

FOCUS

May 2014



The local village magazine just for Us!
Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall

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Focus 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

Kindly Note...

If the event you wish to advertise falls in the first week of the month, it is advisable to get the details into Focus a month earlier. The magazines are not delivered from the printers until the first of the month, therefore it takes a few days for them all to be circulated throughout the village.

✉ Editors

Police Contact Numbers...

making neighbourhoods safer together

General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473418

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: LPT.LeightonRural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile: 07800 703 524

Email: NHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Diary May 2014



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, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Pre-School, Edlesborough School, 01525 220431
manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Lower School, Ellie Deeley on 07913 529574
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 07799 893489
- Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7-10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Contact Sandra Counsell 07979 521900
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- Mondays Weight Watchers, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- Mondays (term time) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall Village hall 2-3.30.
Contact Jan 01442 864271.
- Mondays Curtain Call Youth Theatre 5-7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Gavyn 01525 220525
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, St. Giles Church Hall, Ruth Allen, 01525 222468 or 07796 265174 or email ruthallen002@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Northall Baby & Toddler Group, 9:30-11:30am, (open in the Summer School Holidays) Northall Village Hall, Stacey Richmond 01525 222999/07957 607592
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Circuit Training - Edlesborough School Hall, 7-8pm - www.simplesfitness.com
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly
- Weds Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's playtime, 1pm - 2.45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact Rachel on 07789 760007
- (term time)
- Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489
- Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7.30-8.45pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya on 07976 964316 for more details
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna 221996
- Wednesdays Dynamic Yoga 6.30-7.30pm £5 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936 693696
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- 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 (term time) Northall School of Dancing classes between 3.30pm and 6.30pm. Contact Nicola Bisson on 01525 406647
- Thursdays Buggy Push Fitness Class, 10:15am, Eaton Bray Park - www.simplesfitness.com
- Thursdays Central Bedfordshire Children's Centres' Toy Library, 9-9.45am, Eaton Bray (School Lane) Public Car Park
- Fortnightly
- Fridays Keep Fit class, Edesborough Mermorial Hall 10 - 11am
- Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Fridays 10am-11.30am "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124
- (term time)
- Saturdays Drama Class for Children, 10.35am-12.35pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Claire Casey, 07792 508591

Village Diary May 2014



- Saturdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Last Saturday Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- Sundays Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) Worship Service 11am-12pm. All welcome. Barry 01525 229610 or Peter 01525 221048.

Monthly

- 1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
- 1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Barbara Collier on 01525 221401
- 1st & 3rd Monday Knit n Stitch. 2pm-4pm. Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Eaton Bray. Knitting, crochet & needlecraft. Tel Wendy 07908 828414. www.wendy-poolle.co.uk
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
- 1st Sunday May to September, St Mary's Church, Edlesborough Open Day, 2-5pm
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday TOTS, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2pm
- 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 St.Mary's Ladies Guild, 2pm, St.Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 2nd Wednesday Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions Club, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
- 2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 2nd Saturday Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936 693696
- 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

- 3rd St. Mary's church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10am - 12 noon
- 4th Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 6th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. All welcome.
- 10th Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
- 20th Dagnall Over 60's Ploughman's Lunch at Dagnall Village Hall 1.30pm
- 26th ELF walk from Eaton Bray Church 10am

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 3rd Village Treasure Trail, 10am-2pm, 6 Moor End, Eaton Bray £2.50
- 5th EDaN Car Boot Sale, Edlesborough Village Green, 9am-12noon
- 7th Dagnall Village Hall AGM in Village Hall 7.30pm. All residents welcome
- 10-11th Artists & Makers Fair, Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub & Town Hall, 10-4pm
- 11th Ashridge Spring Plant Fair, 11-4pm, Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre
- 17th The Great Edlesborough Fun Run, 10am, Edlesborough Village Green
- 17th Ukie Toones, Totternhoe Football Club park, 2pm, £5 at door
- 17th Night at the Races, 7pm to midnight, Eaton Bray Village Hall, £20 01525 220468
- 17th Peculi8 - Music at St. Mary's church, Eaton Bray, 7:30pm, £8 01525 222283
- 18th Appledown's Fun Dog Show, 11am, Appledown Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds LU6 1QY
- 24th-26th St. Mary's Pitstone 34th Annual Festival of Art & Flowers; 24th 2-6pm, 25th 11-5pm, 26th 11-6pm
- 30-31st 11th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer & Cider Festival, midday to 11pm, £3

Village Notices

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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:

Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

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Focus would like to apologise for the omission of Pat Bleakley's name as the contributor of the article congratulating Dagnall on their poppy appeal award. (See page 23 April Focus)

St. Mary's Village Carnival

5th July 2014



Carnival is now only two months away! If you would like to be involved in the organisation, beforehand or on the day, now is the time to act. Helpers are needed in the weeks before carnival and particularly on the evening of Friday 4th July and during the event itself.

Here is a further reminder for local businesses, schools, youth groups, and organisations that might want to support the Carnival and have their organisation promoted during this event. Here's how:

- Advertising in the arena.
- Having a float in the Carnival procession.
- Having a stall at the Carnival.
- Donating a prize for the Grand Draw.
- Donating a prize for the Silent Auction.

All details of Carnival 2014 including how to book a stall, arrange advertising, offer prizes and much more can be found on the Carnival website:

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

The Carnival Queen was chosen on 13th

April in Eaton Bray village hall. If you haven't seen them already keep an eye out in the local press for photographs and details of the lucky winners.

For any specific questions or if you would like to get involved with organisation of the carnival either by helping for a few hours on the day or providing assistance in the months before July contact:

Gordon Gray 01525 220136 or Richard Evans 01525 222512

And finally this month's gem comes from the lips of the recently deceased Lou Reed:

"If it has more than three chords, it's jazz!"

I suspect July 5th will be full of Classical, Pop, Rock, Country and Jazz so we'll all be able to form our own opinion.

Music



EDaN Community Transport Scheme

Please contact Kathy Bovington on 0779 0537032 or 01442 842796 or email kathybovington@hotmail.com for more information on anything to do with Community Transport or call Viv Hill to book a journey on 01442 82623.



Buses – support your local bus!!
Dagnall to Leighton Buzzard – everyday
Dagnall to Hemel Hempstead – Thursday
Please think about using these buses even if you drive a car at the moment! As you get older there may come a time when you have to give up your car and you may need to use the bus and it won't be there! There are so few people using these buses at the moment that they are in danger of being reduced.

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** TOTS (Tots on Tuesdays) (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Wednesday: **10.00am** Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES



Goes Out!

On Sunday 1st June, Messy Church will be held in Ashridge Forest. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy fun and games in the fresh air and hopefully sunshine. We will meet by the monument at 2.30 p.m. and finish with a picnic by 4.30 p.m.

If you would like to join us please let Coralie know by email to vicar@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

Bring your own picnic and lots of energy and we hope to see you then!

If the weather is unkind we meet as usual in the church and try to be as active as possible.

Your Christian Aid Envelope

Churches Together has been organising the Christian Aid collection in the four villages for many years and each year the organisers try to arrange for collectors to call in as many roads as possible. It has never been possible however to cover every road and even if an area is usually covered, some years there may be difficulties if the regular collector is on holiday or unable to collect for other reasons.

If during Christian Aid Week, a collector

does not call, please consider making your contribution by dropping off the envelope you receive with Focus, at one of the churches - most of the churches have a letter box, so just drop it through! These churches and chapels will be happy to receive your contribution: Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Methodist Churches, Salvation Army, Eaton Bray, Baptist Chapel in Northall and All Saints, Dagnall. You can also leave your envelope in St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray.

