
DAGNALL

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14th to 17th April

Tuesday 20th April



Curry Week

Time to kick winter out
and welcome the warmth
and spice of a
well made curry !
We will be creating
some great dishes from
"lands afar"
and not just India.



How about Thailand,
Malaysia, China, and of
course Birmingham!



Wine & Dine Night

A Four Course Gourmet Dinner
including wines which will be
introduced by wine expert
Mark Innes of Hallgarten Wines.
Proceeds from the evening will
be donated to Keech Hospice
for Children, including
£5 from the meal price.
£49.75 per person



Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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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 07506 745133

PCSO Joanne Glenn Mobile 07961 067867

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

General Assistance: 0845 8505505

PC Jared Levens Mobile 07773 398 727

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile 07800 703 524

PCSO Chris Baker Mobile 07974 973 866

Email: WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Hall Bookings

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

Northall: Lorna Cabbage, Tel: 01525 220361

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee, Tel: 01525 222831

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates, Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Beverly Sage, Tel: 01525 229509

Village Diaries April 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, Ellie Deeley on 07913 529574
- 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
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- 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 Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's Playtime, 1:00pm - 2:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Louise on 07784 165259
- Weds (term time) 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
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153
- 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, 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 Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) Bible Study in the rear hall 7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.-9.00p.m. all welcome, Antony Coles, 01582 967173.

Village Diaries April 2010

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
Sundays	Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) prayer time in the rear hall, 9.30-10.00am, all welcome, Antony Coles 01582 967173.

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 Monday	Knit n Stitch. 2pm-3.30pm. Edlesborough Methodist Chapel. Opp The Green. Knitting, crochet & needlecraft. Tel Wendy 07908 828414. www.wendy-poole.co.uk
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 (by the Post Office) meeting for Worship, 3pm, all welcome, Antony Coles 01582 967173
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	Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

9th	Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30am. All Welcome
14th & 28th	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
20th	Over 60's , Dagnall Village Hall at 2pm. Speaker Geoffrey Travis on 'Anything to Declare'

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

10th	Cafe Community, 10.30am-12.30pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
17th	Have Your Say, meet your neighbourhood policing team, 10.30am-12.30pm, All Saints Church Dagnall
17th	All Saints Church Coffee Morning 10.30am – 12.30pm
17th	Concert at Studham Church, 7.30pm £12.50, Tickets: Brett, 01582 873387
24th	Opening of Eaton Bray Skate & Ride Bowl, 11am, School Lane Recreation Ground
24th	Quiz, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tickets: Ross 221411

Julian Wyke

Valerie, Brian and Louise wish to thank all our friends and Julian's friends for their loving support and prayers following Julian's death. We are grateful for the many cards and flowers received expressing everyone's sense of loss. It was very comforting to see so many of you at the funeral to say farewell. We shall miss him terribly.

As an ex matelot all donations went to The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust.

Linda Green

Peter, Laura and the family would like to express their thanks for the many kind words and offers of support at this sad time.

Thanks also to friends and family for the generous collections and donations to Iain Rennie Hospice at Home and to St Francis Hospice.

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the speed limit signs on the road to Leighton Buzzard)

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday worship each week between 11am and 12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to talk together
For more information contact: Steve and Helen Orchard 01525 373106

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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Summerleys, Edlesborough, LU6 2HH

Opening Times

Monday	09:00 - 17:30
Tuesday	09:00 - 17:30
Wednesday	09:00 - 13:00
Thursday	09:00 - 17:30
Friday	09:00 - 17:30
Saturday	09:00 - 12:30

Closed for lunch 13.00 - 14.00

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next meeting: Thurs 15th Apr 10

All Saints, Dagnall - Services in April 2010

Fri. 2nd April	6.00 pm	Special Service for Good Friday
Easter Day		
Sun. 4th April	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 pm	Family Service
Sun. 11th April	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Circuit Service
Sun. 18th April	10.30 pm	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Sun. 25th April	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Sun. 2nd May	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am		



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FENSA

Eaton Bray
Methodist
Church
invites you to

Café Community

Saturday 10th April 2010
10.30am to 12.30pm

Join in, relax, drink, snack, have fun,
explore the journey of faith with us
Come on in! You'll love it!
Children's Activities



CALLING ALL LOCAL MUSICIANS!

We are looking for local jazz, pop, folk, and rock singers to perform in the 'EB Festival' music tent at this year's carnival. This should be a really entertaining day and hopefully will raise lots of money for Carnival funds. If you would like to take part in a great music event on Saturday 3 July 2010, please telephone 01525 220535 for more information about auditions.

Have YOUR Say

- Come and meet your neighbourhood policing team
- Tell us about the issues that matter most to you

Type:	Have Your Say Meeting
Date:	Saturday, 17 th April 2010
Time:	10:30am - 12:30pm
Venue:	All Saints Church, Dagnall
Contact:	PCSO Jackie Dodson Tel: 07800 703 524

Neighbourhood Policing Working in partnership to make our community safer

www.thamesvalley.police.uk
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0845 8 505 505

together we can
make you safer in Buckinghamshire

Concert at Studham Church

On April 17th at 7.30pm, the Symposia String Quartet will be playing music by Haydn, Shostakovich, Beethoven and Glazunov, in one of a regular series of chamber music concerts in Studham.

Tickets cost £12.50 including a programme and a glass of wine, from Geoff Brett (tel: 01582 873387) or John Lavery (01582 872494)

The church is warm and has extensive parking, but a cushion is recommended for added comfort.



QUIZ



Eaton Bray Village Hall Saturday 24th April 2010

This fabulous quiz with quizmaster Keith Blackburn will still include a Free supper with the questions

Bring you own glasses and drink

7.30pm for 8pm

Just £8 per person

Teams of up to 8 people

Fabulous prizes!

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

For bookings contact Ross 221411

Katrina 01582 662406



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SPRING INTO SUMMER a revue



Saturday 15th May 2010

at 7.30pm - Doors open 7.00pm

Eaton Bray village hall

Tickets £7.50 including Supper.

Bring your own drinks & glasses

Box office opens Mon 5th April: 01525 222283

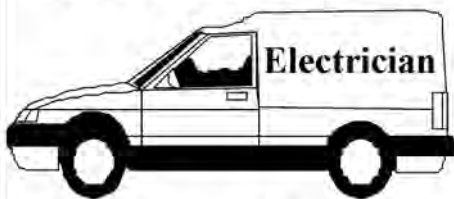




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Saturday 19th June 2010

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WANTED - GARDENS

In Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall

The parish Open Gardens will be on Sunday 13th June.

We have some offers of new gardens to open on the day but would like more, if you would be interested please contact Kay Griffiths on 222849.

Please could I also ask local gardeners to think of growing on a few plants for our popular plant stall.

This is a very popular community event getting lots of people out and about in the villages on the day and raising funds for local charities.

Chainsaw Carving

Chainsaw carving is a fast growing form of art introduced into this country from America where it began in the early 60s.

This week I visited local carver Dan Collison at his Grandads farm near Tring where he demonstrated his skills. I felt honoured to be there as he normally does not operate with people around him due to the safety of himself and others.

He showed me his working tools of the trade which left me, a layman, quite dumbfounded to see such an array of saws and attachments and increased my vocabulary with words such as carver bars, profilers and a jonsered. I still don't know what that was! Dan explained that the natural shape of the wood used determines the form the sculpture will take.

Dan was working on a commission of a bear, adding the finishing touches using a chainsaw with a delicate skill as he cut the texture of its fur giving it a real life like quality. He was pleased with the end result having spent 3 days fashioning it from a large tree trunk. It was now ready for the next stage which was treating the wood to give it durability.

Dan, who studied arboriculture at Guildford College, took up carving a few years ago and has honed his craft producing the beautiful sculptures from the wood that can be seen today in his extensive portfolio. I was impressed with the range of his work which included bears, owls, acorns, fairy mushrooms, eagles, kites, rabbits and garden benches. Dan says that it's a good way of recycling; majestic trees that once stood proud can still be seen as a thing of beauty when enhancing our gardens and parks instead of being cut up and burnt.

Dan can be contacted at Collison Carvings 07772533250.
Written by Countryman



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- **Don't leave anything on display in your car, even a coat can be tempting**
- **Take all valuables with you – do not leave them in the glove box, in the boot or under the seat, this is the first place a thief will look**

For a free car air freshener or a 'no valuables have been left in this car' sign, please call into Customer Services at Aylesbury Vale District Council, 66 High Street, Aylesbury or visit the AVDC desk at the Buckingham Centre, Verney Close, Buckingham. Information is also available at www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk/communitiesafety

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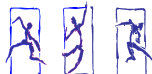
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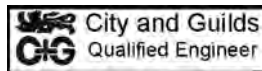
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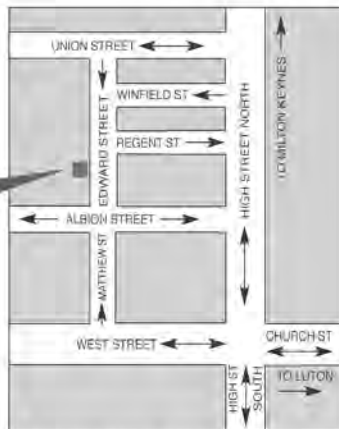
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Fish & Chip Night

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Fish of the day in Norma's crispy batter with chips, takeaway £4.95
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Edlesborough Parish Council News

(including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall)

Water Leak, A4146 Leighton Road, Northall

Buckinghamshire County Council commenced work on the drainage problems on the A4146 Leighton Road, Northall on Monday 8th March.

Further information will be on the Notice Boards nearer the time.

Memorial Hall & Pavilion Car Parks

It was unfortunate that the article referring to the possibility of installing lockable gates to the two car parks did not feature in the March issue of 'Focus'. It has been requested that it is published in this issue.

Village Parking issues

Bucks CC and Thames Valley Police have carried out a survey of the problems incurred with vehicles parking in Edlesborough with a view to adding additional white lines on various roads.

Edlesborough Pavilion

Discussions are to take place with Sports Clubs to establish a vision project as to what is required.

