# FOCUS

May 2006



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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EDLESBOROUGH

NORTHALL DAGNALL



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## May



17th to 20th May

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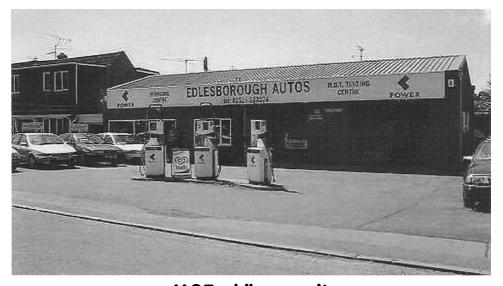
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#### Focus - The Four Village Magazine

#### **Magazine Committee**

Joint Editors: George Crutcher - 7 Summerleys, Eaton Bray 221637 Sally Siddons - 34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

Email: sallysid@hotmail.com

Dagnall Representative: Sue Cawdell - 10 Deans Meadow, Dagnall 01442 842200 Northall Representative: Derrick Bonfield - 'Poppyn', Eaton Bray Road 220013 Circulation Manager: John Plater - 41 Church Lane, Eaton Bray 221095

**Treasurer:** Ken Coates - 10 The Orchards, Eaton Bray 221117

Advertising: Sally Siddons - 34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

Production Manager: Tracey Moren (Moren Associates Limited) 01525 229695

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

Kevin Cubbage - 'Larums', Eaton Bray Road, Northall Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

Articles and reports printed in Focus do not necessarily reflect the opinions of members of the Committee.

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#### Village Link

Most of you will have probably seen our Village Link folder at some time or other. Due to changes in leadership and new societies opening up or closing down, this soon gets out of date. We are trying to put together an up to date version for future use, which you appreciate takes a lot of research. The main idea being to hand a copy to all new residents in the four villages. If you have any information that you think may be relevant to the new issue please contact Chris Miller on 01525 221864 or email:

chris helenmiller@BTinternet com

#### Music At St Mary's

As part of the Bedfordshire Church Trail, on Sunday 7 May, St. Mary's Church in Eaton Bray will be hosting an afternoon of light classics, courtesy of the "Caroline & Friends" String Ensemble.

The concert starts at 2.30 pm until 4 pm and light refreshments (tea and cakes) will be included. All proceeds to the St Mary's Church Fabric Fund.

Tickets £2 available from Barbara Marriage on  $01525\ 221597$ 

#### Dagnall Village Hall Committee AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Dagnall Village Hall Management Committee will be held at the village hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at 8 p.m.

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 these offices may obtain a nomination form from the secretary (telephone 842767).

Village organisations currently represented on the committee are Dagnall Church, Dagnall School, Dagnall Under Fives, Dagnall Over 60's and Dagnall Gardeners' Society. 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 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 you have an opportunity to influence how it is managed.

#### Village Diaries

May 2006

Weekly

Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Cindy 07773 095624

Mon-Fri (term time) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15-12 noon Tuesdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm

Tuesdays Keep Fit/Body Conditioning, Dagnall Village Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1:30-3 pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Burdett 222793

Tuesdays from 9/5/06 Baby Cafe, 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall

Wednesdays (term Eaton Bray Under 5's, 1.15-3pm Eaton Bray Village Hall Cindy 01582

time) 437756

Wednesdays Chi Kung & Wu Chi classes, Coffee Tavern 11am - noon

Wednesdays Keep fit, 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Roch 220669

Thursdays (term time) Mums & Toddlers session, Dagnall Village Hall, 1-3pm Thursdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm

Thursdays Eaton Bray Badminton Club, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 8.15-10pm.
Thursdays Keep fit, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304

Fridays SOCATOTS,12:45, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Daniel Walker 07968

778681

Saturdays Jazzercise, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Angela Veryard, 715208

Monthly

1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern

1st Monday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Salvation

Army Hall, Dunstable

1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall

1st & 3rd Tuesday Dunstable & District Orbit Club, Bar Chameleon, Dunstable, 8pm

2nd Tuesday Toddlers' Church, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.00pm

2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall

2nd Wednesday 8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church

3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall

**Other Regular Events** 

3rd, 17th, 31st Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm

8th Eaton Bray Village Hall Cinema, "West Side Story", 2pm

12th Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am,

Ouilt Raffle Draw

16th Over 60's visit to the Houses of Parliament

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

6th Ironing Day at Dagnall Church, 10am to 4pm, to raise funds for All

Saints' Church, Dagnall Extension

7th Music at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.30pm, Tickets 221597
8th Eaton Bray Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm, Coffee Tavern
14th Edlesborough Tennis Club Play Tennis Day, 10.00 - 13.00

15th Dagnall Village Hall Committee AGM, 8pm, Dagnall Village Hall

20th **Dagnall Village Fete**, 12.30 - 4pm on the recreation ground. Including

Cake Stall to raise funds for All Saints' Church, Dagnall Extension

21st Sunday Afternoon Jazz at Edlesborough Mill, Tickets 221733
21st Ascension Day Sung Eucharist, St. Mary's Eaton Bray, 8pm
31st Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club Free Tennis Evening, 5pm

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#### Letter to the Editors



Further to my recent e-mail, I've just received my updated council tax bill, and Thames Valley police did not offer a discount because they can't provide adequate police cover for Edlesborough and other villages, instead they increased their charges by double inflation at 5%!!

regards John Webster

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#### In Memory of John Lyon

Rene and Jackie would like to thank family and friends for their kindness, and donations to the Pasque Hospice, in memory of a much missed husband and father.

#### 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.

## The Baby Café - Pitstone

The Pitstone Baby Café opens on the  $9^{th}$  May, and will be held on Tuesday mornings, 10.15-11.45 in the Village Hall, Vicarage Rd. (parking available). Our commitment is to open for 48 weeks throughout the year.

The Baby Café will be a drop in centre and will aim to have a friendly, relaxed atmosphere with expert advice and support on hand. It will be

somewhere to sit and chat and breast feed comfortably and to help and support each other, and of course there will be tea, coffee and cold drinks available (we will not charge for refreshments, but donations will be welcome).

On Tuesday  $23^{rd}$  May, we are holding an official opening party from 11.30-1.30 pm, and would like to invite all local mums and babies to come and join us

The Baby Café is for breast feeding mums, but also welcomes expectant mums interested in meeting other mums and finding more about breast feeding.

It is also for those people supporting mums (for example Dad, Grandma, Health Professionals). They can visit and find out more about how to help.

The Baby Café is a registered charity and has been set up as a national organisation to help mums establish and continue breast feeding for as long as they choose.