A Letter from Rev'd Coralie

Vicar: Coralie McCluskey

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

Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd John Heffer

Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

Church Warden: Catherine Hayden (220527)

Parish Administrator: Elisabeth Ryder (07799 494972)

Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com



It's a busy time in the garden, what with preparing the ground, sowing, weeding, pruning and probably some watering, as once again we return to nature to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. Perhaps you have completed your planting but the way things are going I'm likely to have new potatoes in September and not because the seasons are changing!

Reading the material for the 2014 Christian Aid Week I was reminded once again about how fortunate we are in this country and how we often take the good things we have, including our homes, food, education, health services and peace, for granted. In stark contrast to our lives are the growing number of people across the world for whom the horror of war is part of their daily lives. It's not just the danger and the fear but the total devastation of their homes and communities, their food supply and sources of clean water. It is estimated that 42 million people men, women and children have been driven from their homes because of conflict and are in desperate need.

The familiar Christian Aid red and white envelope will drop through your letter box this May and the hope is that every household will contribute something to helping our brothers and sisters across the world in dire need.

I have no idea what it is like to be hungry, homeless or a refugee because of war or natural disaster so have decided to *Live below the Line* between the 12th and 16th of May. This means that I must spend no more than £5 on food and drink that week and am not allowed to use what I already have available at home. This will give me an excuse to compare supermarket and local shop food prices, try to buy very specific quantities and waste nothing.

The Christian Aid web site has excellent top tips to help anybody who is going to attempt to *Live below the line*. I have persuaded my husband Ralph and daughter Mary to join me but Winnie, the Jack Russell, is excused. Having £15 will make shopping easier but I will have to plan carefully. Sadly there will be no produce available from my garden. The difference between the £15 and my average weekly food bill I will donate to Christian Aid.

Let's be an instrument of God's peace this year

Give, act and pray this Christian Aid week.

Coralie

Eaton Bray 11th Beer Festival

Friday 30th & Saturday 31st May

Yes that time of year is upon us once again! For the 11th time we are going to be bringing you the best beer festival in our joint villages. OK it may also be the only one but it is a jolly good one!

We are **having 30 real ales plus 2 ciders and 2 perrys**, that can't be a bad move, In total that is 5 more barrels than last year, so hopefully we will keep on going right up to closing time on the Saturday. We just have to hope for cool weather up to Friday and then for some nice warm sunshine to be able to enjoy the beer at its very best. We can be assured that the guys from CAMRA will do their very best to get it all up and running on time.

There will be the usual high standard of catering both on the BBQ and in the kitchen along with music on both nights plus a family entertainer, Smarty Arty on Saturday afternoon.

Full details in advert, somewhere else in Focus!

Just one final request. We are a little short on volunteers to man the doors and work in the kitchen so if you could give us a couple of hours at some point, please let me know as it really is fun doing this, but a few more hands will be very gratefully received.

✉ Ross on 07974 715222 or ross.bagni@btinternet.com

Open Gardens 2014

Sunday 8 June, 12 – 5pm

Roving Tickets £5 from Eaton Bray Village Hall - 11.30am

Since 2006, one of the social highlights of the year in our villages has been our Open Gardens event. We had seven wonderful years enjoying the gardens that were opened by willing gardeners and both the gardeners and visitors enjoyed some wonderful days. Sadly in 2013 the winter was long and cold – simply not gardening weather and we were



unable to hold the event. However, given kind weather, should be a lovely afternoon out for all concerned.

By the beginning of April we had received eight gardens ranging in size, style and content that we hope will delight you and offers continue to come in. During the afternoon refreshments will be served in Eaton Bray Village Hall and plants and refreshments will be

available en route. spring this year has been very kind to gardeners and we are delighted that we have received offers from various owners that mean that this year's event will not

Do make sure the date is in your diary – we look forward to seeing you once again. It should be a tremendous afternoon for everyone interested in gardens.



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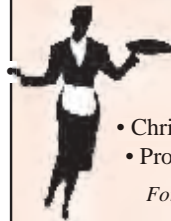
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Chill on the Hill!



Climb the stone steps to Edlesborough's Church on the Hill and step inside!

On June 20th-22nd the magnificent landmark will swing open its heavy doors and pack the pews for a fabulous programme of music, merriment, and memorable moments at the annual Edlesborough Festival. For three days and two glorious nights the Edlesborough Festival promises to reach the parts that other festivals do not reach!

"There really is something for everyone," said Christine Yates from the Friends of the Church on the Hill. "We want as many people as possible to come along and enjoy our festival at the magnificent 13th Century St. Mary the Virgin in Edlesborough. It really is going to be a great festival."

The weekend begins on Friday morning with an art class located within the beautiful surroundings of the churchyard offering panoramic views, followed by flower arranging in the church. Both of these sessions can be booked with chris@brooklyns.org.uk

The music programme starts on Friday night when world renowned Irish traditional musicians – John Devine and Family will bring the church alive with uilleann pipes, Irish whistle, ballads and Irish dancing. The Devine family have been bringing the roots of Ireland to pubs, London stages and festivals far and wide and promise a night to remember.

On Saturday afternoon, the Dagnall Community Choir and countless children from schools from three counties will sing, harmonise, smile and warm the hearts of the audience in the festival Choirfest.

Local MP and Speaker of the House, Rt. Hon. John Bercow will officially open the afternoon and sit back to enjoy the young voices. "I am delighted to be part

of the festival again" said Mr Bercow, who also officially opened the first ever Edlesborough Festival in 2013.

On Saturday evening, while the sun sets over the Vale of Aylesbury, visitors can enjoy the longest day of the year with an exciting evening of music that will go down in the history of the church. Food, drink and good times are guaranteed. Our Sparking Sunset Party offers live music and cool sparkling beverages to toast the solstice sunset from this elevated noble landmark.

A Heritage Craft day on Sunday will welcome demonstrators of lace making, straw plaiting, church hand bell ringing, quilting, wood carving, spinning, stained glass working and other traditional crafts. There is an opportunity to meet a medieval knight with his full set of armoury and try your hand at brass rubbing, or simply tuck into cream teas.

Our Church on the Hill is very special. We want the community to use it, enjoy it, and share the music, history and good times. Funds raised from the festival will be used to improve facilities for the church.

For further information on the Edlesborough Festival, go to Friends of Church on the Hill Facebook or www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk While you're there, take a look at details of the photography competition for children who are invited to get involved and turn their cameras to creating their own views of the church. Prizes and a trophy to be won.

Tickets available for Friday and Saturday nights' music events from Janes of Edlesborough, available from May, or turn up at the door (capacity allowing – please check first). Further details of our musical events and ticketing from Alan Williams – Tel: 01525 221926.



EDaN Beautification Team

Don't miss this year's car boot sale on Edlesborough Green on bank holiday Monday morning 5th May. Details on page 39.

We need your support to fund such beautiful occasions like the flowering of our wonderful daffodils in the three EDaN villages – 5000 more planted last autumn with the help of the community workers, under the watchful eye of Angela!

Thanks to everyone who helped with their planting and also the 10 wonderful flower boxes, sponsored by local businesses. These are looking very cheery, with the

colourful faces of pansies and violas, supplied by Garden Scene in Eaton Bray. We do have a spare box ready for a new sponsor – be it business or personal – and you are welcome to contact chris@brooklyns.org.uk for details.

We also installed and take care of the planters around our village signs plus Dagnall roundabout. We'll be planting up again early summer to make our villages a really welcome place to come home to and be really proud of, so please do support all the EDaN events. See you at Edlesborough Festival 20th-22nd June!



Reminiscences of Working for the BBC at Broadcasting House 1937-1941

Geoff Spencer gave a very interesting talk at Dagnall Village Hall on Tuesday 1st April raising funds for Dagnall School.