Edlesborough Green

Over past weeks football teams from outside the Parish have been using the Green for training purposes and have been informed that this is not acceptable. Due to adverse weather conditions and additional football the surface of the Green had become severely damaged.

Dogs

Complaints of dogs not being kept under control and attacking other dogs have been received. All dog owners should be responsible for their dogs and to keep them under control at all times.

Allotments

There are a few available allotments in Edlesborough which in the first instance are let to parishioners. Please contact the Clerk for further information.

Play Around the Parishes

As previously mentioned AVDC will be attending Edlesborough Memorial Hall on 14th April. The Parish Council have also received dates of the visits to the villages throughout the Summer which are:

Edlesborough	Wednesday 28th July	10am – 12.30pm
	Tuesday 10th August	10am – 12.30pm
	Friday 20th August	2pm – 4.30pm
	Monday 30th August	2pm – 4.30pm
Dagnall	Monday 26th July	2pm – 4.30pm
	Thursday 5th August	2pm – 4.30pm
	Monday 16th August	2pm – 4.30pm
Northall	Thursday 29th July	2pm – 4.30pm
	Wednesday 11th August	2pm – 4.30pm
	Monday 23rd August	2pm – 4.30pm

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

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Table Corner – On Your Marks...!

First of all I should apologise for last month's article. Through inattention, I sent Focus a work in progress rather than the final draft. The result was "some doubtful grammar, and an extra definite article in the article", as exclaimed Mr Searle. Oh dear... (*Don't apologise! My fault as editor!*)



Well no one is perfect and you do have to be really careful. This was brought to my attention again a few days ago when, in the middle of cooking a mandarin layer, I found that I did not have any vanilla essence. My mind suddenly flashed back roughly 72 hours to recall our 2 year old playing with the attractive little vanilla essence bottle, and dropping it on the kitchen floor. Oh dear again...

I had forgotten to apply one of the first techniques you learn as a chef: the "mise en place" (MEEZ ahn plahs) which, you will have guessed, is a French term for having all your ingredients measured, cut, peeled, sliced, grated, etc. before (I can't emphasize that enough) you start cooking. And, while they wait for use, don't forget to protect those prepared ingredients from contamination, risk from flies, spillage, and drying out if they are susceptible (cling film).

The reason mise en place is so basic is that:

1. Any missing ingredients can be spotted before it is too late. Thank goodness we live in Dagnall and have, as you probably do, wonderful neighbours!
2. It saves you a considerable amount of time, as you do not have to stop and assemble items in middle of your recipe.
3. It allows you to start and continue the actual cooking process on a clean, clutter free area.
4. It gives you the peace of mind of knowing that, if not the cooking, yet at least the ingredients are right.

The TV and demonstration chefs absolutely always do it. Have you noticed the number of little glass dishes they have on display? One for the egg yolk, one for the grated lemon etc. So bring out the inner demonstration chef in you and buy a set of little bowls that will allow you to proudly display your 25 grammes of cornflour. And of course, do not forget your mise en place! Have fun!

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Letters to the Editors

Dear focus

My wife and I are some of the fortunate few who have wonderful views from our house and garden of St Marys church on the hill. We live just down the road opposite Sparrowhall farm and have that picturesque view all day and were delighted to read in the march issue of focus in the EDaN Beautification update that we are going to floodlight the church. What a great idea it is and what a spectacular sight it will make for all the villagers to admire, all the other churches in the area including the Priory Church in Dunstable are floodlit so why not ours. It will be money well spent.

Brian and Carol McMurray



Dear Editors,

The piece by PC Jared Levens in the recent issue of Focus on dog fouling and the health risks from Toxocariosis was very interesting. However in the four villages we are not only dog lovers but adore our cats too. Toxocariosis is rightly blamed for some human ailments but a much greater danger comes from toxoplasmosis. Many people confuse the two and toxocariosis is blamed incorrectly. Toxoplasma gondii is a parasite which lives in the intestines of cats, never in puppies and dogs. Unfortunately cats' droppings contain infection. We all know cats bury their droppings but unluckily the infection can remain in the soil for up to 10 years. Hence the risk of contamination. There could also be a risk from cat litter if not changed every day.

The effects of toxoplasmosis can be particularly devastating to an unborn child if a woman catches it in early pregnancy.

Many cat owners probably know of this danger, in which case I apologise for wasting their time. This letter is intended to alert those who don't.

Molly Nicholson

Dunstable Downs Rotary Club

The local Rotary Club has organised a '100 Club' for the past 2 years and is now starting the 3rd years monthly draw. Already over £1000 has been raised and given to charities, local and national. A shelter box, costing £500 has recently been sent to Haiti. The cost is £12 per year and, of that sum, 50% is paid out and 50% is given to charities. There are no admin costs. The monthly draw takes place in a public place and the promoter on behalf of The Dunstable Downs Rotary Club is Alan Felstead J.P. of 38 Moor End, Eaton Bray, LU6 2HN.

If you would like to support us by entering the scheme, please make your cheque payable to The Rotary Club, Dunstable Downs and post or deliver to Alan Felstead. You can of course pay in cash and have more than one chance! Thankyou

The Rotary Club of Dunstable is one of thousands of Clubs worldwide.

Following the Haiti disaster 2,500 Shelter boxes were on their way from Clubs throughout Great Britain, 30% of which went within 48 hours. As I write this, news is filtering in of a catastrophe in Chile and no doubt similar support will be given there. Rotary International is one of the main donors to eradicate polio in India and three other countries. Roger Pepworth, Club President said, "Rotary International has the

structure and support to raise \$200 million to finally eradicate polio and only Rotary has the wherewithal to get the shelter boxes into Haiti within two days.”

It is against this background that the Rotary Club of Dunstable runs a whole series of fund raising activities and services. For example, Kids out, blood pressure checks, collections of tools for self reliance, and to fund them, the antique fairs, the quiz evenings, lunches and so on.

So Rotary will continue to demand time, effort and cash – and rightly so!!

Here is advance warning to clear the diary for three forthcoming events:

- a) Blood pressure checking at Asda Supermarket on 24th April
- b) Antiques Fair on 3rd May at Dunstable Leisure Centre
- c) Family Fun Day on Dunstable Downs on 14th August.

The Club is always looking to recruit new members. All are welcome, young and old, and for more information please contact Roger Sharp on 01582 606405.

Grace Community Church

Moor End, Edlesborough

There have been regular meetings at the Baptist Chapel (by the Post Office) over the last year. Currently we meet two Sundays each month (first and third Sunday) at 3pm for Worship and to learn from the Bible. All are welcome, there is opportunity for further fellowship and refreshments after the meetings.

Hopefully in future we will be able to meet for Worship and to learn from the Bible every Sunday, at the moment there is a time for prayer at 9.30-10.00a.m. each week in the rear hall, which again is open to all.

On Thursday evenings at the chapel (in the rear hall) you are welcome to come and study the meaning of the Bible – what exactly is the purpose of God’s intervention in the history of the world, and why did he send Jesus the Messiah (Christ)?? Come along at 7.00 for 7.30pm, there will be time for informal discussion (and refreshments) as well, so bring your questions! (can’t promise they will all be answered, but all serious questions will be respected and genuine answers from the Bible sought).

If you are ever free during the day we are outside the chapel offering free literature and chatting to people between 11.00a.m. and 1.00pm on Thursdays. Do come and chat!

My name is Antony Coles, I am studying part time at London Theological Seminary and my hope is that, alongside other disciples of Christ, we may be able to help show many people in this area the true power of Christ to forgive and lead you into the Kingdom of Heaven. If you have any questions please make contact: Antony Coles, 01582 664990, 07848 007977, savedbygrace@phonecoop.coop

Jesus Christ has a purpose for your life, he wants to change our relationships with our Creator and each other for the better, don’t throw your life away!

Croquet is Oquet

Leighton Linslade Croquet Club invites you to their open day on May 3rd 2010, from 10am to 4pm. All are welcome and may play free at Pages Park on one of our three full size lawns with all equipment and tuition supplied by The Club. Please wear flat shoes. Light refreshments will be provided. Thank you.

Anyone interested in joining as a member can contact our Membership Secretary Judith Cundell on 01525 374620 or our Social Club Secretary and Club Treasurer Len Buckingham on 01525 221079.



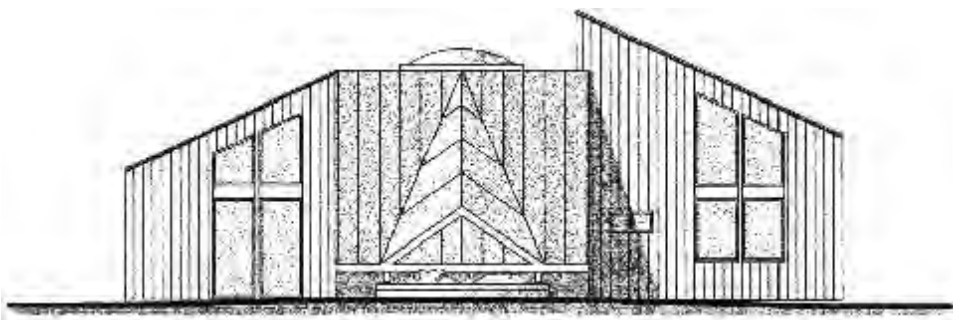
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The opening paragraph from the OfSTED inspection report, after their October 2007 visit, said this about EBLs:

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



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Healthy School

Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Pavilion

For some considerable time parishioners living in close proximity to both the Memorial Hall and Pavilion car parks have been suffering from continued noise, unsociable behaviour etc. occurring in the car parks particularly during the evening and into the early hours of the morning.

The Parish Council have been very conscious of this problem and the only possible way of trying to combat the problem would be to install lockable gates/barriers at both entrances.

Before any action is taken the Council wish to ask nearby residents for their views on this proposal and to enquire as to whether they would be prepared to volunteer to join a rota to lock the gates or barriers at night and unlock them in the morning.