You can find out more about the baby café organisation by looking on their website www.thebabycafe.co.uk

From the Health Visitors in Pitstone and surrounding area

If you wish to know more about the Baby Café, please contact your health visitor, or Jill



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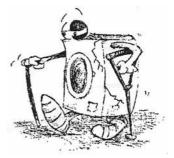


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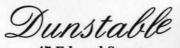
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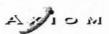
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#### All Saints, Dagnall - Services and Meetings in May 2006

Sun 7th May 9.00 am Eucharist

6.00 pm Circuit Service at Toddington Methodist Church

Thu. 11th May 7.30 pm Eucharist

Sun. 14th May 10.30 am Morning Service

6.00 pm Christian Aid Service at Northall Baptist Church

Sun. 21st May 9.00 am Eucharist

6.00 pm Evening Service

**Ascension Day** 

Thu. 25th May 10.30 am Eucharist

7.45 pm Circuit Service at <u>Toddington Methodist Church</u>

Sun. 28 May 10.30 am Family Service

6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Sun. 4th June 9.00 am Eucharist

6.00 pm Evening Service with Holy Communion

Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.





Eaton Bray Lower School

#### PICK OF CROP SCHOOLKIDS

Pupils harvest prestige prize in vegetable patch design.

Green-fingered pupils from Eaton Bray Lower School are celebrating after being runners-up in a national vegetable challenge.

The competition, which asks primary schools around the country to design a vegetable patch for their school grounds, attracted 593 entries.

It's a joint effort between the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and Oscar-winning Wallace and Gromit creators Aardman Productions.

The school has received £500 cash plus £500 worth of garden vouchers to use to buy tools and other equipment for their growing space.

It will also receive a one-year subscription to Learning Through Landscapes and a visit from a growing schools expert.

Celebrity gardener Matt James, Aardman animations' director of photography Tristan Oliver and Learning Through Landcapes director of operations Peter Carne judged the short-listed designs. Entries were judged in two categories - schools want to start a growing space and schools wishing to improve their growing space.

Schools minister Jacqui Smith said "The children of Eaton Bray Lower School should be very proud of themselves. Their excellent design will help their school to create a fascinating educational resource not just for themselves but for future generations of pupils.

"It is important that children learn about how food is grown and why it is important to eat healthily. Sometimes the best classroom is actually outside".

Creator of Wallace and Gromit, Nick Park said: "I would like to congratulate Eaton Bray Lower School on winning the Great Vegetable Challenge and I'm delighted they entered into the spirit of the competition".

Report courtesy of Dunstable Gazette





#### Eaton Bray lawn Tennis Clob

Half Term Week? Bored? Lethargic? Hungry?









Need something to do?

Come and play some Free Tennis at Eaton Bray!

Wednesday 31st May, 5pm - 8pm at the courts in School Lane

A Fun Evening for All Ages!

Mini Tennis Round Robin Scrumptious BBQ

Bring your Friends - there's no charge to play.

All Equipment provided.

In conjunction with the National Lawn Tennis
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#### http://www.ltaplaytennis.com

For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at the School Lane courts, or our various activities, please call either Chairman Ross Bagni on 01525 221411, Coach Nick Boys on 07810 832774, or me, Andy Cross on 01582



**Tring & District NCT Branch** 

# NEARLY NEW TOYS, NURSERY EQUIPMENT, CLOTHES SALE

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10 am entry for NCT members only (Please remember to bring your membership card)

Registered Charity no 801395



#### National Trust Friends of Ashridge

**Tuesday 2 May: WALKS and TALKS** 'The Woods at Bluebell Time'. 7pm, Ashridge Visitor Centre. (01442 851227)

**Thursday 4 May: GENTLE STROLLS** 2.30pm, Monument Green. (01442 851227)

Sunday 14 May: SPRING PLANT FAIR 11am to 4pm, Ashridge Monument Green. (01442 865821)

Sunday 21 May: WALKS and TALKS 'Birdlife in Spring'. 6am Steps Hill car park.(01442 851227)

#### **Eaton Bray Methodist Church**

The coffee morning in April in aid of SMILE was a great success, thank you to everyone that supported us and to Sandra and Kitty and all their helpers, especially the 3 chefs John, Graham and Ted for their delicious lunches. A total of £500 was raised for this special Charity.

On Saturday May 13th we are holding a Plant Sale and Coffee Morning with Cake stall etc. from 10.00am until 12.00 noon. Do come along and maybe bring any plants, cuttings etc. that are surplus to your requirements. The proceeds are for Church Funds.

The following day it will be our Sunday School Anniversary, Sunday May 14th at 10.30 am. The

young peoples theme will be Images of Jesus and they will be ably assisted by our preacher, Fiona Arscott-Smith and our friends in the Trinity Band. This promises to be a very special and happy occasion and we invite you to join us.

Please put this date in your diary: SATURDAY JUNE 17TH from 12.00noon. Once again we are holding our Garden Fete at the home of Jane, James and Nikki Mcfarland - Chestnut Lodge. Leighton Road, Gt. Billington. Lunches will be served, there will be various stalls and games with ample parking- Fun for all the family!

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£2 for the first child, £1 for each extra child. First visit free - so come and try us soon!!



#### **Edlesborough Book Group**



Review of 'The Kite Runner' by Khaled Husseini

This novel offers a moving portrait of modern Afghanistan from its pre-Russian invasion glory days through the terrible reign of the Taliban.

It is an epic tale of a childhood friendship between two boys in Kabul.

Twelve-year-old Amir is desperate to win the approval of his father and resolves to win the local kite-flying tournament, to prove that he has the makings of a man. His loyal friend Hassan promises

to help him, for he always helps Amir, but this is 1970s Afghanistan and Hassan is merely a low-caste servant who is jeered in the street, although Amir feels jealous of his natural courage and the place he holds in his father's heart. But neither of the boys could foresee what would happen to Hassan on the afternoon of the tournament, which was to shatter their lives. After the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, Amir realises that one day he must return, to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him: redemption.

This was a thought provoking book which the whole group enjoyed and would recommend.

#### Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners March 2006

Number	Name	Winnings
124	Madeline Di Matteo	£100
71	Kate Baldwin	£25
73	Dave Fensome	£25
96 167	Mary French	£25
167	Robert Doody	£25

Drawn on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at Eaton Bray Pre-School. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.