Geoff talked for well over 2 hours with a break for some wonderful homemade refreshments!

The talk also touched on life in London during this period and Geoff told us how people used to sleep on the platforms in the stations when the blackout was on, they also used a bucket for the toilet with a modesty curtain for obvious reasons!!

There was a great deal of interaction from the audience during the whole talk as they related to the various topics that Geoff was discussing. They said it was like going down memory lane!!!

There was a lovely display of memorabilia from the period and it was all very interesting to look through.

Geoff will be 92 years young this year and it is amazing that he is still able to put on an evening like this!! Geoff has been raising money for the school for well over 30 years and it looks like he will continue

doing so for some time to come!! for which we are very grateful.

Thank you Geoff for a wonderful evening and thanks must also go to Dagnall Village Hall who donated the use of the hall for this event and to the Governors of Dagnall School who provided all the homemade cakes!! One cake in particular (baked by Mrs Sandra Janes) was so popular that several people in the audience wanted to buy the whole thing and take it home... I think you will have to make several next time Sandra and we will have to hold an auction!!!

✍️Kathy Bovington, Dagnall School



Nostalgia re Edlesborough Church

Sunday School Concert 30.1.34.

Programme.

1. Song - "Feeling of the Waters" Senior Girls.
News Chronicle Page 28.
 2. Recitation "All Alone" Maisie Beaton
 3. Recitation "Land of Countesspan" Maria Bitchela
 4. Song. "All through the night" Senior Girls
News Chronicle Page 28.
 5. Recitation. "Spring is coming" Mamma Cook.
 6. Recitation "Grasshopper Green" Joy Meakin
 7. Song "When your hair has turned Hoisie West
to silver" Winnie Briggs
 8. Recitation "King Cophetua" Kathleen Perry
 9. " " "Little Brown Bells" Dick Wood.
 10. " " "My shadow" Jack Wood
 11. Song "My Bonnie" Senior Boys.
Scottish Songs. Page 108.
 12. Recitation "The Daffodils" Annie Gadsden.
 13. Song. "Love's old Sweet Song" Senior Girls
 14. Recitation "The Vagabond" Gladys Bates.
 15. " " "Father William" Rita Creech.
 16. Song "There's something about
a Soldier" Senior Girls.
 17. Recitation "I'm sitting on the doorstep" Joan Carter.
 18. Song "Does Santa Claus" Junior Girls
+ Boys.
"Pops Goes the Weasel" Junior Rhymes
+ Boys.
- Interval - then "Alice in Wonderland" _____ Page 6.



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Eaton Bray Cricket Club

When this goes to print the season will have started and we'd have played our first few games. We have an exciting season ahead, with 2 Saturday league teams, with our 2s playing Edlesborough in the league on May 3rd (away) and July 5th (home), as this year's 2s captain I'm looking forward to these local derbies.

We also have Sunday Development XI playing in the Bedfordshire Development league, this team consists of 4 adults and 7 U17 players. This is a great way to develop the next generation of players.

We are also running 4 junior sides this year, the u10s, U12s and u14s all playing in the Bedfordshire Youth League and our U8s playing some friendlies.

Details of all fixtures can be found on our website which is quoted below.

We are always looking for new players of all ages from 6 to 96. Our junior section has training on Wednesday evenings, the 6 to 10 year olds from 6pm to 7pm and the 11 to 14 year olds from 7pm to 8pm. Our senior training will be on Thursday and Friday evenings from 6pm to 8pm.

Centennial Year 2014

This year is the club's Centennial year and we have prepared several events and games to commemorate this. All ex players, tea ladies, officials and volunteers are invited to attend these events.

Monday May 5th – Chairman's XI v President's XI . The game to start early afternoon with an all day fixture followed by a party in the evening. Any ex-players who would like to play in this game please contact us on the below email.

Friday May 23rd – T20 v Caddington CC – This commemorates the club's very first game, which was against Caddington on 23rd May 1914. The game is to start at 6pm. All spectators are welcome to

attend, the match will start at 6pm.

Sunday July 27th – Match v Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) – This is our main event of the Centennial year. An all day game starting at 11.30am against the MCC, who are also celebrating their 200th year at Lords'. We encourage all current and ex-players, tea ladies, volunteers and anyone who has been involved in the club to attend what will be a great day. We also invite any local MCC members to the match to support their club (MCC ties are optional).

Sunday August 17th - Music Festival from 5pm– we will be hosting a music afternoon and evening. We will have a jazz band playing for a couple of hours and our very own trumpeter from Jools Holland's Big Band (Jason McDerimid). We will also have a number of fun activities to keep the children (and some of the older ones) entertained. Everyone is welcome to attend. More details will follow when plans are finalised.

Contact and Call for New Players

We are in the 21st Century and have several ways we can be followed or contacted.

Junior email address: ebccenquiries@hotmail.com

Senior players and Centennial details: Ian Jones – ian_m_jones1000@hotmail.com or 07956 340888

Web Site: www.eatonbray.play-cricket.com

Twitter: @EatonBrayCC

Facebook: /eatonbraycc



Avis Palmer

Thanks to all friends and neighbours who came to the thanksgiving service for Avis at Eaton Bray Methodist Chapel on the 21st March. Special thanks to the members of the Chapel for their hospitality throughout the day. It was very much appreciated.
Mrs Jean Monk



Appledown's Dog of the Month

This is **Frosty!** She is a 6-7 months old Parson Russell terrier. Frosty is a clever, active little dog but is completely deaf. For this

reason she would not be suitable for a home with young children. She is good with dogs and possibly cats. Frosty will need an owner willing to put in the time to train her with hand signals. She will be well worth the effort.

If you feel you could offer Frosty, or any of our other dogs, a loving and secure home please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Our staff will be happy to offer advice and information.

Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years of age, so please ask for details.

Fun Dog Show, Sunday 18th May at Appledown – Lots to do and see for all the family! Have-a-go dog agility, variety of stalls, refreshments and 10 fun dog show classes. Show opens 11 a.m. (classes commence 12 noon). Entries on the day.

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Living Countryside Awards 2014

Call for Entries

Do you know of an inspiring rural project in Bedfordshire that deserves recognition?

The Bedfordshire branch of Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is seeking entries to its 2014 Living Countryside Awards that recognise the people and projects that have improved the county's biodiversity, landscape, building design and local sustainability.

The three categories for entries are: Building Design & Restoration; Biodiversity & Landscape Improvement; and Sustainable Enterprise. The deadline for entries is 15th June 2014.

If you're impressed by a recent project in your area – please let us know!

Nominations are welcome from individuals, public bodies, community

groups, schools, farmers and businesses across Bedfordshire – for their own or another's project.

Any project that makes a positive difference to Bedfordshire's countryside is encouraged to enter – these could be for example, new buildings in harmony with their local surroundings, the creation of wildlife habitats, local food initiatives, rural craft businesses, the restoration of historical buildings and environmentally sensitive farming.

Further details - including how to enter and a full list of former award winners - can be found on www.cprebeds.org.uk, or by contacting Nicola Scholfield at awards@cprebeds.org.uk

Dagnall News

Over 60's

In March Dagnall Over Sixties enjoyed a fun afternoon with Bingo and a delicious tea. Chrissie Smith kindly called the numbers for us.

We went to The Green Man at Stanford for lunch in April, then in May we have our Ploughmans Lunch, followed by a quiz.

Phone 01442843202 if you are over sixty and would like to join us.