The Parish Council would appreciate hearing from anyone who wishes to comment and put forward their views, or would be prepared to be a volunteer, by contacting the Clerk on 01525 220859 or by e-mail: parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk

Dagnall News

Over 60's

In February we had a very interesting talk by Geoff Spencer - describing the efforts he and some of his fellow prisoners made to escape from their Prisoner of War camp in 1944.

On March 16th we will be going out for lunch to The Green Man at Stanford (despite the March Focus saying we were going on the 19th!). On April 20th we are looking forward to our speaker, Geoffrey Travis. His talk from his time as Custom Officer should be most interesting, the subject being 'Anything to Declare'.

Dagnall School

Dagnall School held an Indian week during February. These are some of the experiences the children enjoyed.

In India the rich can afford lots of things unlike the poor they have to beg for money to buy things. The poor have to go to rivers and have something called a bucket bath and do not have much to wear. But the rich have lots of clothes. The girls wear Saris and boys and girls wear Salwar Kameez.

by Cameron

On Tuesday afternoon a person called Mamta Sharma played lots of instruments like the Sitar. Crocodiles made chappati bread and banana drink. Squirrels were dressing in Indian clothes like Saris and Salwa- Kameez. Lions were learning about rich and poor and colouring hands in and colouring the flag of India.

by Sammy

We made Indian food. We made lots of Indian flags. We made a peacock out of colouring hands.

by Matthew

Dagnall Church

There will be a coffee morning at All Saints Church, Dagnall on Saturday April 17th from 10.30 to 12.30. Bring & Buy stall, Traidcraft, and Cake stall as well as delicious refreshments in aid of the church project for 2010 'From Stones to Water'

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: The Revd Roger Chapman

Pastoral Matters: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough (220618)

Church Wardens: Chris Banks (221556) and Peter Bennett (221284)

I don't know whether you've heard, but I understand that we will soon be having a General Election. People will be stuffing election literature through your door, trying to solicit your vote, but I wonder how you will choose, or whether you really care, who will represent you for the next five years. Perhaps some of you may be pleased that you live in the constituency of Mr Speaker Bercow, and that you will not be required to make a choice. Perhaps you simply think that the whole system needs to be changed and none of the parties deserve your vote.

But why should someone from St Mary's be discussing such things, after all, aren't we told that we shouldn't mix religion and politics? I suspect this is because we like to think of 'gentle Jesus, meek and mild' rather than the Jesus who was filled with passion about how much better life could and should be for ordinary people - about God, the kingdom of God, and God's passion for justice. Jesus spoke to peasants as a voice of peasant religious protest against the central economic and political institutions of his day, and he challenged the authorities with public acts and public debates.

We, too, live in a time where there is considerable disquiet about the central economic and political institutions of the day. We are told by all the main parties that life is going to get worse for ordinary people while the wealthy and powerful seem to manage to avoid paying their fair share of taxes, the circumstances are not so dissimilar from those in Jesus' day. So in thinking about where to cast your vote Christians may well ask themselves the question that was popular in the 1990s - "What Would Jesus Do?". Well, Jesus had his own political manifesto (see Matthew Chapter 5 - The Sermon on the Mount) Just as he did in his own day, Jesus would be looking for the rich and powerful to stop taking advantage of ordinary men and women, to stop encouraging people to go deep into debt. He would be looking for leaders committed to ensuring that the poor don't have to struggle to find their food each day, who will not leave hundreds of thousands in mourning as a result of their foreign policy, who will allow citizens to go about their ordinary lives without constant supervision without telling them they have something else to be fearful about, who will tackle the disease in society not by treating the symptoms but holistically, treating the needs of body, mind and spirit.

In return these leaders would require ordinary people to take the responsibility to play their part in society - to treat their neighbours as they would like to be treated themselves, to accept others, even those with different labels, as people not to be feared, to be honest and peaceful, to be thankful for all the gifts God has given them.

You will have to decide which party comes nearest to these ideals - perhaps the system does need to be changed. Jesus' passion was for a society based on justice for all people - it got him crucified. Maybe the best we can hope to do is to vote for the party that doesn't try to crucify Jesus again and again in order to stop his message of hope from being heard, so that genuine change can be bought about.

Gordon Gray, Reader, St Mary's Eaton Bray

From the Parish Registers

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

28th February 2010 Evie Marie & Daniel John Parrott

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

19th February 2010 Jack Wood

Parishioners may, if they wish, enter the names of loved ones who have died in the Years Mind book. The Book can be found on the Bookcase in Church. Names are read out at the 10 o'clock Sunday service that is immediately before the anniversary of their death.

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS :

8.00am HOLY COMMUNION

10.00am PARISH SUNG HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month:

10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service for families. (For anyone wishing to attend a service where Holy Communion is offered, there is a Family Communion at 10.30am at All Saints' Church, Dagnall, where visitors are assured of a warm welcome).

WEEK-DAYS :

Tuesday: **2.00pm** Toddlers' Church (2nd Tuesday)

Wednesday: **10.00am** Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

St Mary's Guild

Members of the Ladies Guild including several visitors, met for their monthly afternoon meeting on Wednesday 10th March and were welcomed by Deirdrea. Unfortunately, the speaker Jenny Moody was unable to attend, but would come at a later date to speak. A birthday card and best wishes were given to Joan Fossey.

John Heffer led the devotions, ending with the newly written Guild Prayer. John, always popular with the Guild ladies, filled the role of speaker at the last moment, relaying stories of how he came to be 'on the buses' and sharing some of his experiences. There was plenty of laughter as we imagined John with "pass along the bus please" and "plenty of room on top". John was thanked by Marjorie Mann who presented John with one of her lovely fruit cakes.

Notices were given out followed by social time, consisting of a celebration of Easter, with an Easter tea, Easter decorations and a handmade card, chocolate chicken and a gingerbread man for each member. Plenty of time too for chatting and catching up with the news. Next month's meeting is on Wednesday 14th April when the speaker will be Christine Horn demonstrating 'arranging Spring flowers'. Definitely not to be missed. Do come and join us.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100

Club Winners - February 2010

118	Stephen Simmons	£100
37	Eda Andrews	£25
114	Tracy Chappell	£25
102	Gladys Ruffett	£25
177	Michelle Young	£25

Drawn on 19th Feb 2010 at Hines The Butchers.
Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni,
71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6
1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

'Come Dine for Sue'

We are sure many of you are familiar with the popular television programme that is currently sweeping the nation. **'COME DINE WITH ME'**. (It is a Channel 4 programme and the details can be found on the Channel 4 website.)

A recent episode of 'Come Dine with Me' featured a contestant who had participated, but subsequently passed away from Cancer. His friends and fellow participants set up a charity in his memory using a fun take on the 'Come Dine with Me' programme to fundraise for their chosen Cancer charity.

So, in loving memory of our dear friend and excellent cook **Sue Simmons**, who lived in Eaton Bray and passed away recently, we thought it would be a great idea to do a similar venture and raise money for our local Iain Rennie Charity. Hence our own version of Edlesbray's 'Come Dine with Me' to be called, **'Come Dine for Sue'**, and the aim being to raise money for **Iain Rennie Hospice at Home**, our local cancer charity, who provided such fantastic support to Sue and her family throughout her illness.

Therefore, if cooking is something you enjoy and would like to participate to help to raise money for charity at the same time we invite you to host a dinner party in the next few months!

'COME DINE FOR SUE' TAKES PLACE FROM 5th MARCH TO 11th JULY 2010

Each participant only has to commit to hosting one Dinner Party at their home in support of the 'Come Dine for Sue' project, and the plan and hope is that we will all invite different people to our dinner parties and therefore engage many villagers and different groups in the project, enabling us to hopefully raise a healthy sum for **Iain Rennie**.

'Come Dine for Sue' will culminate in the Summer with an event hosted by Ken Coates & Beryl Bishop (who is herself an Iain Rennie nurse) on Sunday 11th July. Everyone who took part will be invited and we will announce how much money we have managed to raise in Sue's memory for Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

We do hope you will join us and get involved. We think it could be fun and a fitting tribute to the memory of our dear friend. Please contact one of the following people to register your interest and let us know if you are prepared to participate and we will send you our information pack.

Contacts:

Sally & Colin: sallysid@hotmail.com - T: 01525 221733 (Events)

Tracey & Glenn: tracey@espressosales.co.uk - T: 01525 229406 (Events)

Ken & Beryl: kvcoates@yahoo.co.uk - T: 01525 220868 (Iain Rennie Charity)

A Note from Iain Rennie Hospice at Home



The Hospice at Home service is offered to patients and families free of charge. It costs £3.5million to provide our service, but only 12% (17% until a recent government cutback) of this is funded by local Primary Care Trusts. Therefore we have to work hard to raise the balance, relying on donations, fundraising events, legacies and the overwhelming support we receive from our local community.

The service is available 365 days a year and offers patients and carers access to

specialist advice and nursing visits on a 24 hour on-call basis.

The professional care and advice offered by our teams of specialist nurses provide more people with the choice to stay at home during the final stages of a terminal illness, and allow patients to achieve the best quality of life. This year our nurses expect to care for over 1000 people in the Chilterns area of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

In 2010 we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary – that's **25 years of continuous 24 hour care.**

For more information visit our website www.irhh.org or if you would like some leaflets please contact Sally Siddons 01525221733 or Beryl Bishop 01525 220868

Mum's Gone to ... Snowdon?

Yes in preparation for July's trip to Iceland I am heading to Snowdon for a weekend of intensive training... sorry kids, as it is on Mothers Day... sorry Mum, as I shall be away for your Birthday too! Check my report online at www.justgiving.com/janetickell

Training is progressing well :) the snow presenting extra opportunities to clock up a few miles to & from work. Having been stationary on the no.61 for 30mins at the foot of Lancot Hill, I headed off on foot uphill to work - making it there just shy of an hour late for duty - to rousing cheers from fellow workers. The children at playgroup thought I was a walking snowman...

Latest solo long distance: 4 hours in the snow at 7am on a Sunday morning to cover 10 (as the crow flies) miles over hilly terrain.

Latest group long distance: 5 hours in the rain, sleet & mud on a Sunday to cover 17.5 miles over even hillier terrain.