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"Edlesborough Under 5's provides good quality nursery education"

"Children come into the group happily, eager to take part in the activities"

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

These are just a few of the comments made in our forth OFSTED Report (Sept 2004). The report reflects the high quality of learning on offer to all children at Edlesborough Under 5's and highlighted the quality of teaching by the staff. We are currently operating a waiting list for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  year olds. If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Kerry 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 Connor: Tel - 222739.

"We are an Equal Opportunities Employer"

# Ironing Day Saturday 6 May 10.00 - 4.00

All Saints' Church, Dagnall



To raise funds for the church extension at All Saints'
Church, Dagnall

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There will be a stall at the carnival this year offering these items only, but don't tell Antiques Roadshow or they will all want to participate.

I will collect or please bring to



34 Wallace Drive Thanks Sally Siddons **01525 221733** 

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#### Ski Box

Lockable, As New £75

\*\*\*

#### **Roof Bars**

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#### **Lock Up Garages - Eaton Bray**

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With direct road frontage for easy access.

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Silver Framed High Sleeper Bed with blue fold out futon and beech effect desk underneath

(Similar to bed in Argos catalogue page 830)

£80

Please call Mrs Irving 01525 229602

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Cramer of London upright (overstrung)

Good condition

Cost over £1000 new - offers Tel. 01525 220307

#### Menorca – Cala'n Porter

Light, airy, comfortably furnished apartment; balconies front and rear; great location centre village; sleeps 4; one double bedroom, one twin-bedded room; large communal pool in private grounds.

Tel: 01525 852368/07914 011241 for brochure/details

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#### FOR SALE

#### ABI Westwood Luxury 2005 Caravan

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40ft long x 14ft wide

Sited at Littlesea (Weymouth) Holiday Park

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- 2 bedrooms, sleeps 6 persons
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For further details please telephone 01525 220957 evenings and weekends

#### Isla Plana Mazarron Spain

Isla Plana is a small village 2Km along the coast from Puerto de Mazarron.

The village has several bars and restaurants, a small supermarket, bakers, butchers & pharmacy.

Mazarron is a fascinating old town backed by rugged landscape of mountains. The town has a good selection of shops, restaurants & Sunday market.

Newly built luxury Beach front apartment with stunning views across the bay from large private gated terrace, 2 bed, 2 bathroom, all mod cons, air con & heating. Large communal pool, separate children's pool & play area. Tennis court, video entry, underground parking with lift. Rent £150 - £475 per week. Long lets & weekend price available. 75 minutes drive from Alicante.

Contact Mandy on 01525 874803 Email: amandqjbrookes@aol.com

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New: Reiki courses are now available. Why not learn how to become a Reiki Master so that you can help yourself as well as others.

Vouchers available, so why not treat a loved one or friend as well as yourself.

For more information or to book an appointment call Kate Meredith IIHHT, RGN, on 01525221380









# **Eaton Bray Village Hall Cinema**

presents

# **West Side Story**



showing Monday 8th May at 2 pm

Tickets £3.50

le through the Box office on 01525 22022

on sale through the Box office on 01525 220227 (Mary French)

The Screen Achieves One of the Great Entertainments in the History of Motion Pictures! Musical about two youngsters from rival NYC gangs who fall in love.

A PG-13 cert film of drama, comedy & romance

**Duration of film: 152 mins.** 



#### Winter Gas Rebates

British Gas will provide payments of up to £90 for winter 2006/07 to some of its most vulnerable customers.

The scheme is limited to 300,000 rebates and is a first come first served basis. The rebate is available to British Gas dual fuel and single fuel customers who are in receipt of a qualifying benefit. These people can register their interest in the scheme by calling 0845 601 2006. When they call to register, they will need to quote their British Gas account number and say which of the qualifying benefits they receive.

The qualifying benefits are Disability Living Allowance, Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, Corer's Allowance, War Disablement Pension, Severe Disablement Allowance, Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit with annual household income of £14,600 or less, Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit.

For more information contact the Citizens Advice Bureau, Grove House, High Street North, Dunstable. Tel: 01582 661384

Do you know anyone who would be good at advising and helping people? If so Dunstable Bureau is the place to be. Please contact the above number for more information on volunteering.

#### **Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News**

Vicar: Canon Malcolm Grant - The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261 Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

One of the major events in the Calendar for May is **Christian Aid Week** (14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>), and you will receive an envelope for the house-to-house collection with this issue of "Focus". I do hope that you will put a donation in it, and return it when the collector calls at your door. Uncollected envelopes can always be handed in at any of the churches, or put through the Vicarage letter-box.

In recent years we have significantly increased the amount raised in our villages for Christian Aid – last year and the year before it was well over  $\pounds 3,000$  – and I want to thank everyone whose generosity made such a magnificent total possible, as well as our team of collectors, without whom none of it would happen. Nationally, Christian Aid Week brought in £15 million, out of a total income of nearly £80 million. It sounds a lot, but Christian Aid is one of the major aid agencies, working with over 500 organizations in more than 50 countries around the world.

It is essentially a people-based organization, working through local networks to get money and aid directly to where they are needed, whether it is helping people who are victims of a natural disaster, or those who struggle to live with the long-term effects of poverty and under-development. It is a sobering thought that more than half the people in the world have to try to survive on less than \$2 a day, and Christian Aid's task is to help them to escape from the poverty trap, by improved farming methods, by providing a safe water-supply, by setting up small local industries, and by putting people in touch with traders who will pay them a fair price for their produce.

"We believe in life before death" has been a Christian Aid slogan for many years – and your generosity this May can give poverty-stricken people and disaster-victims a real hope of a new and better life, so, please, do all you can to help. And remember, if you are a UK tax-payer, you can increase the value to Christian Aid of every £1 you give by 28p by signing the Gift Aid details on the envelope to enable Christian Aid to reclaim from the Exchequer the income tax you have already paid on your gift.

In recent years Christian Aid has become active in the lobbies for fairer trading methods in the world. This church-based organization has embraced a policy of "Making change happen", because (and I quote) 'we know that change isn't just about providing seeds and tools, but about tackling the reasons for poverty and looking for solutions that

last.' Christian Aid has a three-fold programme:

- Speak out on the issues;
- Deliver real, practical benefits to the people directly affected;
- Build a global movement to work for real change.

Christian Aid is the caring hand of the churches stretched out in compassionate concern for all the less fortunate people in the world, and we are asking the whole community to help in this vital work of life and hope, particularly during the special week this month.

Thank you for your support.