Community Choir

From Terrible to Terrific in 20 Hours

At our final rehearsal for The Dunstable Choir Festival at the end of March we had a terrible final rehearsal and, frankly made a right "horlicks" of "Les Miserables" selection, which is one of our favourite pieces and we generally reckon to make a reasonable job of it.

We were all disappointed and were concerned about our actual performance, with our normally calm musical director almost tearing her hair out with the mistakes that we were making. We did not want to let anybody down on such a prestigious occasion particularly in front a large audience and other choirs.

Our concern served to sharpen our concentration and give more attention to the performance the following afternoon and, lo and behold, we hit good form again.

The hard work put in by all members and Judy Smither and Michelle Garrard, our pianist and conductor and their cheerful encouragement with learning such magnificent music, drew its rewards. Singing with other choirs in big choral works was a new experience for most of us and was truly exhilarating and we hope that we may have similar opportunities in the future.

We are presently looking at new music to add to our repertoire and are suffering somewhat from over enthusiasm with over 50 disparate (not desperate, at least not in all cases) members having their own favourites from the sublime to the, frankly bawdy and distasteful, the latter mainly suggested by basses and tenors.

Our next performance is at The Edlesborough Festival on June 21st and we hope that we may have the opportunity of entertaining you with our short appearance on Saturday afternoon. Details can be found elsewhere in this publication.

Dagnall School

Tennis Festival - 2nd April 2014

Six of our children recently represented the school at the Buckinghamshire Schools Sports Partnership Tennis Festival. The event, held at Cottesloe School, saw nine schools take part in a variety of activities that taught the skills needed to play tennis. After a practice session, the competition began. It was thirsty work but the children did us proud. The afternoon culminated with medals and certificates. The children learned many new skills, the importance of exercise and great sportsmanship. A fantastic afternoon was had by all!

Excellent hand eye coordination!

Well done Thomas, Frida, Ralph, Alfie, Erin and Mollie



Keep on Running...

In December 2013 local Edlesborough resident and keen runner, Susan Hill decided that there must be like-minded people in the village and surrounding areas who would like to take up running or become better runners. This was to be the start of Edlesborough Runners. Sue was already a member of The Leighton Fun Runners and was sure that Edlesborough could have its own group too. After setting up a Facebook page, the interest has been phenomenal, word has spread and the Edlesborough Runners gained over 100 members within weeks.

They are a friendly, sociable group that meet a few times a week by Edlesborough's Cricket Pavilion and are always looking for new people to join and realise that THEY CAN DO IT too. You do not need to be a runner and most start from scratch. If you would like to give it a try and meet new friends whilst getting fit, simply contact edlesboroughrunners@

hotmail.com or find them on Facebook by searching for Edlesborough Runners.

After the massive success of the group, Sue wanted to bring together the whole of Edlesborough in an event that she hoped the entire village could get behind and enjoy. **“The Great Edlesborough Fun Run”** is planned to take place on Saturday May 17th at 10am. Starting from the village green, the fun run will consist of a 5K route around the village, with proceeds from the day going to local children's charity, Playskill. The event is set to be family friendly affair with the idea being that it is not a race and should be enjoyed by all. Run, hop, skip, walk... it doesn't matter! If you would like to take part, please contact 01525 222049 or email edlesboroughrunners@hotmail.com for your entry form. Entry fee is £5 per runner. Be quick though, there are only 50 places available and they are filling up fast.

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

In March our worship followed the time-honoured pattern of Lent, focusing primarily on spiritual preparation for Easter, especially thinking about prayer. The Sunday Cafe Fellowship, led by Andy Melvin, which took place on the Day of Prayer for the Circuit, used finger labyrinths to help us consider not only what we can give up for Lent, but also what we can actively give back both to the Church and to others at this time. This theme was continued at our Communion Service, when the Rev Nigel Wright helped us to look in detail at The Lord's Prayer. On the 5th Sunday we heard a thought-provoking sermon from Greg Obong-Oshotse on the new position, perception and perspective

that the Holy Spirit brings to our lives.

On Friday 21st March many people attended a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate the life of Avis Palmer, a well-loved member of the congregation, who died recently.

The Cafe Community on the second Saturday in March was a very well-attended and lively event

Dates for your Diary:

Cafe Community on Saturday May 10th, 11.00am – 1.00pm. You are warmly invited for a light lunch, or coffee and biscuits and a restful chat with friends.

The Annual Garden Fete at Chestnut Lodge, Great Billington on Saturday 7th June.

— Christopher —
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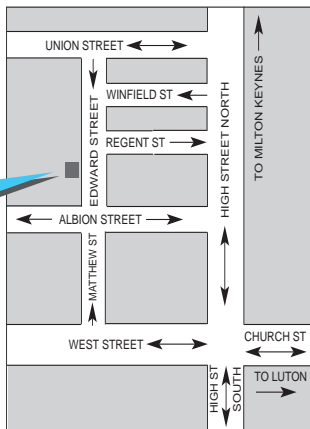
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Curtain Call Youth Theatre Launched in Eaton Bray

The Curtain Call Youth Theatre was founded in 2010 by local thespian Gavyn Lugsden (Eaton Bray) who after launching the adult group in Leighton Buzzard decided to offer something exciting for those 18 years and under.

Curtain Call Youth Theatre is a production based group, which basically means we are always working towards a show! We aim to showcase 3 full-scale productions every year and attend many other events to 'show off' our talents.

Currently, the Youth Theatre Group are based in Leighton Buzzard and Flitwick, but the launch of two new groups take place from April 29th! The new Aylesbury group will rehearse from the Sir Henry Floyd school in Aylesbury on Tuesdays, and the Eaton Bray group opened its doors on Wednesday 30th April at the Village Hall.

Although the group launched on 30th April, their regular sessions will be Mondays, however due to previous bookings there are a few Wednesday rehearsals within the first month.

We intend to get involved with the local carnival this year, visit a theatre and a fun day out in the Summer holidays, so there is plenty of fun ahead.

Our first show is called 'Feeling Musical' which will be a toe-tapping extravaganza involving many songs, scenes and dances from different West end shows! This show will involve all four groups and be performed at the 220 tiered seat theatre within Vandyke Upper School, Leighton Buzzard in July.

We are not just doing this for fun, we regularly get information regarding auditions and castings for T.V programmes, commercials, film and stage shows, so who knows...?

Curtain Call Youth Theatre are members of N.O.D.A and L.A.M.D.A and if any child wishes to take an exam in either Drama or Musical Theatre, we can help.

The group is open to anyone aged 8 - 18, however younger children are welcome (subject to ability).

Interested? For further information including fees, please contact Gavyn on 01525 220525 or 07412 640936. Or visit the website www.curtaincalltheatregroup.co.uk

Over 18? Then the adult group meet straight after the Youth section every Monday (7.30pm - 10pm) come and get involved!



Dunstable & District Orbit Club

Dunstable & District Orbit Club held a quiz night at Dunstable Rugby Club on 22nd March. 11 teams took part and £625 was raised on the night and the money will be added to that raised from other events during the Orbit year, then it will be split between Horses Helping People, East Anglian Air Ambulance and Headway Luton.

Everyone enjoyed themselves at the quiz and had a good time. Orbit meet at Dunstable Rugby Club every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 8pm. You are very welcome to come along to any meetings. For more information, please contact, Jill on 01525 222441 or Mark on 01582 539379 or visit www.orbitclub.org.uk/dunstable.

✉ Jill Richards, Publicity Committee

Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (ELF)

Hello Everyone,

Although there is still a chill in the air, spring seems to have arrived with an abundance of beautiful coloured blossoms, daffodils, tulips, violets, primroses and shrubs. Bluebells have arrived earlier than usual, and we have the May blossom on the hedgerows. What a wonderful time of the year when everything is regenerating, plants, lambs etc. Nature is superb.