Breaking News* Pupils at Ashton Middle School, Dunstable, having a Muftie Day in March *Breaking News

In case you've all forgotten the Who, What, Where, When & Why... I, Jane Tickell, am raising funds for Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. Through a number of events we have raised £2,000 to date... the ultimate event (for 2010 anyway) shall be my completing a Challenge trek of Iceland in July this year, for which you may sponsor me, pledge money, donate... so that IRHH may continue to offer the local support, experience and services for those families who need assistance to care for loved ones within their own homes.

Newsflash* Unconfirmed reports of Film Show "Coming Soon to a Village Hall near Us" breaking Box Office records *Newsflash

Thank you... To all you ladies out there that attend some or the same "fitness" classes as my Mum, Janet, Thank You all for the donations and sponsorship to date - £100 total! To our neighbour Maureen, and all her friends (many of whom are already loyal supporters of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home) for their sponsorship and donations. Check my progress and/or make a donation online at www.justgiving.com/janetickell. Iain Rennie Hospice at Home (Reg.No. 297847) gave my lovely Dad the much needed practical, nursing and emotional support he and all the family found invaluable in the last few weeks of his illness in 2006. Donating through Justgiving is quick, easy and totally secure. It's also the most efficient way to sponsor me: Iain Rennie Hospice At Home gets your money faster and, if you're a UK taxpayer, Justgiving makes sure 25% in Gift Aid, plus a 3% supplement, are added to your donation.

Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro for Rebecca Jane Stokes

I am flying out to Africa on 21st July with my friend Vicky to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. I am doing this to raise money for the paediatric intensive care unit at the Evelina Children's hospital (next to St Thomas' hospital in London) that looked after our daughter Rebecca.

Rebecca was born on 14th June 2007. The pregnancy and birth went well and we took our beautiful baby home, looking forward to caring for her and watching her achieve all the milestones we all celebrate; learning to crawl, walk, talk, starting school, leaving school, getting married, having children of her own.

Our lives changed forever when Rebecca was 11 days old she became very ill very quickly. I took her to Luton and Dunstable A& E and the staff there acted very quickly to stabilise her. They did not know what was causing her to be so ill, only that her heart had stopped beating for a short time and her organs were starting to fail. They managed to stabilise her enough to transfer her to the Evelina Children's hospital, which specialises in heart conditions.

The doctors and nurses were all wonderful and they worked very hard to keep Rebecca alive and find out what was wrong with her. She had to be on a ventilator and had several infusions to keep her alive. It was so awful to see our baby connected to all these machines and not be able to hold her or comfort her. The staff always explained what they were doing and answered any questions we had. Eventually after numerous tests they discovered she had a rare disease called enterovirus myocarditis, which is an infection in the heart that causes irreparable damage. Her condition slightly improved but then she got another infection, which overwhelmed her tiny little body. The doctors told us that she would not get better, only the machines were helping to keep her alive. We made the heartbreaking decision to take her off of the ventilator and she died on 11th July at just 27 days old.

The hospital was so supportive while we were there, and they still are now. I really want to do this as I want to give something back to them. I also feel I am doing something for my daughter Rebecca, who we all miss so much every day.

Please visit my page at www.justgiving.com and donate as much or as little as you can, it will be greatly appreciated. There is a paper sponsor form at Cross Keys Farm, Dagnall.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this. Tracy Stokes, Dagnall

Northall and District Age Concern

WEDNESDAY CLUB

We are enjoying the improved weather and how welcome some sunshine is after all that cold spell. Spring really is on its way after a long winter.

We sold out for our Quiz Night even before the Focus was out. It is lovely that the event is so popular and well supported. If our hall was bigger we could expand the number of tickets but alas we are restricted on space to fit any more in. Thank you to all who came on the night and enjoyed the fun and brain exercise and of course the supper. Congratulations to the winners and of course to the team who collected the wooden spoons!!

The Coffee Morning update with the sum raised will be in the next issue of Focus to let all who supported us know if we manage to top our October total of £170.

We had a group of singers visiting our Club on 24th March to entertain us and it was lovely to see the members joining in and enjoying the songs. . . . not to mention the cream tea that followed!!

We also held an Easter Sales Table on 31st March including gifts, cards and some plants and of course the inevitable Easter treat . . . CHOCOLATE EGGS . . . some of which may not have made it back home as they were sampled on the day!!!

If you would like to join us, or know of someone who would enjoy lunch and a day out each week, please call Anna on 221996 or Julie on 220153.

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

After many months of consideration we have decided to make a few changes to our Worship pattern. Over the next 6 months we are to try the following format.

1st Sunday in each month will be a Traditional Service.

2nd Saturday in April will be Cafe Community and the 2nd Sunday in each month Cafe Style Worship.

3rd Sunday in each month will be a Communion Service.

4th Sunday in each month will be an All Age Worship Service. This Informal morning will include our "Chapel Music Group" and Children's Activities. An enjoyable time for all.

5th Sunday in each month where applicable will be our United Service.

We do hope that this may appeal to the Community and promise that a warm welcome awaits. All Services start at 10.30 am.

Next Cafe Community Saturday April 10th 10-30am to 12-30pm.



Edlesborough Under 5's

Monday - Friday 9.25 am - 12.00 noon

Tuesday & Thursday 12.45 pm - 3.15 pm

Tuesday Lunch Club 12 noon - 12.45pm

"The quality of teaching and learning is good. Children are actively involved in their learning, play independently and are assisted by staff to develop their confidence." "Group times at all sessions were very positive experiences for all the children and enjoyed by all present." "Children of all ages have the opportunity to develop their skills in all areas, supported by a dedicated staff team." "Children are encouraged to make choices and decisions throughout the day, supported by a staff team that know them well."

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 2 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 on 01525 222199**

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

TOTTERNHOE FETE

on the Recreation Ground

To be opened by **DAN MAGNESS**

Keepy Uppy World Record Holder*

Enquiries for Stalls

Tel: 01582 476887 or 07989 421069

Email: fete@totternhoecc.org.uk

ATTRACTIONS:

- Heart FM Radio (hosted by Babs)
- Rodeo Bull & Bouncy Castle
- Gladiators & Human Bungy Run
- Fun Dog Show (any dog welcome)
- Craft & Bric-A-Brac Stalls

- Bowling & Golf Games
- Five-A-Side Football
- Coconut Shy
- All Day Hog Roast & BBQ
- Bars & Food Stalls
- Real Ales
- Local Displays in Main Arena
- Drawing Competition Gallery
- Live Jazz Band 6pm till 9pm

• And Much More... **11am till late**



SATURDAY 8TH MAY 2010

* Subject to professional engagements

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY BOWLING?
COME ALONG AND HAVE A GO**

OPEN AFTERNOON

AT

CHEDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB

SUNDAY 23 MAY - 2.00 PM to 5.00 PM

RECREATION GROUND, HIGH STREET, CHEDDINGTON



FREE TUITION

**WE WILL PROVIDE ALL EQUIPMENT INCLUDING BOWLS
SO JUST BRING A PAIR OF FLAT SHOES - TRAINERS WILL BE FINE**



ALSO - A SAUSAGE OR TWO OFF THE BBQ!!

All Saints Church, Dagnall

Coffee Morning


All Saints Church, Dagnall

Saturday April 17th

10.30 to 12.30

Bring & Buy stall
Traidcraft
Cake stall

in aid of the church project for 2010
'From Stones to Water'



Wednesdays
1:00pm to 2:45pm
(Puring term time)
Eaton Bray Village Hall

Cheeky monkeys

under fives play time

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

creative play singing
stories baby corner
craft julee & biscuit
tea or coffee and more!

Come along,
make new friends
and join in
the fun!

Carnival Queen & Princess

St Mary's Village Carnival

Would you like to lead the Carnival Procession and open the Fete on Saturday 3rd July?

Are you aged between 8 and 13 years?

If so, you could be the Carnival Queen or Princess we are looking for.

To take part all you have to do is complete and return an entry form and come along to Eaton Bray Village Hall on

Sunday 18 April at 11.15am when the Queen, Princess and two Attendants will be chosen.

How to Enter

To find out more, please telephone Yvonne Ranson on 01525 220943 for an entry form, or call at 42 The Orchards, Eaton Bray.

Entry forms should be returned by 10th April.



Edlesborough Under 5's

Pre-school Assistant Vacancy

We currently have a temporary staff vacancy for the Summer 2010 term for Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9am - 12.15pm. Emergency cover for other sessions may be required.

Possibility of extension of contract beyond the Summer 2010 term dependent on the staffing needs of the pre-school. NVQ Level 2 or equivalent preferable but not essential. For further information, please contact Rebecca Newbert on 01525 221322 or 07966 146972 or email rebecca.newbert@btinternet.com

Dog Issues

Over the past few months we have received several complaints from local residents to do with dogs and their owners. These complaints include dog fouling, dogs attacking other dogs and dogs being aggressive towards members of the public. I'd like to take this opportunity to explain where the law stands and what you can do to help.

There is a misconception circulating Edlesborough that the police will arrest or fine dog owners if their dog is not on a lead whilst walking on The Green. There are some white signs on The Green asking dog owners to keep their dogs on leads however these are advisory notices intended to stop dogs from attacking other dogs or injuring innocent members of the public. There is a bylaw that applies to dog owners using The Green and this is displayed at various points around The Green. This bylaw instructs dog owners to keep their dogs under proper control whilst on The Green. This has been misunderstood on occasion to mean that the dog must be on a lead. This is not the case although the dog being on a lead would ensure that a dog walker would not fall foul of this bylaw (no pun intended). There is no official definition for the term proper control, however, a good guide would mean that your dog responds to your commands and is kept close at heel. If the dog can lie down or return to you on command, your dog would then be under close control. If you're not sure that your dog can do this the responsible thing is to keep them on a short lead and / or muzzle it.

Where dogs attack other dogs this becomes a civil matter and should be dealt with by the dog owners. Section 2 of the 1871 Dogs Act explains further the circumstances and what you should do.

Please can I ask all dog owners to ensure that they take appropriate steps to be responsible for their dogs whether that be walking them on a lead, clearing up after them, keeping them under proper control whilst on The Green (or anywhere else in the village) or keeping your property secure so that the dog(s) do not get out and worry passers by.