MALCOLM

#### **ASCENSION DAY**

Thursday, 25 May 8.00pm SUNG EUCHARIST at St Mary's Everyone welcome

#### From the Parish Registers

Baptisms - "Brought to new birth in the family of the Church"

26 March Bradbury George Gould

Samuel Christopher Johnson

Funerals - "Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest"

30 March Edwin Thomas Saunders of South End Lane, Northall

#### Services at St Mary's Church

**SUNDAYS:** 8.00am – The Eucharist

seem to fly!

10.00am - PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST (with Sunday School) on Second

Sunday of each month:

10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE – a less formal service with Holy

Communion

WEEK-DAYS: Tuesday: 7.30am - Eucharist 2.00pm (2nd Tuesday) - Toddlers' Church

Wednesday: 9.30am - Eucharist 8.15pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday) - Healing Service
 Thursday: 7.30pm - Eucharist (on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at All Saints', Dagnall)

Christian Aid Week 14th – 20th May 2006

Last month a kind person reminded me that Christian Aid Week was due soon and doesn't time

In preparation for the week, there will be a coffee morning in Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Saturday, 6th May, from 10am to 12am. This will be an opportunity for the collectors to receive their pack and goodies and for everyone else to show their support for our 4 village effort for this charity.

The Week will start with our "Hunger Lunch" at Eaton Bray Village Hall on Sunday 14th May, from 12am. Later in the same day, there will be a United Service at Northall Baptist Church at 6pm.

We are hoping this year to involve some of our schools in various activities. Please don't forget to support us. Thank you all for a magnificent response last year. Can we break another record this year?



Great Gap, Ivinghoe, Nr Leighton Buzzard

Open from mid June to October

30 different varieties of fruit and vegetable to pick your own

Visit <u>www.grovefarmpyo.co.uk</u> or ring 01296 668175 for more information

#### **Dagnall News**

#### Dagnall Village Hall

#### Dagnall Village Fete - 2006

The fete will take place between on May 20<sup>th</sup> between 12.30 and 4.00 pm, on the recreation ground. Put the date in your diary now.!!!!! See separate advert.





#### Pet Show - Saturday 20th May 2006

As part of Dagnall Fete, the Hemel Hempstead & District Rabbit & Cavy Fanciers Association will be holding a small pet show in Dagnall Village Hall.

You are invited to bring your pet to the village hall from 12.30pm and before 2.00pm, when the judging will take place. Dogs will need to be brought at 2.00pm, and then be removed at the end of the judging. Caged pets may be collected later. An entry fee of 50p per pet will be charged



The group holds regular shows in the village hall during the course of the year, for small animals. You are welcome to visit any of their shows

#### **Dagnall Dip Winners for March**

Sale of Dagnall Dip tickets for March amounted to £166. This was divided equally between Dagnall Village Hall and the following people:-

1st prize £40	Mrs Dennison	ticket no. 691	
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize £23	Mrs Miller	ticket no. 746	
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize £10	Mrs Bovington	ticket no. 1354	
4th prize £10	Mrs Lee	ticket no. 700	

£83 went towards the up keep of the Village Hall

Thank you to everyone who supported us by purchasing draw tickets. We shall not be selling them next quarter, but will be selling draw tickets for the Annual Village and School Fete taking place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30 on the recreation ground, off Nelson Road in Dagnall. Please continue to support us by purchasing these tickets and by joining us for a great day

on the  $20^{\text{th}}$  May, the proceeds of which will be divided between the School and the Village Hall. See you there!

Dagnall Village Hall Committee

#### Dagnall Church

Please support an Ironing Day on Saturday May  $6^{th}$  10.00am. to 4.00pm. at All Saints Church, Dagnall. Cost £6 per hour.

#### Over 60's

The concert on March 18<sup>th</sup> in the village hall was a huge success, the audience fully appreciating the skill and diverse music of Jean Martyn. A sum in excess of £400 was raised on the evening which was shared with the Dagnall Church Extension Fund. A similar concert with Jean Martyn is being organised for September 15<sup>th</sup> 2007. Make a note in your diary now!

Our monthly meeting on April  $25^{th}$  was a return visit by the Glebe Entertainers, now becoming firm favourites of the members, this being their third visit.

On May 16th we are visiting the Houses of Parliament by kind invitation of our MP, Mr John Bercow.



#### Christmas Came!!!!!!!

In March's Focus, you may remember how we told you "Christmas was coming but not before our Auction of Promises".

Well Christmas did come to us old GI's and the young HSA folk. To the tune of nearly £4200! Yes you folk of Eaton Bray came to our Auction and went wild for all the super promises we auctioned off. We must not forget the kind people who promised the Promise, these included physical goods, their time and skills, in many cases at considerable expense to themselves. Thank you ALL.

Thank you again for your support and generosity, which will help to continue the redevelopment of the Hall and the School to develop a new outdoor garden for the children (maybe they will even have enough over to buy some seeds).

The next Village Hall fund raising event is the **Third Eaton Bray CAMRA Beer Festival**,

Evening of Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and all day Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

We will have live musical entertainment on Friday night, Saturday afternoon is magic for the children (OK, parents can come too). In the evening we have more live music for you to drink and dance to. All this topped of with many premium real ales, all chosen by CAMRA. If you are not a real ale drinker we will have wine and lager; add super food including a BBQ with burgers supplied by our own local butchers, Hines, What more could you ask for? (answers on a postcard please......)

# See our separate advert for more details The next HSA event will be

A Cookery Demonstration Evening on Thursday 11th May.

Our own award winning chef Tanya Watkin will be sharing her cookery tips and advice as well as demonstrating a few fool proof dishes.



# <u>Eaton Bray 3rd</u> <u>Camra Beer Festival</u> <u>Eaton Bray Village Hall</u>



Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 6pm till 11pm Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 12am till 11pm

#### Live entertainment

Friday night......Bob Thompson Saturday afternoon....Family Magician Saturday night...... Greenie Paul (Greenie)

BBQ and hot food available

#### ARE YOU MISSING A TRICK?

<u>Wills & Home Ownership</u> This month I concentrate on the compelling case for couples to switch from joint ownership to shared ownership of their home.

**Inheritance Tax:** If you are a couple and are married, in a civil partnership or are intending to be either, and you own your home jointly, when the first of you dies the house and all jointly owned assets will be inherited by the survivor. This means that the survivor's estate is increased substantially resulting in a far greater sum being liable to 40% inheritance tax at the time of their death. In effect, by choosing joint ownership the first to die's 0% rate inheritance tax band (up to £285,000) is lost.

To avoid this situation, couples need to change ownership to a shared ownership (Tenancy in Common), <u>and</u> have a discretionary will trust facility structured into their Wills. This will save up to £114,000 in inheritance tax today (40% of £285,000), and more every year.