Fruit trees and bushes will soon be here to add to the display.

Our lunch at the Bridgewater Arms on March 13th was a happy occasion with good Company and food.

March 24th walk went well with the weather being fine. Led by Brian F.W., the group started at The Green in Potten End and walked along Pouchen End Lane to Winkwell Bourne End, along the Grand Union Canal to Little Heath Lane toward Potten End and ended with a Coffee Stop break at Little Heath Farm shop and café.

The walk was approximately 4¼ miles.

Unfortunately, our proposed visit to Milton Keynes Museum on April 15th had to be cancelled. This was a disappointment for some members of the Group.

The visit to Wrest Park on April 24th went ahead and it was very interesting. A report

will be in the June issue of Focus.

When you read this, we will have had our Coffee Tavern meeting on April 10th when we will have an update on future meetings. A report will be in the June issue of Focus.

Audrey is arranging a visit to the Chiltern Open Air Museum on May 22nd. Details will be displayed in the North Porch of Eaton Bray Church. All are welcome to join the Group and transport is always available when required.

There is a possibility that the Walk arranged for May 26th will be altered as this is a Bank Holiday. Everyone is invited to join the group.

No venue has been decided yet for our next Lunch out on May 8th. Details will be displayed in the North Porch of Eaton Bray Church.

Enjoy your Easter whatever you decide to do but remember the reasons why we celebrate this occasion.

MAY DATES

Thurs May 8th Lunch out

Thurs May 22nd Visit to Chiltern Open-air museum

Mon May 26th Walk from Eaton Bray church 10am

Front Row Theatre Group

We recently attended Front Row Theatre Group's latest production and were very impressed by this local group's talent both on stage and behind the curtains.

Generations Apart is set on the Isle of Wight in 1996 with flashbacks to the hippy days of 1969 and the Isle of Wight music festival, highlighting the generational differences of both times.

Of those of us of a "certain age" it was a very nostalgic representation, with the

music between the scenes of Fleetwood Mac and Thunderclap Newman bringing back many happy memories.

Congratulations to all the actors and back room crew for such an enjoyable evening's entertainment, one of great professional standard. How lucky we are to have such talent in our villages

We cannot wait for their next production in the autumn when hopefully more will join us for a good night's entertainment.



Buying and Selling Houses the Savvy Way!

Jonathan Vernon Smith is the Sony Award winning mid-morning show presenter for BBC Three Counties Radio. During his consumer hour he helps listeners with their consumer problems and now shares his advice with you.

They say that death of a loved one and divorce are the top two most stressful experiences in your life. Well number three must be moving house! Anyone who has moved will remember the stomach churning worry and the logistical nightmare that is buying and selling houses. However, there are some things you can do to not only make the process easier, but also demonstrate that you're a savvy consumer. Here are my top tips:

When you decide that you want to move (please really do make sure you do as there's nothing as unfair as a seller who changes their mind when emotions and money have been spent), assess the market. Is it a buyers or a seller's environment? At the moment, property prices in most areas are increasing, which for sellers is great, but means buyers are having to dig deeper into their pockets to secure a deal. During tough economic times, property prices tend to fall which means a savvy buyer can bag a bargain.

Always get at least three good, reputable, local agents round to value your house. Ask them for a sensible price at which to market your property and ask them what they will do to get those prospective buyers through the door. Always establish their fee and NEVER agree to pay any money upfront. Always ensure that you pay their fee on completion of a deal and for goodness sake, haggle! If one of the agents is prepared to market the property

for a 1% fee as opposed to the other two who want 1.5%, why would you even consider paying more? Get them to agree to match the other agent's fee. If they're not prepared to reduce their fee, then they're not hungry enough for their commission and will not try hard enough to find a buyer. Look at their pictures on websites like Rightmove and Zoopla to ensure that they make other houses and flats look nice and ensure their descriptions are nicely written.

Generally it's better to sell your property before you agree to buy somewhere. Ultimately until you know how much you can achieve for your property, you don't really know how much you can afford to spend on another. You should stipulate to your estate agents though that any buyer will afford you reasonable patience while you find somewhere to buy.

Always employ the services of a totally independent mortgage advisor with access to all companies and who is prepared to recommend the best mortgage for you and NOT for them.

You will find that most estate agents will try to persuade you to use the services of their own conveyancing solicitor. I personally do not like the idea of this. To me, it's a complete conflict of interest (particularly if both the buyer and seller use the same solicitor). You need a legal advisor who is completely independent and looking out for your interests, not someone who is under pressure from an estate agent to hurry up and complete a sale. My advice is to ask friends and family members who have moved recently to recommend a good conveyancing solicitor to you. Also, remember that you should get some different quotes for this service and never

be afraid to haggle with them. When it comes to you putting in an offer for the house of your dreams, you will need to again assess the market environment you're working within. If the market is good and there are not many properties available, but lots of buyers competing, then it's normally better to go in with a high offer on the basis that marketing of the property is ceased immediately. In a falling market, then a cheeky, low offer may just bag you a bargain.

One final piece of advice I would like to share with you, is to be open and honest with people. Sadly property deals in this country can be messy, unpleasant affairs. However, I do not think we should sink to the levels of others. Be upfront with both your buyers and the vendors of the property you're buying and treat them in the way you would like to be treated.

Always ask to meet both parties so they get to know you and find it easier to also be transparent. Remember, once you've accepted a deal, to mess people around is utterly unacceptable.



Ashridge Spring Plant Sale Sunday 11th May 11am-4pm Free entry

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Dunstable & District Local History Society Tuesday 13 May, 7.45pm The Home of James Bond

Iconic movies, ranging from Reach For The Sky to the James Bond series, have been made at Pinewood Studios. Mike Payne provides a start-studded talk.
Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
Visitors always welcome £2

All Saints' Church Dagnall

Services in May 2014

Sun. 4th May	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 11th May	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 18th May	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 25th May	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 1st June	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service

Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service.





Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

Confucius said that 'March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers'. Well it may not have been Confucius, but whoever penned that proverb clearly did not know what the UK weather pattern would look like in early 2014. Our daffs were out in late February, the man opposite has already had his first barbecue (although they were all sitting outside with jumpers and jackets on – not that I was peeking of course), and I pen this in early April, the Bedfordshire fields are glowing bright yellow, releasing the enticing aromatic wonders of the rapeseed plant. Interesting fact of the month; the UK is the 7th largest producer of rapeseed oil in the world – 2.6 million tonnes in 2012 – more than the USA and Russia put together. See, we are good at some things! Anyway, the essence is that the mild weather, together with lack of snow and frosts, has encouraged even more people than usual to take to our tennis courts, and start their new year's health, fitness and de-toxification programme a little earlier than usual.

In recognition of this (or if the weather is awful, despite this...) we are once again holding our annual Play Day on Sunday 22nd June, in participation with the Great British Tennis Weekend. From around 11am we will have all three courts available for anybody to come along, pick up a racquet – we have plenty we can lend to you if you don't have one – and try your hand at the noble sport. Absolutely no experience is required, which is just as well judging by my standards. There'll be lots of us on hand to offer any advice, or a handy playing partner, and we're quite happy to be beaten – we get lots of practice. Only joking of course. We'll have our famous barbecue alight with the usual plethora of menu options (including the sauces of

course, which with just 6 different options offer over 700 different combinations, and then you can have those with either sausage, burger, with or without onions ... the official EBLTC calculation is that we can offer you over 362,000 different menu combinations ... it's worth coming along just for that).