Should you require more information or advice please give one of your local neighbourhood team a ring or an email and we'll do our best to help you.

PC 3195 Jared Levens, Neighbourhood Specialist Officer,

Aylesbury Rural Neighbourhood, Wing South, Tel: 07773 398 727

Hold a Fish and Chip Supper

to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives

Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 21st May 2010



Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 21st May 2010 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Last year we had over 80 suppers taking part in England and Wales. In 2010 we want to double that figure and ensure we can provide more support to spinal cord injured people.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, "The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives."

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk

Edlesborough Tennis Club

British Tennis may be in the doldrums losing to lowly Lithuania in the Davis Cup but don't worry Edlesborough Tennis Club is producing the next generation of champions. Last year we entered 14 teams in the Adult/Junior South Beds League with the Adults managing a few runner up places but again the Juniors showing us the way home winning the Mini Red with Josh Farnfield, Morgan Emmett, William McCool and Alex Piddington. The Under 13 team of Will Sanders and Scotty Mercer were yet again triumphant playing at times against top county standard opposition, probably the most consistent doubles pairing in the club, so watch out James and Rhys your Men's Doubles trophy may be in danger. This year we have entered 6 Adult & 8 Junior teams. Subscriptions are now due and Family membership this year is a recession busting £126, this equates to around 60 pence a week for a family of four. Also you have the possibility of obtaining Wimbledon tickets (last year the club received 19 pairs), coaching for young and old and the opportunity of improving overall health and physical fitness at any age. Tennis is a total body exercise that gives the cardiovascular system a workout, strengthens the major muscle groups in the arms, legs and torso. Provides practice in sprinting, jumping and lunging, studies show a player changes direction five times in ten seconds during a point (this doesn't always apply to the adults) so is ideal for improving reaction times and motor control. Bone density is also improved in young players, helping prevent osteoporosis in later life.

On a sad note Debbie Ellis and Lindsey Rigby are standing down from the tennis club committee and the club would like to thank them for all their hard work in helping to develop the club and provide the opportunity of tennis for Edlesborough and the surrounding villages. We hope our sadness will be turned to joy when volunteers come forward and offer to become committee members.

Tennis isn't just for winners – it's for everyone to enjoy

Highlights Of The Meeting For Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held in The Coffee Tavern on Monday 1st March 2010 at 7:30pm

Recreation Ground Improvements

The Parish Council are looking at getting ideas/views of the local school children on the type of play equipment currently available within the play areas at the parish recreation grounds and what they would like to see.

Central Bedfordshire Representative/s

Ward Cllr Marion Mustoe attended the meeting and confirmed that the council tax bands for 2010/11 have been finalised.

Police Report

There have been 7 recorded crimes in the parish, many of those being vehicle related and the police ask all residents to be aware of car crime and take necessary precautions. The police are aware of young people hanging around the bus stop at the corner of Moor End. The police have been regularly checking these young people, by officers passing the location, for possession of alcohol and other substances and for any related anti-social behaviour which has been dealt with accordingly.

Visibility Concerns – junction of Dunstable Road and Bower Lane/Harling Road – the Parish Council contacted Central Bedfordshire regarding residents' concerns on the poor visibility for road users at the junction with Dunstable Road and Bower Lane/Harling Road. The report received back states that currently this road junction is classed as low priority and therefore at this time would not be pursuing this further. However, they did state that they would review this problem again when determining priorities for future years' funding.

Dog Fouling – Once again the Parish Council are having to remind all dog walkers/owners *it is an offence* for any person in charge of a dog to allow the dog to foul a footway (any public place) or grass verge. Failure to clean up after your dog will incur a penalty. *PLEASE USE the dog hygiene bins situated all round the parish.*

Allotments – the Parish Council has looked at land available within the parish for additional allotments and has now drawn up draft proposals for additional allotment space. The Parish Council are happy in principle to this land being used for additional allotments and are now looking into the suitability of this land for allotment use.

Cemetery – The Parish Council are looking into the introduction of cemetery markers for all plots at Bower Lane Cemetery, a marker situated at the beginning of the line of plots (rather than for each individual plot) and are looking into the options available. Due to a few enquiries, the Parish Council wished to reiterate to all residents that the Parish Council do not offer a service for reserving burial plots within the cemetery.

Parish Council Website: www.ebpc.co.uk for full minutes.

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]

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of each month
7:30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 12th Apr

Annual Parish Meeting: Mon 10th May

Annual General Meeting: Tue 11th May

Women's World Day of Prayer 2010

Friday afternoon the 10th of March at Edlesborough Methodist Church, saw ladies from all the local churches, meeting together to celebrate the day of Prayer. The service this year was written by the ladies of Cameroon, entitled "Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord". The service was led by Deirdrea Ellins with various ladies taking the reading parts throughout.

A very touching service, telling of how, in spite of hardships and setbacks in their lives, the ladies of Cameroon were able to praise God. The speaker Joan Gregory, spoke movingly of how we too can praise God everyday in our own lives and situations. A very joyous service as the hymns were accompanied by musical instruments led by the piano, and the rousing singing reflected this.

The ladies of Edlesborough Methodist were thanked for hosting the afternoon, making everyone feel welcome and for providing a cup of tea at the end.

EDaN Buses and Transportation Update

Thank you to everyone who completed their Bus Survey and kindly dropped it into one of our EdaN collecting boxes. We are in the process of collating the information and will hopefully bring you a summary of the results in the next issue of Focus.



The Buses and Transportation team are presently looking at some form of Community Transport to try and help local residents particularly in the villages of Dagnall and Northall. We will keep you posted on our progress.



FRANÇAIS

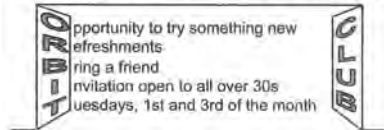
**Very experienced qualified
teacher and lecturer in French
MA.PGCE.FHEA**

Native speaker

**Offers French tuition for
revision, study at all levels:
GCSE, A/S and A Level,
Oxbridge entrance, Degree level
and Up-skilling teachers**

**Please contact: 01525 220740
or Email:
catherine.wendeler@googlemail.com**

Dunstable and District ORBIT Club



Opportunity to try something new
Refreshments
Bring a friend
Invitation open to all over 30s
Tuesdays, 1st and 3rd of the month

If you are really busy and enjoy a varied social life, then you are the kind of person we are looking for.



Varied social events including archery, bowling, BBQ's, pub nights and walks plus more.



Varied activities for local charities including quizzes, race nights, fetes and carnivals plus more.



A friendly welcome to everyone.

Meetings are at 8pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at Dunstablians Rugby Union Football Club, Houghton Regis. LU5 6JW. Come along if you'd like to know more. You'll be guaranteed a warm welcome. Contact Martin or Julie on 01582 535761 or Jill on 01525 222441

News from Northall Chapel

Chapel Lane, Northall, LU6 2HF

How can a chapel in the fields better serve the communities around it and the growing community that meets there each Sunday? This is a question which **Northall Baptist Church** has been asking of itself. We would love to see the building more used for in ways that are compatible with its primary purpose as 'a place of Christian worship'. For that it also needs to be 'fit for purpose.'

So we've removed the pews, carpeted, and brought in comfortable chairs that can be moved around. This may be into traditional rows for Sunday worship, in a circle or small clusters for meetings and discussion groups or around tables for shared Sunday lunches. For the first time we were able to make a central aisle for a wedding on 19th December 2009 (a very snowy day you may recall - but that's another story.)

The latest project has been updating the toilets. We now have not one, but two; one kitted out to aid people with disabilities and with a baby changing unit. Come the better weather for outdoor work, there will be ramping to aid wheelchair access; however for now we can use the portable ramp which also serves the chapel front door.

On Sundays we meet as a whole church at 11am, enjoy singing and praying together, and hearing from some gifted speakers who help us think about our faith. Ending with coffee and tea gives relaxed time to talk. Weekday activities vary with the time of year; it's a lovely place to be on a summer's day, but less inviting in the winter, so meeting in homes can be a better option. The chapel has also been used by other churches and organisations for retreats and for baptisms - we have a baptistery for baptism by immersion.

If you are not currently involved in a local church why not come and meet with us one Sunday? And if you have suggestions for use of the building during the week do let us know. For more information contact Steve and Helen Orchard 01525 373106 email northallchapel@tiscali.co.uk. We do not (yet) have our own website, but do have an entry on www.findachurch.co.uk

Edlesborough W.I.



Our latest meeting started with the sad news of the death of our friend Linda Green. Phrena, our president, spoke very movingly of Linda, who had always been such a popular lady. She served as our Treasurer and was also a very keen member of the craft group. Linda's friendly nature will be missed by us all, and we send our sincere sympathy to Peter, Laura, Jamie and all the family.

During the evening Christine Yates gave details of the EDAN Beautification Team's plans to erect village signs in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall. Members were invited to put forward any ideas they might have in this respect. Christine also announced there would be May Day Celebrations on Edlesborough Green on Saturday, 1st May. Our speaker was Mrs Cynthia Gresham, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire. The post has a history of over 1000 years, and was originally set up for the protection of the King and collection of taxes. The High Sheriff is usually nominated five years in advance and finally nominated for one year in office by the Queen in a warrant from Buckingham Palace. The High Sheriff is the Queen's representative in the County, and has to be present during all royal visits. Throughout the year the work involves attendance at

many different functions. Cynthia listed such occasions as: citizenship ceremonies, long service awards and anniversaries of schools, universities and voluntary organisations. She has to hold a garden party and a church service. The Priory Church in Dunstable was the venue for this service. Another duty of the High Sheriff is to attend court if a circuit judge visits, and to entertain the judge. Cynthia performed this duty when the judge visited Luton Court, and she also visited Luton Prison for a day.

High Sheriffs receive no payment for their year of office, and have to buy their own court dress. Cynthia had her outfit with her, beautifully made by Sousters of Woburn. On ceremonial occasions a sword is carried on behalf of the High Sheriff. Cynthia had brought this along with her, together with a photo of herself and her sword bearer - a young man about to join the army.