**If you have been widowed** within the past two years these inheritance tax savings are also available to you, whether your partner's estate has been administered or not, and whether your partner died leaving a valid Will or died intestate. However, the property you owned jointly with the deceased partner must not have been sold.

#### Tenancy in Common will also:

**Provide the Best Protection for Any Children.** Ownership in Tenancy in Common not only avoids or saves over £100,000 in inheritance tax, but it also gives the best protection for any children. After the first death, the house's shared ownership is between the survivor and trustees nominated by the survivor, which can include themselves and their children. The trust is typically for the benefit of the children and is arranged so that the surviving partner can continue to live in the house, etc.

**Avoid the Sale of the Home to Cover Long Term Care Fees.** When a house is in shared ownership it is very difficult for any local authority to enforce a sale of the house to pay for long term care fees.

**Provide Options for Common Law Couples.** Shared ownership is most appropriate to common law house owners, notably where the relationship is young and or the contribution to purchase was unequal. Tenancy in Common does not have to be 50/50, nor need it be confined to 2 shares. Whether house ownership is joint or shared, common law partners must each have a Will to ensure their wishes are fulfilled, as the Rules of Intestacy do not recognise common law relationships at all.

<u>Getting it Right</u> It is essential that you obtain professional advice, typically from a specialist solicitor, and ideally from one which provides an in-home service such as is available from my Practice. This will ensure your Wills are appropriately structured, include the discretionary will trust and that the change of ownership is registered.

**KEY POINT** – Tenancy in Common, working with appropriately structured Wills, is the best choice for most couples. Widows and widowers too can avoid or reduce inheritance tax if they take action within two years of the death of their partner.

**Next Month:** Wills and Children.

Tony Duke,

The Will & Probate Practice
1 Eaton Park, Eaton Bray
Tel 01525 220644



#### **Mothers Union Eaton Bray with Edlesborough**

On Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, sixteen members of the M.U. attended a Lady Day Eucharest at St. Albans Cathedral.

The Preacher was our worldwide President, Mrs. Trish Heywood. As we stood for the first hymn, the Abbey Girls' Choir; Deanery M.U. Chaplains; Cathedral Clergy; Archdeacons and the Bishops of Bedford and St. Albans entered in procession, followed by banners of the M.U. Branches in the Diocese of St. Albans.

It was a very emotional moment, especially to see the banners of St. Mary's Eaton Bray and St. Mary's Edlesborough carried by Mary French and Ann Lee respectively.

Monies collected by all members were presented to Trish for her Overseas Fund. It was a most enjoyable morning.

June, M.U.



#### Edlesborough Tennis Club

## THE ROAD TO WIMBLEDON

This is an LTA scheme for Juniors of all standards in the 11 to 14 age group.

Born in 1992 or later.

#### PLAYERS CANNOT REACH THE AGE OF 15 DURING 2006

Each player receives a Road to Wimbledon certificate

#### STAGE 1

The Road to Wimbledon starts with a tournament at Edlesborough for boys and girls is two separate groups

#### STAGE 2

The winning boy and girl go on to compete in the BUCKS County Finals to be held between 3rd June and 16th July

#### STAGE 3

The winners of their respective county groups are invited to compete in the National Finals held on the grass courts of WIMBLEDON from 21st - 26th August

Players arrive Sunday 20 August for grass court practice Matches begin Monday 21 August. Finals on Saturday 26 Aug. A daily accommodation(bed & breakfast)and Lunch allowance will be provided to the players from the Sunday night to include one night after the player loses

#### WINNING FIRST PRIZE

The boy's and girl's singles winners and runners up will be invited to a two day trip to the FRENCH OPEN in 2007 to see the top players play on clay.

ENTRY FORM and any QUESTIONS contact ziggy on 220326

Edlesborough Tennis Club

#### PLAY TENNIS DAY

This is an LTA scheme to provide local people with an opportunity to play Tennis for FREE.

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May 8th 7.30pm

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## St Mary's Village Carnival 2006

## **Lights! Camera! Action!**

Our Film theme Carnival Day is getting closer and this year we have a special Goods Collection Day on Sunday 11 June at Eaton Bray Village Hall from 12.00 noon to 3.00pm. If you have items to donate to a stall at the carnival, we want to make it easy for you! Don't hang on to that clutter – instead, bring it along to the hall and allow our team of volunteers to help store and get your much needed donated items to the big event. Here is a list of what we are looking for....but please...no items of bulky furniture or junk.

What do we want to collect?

- Unwanted gifts (what about those unused Christmas or Birthday gifts?)
- · white elephant goods
- · toys and games
- home baking for the cake stall and tea tent ( we can freeze freshly made cakes)
- books
- plants.

We need plenty of these items to sell at the Carnival, and remember that every penny of our profit goes straight to local charities and good causes. Donating goods is a really easy way to help. The success of our carnival relies on the generosity of spirit of our villagers – that's why the St. Mary's Village Carnival has become such an outstanding success.

As Nick Wormley Editor of the Leighton Buzzard Observer says, "St Mary's Village Carnival is the biggest event of its kind in the area, and continues to grow in popularity, always attracting a huge audience for a very entertaining day out......." The Leighton Buzzard Observer is once again giving its generous support to our carnival this year by sponsoring our Best Dressed House Competition. You could be a winner this year! Get inspiration from your favourite movie and create an eye catching display at your home for 1st July. To find out more about our carnival or to offer help please visit <a href="www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com">www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com</a> You can also get more info or offer help by phoning Peter Bennett 01525 221284.

#### Saturday 1st July 2006

Edlesborough Green

In aid of St Mary's Church Fabric Fund, Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, and other local charities & good causes

In 2005, £10,000 was raised for local charities & good causes.



This year's Carnival Queen and Princess hopefuls.

The 2006 Carnival Queen, Princess and attendants

 $\rightarrow$ 



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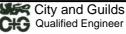
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#### **Edlesborough Cricket Club**

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is a thriving club. Its membership is increasing and the participation of its current members is getting wider. The club is more than just a cricket club. It is a group of friends enjoying each others company on and off the pitch. Thanks to Social Secretary Georgie Coughtrey there is a wide variety of Social events such as; racing at Towcester, quiz evenings, monopoly-board pub crawls and of course Saturday nights at Cubes.