Our infamous but temperamental Ball Machine, Billy, will be allowed out of its secure accommodation to automatically hit balls to you, but be warned it has a mind of his own. It doesn't like being beaten! Please don't press its 'Superspeed' button, whatever you do. An astronaut from the International Space Station will be popping outside for a spacewalk next Monday to repair the dent caused from the last time. We're dreading the bill, we might have to sell our properties on Mayfair. For the youngsters there'll be Mini Tennis and squash, and for the grown-ups there'll be tea, coffee, champagne and caviar. Our suppliers have guaranteed two out of the four, we'll see which two are available on the day.

Finally, news of our mystery player's progress towards playing 250 sessions of tennis in 2014. A slight injury has restricted his on court appearances to 'just' 25 in March, making a total of 74 year to date. To make his target of 250, then his average needs to be 4.8 sessions per week, and he is currently sitting (well not much sitting actually...) at 5.69 per week, so he is already ahead of target. Mrs Mystery is reported to be having a wonderful time shopping, going to the gym and eating out at posh restaurants, all places where Mr Mystery is unlikely to be in attendance due to his determination to reach his goal. Or his net. Stay tuned to Focus for our monthly update on 'Target Two Fifty' and chart Mr

Mystery's progress over the year!
For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at the School Lane courts, or our various activities, you can visit our website at www.ebltc.org.uk;

Alternatively please call Chairman Stuart Adolph on 07773 816320, Coach Sara Leavy on 07561 571578, or if they're all out and I'm not enjoying a country walk with Mrs Mystery, then me, Andy Cross, on 07783 667338.



Dagnall Village Hall Committee

Annual General Meeting 2014

The Annual General Meeting of the Dagnall Village Hall Management Committee will take place on **Wednesday 07 MAY at 6.30pm.**

All residents of Dagnall aged 18 and over are welcome to attend and eligible to vote. The following officers of the committee will be elected:

Chairperson	Secretary
Treasurer	Bookings Officer

Anyone wishing to stand for election to one of the offices may obtain a nomination form from the secretary (telephone 842129).

The village organisations currently

represented on the committee are Dagnall Under Fives, Dagnall School, Gardeners' Society and Dagnall Over 60's. These organisations are invited to appoint a person to the committee as their representative. Any village clubs or societies not currently represented on the committee, such as Dagnall Church are welcome to attend the meeting in order to seek the opportunity to appoint a person to the committee as their representative.

Please do make the effort to attend the AGM—it's your village hall (and recreation ground) and you have an opportunity to influence how it is managed.

New Ivinghoe Venue for Artists' and Makers' Fair

Local event organiser, Sally Evans, has announced that the Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub and Town Hall will be the latest venue for her Artists' and Makers' Fair.

Taking place 10-11 May 2014, the Artists' and Makers' Fair will bring together a wealth of local artisans including painters, photographers, ceramicists, jewellers, chocolatiers, laser cut designers, pen turners and many more.

For the first time, the event will showcase Ivinghoe-based photographer, Louisa Stobbs, who will be displaying her work on the latest Aqua Canvases which are 100% waterproof and designed to be hung in the bathroom, at the end of the garden

or even submerged under water !

Sally Evans, organiser of the Artists and Makers Fair, said "I'm delighted to welcome some wonderful, local artistic talent for the first time in Ivinghoe. I have specifically chosen the location because I wanted to support this venue which has been lovingly brought back to life by the villagers. I really hope that people will visit the event, marvel at the artists' skills and even take home some beautiful handcrafted pieces of art."

The event is open 10am-4pm each day. To find out more about the event and artists visit the website <http://www.sallyevansevents.co.uk/home>

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Sunday 15th June 11am-5pm

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Eaton Bray Academy

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

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Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights of the Minutes Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council Held on Monday 3rd March 2014 from 7:30pm at the Coffee Tavern

Central Beds Council (CBC)

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
 uk - Customer Services: 0300 300 8302
 / Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

- Harling Road/Bower Lane Speed limit; CBC has agreed to the relocation of the 30MPH sign to beyond the junction with Dunstable Road.

Bedfordshire Police:

CRIME REPORT	Recorded Crime	
	01/02/13 to 28/02/13	01/02/14 to 28/02/14
Domestic Burglary	4	0
Burglary Other	2	4
Vehicle Crime	0	2
Other Theft	1	1
Criminal Damage	0	0
Other Notifiable Offences	0	0
Total	7	7

ASB

There was no recorded Anti-Social Behaviour for the month of February.

News from the team

- Vehicle crime, visit the following link where you can find some crime prevention advice; http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/pdf/advice_vehicle_crime_cro2012.pdf
- If you wish to contact your Local Policing Team then please call 01582 473411 or email LPT. LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk
- Please remember if you need to contact the Police: **Non-emergency call 101 / All emergencies 999**

Trees/Bushes

The Parish Council again wishes to remind residents' that they need to ensure their hedges/bushes/trees do not encroach onto the public footpath and are cut back

to their property boundary line, allowing free access for footpath users.

Traffic Calming/Road Cushions

The CBC consultation on the proposed traffic calming measures for the junction with School Lane/High Street was considered by the Parish Council. The Parish Council have agreed to support these proposals.

Future Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Dates

Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council: Monday 12th May 2014, from 7:00pm at The Coffee Tavern (1st floor)

Parish Council Website:

www.ebpc.co.uk

For full detailed copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council please visit the Parish Council website.

A hard copy of minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council's notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

✉ Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk

Telephone/Fax: 01525 221464

Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answerphone]

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

April 2014

£25 Jenny Ray No.17

£10 Andy Norris No.52

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins Transport Ltd & Meadow Marquees

Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Parish Council meeting - dates and venues

15th May 2014 Annual General Meeting commencing 7.30pm followed by Ordinary Parish Council Meeting at Edlesborough Memorial Hall

19th June 2014 Ordinary Parish Council Meeting commencing 7.30pm to be held at All Saints Church Hall, Dagnall

A reminder regarding change of Manager details

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Bookings

Manager: Penny Pataky 01525 229358

NEW e-mail:

manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Enquiries/concerns regarding the Memorial Hall, Pavilion, Playground and Green

Manager: Penny Pataky 01525 229358

NEW e-mail:

manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

A reminder regarding change of Clerk details

Faulty Streetlights, Allotments, Burials

(The streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall are not maintained by Bucks CC or AVDC)

Clerk: Penny Pataky 01525 229358

NEW e-mail:

clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Memorials and Cemetery enquiries

NEW e-mail: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

A reminder regarding new Responsible Finance Officer details

Finance & Planning

Lin Sargeant: 01525 220859 current

NEW e-mail:

rfo@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

All other enquiries to be made to the Clerk, Penny Pataky

New Councillor

A vacancy has arisen for a Councillor to represent the village of Northall. Please contact the Clerk, Penny Pataky, for further details.

Current allotment plots available:

Allotments are currently available at The Green and Cow Lane. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to take on an allotment.

Streetlights

The damaged streetlight in Studham Lane, Dagnall is to be replaced

Dog Fouling

The Council are purchasing a quantity of Dog Fouling posters and it is hoped that dog owners will take notice and clean up any deposits left by their dogs on the Green and around the numerous pavements/roads/public footpaths/bridleways etc. throughout the entire Parish. Dog bins are supplied at convenient positions and emptied at a considerable cost to the Council, and to parishioners as this is included within the annual Council Tax, **so please will the offending owners please pick up and deposit in the appropriate bins and not cause nuisance and health risks to other parishioners.**

Potholes and other responsibilities of Bucks CC

An up to date list of outstanding works to be carried out has been sent to Bucks CC, which include railings at Dunstable Road, Dagnall, White Lining at the junction of Nelson Road/Dunstable Road, Dagnall, cutting back grass verges to widen pavements, bad condition of Kingsmead, Edlesborough and Chapel Lane, Northall, extensive potholes on the High Street, Edlesborough towards the county boundary and immediately at the end of

Brook Street, hedge and tree trimming from the A4146 to Edlesborough along Pebblemoor, kerbstones in The Green, Edlesborough.