At one time a High Sheriff had to come from an aristocratic or extremely wealthy background. However, today this does not necessarily apply. In fact, Cynthia is very proud to be the first nurse to be appointed. She considers it to be a year of great honour and privilege. It is a busy time, as there is no deputy, but she has had a wonderful year. It really was an interesting talk, especially as Cynthia was obviously so enthusiastic about the experience of her year of office.

A week after our meeting many of our members attended Linda's funeral. The attendance was high, yet again, at a coffee morning we held in aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home and also Hospice of St Francis. The proceeds, together with a separate collection, amounted to £352. This will be shared by the two charities who helped Linda and her family during her illness. Our thanks go to Maureen Shipway for the use of her home, and to all those who supported us in raising our donations in memory of Linda.

Val Harris.

Ivinghoe and Pitstone Sure Start Children's Centre

Barnardo's has recently opened the Ivinghoe and Pitstone Sure Start Children's Centre to provide sessions and services for any child under 5 and their parents or carers.

We currently offer a Stay and Play session from 1.15-2.45pm on Monday in the Millenium Room, Pitstone Memorial Hall, a Storytime, Songs and Rhymes session from 10.00-10.45am on Monday at Cheddington Village Hall, a Sensory Play session fortnightly at Edlesborough Memorial Hall from 1.30-3.00pm, a monthly Childminding Group on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9.30-11.30am, a Bumps and Babes session on Thursday mornings from 10.00-11.30am at the Ivinghoe Village Centre and a five week 'Little Chatterboxes' programme to develop communication and listening skills on Thursday at 1.30-2.30pm at Dagnall School.

We work in partnership with your local health team, and the National Childminding Association, and are able to signpost towards support agencies such as the Speech and Language team.

Our links with JobCentre Plus and Adult Education mean that we can also offer support and advice with employment and training opportunities. If you struggle to come to services, or would prefer some one-to-one work, our workers are trained in delivering outreach programmes.

For more information on any of the above, please contact Rachael, Family Support Worker, on 07940 258427. We look forward to working with you and your family!

Edlesborough Book Group



The Lincoln Lawyer by Michael Connelly



Michael Connelly a former police reporter for the Los Angeles Times, is the author of sixteen acclaimed and bestselling novels. He is as fully at home in the world of criminal defence. A few of our reading group did not really like “American crime” writing, but those that did found it a good read. All the qualities that have deservedly brought him a legion of readers are on display again here: brisk pacing, clever twists, artful writing and an atmosphere of complete authority on every page. A court room drama, with twists, shocks and surprises.

In the Lincoln Lawyer, Loius Roulet, a Beverly Hills playboy arrested for attacking a woman he picked up in a bar, chooses Mickey Haller, who drives a Lincoln, to defend him, and Haller has his first high-paying client in years. It is a defence attorney’s dream, what they call a franchise case. And as the evidence stacks up, Haller comes to believe this may be the easiest case of his career.

Then someone close to him is murdered and Haller discovers that his search for innocence has brought him face-to-face with evil. To escape he must deploy every tactic, feint, and instinct in his arsenal — this time to save his own life.

For the writer of this review the twist at the end came as a surprise – however keen readers of criminal fiction may find otherwise!

One of the members of our group who was very much delayed getting to work during the bad weather had this book with her. “It certainly helped make the four and a half hour journey more tolerable” she said.

For more about the author and his books visit : www.MichaelConnelly.com

Wild Swans by Jung Chang

This is an autobiographical saga covering three generations of women in one family. The book is written by Jung Chang as a tribute to her mother and grandmother and charts their lives through the turbulent times of twentieth century China.

Her grandmother was born in 1909 and grew up under a feudal regime. Due to her beauty, she was married to a warlord and became a concubine, bearing him a daughter. After his death, she escaped with her baby and married a respectable middle class doctor many years her senior. This part of the book shows vividly the traditional role of women in China before the revolution.

After the revolution, the position of women changed, and as a member of the Communist party Chang’s mother rose though the ranks of the regime to a high position. Chang’s family, by virtue of their privileged position, were protected from the hardships and injustices that led to the cultural revolution. As the ideology changed it led to the arrest of Chang’s parents as ‘enemies of the people’.

This is an extremely large book, both in length and the subjects it covers. It gives us an insight into a world that is largely kept hidden from us. Members of our group, who had visited China, commented that they felt they were only shown ‘approved’ sights. We concluded that it was a difficult read and many of us thought it overlong, but overall it shone as a tribute to three generations of courageous and intelligent women, who overcame great hardship.



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EB Lions AFC

What are we?

As hopefully everyone knows by now, EB Lions AFC is a children's football club for the boys and girls living in and around the villages of Edlesborough, Eaton Bray, Dagnall and Northall.

Formed in 1994, the Club has grown enormously particularly over the last 7 years and now has 16 teams this season 2009-10, with 200 children, predominantly living in the village, playing competitive and active team sport. We have boys and girls teams ranging from Under 5's up to U15's and have 35 brilliant coaches, almost all of whom are FA qualified, all hold CRB checks and are all devoted to creating fun, improving fitness, technique, team spirit and above all else confidence and great memories.

Please look us up on our website - www.eblions.co.uk



News

The 2009-10 season is starting to draw to an end and we are busy planning for our end of season awards, registrations for 2010-11 as well as all of the housekeeping necessary to kit out the 18 teams and 220 players we are anticipating for next season. We will be having our End of Season Presentation Day on Saturday 26th June 2010 – details to be announced shortly!

New Players and Teams

There is a real and strong demand for village based football now, where the skill levels, coaching and development of players and teams is among the best in the county. This also allows the boys and girls to play with their classmates and friends.

Whilst we have been hugely successful in stimulating demand and our teams are all of a good size and standard, we do have a small number of opportunities still available in certain age groups/teams and these are detailed in our advert in this month's Focus overleaf.

We are now actively seeking new players for the following:-

1. **boys and girls year 1** (next seasons Under 7's),
2. **girls in school year 3 and 4** - A new Girls team for (next seasons Under 10 Girls).
3. **boys and girls reception year** - to eventually form 2 new teams for our U7's season 2011.
4. **girls in school year 6 and 7** – to support our U12 who play 9 a side football next season.

We would particularly like to hear from you if you fall into these age bands – please email us at enquiries@eblions.co.uk

Sponsors

We are again looking for sponsorship for the new teams – we hope to find a local sponsor to advertise on a team kit and we actively encourage all of our members and supporters to support our sponsors.

Currently we are pleased to have the support of 15 sponsors, including CHRISTOPHER PALLET who have kindly sponsored our U12 boys team for 2 seasons and PINSTRIPES, where Penni and her team have sponsored our U9 Whites for this season and next.

If you are, or know of any local business that would be interested in supporting us next season please contact us at enquiries@eblions.co.uk to learn how this might boost your local profile for a modest outlay and support youth sport in and around the villages.

Congratulations

As part of our club development plan we aim to ensure that all of our volunteers gain recognition, qualification or at least enjoyment from all of their hard work! In particular we require that each team has at least one qualified coach at FA Level 1 – we now possibly have more qualified coaches than any other junior club in the county with 18 coaches qualified at FA Level 1 or taking the exam shortly. We also have 7 FA level 2 qualified coaches and the most recent additions to this impressive line-up is Tony Farnfield (U8), Bryan Wright (U11 Girls) and Colin Bradley (U12) who have achieved Level 2. Paul Cook, Tim Sanders, Colin Bradley and Nick Bramston have now booked up for level 3 (their UEFA B Licence (FA Level 3) in June 2010 – look out Mr Capello!

Also, we were delighted to hear that our Under 8 Blues were winners of the County Fair Play team of the season 2010 award and by the time you read this will have received this at a presentation on the pitch at Kenilworth Road before Luton Town vs Wrexham. This is a great recognition for our players and coaches by their league and Bedfordshire Football Association.

Website:

After a few years as our webmaster Russell Sears is stepping down and Richard Potten has kindly agreed to take on this modern day necessity for any serious group. Many thanks to Russell for his fantastic work and good luck to Richard.

All-weather training facility

We are currently looking into the feasibility of developing an all-weather training facility in the village to allow all of our teams to train throughout the winter months in a safe local environment. For the last two seasons we have had portable floodlights that have saved travelling into Dunstable or Leighton Buzzard but despite their portability the grass areas used at Edlesborough School and The Green just can not withstand the demands placed by the large numbers of junior players that we have regularly training in addition to the weekend matches.

With the support of Eaton Bray Parish Council and St Mary's Church we have identified a plot of land in Eaton Bray that is perfect for our needs – this is at an early stage but would be a fantastic facility for EB Lions – there are a lot of hurdles yet to overcome with fundraising and planning permissions currently in our sights. We would also love to hear from anyone that has expertise to help us with such a project and also any other clubs, groups or associations that could give additional usage to an artificial surface of 30m x 60m – please contact us.

Soccer Buddies

Finally look out for our brand new piece of innovative kit – with the support of Bovis Lend Lease (Jason Reynolds), a youth development grant from Aylesbury Vale DC PAPP scheme and a substantial equipment grant from Central Beds District Council, we have bought 10 soccer buddies, 10 iGoals, renovated new goals at the Rye and specialist training equipment all totalling almost £6,000.

These Soccer Buddy mannequins are training aids in full EB Lion kit, designed to improve shooting accuracy and dribbling ability. On top of this we have our very own Speed Buddy to record the speed of a shot, which we are planning on presenting at the Village Carnival in July to see who can claim the hardest shot in the village!

E B Lions AFC



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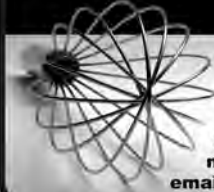
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Eaton Bray Cricket Club

The snow has gone, the temperatures are rising and Eaton Bray Cricket Club is preparing for its 30th season at its 'new' ground in The Rye (just beyond the nursery). 'The Rye Gardens' was a project of the then Chairman and President Ken Bearton and George French. It has evolved from disused Parish Council owned allotments into a well used and well cared-for cricket ground. Dave Roberts and Mick (and Sharan) Flecknell ensure that the facilities receive the best attention through hard work, dedication and the use of funds provided by sponsors; Hawkins Transport and M&M Properties.