It is also a good time to belong to the club as it has been very successful on the field. The club has won the Four Counties Cricket League for the past 2 seasons. Indeed the second eleven has been promoted in consecutive seasons, to be playing in division 4 this season. The Sunday friendly team sees a change of captaincy, with Darren Kerins stepping down after a very fruitful time in charge. Hopefully, new captain Andy Norris will continue the policy of giving everyone a chance, whilst still trying to win the game.

Another one of the club's policies is that practice makes perfect. Ex-captain Chopper Harris leads the laps around the pitch, catching, batting and bowling practice on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Practice starts at 6.00pm but an arrival at 6.30 usually avoids the running!

The club wishes to welcome new players, be them budding Freddie Flintoffs or Geoffrey Boycotts in need of dead-heading. Should you be interested please make contact with the club's secretary Ian Jones on 01525 220991, or 07956 340888. The club also welcomes spectators and doesn't charge for entry. The home ground is down The Rye, just passed the garden centre. There are games every

Saturday with the first and second eleven alternating.

The club wishes to thank everyone that contributes in anyway. It wishes to thank those that buy raffle tickets, 100 club participants and its 2 sponsors FA Hawkins Transport and M&M Properties.

It is looking forward to a successful and enjoyable season.

#### Eaton Bray Cricket Club Winners - April 2006

£25 Prue hardy No 99 £10 Daniel Alder No 83 Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins and M & M Properties.

#### Edlesborough School - A Pupil's View

At Edlesborough School, our education is of prime importance. Of course our school is not all work and no play! Every week before half term we have a school disco. The younger ones (Reception-Year 3) have from 6:30pm until 7:30pm of dancing fun and Year 4 - Year 6 has from 7:45 until 9:15. A DJ is hired to play the music along with funky lights to shine on the dance floor. There are lots of nice refreshments to enjoy. We also enjoy a wide range of clubs. There is football for girls and boys, French club, choir, line dancing and netball. They are brilliant along with the teachers who spend their time to helping us. Of course there are fun events that happen *during* school which are: a caring Mothers Day assembly, a delectable hotdog day and ice cream sundae day

(not on the same day) and many more. We also have fun contests such as a speech and a decorate-an-egg contest. Our teachers are amazing in every way. They are smart funny and easy to talk to. So if you are wondering what school to put your son or daughter in put them in Edlesbough because we think it......

#### ROCKS!!

This, anonymous, offering was sent to us by the Deputy Head of Edlesborough School, together with two much longer items by Abigail Heffer and Emily-Ann Varley of Year 6 and Sarah Nevard of Year 6. Sadly they were too long to include in this edition. Ed.

#### Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month 7.30pm Memorial Hall Next meeting: Thursday 18th May 2006

#### Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month 7.30pm The Coffee Tavern Next Meeting: AGM Monday 8th May 2006 Council Meeting: Tuesday 9th May 2006



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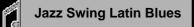
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## Edlesborough Parish Council (including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) News

#### **Aylesbury Vale Local Committee**

Letters have been submitted to Bucks CC throughout the year regarding the Parish Council's priorities for improvements to roads and traffic calming which would be further submitted as 'Bids' to be included in the County Council's budget, namely

- 1 To extend the footpath from Chapel Lane to the Slapton Turn in Northall
- 2 To provide a footpath from Dagnall to the main B489 Dunstable to Ivinghoe Road
- 3 To extend the footpath over the hill from Church End, Edlesborough to Pine Road/Ivinghoe Way, Edlesborough in order to link all three Villages in the Parish.

Further enquiries are to be made regarding the speed limit in Northall to be extended to Slapton Turn.

#### **Planning**

Several planning applications have been discussed and the Parish Council's comments submitted to Aylesbury Vale District Council. Full details of all planning applications and responses can be viewed on either the Parish Council website <a href="www.edlesborough.gov.uk">www.edlesborough.gov.uk</a> or the AVDC website <a href="www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk">www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</a>

Certificates have been signed and the small area of land at Knolls View, Northall has been transferred to AVDC.

Parishioners are now able to submit planning applications 'Online' at <a href="www.bucksonline.gov.uk">www.bucksonline.gov.uk</a> which also covers a considerable amount of planning information. Details are displayed on the village Notice Boards.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall has retained the status of small business rate relief.

After a considerable length of time the Taskers Row footpath has now been repaired to a high standard and Buckinghamshire County Council have been requested to repair the remaining footpath surrounding the Old Peoples' bungalows.

Dagnall Fete  $-20^{th}$  May - children from local Schools and Playgroups have been asked to submit drawings depicting 'What I most like about my Village' to be entered in a competition.

 $Edles borough\ Carnival-1^{st}\ July-children\ from\ local\ Schools\ and\ Playgroups\ have\ been\ asked\ to\ submit\ drawings\ depicting\ 'What\ I\ would\ like\ to\ see\ in\ my\ Village'$ 

Arriva have stated they will consider the Parish Council's request for a Dagnall 'pick-up' of the 61 bus when finalising their budget.

Part of Dagnall allotment footpath is hoping to be improved by Bucks CC in conjunction with Safer Routes to School in order that children can walk to Dagnall School in safety without having to walk along the busy A4146.

#### Parish Plan

It has been confirmed that funding will be available to implement a Parish Plan. Arrangements will now be put in hand to arrange a Meeting for those wishing to be involved.

#### Police Report

Several Police operations have been carried out including Automatic Number Plate Recognition system resulting in two arrests, one for driving whilst disqualified and a known car thief in a stolen motor vehicle. 2 new Neighbourhood Watch areas have been set up in Edlesborough with a further area being considered.

Several Parishioners have complained about the amount of dog excrement left around the villages despite 'Dog Litter Bins' being in situ. Apart from being a health hazard particularly to children playing or walking across The Green or neighbouring fields not to 'clear up' after your dog is a criminal offence and could lead to a fine up to £1,000.00. Dog owners/walkers are requested to

abide by the law and to deposit excrement in the bins provided.

#### **Basketball Net for Edlesborough**

The Parish Council would like to receive firm responses from Edlesborough Parishioners, either **YES** to the inclusion of a Basketball Net on The Green or **NO**. Unless responses are received this project will be shelved. Comments have been made from observation of the Notice Boards that 'we will be having one of those' but to date no-one has actually informed the Parish Council that they are in favour.

#### **Library Service**

Information has been received that the days on which the Library Service visits Dagnall and Northall have been altered back to Tuesdays and not Fridays (details will be appearing on the Notice Boards). The Parish Council have again raised this concern with the Library Service and anyone who is unable to visit the mobile library would be able to obtain books at home via the WRVS once a month by contacting The Community Development Manager on 01296 382033.