Penny Pataky – Clerk – contact number 01525 229358

New e-mail: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Lin Sargeant – Responsible Finance

Officer/Planning to Edlesborough Parish Council - Tel. 01525 220859

New email: rfo@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Booking Secretary: Penny Pataky: Tel: 01525 229358

New email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Edlesbray Panto Thanks to Val Trantum

The first Edlesbray panto in 1994 was the brainwave of long time village stalwart Val Trantum. It was written and produced by Val and anybody who wanted to be in the panto was written in. Pleas went out for old curtain material, dress makers, scenery makers, musicians, painters, cake makers, singers and many more helpful bods. Who remembers The Gobstopper Song, Edlesbray Anthem, the Edlesbray banner and flags, music played live and the electrical power in the hall tripping out when overloaded?

Val continued writing and producing the pantos until 2005 - that's 12 pantos altogether! The reins were later taken up by others but Val still guided us with her organisational skills. She has now decided to step down and retire from village panto altogether.

Many thanks Val for encouraging and

badgering so many folks to find skills they never knew they had, for all the fun times that we all enjoyed and the jolly hard work of it all!

It is a great community event and without your foresight, ability and commitment (ably assisted by Alan) we wouldn't be where we are now.

Thank you Val for all the pleasures that your pantos have given, both to the audiences and the players.

London Luton Airport

With an increase in aircraft in the area and in particular when the wind is from the East, we are getting some aircraft flying directly over the village to join the flight path into the airport. If you are disturbed by the traffic flying over the village, there is a complaints hotline number: 01582395382. This is an airport number where you can register your concerns. It is important to do this if we are to reduce these disturbances over our village.

If you need to complain about Heathrow flight noise the number is 0800 344 844. Email: noise_complaints@heathrow.com



Julie Campbell Yoga

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Mon -9.00am-10.30am EDLESBOROUGH Memorial Hall (classes start 12th May)

Mon- 7.00pm -8.30pm Mentmore Village Hall

Tues- 6.00pm - 7.30pm Billington Village Hall

Weds - 12.00pm – 1.30pm Cheddington Methodist Hall

07508 539325

juliecampbellyoga@live.co.uk

www.juliecampbellyoga.co.uk

Better Backs for Gardeners



Spring has finally sprung and the sunshine has sent us into our gardens in droves. Although gardening can be good for the mind, it can pay havoc with your body. Follow our tips for better backs and don't let an injury spoil your fun.

- Before doing any physical exercise, warm up first with a walk and some gentle stretching.
- Take regular breaks and change position between jobs to avoid tiredness, overuse and injury.
- Keep your back straight when lifting and use your knees, thighs and arms to help. Don't try to lift too much at one time – particularly those bags of compost!
- When digging, avoid twisting and straining and don't forget to take regular breaks.
- Use kneeler seats or mats when planting and don't overstretch by working too far in front of you.

- Mow a little at a time, keeping upright.
- Avoid overstretching when pruning by using long-handled shears and use secateurs with a cut and hold action.
- If using electric hedge trimmers don't hold them too far in front of you.
- Consider the planning of your garden – raised flower beds may save you twinges in the long run.



If you have any aches or pains consult a Chartered Physiotherapist for treatment and advice.

Happy Gardening!

Tips by St Judes Clinic
26 Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7
1RX, ☎ 01525 377751
enquiries@stjudesclinic.com
www.stjudesclinic.com



Edlesborough W.I.

What a funny (ha-ha, not strange) evening our last meeting proved to be. Under the title When Doctors and Policemen Look Too Young, John Baldwin's talk kept us in 'stitches'. He really was an extremely amusing speaker with his descriptions of what growing older means to most of us. To be honest, his anecdotes were so true to life, but John was able to make us see the funny side of becoming a senior citizen. According to him, one of the first signs of ageing is sounding like your parents! Later it's a case of a certain amount of memory loss, and groaning every time you bend and stretch. Age is creeping up when you mistake the dentist's nurse for a child who has come into the surgery! One of the funniest descriptions was regarding

a stag party weekend John and his friends of similar age attended. After a late night, until 11pm, the main topic of conversation at breakfast the next morning was whether they had all taken their pills and the reasons they needed them! A highlight of the talk was his reading of a poem by Pam Ayres: "I Wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth".

John certainly knew how to make his audience laugh, if our ladies were anything to go by. We really did enjoy having him as our guest.

An event later in the month was our annual trip out for lunch. The Bridgewater Arms was our venue this time, and was very much appreciated by everyone.

✍️ Val Harris

4 visitors along with the members were welcomed to the April meeting.

Birthday wishes were extended to Margaret Jones, Linda Potton, Joan Thorne plus Barbara Ilic who was unfortunately in hospital.

Deirdrea informed the members that as there was no longer a secretary, she would undertake the secretarial work again, until a replacement could be found. Margaret Jones was thanked for taking the minutes of the monthly meetings, it is greatly appreciated. Notices were given of a trip to Barnsdale Gardens and a Treasure Hunt around Stotfold. Wiltshire Foods and Bulb catalogues were available. National raffle tickets, with a first prize of £5,000 were on sale.

Dorothy and Deirdrea attended the Group Meeting at Caddington, it was an excellent evening the speaker being Sheila Payne an ex Tiller and Vernon girl, who had worked with many of the 60's pop idols. She had the audience singing along to their hits.

Deirdrea had attended the ACWW Pennies for Friendship meeting at Flitwick and outlined some of the work being undertaken for the women of the world.

Carol Jones, a member of Caddington WI and a well known cake maker and demonstrator, was introduced as the speaker. Carol proceeded to make hot cross buns (previously putting a batch that she had made earlier in the oven for the refreshments). Recipe sheets were handed out and she talked through all of the processes. They were then left to rise before the crosses were piped on them.

Meanwhile, Carol showed the Easter cookies, bunnies, chicks and eggs which she displayed on a painted branch. Samples of these were tasted. Hats made of cookies

with a marshmallow on top, which had been glaze iced and piped, were passed around. Samples of the types of chocolate used were tasted before Carol melted the chocolate to the correct temperature, getting rid of the bubbles before pouring it into silicone moulds. When set there were easter eggs, rabbits and lollipops. All the while the smell of the buns cooking in the oven filled the air.

Many questions were asked and Margaret Jones gave the vote of thanks to Carol.

With the recipe sheets that had been given out, the members were encouraged to go home and try and make some.

Social time followed with tea and the cooked hot cross buns were passed around to everyone. Oohs and Aahs were heard, fingers were licked and all crumbs eaten and in the words of Pa Larkin, were pronounced "Perfick".

The raffle prizes were won by Christine and Jenny, two new visitors.

A very happy and successful evening.

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on the road towards 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:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

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.