The club welcomes new and old players from the village to visit and experience the facilities, and hopefully join as a member. The club especially welcomes budding cricketers, as it is looking to develop even further. Anyone interested can either contact Ian Jones on 07956 340888, or just turn-up to the twice weekly training sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays, starting at 6.30pm. And, of course, there is no charge to watch any of the games.

The club has been very successful over recent years, and again won the Four Counties League last season. It runs three teams, two on Saturdays and one on Sundays, catering for all standards.

At the recent AGM the following officers were elected: President Lee Bearton, Chairman & Treasurer Martin Quinn, Secretary Michael Jarrett, Saturday 1st team captain Andy Norris, Saturday 2nd team captain Darren Kerins and Sunday captain Josh Peacock.



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

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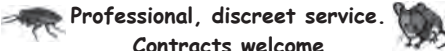
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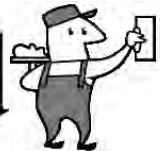
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Eaton Bray Parish Council

Skate & Ride Area with Additional Seating School Lane Recreation Ground



Two and a half years ago some of the young people from Eaton Bray approached the Parish Council [PC] with a request for a skate park. Somewhere for them to ride in safety! The PC agreed to look into the possibility of providing an area for the boys/girls to ride. None of the councillors knew anything about skate parks at the time, but we certainly do now!

Funding was the first hurdle but with much appreciated help from Beds County Council (Sue Norman) and with help from Ross Bagni, the majority funding was found and subsequently secured for the build. The PC also pledged some funds if the build went ahead.

We then had to find out what types of skate park were available and what we could afford with our budget. Here the young people were very useful. They knew what was out there and they knew what they wanted. They worked closely with us in research, public consultation and design of the build.



Whilst the Parish Clerk gathered as much data as she could relating to skate parks for the PC to assess, the councillors walked the streets surveying the public for their opinions. We put up posters, advertised on the Eaton Bray website and put flyers in Focus. The public consultation saw the Coffee Tavern bursting at the seams and a comment was made that we needed more seating in future! The audience was made up of a good mixture of all age groups with the young people well represented and good arguments were made on both sides of the divide. By the end of the evening the majority were in favour of the project going ahead. This correlated with the data we had gathered in our survey.

Now all that remained to do was to get the user group together to work out a design, find three companies to quote, (this found me personally wailing down the phone at one poor man, "I'm a housewife not a business woman!") and apply for funding, where I am most grateful for Ross Bagni and Cllr David Marriage's input. Forms are not my forte!

We then had a lull. I think that was the most nerve-racking part!

When we finally got the go ahead everything happened very fast. The boys got together with our chosen company (Wheelscape) and they worked with them to design a bowl.



Once the build started it took just 1 month to complete with the young people keeping a watch on things. They proved very useful and reported suspicious activity in the park in the evening to the police. As soon as the fence came down and permission was granted, the bowl was well used, attracting riders and skaters from other areas.

We have been amazed at the different activities the bowl has attracted. Skateboards, BMX bikes, scooters, unicycles, radio controlled cars/toys and just children running up and down! Great fun was had by all in the snow! Ages ranging from very young children to teenagers and beyond! I have also had people comment on how quiet it is. That's because it was designed that way! (Phew!!!)
Cllr Margret Hawkes, Eaton Bray Parish Council



OFFICIAL OPENING OF EATON BRAY SKATE AND RIDE BOWL

The official opening of our wonderful new facility at School Lane Recreation Ground will take place on:

Saturday 24th April

The ribbon will be cut at 11am and this will be followed by a series of events lasting until the mid afternoon. There will be:

- * Demonstrations by professional skateboarders and bmx riders *
- * A series of competitions for children and adults of all ages *
- * The opportunity to view both riding and safety equipment *
- * Burgers and soft drinks on sale *
- * A number of local dignitaries present *

Should you wish to find out more about the competitions please look on the village website at EatonBray.com or on Facebook at the Eaton Bray Skatepark Group. Alternatively you could register on the day before 12am.

We would like to invite everyone from the village to pop in during the day and see what we have to offer our community. Parking is very limited, however, so it would be helpful from all points of view if you could walk down!

Your Village Photographs

We were unable to include a photo page this month due to the significant amounts of articles received. The photo on the front page is of The Comp, Eaton Bray from Carole Blundell. We will include the other photos received in future issues.
Please continue to email or post your photos to the editors (see page 3)

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Any one for Digiscoping?

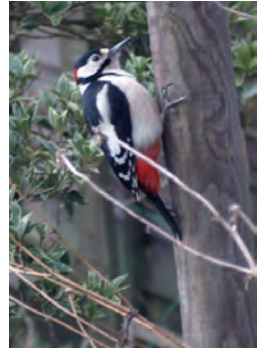
I love to see the birds in my garden and believe that we are very fortunate to live in an area that is so diverse in its many species. To this end I decided to try my hand at photographing them and went onto the Internet to kit myself out with a digiscope; that is a camera attached to a telescope to give me better close ups of the subject matter. I trawled very large companies and eventually settled on my choice of equipment having spoken to a salesman on the phone before ordering it.

It was fine for a while, until silly me dropped the camera and broke it! The repair was uneconomical so I decided to get in touch with the salesman again. He informed me that the old camera was obsolete and that the newest model would do the trick. It didn't, it would not fit over the end of the scope and the adaptor ring was a different size. I contacted the telescope manufacturer who happened to be based in Luton. They explained that my second camera was also obsolete. Although they could not help, they gave me a number to ring informing me that this company might be able to help me out. They told me the firm was in Luton, so I could at least visit their premises and show them my problem as the journey wasn't that far. I rang the company on the Luton number and was invited to go to see them. To my surprise, they were operating just down the road at Icknield Way Farm, off the Tring road. I was even more surprised when I got to the unit to find that it was a small factory turning out all manner of attachments and equipments for the camera industry.

Within 10 minutes of my arrival the camera was fitted with the new adaptor ring and I was on my way. Whilst at the unit I showed the young man my old gear he just smiled and said it was one of his he had made some time ago. I learnt more about my camera in 5 minutes at this venue than all the time on the phone and on the Internet with the other so called 'experts'.

My lesson learnt today and advice to any others who are into photography and want to adapt or improve their equipment is to have a chat to them first. The company concerned is SRB-Griturn 01582 661878.

Oh by the way, I saved quite a bit of money by going there and would have saved a lot more if I had gone there in the beginning. Countryman.



**The National Trust
South Beds Assn**

Wednesday 7th April

Wicken Fen: Past, present & future

*David Dench: countryside and
community manager, Wicken Fen*

7.45pm, Salvation Army Centre,

Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable

Visitors are welcome at £1

*For further information
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**Dunstable & District
Local History Society**

**Tuesday 13th April, 7.45pm
Story of a Journeyman Printer**

Former Waterlow's employee

Harry Edwards recalls his years in the
printing business.

**Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
Visitors always welcome**



Firstly thank you to all those who supported the Easter Egg hunt round Totternhoe Knolls and all those who gave up their time to help and housed over 100 eggs for the Easter Bunny!

We are still collecting aluminium cans which can be recycled for cash – we nearly have enough for our first weigh in so please put in the collecting bins at Janes shop in Edlesborough or at the Village Store in Eaton Bray. Every single can helps! If you have larger quantities then please get in touch and we will collect them from you. We can also recycle used printer and toner cartridges, mobile phones and PDAs and would welcome any unwanted gifts, raffle prizes or bric-a-brac. If you leave us a message on jamboree@centreboard.net or 07966 201852 we will arrange to collect items from you.



We will be running a refreshment stall at Garden Scene in The Rye most weekends in April and May starting with the extended Easter weekend. Enjoy a hot drink and something to eat while you browse for your spring plants. Children will be able to plant their own seeds too to take home and grow.



We will be at the Festival on the Green in Edlesborough on 1st May and at Totternhoe Fete on 8th May. Look out for our stall and come and speak to us to find out more.

Thank you for your support

Miguel Garcia, James Tate, Gemma Johnson, Cody Plaats and Matthew Johnson

Scout profile

Information from an interview with one lucky member of the Bedfordshire Pilgrims, who are travelling to the 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden next year.

Name:	Gemma Johnson
Unit:	Buzzard Rangers and Young Leader at 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies
Age:	14 (nearly 15!)
Other interests:	Music (violin and singing,) Gymnastics, Drama
Best Guiding achievement:	Baden Powell Award
Favourite colour:	Green!



What's a Jamboree? A big celebration of scouts and guides from all around the world, around 40,000 of us aged 14 to 17.

When and where is it? Kristianstad, Sweden 27th of July 2011

Why you? Guider put me forward for International Selection and I went to a weekend at Pax Lodge on London. I was offered the chance to go to the World Scout Jamboree with 17 other Guides from 12 Counties in the Anglia Guiding region.

What now? The huge task of raising £2,200 each, to fund the trip. We'll be busy raising money at the Dunstable Fair, the Totternhoe Fair, the Village Carnival and lots more! Please support us in any way you can!!

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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

February has been yet another cold month and, with moderate winds, it felt even colder. There were 16 days when the temperature dropped below zero.

It was also much wetter with 24 days of rain totalling 78.6 mm (3.09 ins). This is 25% more rain than February 2009. This last 3 months of cold weather has resulted in the spring being later than recent years, but who can rely on the seasons these days? This time last year, all the spring flowers were early (blamed on global warming). That's the thing with weather, it is always changing.