Full details of all Parish Council Minutes can be view on the Parish website <a href="www.edlesborough.gov.uk">www.edlesborough.gov.uk</a> or obtained from the Clerk.

Lin Sargeant - Clerk to Edlesborough Parish



#### PLAYGROUP LEADER VACANCY

We are a well-established, friendly playgroup based in Dagnall Village Hall. We are currently seeking a new Playgroup Leader to work 4/5 mornings per week (Term Time only).

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You will need to be NVQ Level 3 EYCE qualified or equivalent.

Please contact our Chairperson, Julie Thatcher on 07931 531671 for more details and to arrange a visit to our setting.



#### Edlesborough W.I.

Apart from our monthly meeting, we have recently enjoyed various other occasions. A successful coffee morning raised £128 for our funds, thanks to Maureen Shipway, our hostess. A committee lunch was held at Dunstable Downs Golf Club, arranged by Ann Brinklow, and a theatre visit to see "Starlight Express" was organised by Linda Green. Thanks go also to these two ladies.

At our monthly meeting we each received a sample of chocolate to celebrate Fair Trade Fortnight. This was very popular with the ladies! Daffodil plants were given to everyone celebrating March birthdays, and congratulations extended to Win Hicks on becoming 85 years old.

Our speaker was Tony Maisey, a retired G.P., on the subject of 'Spare Parts'. The talk covered organ transplants and body part replacement, and Dr Maisey outlined different aspects of such operations. A selection of replacement parts, including hip joints, pacemakers and breast implants, were passed round for us to examine. Hearing aids and spectacles are also regarded as spare parts.

In some operations one part of the body can replace another part. For instance, a big toe can replace a new thumb. In hip replacement procedures the replacement part has its own life span, and often has to be replaced itself. Such operations are more costly than the original ones. Pins that are inserted in some operations are usually left in older patients, but later removed from younger ones. Dr. Maisey outlined procedures adopted in the treatment of various medical conditions. Each case has to be considered individually, and there have to be guidelines for the treatment given. He ended his talk by reciting 'The Physician's Prayer'. This is certainly a subject which raises many different opinions.

Val Harris



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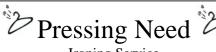
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#### Salvation Sound. . . . . . May 2006

What a busy spring this has been. Life just seems to get busier every day. Or perhaps it is because I am getting older and am having a job to keep up.

#### TODAY and TIME.

Today is here. I will start with a smile and resolve to be agreeable. I will not critisise. I refuse to waste my valuable time.

Today is one thing I am equal to; as all of us draw the same salary in seconds minutes and hours.

Today I will not waste my time because the minutes I wasted yesterday are as lost as a vanished thought.

Today I refuse to spend time worrying about what might happen - it usually doesn't. I am going to make things happen.

Today I am determined to study to improve myself, for tomorrow I may be wanted and must not be found lacking.

Today I am determined to do the things I should. I firmly resolve to stop doing the things I should not do.

Today I will not imagine what I would do if things were different. They are not different. I will make a success with what material I have.

Today I will stop saying "If I had time", I know I will never "Find time". If I want time, I must make it.

Today I will act towards other people as though this might be my last day on earth. 1 will not wait for tomorrow, for tomorrow never comes.!!

We can remember all too well

What's happened in the past.

But we must learn this lesson,

And make it one to last;

That we're living in the present

And precious is today,

For soon, this will be yesterday --

Tomorrows on its way.

#### I WENT DOWN INTO THE GARDEN..... Sol.6:11.

The saunterer who enjoys the beauty of nature, finds endless pleasure as he or she contemplates the wonder of creation in each flower. As your eyes behold their beauty, you can hear the song of a blackbird; the scent of the blooms assail your nostrils and as you trail your hands through the tall grasses, you bring the sense of touch into play.

Life is made up of many types of feelings, happiness like brilliant sunshine; dull days that depress; occasions when sorrow brings the darkness of sleepless nights.

Jesus understood the frailties of human nature. He offered strength when people were at war within themselves. He offered peace when darkness seemed to overpower. He came as light, sunshine to our souls. He saw good in all peoples. I looked at a sundial and it had a message written on it. -- "I count the bright hours only."

In the tranquility of a garden, there I can find peace.

Patience Strong wrote...

Though many be the roads you travel

#### The Salvation Army, Booth Place **Weekly Activities**

Sunday	
Sunday School	9.45am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	6.00pm
Monday	
Games Night (Ages 5-8)	4.30pm
Wednesday	
Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm
Thursday	
Young Ladies Fellowship	
(Last Thursday in every month)	
Friday	

(Singing, tambourine & recorder practices)

5.00pm

Young People

And the loads you bear;

Make a little time for dreaming,

Resting here and there.

Looking round at what you've done;

The fruits of time well spent -

Gathering in peace your little harvest of content.

There is the promise of sweeter days to come in the language of nature and love.

"The winter is over, the rains have stopped;

in the countryside the flowers are in bloom."

Sol. 2. 11:12.

Take time to enjoy this most beautiful month of the year.

When rosy May comes in wi' flowers

To deck her gay, green spreading bowers,

Then busy, busy are his hours

The gard'ner wi' his paddle.



#### Eaton Bray Parish Council

#### Highlights of meeting – Monday 3rd April 2006

#### **Northall Road Fly Tipping**

County Councillor Piggott reported that a date for a meeting is in place with the site manager and Beds CC to which a residents and PC representative would be invited.

Hopefully this is working towards a solution to the problem.

#### **Speeding Traffic**

Details have been received from Beds Highways re the Visually Activated Signs. These cost around £6,000 and in other areas have only been a deterrent for a short period.

In hard terms a physical barrier seems the only solution. All Councillors were asked for their individual views.

It was concluded that nothing which the PC had spent considerable sums of money on had made a difference.

Villagers are asked to attend the open forum of July's meeting to put forward their recommendations, or to contact the Clerk.

#### **Parish Council Byelaws**

The change to the Parish Council Byelaws has to be inserted in local newspapers; it was unanimously decided to go ahead.

#### **Tennis Club Security Camera**

The security camera placed on the Tennis Clubhouse has been vandalised beyond repair. On the advice of the Community Police Officer this was replaced as a matter of urgency as several more acts of vandalism had taken place in School Lane Recreation Ground.

#### Meads Bus Shelter

This bus shelter has deteriorated of late and a quote has been received for repair.

It was unanimously decided that the repair go ahead.

#### Clerks Report

SBDC have advised that no election will need to take place as only 8 applicants had stood for election to the Parish Council.