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for March 2014

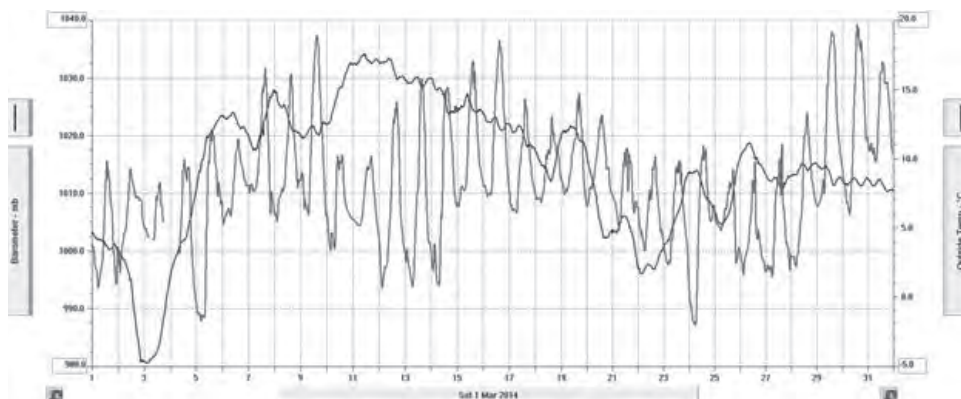
March can only be described as a quiet mild dry month and a total contrast to the preceding month. For the first few days a deep low was centred over us, carried over from the continuous bad weather of February but it was not long before the weather settled down and remained calm for the rest of the month. The temperature only dropped below zero degrees on 2 days and, with only 31mm (just over an inch) of rain in the month compared with what we have suffered over the last 3 months, it was almost a drought.

My website http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall has been upgraded: if you click “view station” this will give you more detail and forecasts, or click “current weather” for even more, i.e. hourly forecasts, Weather History, Almanac and Astronomy. Go have a look

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	19.8°C	30 March 13.30	-2.1°C	24 March 06.30
Mean Temperature	7.9°C			
Dewpoint:	11.2°C	13 March 14.30	-2.8°C	24 March 06.00
Humidity:	98%	5 March 09.00	55%	16 March 15.00
Barometer:	1032.2 mb	11 March 10.00	980.6 mb	3 March 02.30
Wind Speed	34 mph S	2 March 18.30	Months avg.	6.0 mph
Wind Chill:	19.1°C SE	30 March 13.00	-2.6°C N	26 March 06.30
Dominant Wind:	SSE			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 14 (T), 10(R)	Wettest Day 2 March		12.40 mm	0.488 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	March 2012	31.00 mm	1.181 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Month	323.00 mm	12.716 ins

Temperature & Pressure plot shows a calm March 2014



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall. If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: david@dagnallweather.co.uk or telephone: 01442 843883

St Mary's Ladies Guild

The meeting opened with a welcome from Deirdrea who handed out birthday cards for Gillian Hunter, Peggy Bearton, Joan Thorne, Celia French and Linda Potton. Devotions were led by Thelma.

The following notices were given:

Envelopes were available for members to take away and return at the May meeting for the cream tea at Frosts Garden Centre on 25th June cost £13.50.

Envelopes will be available at the May meeting for the trip to Gloucester on 20th August, cost £17.50.

Next month's meeting will be on 14th May the speaker will be Bob Keating on Waddesdon Manor and the Rothschilds.

Deirdrea welcomed today's speaker Dr. J Richard Bell – climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. This was a very interesting presentation with accompanying slides. Dr. Bell said it was a very long long dreary walk and remarkably cold, raising funds for The Peter Westropp Memorial Trust.

The journey to the top took them 5 days, they were accompanied by porters, 5 per person who carried their gear, and three guides, they travelled to the first base camp by bus. They walked through the rain forest and it was raining heavily, their sponge bedding mattresses were soaked so slept on ground very uncomfortably. The guides are very poorly paid and their working season only lasts 6 months, they went ahead of the group and set up camp at the next stop overs. The food was good and they had to drink plenty of fluids and their oxygen levels were measured. The terrain and paths were very rugged and when they finally reached the summit they were only allowed to stay for 1hour 20 minutes. The journey down took 2 days. Jenny thanked Dr. Bell for an interesting and enjoyable presentation.

A very good Easter tea was enjoyed by all followed by the raffle being drawn.



Edlesborough Book Group

1913 The Year Before the Storm by Florian Illes

1913 The Year before the Storm, is a book that defies categorisation. In it, Florian Illes, a journalist for the Berlin newspaper, Die Zeit, has gathered fragments of information and documented them month by month through 1913 giving a diary of world events for that year. He concentrates mainly on the emergence of new ideas in the worlds of arts and science and he peoples the narrative with famous names such as Picasso, Matisse, Kafka, Hitler and Stalin. Many, soon to be household names, seem to be gathered in Vienna in 1913 and we read of the dramas and love affairs played out between them.

With such a multitude of characters and

detail, one can only admire the hours of research that went into creating this book. But, because of its huge range and constant barrage of facts, at its conclusion one has retained very little. This is unfortunate, because the book as a concept is brilliant and could have been much more successful if the stories had some link or cohesion.

We chose this book hoping, that in this centenary year of the Great War, we would learn more about the world and the circumstance in which it began. Alas, it did not have that effect and overall we were disappointed by Mr Illes.

Salvation Sound



Shine Jesus shine.....

Some of you may have heard or even sung the lovely hymn which Graham Kendrick has written which contains these words in the chorus. We have a new wall hanging in our hall, depicting the image of Easter, the sun rising in the background, daffodils, butterflies, a broken egg, with a new born chick emerging from it, a bumble bee, hedgehogs, a ladybird, a fly, a green hill and in the centre the cross of calvary. Such things as these all point to new life and light. In Matthew Ch.5. v14-16, it says that your light must shine before people so that they will see the good things you do and praise your father in heaven.

A group of young women came into our hall to learn the arts of sewing and knitting and crochet etc. They met just once a month, and after a while decided that as their skills increased they would like to show their appreciation of what they had learnt there. So it was that they first made a christmas wall hanging: it was lovely. Not satisfied with that they then produced this beautiful creation for our Easter celebrations. I understand that they are now working on yet another conception for the future. I can't wait!

Within the christian faith one of the better loved images of Jesus is his coming as the light of the world. He tells us 'though', that we, as well as receiving light, are called to illuminate the lives of others. It reminds us that faith involves give as well as take, responsibility as well as privilege, service as well as reward.

In Ephesians Ch.5 v8 it says "you were formerly in darkness, but now you are light in the lord, walk then as children of the light." However old we are, we still need to look at the world with wonder, glimpsing God within it. "Walk then as children!" It is one thing to be childish,

quite another to be childlike. Do not lose sight of the difference. In the honesty, innocence and simple trust of the very young there is something very precious, if only we could preserve those qualities throughout the ravages of time. By the time you read these words Easter will be past and gone, and summer will be on its way. I hope the "sun" will shine on you, and its warmth will brighten your days, and that the light of the Lord will be shining on you also.

A prayer: Gracious God, grant me the wisdom of advancing years, together with the innocent enthusiasm of the young, and by your grace help me to keep both untarnished. Amen.

✍️Maureen



The Salvation Army,
Booth Place - Weekly Activities

Sunday
Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45-10.45am
Morning Worship 11.00am
Songs of Praise 4.00pm
3rd Sunday of the month May to December

Tuesday
Coffee Morning
(alternate weeks) 10.00-11.30am
Music practices (all welcome) 7.30-9.00pm

Wednesday
Home League
(Ladies Mtg but all welcome) 2.30-3.30pm
Champions Challenge Club (term time)
(Ages 5-10 years) 5.45-6.45pm

Thursday
Parent and Toddler Group
(Term time) 9.30-11.30am
Haberdashers' night
2nd Thursday of month 7.45 pm
Ladies Fellowship
(Last week of month) 7.45pm

*For further details please contact Captain
Jenny Dibs dall T:01525 221156/07717 813682
E: jenny.dibs dall@salvationarmy.org.uk
W: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray*

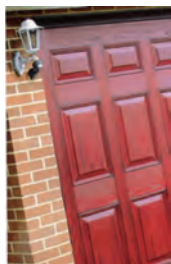


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