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: davidgkillick@tiscali.co.uk

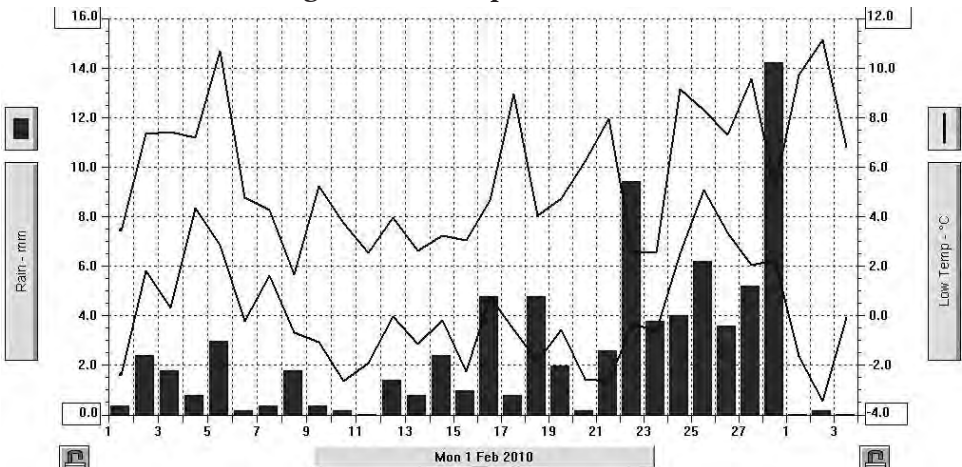


Weather Conditions for February 2010

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	10.7°C	5 Feb 15.00	-2.6°C	10 Feb 13.30
Mean Temperature	2.5°C			
Dewpoint:	7°C	24 Feb 15.30	-4.4°C	10 Feb 15.00
Humidity:	100%	5 – 16 – 12 Feb	61%	10 Feb 15.30
Barometer:	1025.3 hPa	2 Feb 22.00	977.1 hPa	26 Feb 01.00
Wind Speed	33 mph SSE	26 Feb 16.00	Months avg.	5.7 mph
Wind Chill:	11.1 °C	2 Feb 15.00	-5.7°C	10 Feb 22.00
Dominant Wind:	NNE			
<i>Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain</i>				
*Rain Days: 27 (T), 24(R)	Wettest Day 28 Feb		14.2mm	0.56 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Feb	78.6 mm	3.09 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	2 Months	131.6 mm	5.35 ins

February 2010 High & Low Temperature & Rain



The EDaN Project Beautification Team



Firewalk: Members from the EDaN Beautification Team were delighted to present Keech Cottage Children's Hospice with a cheque for £1000 raised by combined community feats of bravery at the recent Firewalk. L to R – Karen Coppen, Kathy Bovington, Jenny Laing (Fund Raising and Campaign Coordinator for Keech) and Christine Yates.

Village Signs: We are looking forward to receiving more of your ideas and suggestions for signs in all 3 villages, kicking off with Edlesborough. Suggestions received so far are the church, tythe barn and ford, with the Edlesborough rose brass atop. The plum trees and straw plaiting were also a popular choice and we will try to include all these in the sign. Any further suggestions for Dagnall and Northall would be most appreciated. Please post into the EDaN boxes.

Mayday Celebrations: Saturday 1st May: 12 – 4.00 p.m.

We are really looking forward to reviving this event, which historically took place on Edlesborough Green, and hope everyone will enjoy the festivities. The children at Edlesborough school are perfecting their Maypole dancing skills, under the tuition of Lorna Cabbage from our team, and we would like to thank the staff for their support and enthusiasm for this display. We will be choosing our May Queen and attendants from names in a hat. We will have a box at school for this, but if you would like to be included and do not attend the school, please put your name in the EDaN box on Edlesborough Post Office counter by 15th April. Children from 7 - 12 yrs. will be eligible. The crowning of the May Queen will take place at 12.30 p.m.

The Tug-of-War will be held after the Maypole dancing and if you would like to enter a team please contact Dawn Thurgood - 01525 220763. Teams of 6 (£1 per person entry fee) will be accepted in the following age groups: 5 - 7, 8 - 12, teens, adults. The adults should be divided into males and females. We would recommend that you have a couple of reserves in hand. Please name your team and let us know whether you are representing a group or are an independent entry. Your entries, plus a team fee of £6.00 (cheques to Edlesborough Parish Council) should be either posted, or popped through Dawn's door (if paying by cash) at 9 Church Croft, Edlesborough. This should be a hilarious event and we are anticipating much rivalry between the villages, so please enter your teams – medals to winners. The losers will go in the stocks – or pay a forfeit!

Stalls – If you would like to hire a stall, we are charging £15 and would welcome anyone who would like to sell anything to contact Dawn (above).

The “Garden in a Seed Tray Competition” is open to all children 12 yrs. and under. This can be as traditional or exotic as you like –



provided it is in a seed tray. The class will be judged by a local expert gardener at 2.30 p.m., so please make sure you bring your garden to the relevant stand before then. A trophy will be awarded to the winner. If there are sufficient entries, the class will be divided between age groups and a medal will be awarded to the winner of each group.

Fancy Dress Competition - All children are invited to enter the Fancy Dress Competition. Subject: ANYTHING! Just come along on the day to the stall where the Garden in a Seed Tray competition is sited and enter. Also, if anyone would like to dress in 18th-19th century costumes (yes - adults too - we know you are out there!) - it would get everyone into the festive spirit.

We would be most grateful to anyone who would like to donate a cake (or small buns, biscuits etc.) to our stall. Just bring them along on the day and you will get that warm feeling that you are contributing to our “Beautifying of the Villages” effort. Also, if you would like to help on a stall, or help us set-up/clear away on the day – or indeed do to anything to help – we need YOU! Please contact Christine - 01525 220739.

Lastly, we welcome everyone to come along and enjoy themselves. The first of May marks the end of the harsh winter month, welcomes the beginning of summer and optimistically looks forward to the bright and productive months with joy and hope. For our ancestors, largely in rural areas, it was a major annual festival and celebrated throughout the country, with music, dancing and games. So children, if you have a hobby-horse, bring him along - with the sunshine (!) - and revive this old tradition.

Cheeky Monkeys

Over the last few weeks we have been very pleased to welcome some new parents and their children and hope that they will become regular visitors! The children have recently enjoyed making Mothers’ Day cards, flower pot decorations and lots of other creations. Our new competition “guess the name of the Cheeky Monkeys teddy” is proving popular and will be running for a few more weeks. All you have to do is pick out teddy’s correct name from a choice of 100. If you guess correctly, the teddy (plus wine and chocolates!) is yours.

Please take a look at our website, which has recently been updated with some more photographs and calendar items. If you have any comments or suggestions you can leave them on the site’s guestbook.

Although this report is written in early March, you will probably be reading it during the Easter holidays, so just to remind you we will reopen on 21 April.

If you are a parent, childminder, grandparent or carer and would like to join our friendly group, please come along on a Wednesday afternoon (term time) at 1pm, in Eaton Bray Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. We have a wide range of toys, including dressing up, easels, bricks, home corner, play dough, craft table, farm, race track, brio, cars, dolls, playfood and lots more! We charge £1.50 per adult, £1 per child over 1, and 50p per child under 1. During the afternoon we have a tea/coffee break whilst the children sit down for juice and a biscuit. We end the afternoon with songs and music.

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 details can be found on our website. (www.cheekymonkeys.btik.com).

Remember, keep coming and we will keep running!!!

Salvation Sound - April 2010

There was a time when the soft velvet darkness of night enfolded you - starlight and moonshine guided your way. Candlelight lit peoples homes, then came oil lamps, then the gentle glow of gas light. Those days have long since gone. With the press of a switch we have light. Sometimes we can even be dazzled by the amount of lights in towns and cities.

In India Christian women perform a lamp-lighting ceremony each evening as the shadows fall. A song is chanted as the ceremony begins - music, the heady scent of flowers and purifying incense fills the air. The home is filled with light and sweetness; with it is the lingering sense of the Presence of the Light of the World, Jesus. He was the Light when He died on Calvary and rose again, and His is still the Light which guides us through the difficulties, temptations and dangers which may be encountered on our life's journey.

Whether we set out on our journey in spring, summer, autumn or winter it is important to be aware of the starting point; but we never travel alone for Jesus is with us every step of the way-.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta was on her journey of life and it was said of her that her presence evoked "the beauty of holiness" - "that special beauty amounting to a kind of pervasive luminosity generated by a life dedicated wholly to loving God and His creation."

Mother Teresa would have been the first to insist that if God's glory shines through her it can shine through all who live for Christ. This is how people should see us as Christians - bright and inviting lights in this world.

Jesus brought us out of darkness and He said that we, as His followers, are "the light of the world". Matthew 5: 14.

Lord, let me be a shining light

In all I say and do,

May your great love be seen in me

And lead someone to you...

At 6-30.a.m. on Easter Day we will be on Ivinghoe Beacon, hopefully watching the sunrise, and celebrating the rising of The Son.

Why not get out of bed bright and early and come and join with us!!!

MAY OUR RISEN LORD BLESS THIS EASTER DAY AND ALL YOUR DAYS WITH PEACE AND HAPPINESS.

"BECAUSE I LIVE, YOU WILL LIVE ALSO." JOHN 14 : 19.

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

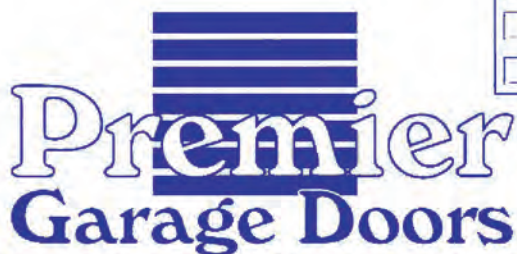
Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30-3.30pm
Weekly Bible Study	7.30pm

Thursday

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

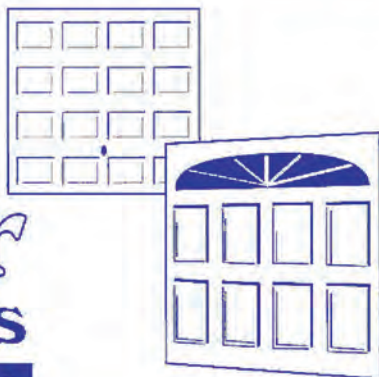
Thursday Evening

Ladies Fellowship	
Last Thursday in every month	7.45pm
For further details please telephone Captains Linda and Ray Charlton 01525 221156	



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