Parish AGM 8th May 7.30 pm at the Coffee Tavern all welcome.

Next Council Meeting 9th May 7.30pm at the Coffee Tavern

A full copy of the minutes can be viewed on www.eatonbray.com/council or can be obtained from the Clerk; Mrs E Hopwood, 12 School Lane, Eaton Bray, Beds, LU6 2DT Tel: 01525 222501, ebpc5@aol.com





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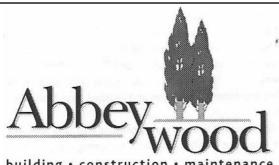
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#### Becca's letter from Uganda

Hopefully you are getting used to my letters by now. My name is Rebecca Baldock and I am working as a physiotherapist on a missionary placement in Kagando Hospital, in SW Uganda, the Hospital being the Parish Project for 2006 for St Mary's Church in Eaton Bray. I am sure many of you will remember my family, the Baldock's, who originated in Dunstable; including Martin Baldock, my father, a County hockey player, who attended Dunstable Grammar School from 1963 and was Head Boy in 1970.

Since I've been working in Kagando for a few months I thought it'd try and describe some of the differences between working in a hospital here and in England. I'll try and keep the inevitable hospital politics out of it.

I guess one of the things that struck me immediately is that most patients have attendants (their relatives) staying in hospital to care for them. They undertake jobs such as making the patients' food, caring for patients, helping them to wash, go to the toilet, feed them etc. The patients' attendants sleep in the hospital on the bed, if there's room, with their patient, otherwise on the floor. The conditions we encounter are quite different from in the LIK. The most common surgery, and

The conditions we encounter are quite different from in the UK. The most common surgery, and especially emergency surgery, is a Caesarean section. There's a lot of TB around, Malaria appears to be the most common condition for children. If someone is not healing or reacting to treatment as they should then AIDS is usually suspected, and quite often this is the cause.

We are lucky to have two consultants, a paediatrician and Surgeon. There's also a Doctor, at registration level, working on Maternity, another, consultant, who works on the medical wards at weekends. The rest of the doctors are newly qualified or medical students from Uganda, or Europe. In England students are heavily supervised; here there seems to minimal supervision, and student doctors can be left being the only doctor on a ward. It doesn't seem to matter what level they have reached on their training either. This is the similar for the nursing students. We had a visitor from England who made the comment that, in the UK, Doctors benefit from lots of training, teaching and theory, but have a lot less practical experience than the doctors over here, who instead are lacking more of the first quality.

We had a patient who was having vacant episodes with tremors in his arm, and a big mass at the front of his forehead. These episodes were getting worse and the tremors progressed to involve the leg. The doctors tried a few different medications, but none were effective. There was nothing that could be done for the patient at our hospital, so he was referred to neurology specialists in Kampala for a CT scan. The referral was appropriate but by staying in hospital the patient was accumulating a greater bill. We knew that the patient would probably end up going home, and staying there as he would not be able to afford to go to the hospital.

This brings me to another difference, which I knew I'd struggle with. Medical treatment is not free in Uganda; patients have to pay for everything they receive. It's hard as we know that the hospital bills will be a burden for most people and it makes treatment difficult as often people want to go home before they are ready, and we finish up fighting to keep people in hospital. We've had many discussions trying to persuade parents that just because their child no longer has pain now that their leg is in traction, it does not mean that their bones are healed, and that the healing process needs time. There appears to be a hierarchy regarding payment too. It isn't that difficult to persuade male patients of the need for tests or treatment, harder for women, and much harder for children - this simply reflects how women and children are viewed in Ugandan society.

The physio department is next to the leprosy ward, before coming here, I had visions of leprosy patients having white fluffy peeling skin, and covered in bandages - a combination of images from the Bible and Robin Hood Prince of Thieves I guess. These are the only patients we find it hard to discharge as here they are well fed, treated as people, and have their treatment paid for.

The final obvious difference between UK and Ugandan hospitals is lack of resources, and equipment. This is at a climax when certain drugs are out of stock; patients then have to buy their

own medicines or go without. People in the UK really don't understand just how lucky they are to have a National Health Service free at the point of delivery.

#### Prayer requests:

- Praise that the elections were peaceful
- Praise as I have four people interested in doing play therapy that I can start training up
- Please pray for those with AIDS/HIV, and continue to pray that people will follow advice to help wipe out this disease
- Please pray for me as I cope with the differences of working here
- Please continue to pray for my language learning



#### **Eaton Bray WI**

Our President welcomed the members to the March AGM meeting. A review of the past years activities was read by our minute secretary and the financial report given. Various WI matters were discussed with debate on the proposed NFWI subscription increases and changes for next year.

The Committee members were re elected and we welcomed a new member on the committee. Many thanks were given to Dorothy Bradbury who is hanging up her WI committee hat after a 16 year tour of duty. Dorothy was presented with a large potted Hydrangea and a thank you card, for all her past work and support.

A successful coffee morning raised money for WI funds. Eaton Bray WI hosts the Dunstable Group evening later on this month.

With business completed the members thanked the committee for their past years work. The meeting concluded with a social evening of games and delicious nibbles.

Our next meeting is on Monday  $8^{\text{th}}$  May at 7.30pm in Eaton Bray Village Hall friends and new

#### The Edlesborough Great EASTER EGG HUNT

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2006....

.... It was a cold and windy morning; we were set and ready for **The Edlesborough Great Easter Egg Hunt** *take two*. A few hours before everybody was due to set off the heavens opened and down poured the rain. Luck must have been on our side because 30 minutes before the start the rain stopped and out came the sun. Although it was still cold everybody managed to set off and have fun. It was nice to see everybody out and about and enjoying the fresh air.

Eighty plus children, their parents, grand parents, aunts, uncles and friends all joined in the fun, finding and working out the hidden clues. Everybody then returned to the hall to claim their egg and enjoy a well deserved hot drink and some home made cakes.

This event would not have been possible without some great enthusiasm from a small team of mums, so many thanks to Claire Giblin, Nicola Griffiths, Penny Pataky and Dawn Thurgood. Also there has to be a big thank you to everybody who helped out on the day, Janey, Sue, and Joan.

To all the children who took part in the colouring competition well done, it was a very hard decision to choose a winner because they were all fantastic.

#### Congratulations to

 2½ to 4½
 Lex Roe
 aged 4

 4½ to 7
 Henry Hogg
 aged 5

 7 upwards
 Hannah Cersell
 aged 8

A BIG Thank you to everybody who joined in and helped out, we look forward to seeing you all again next year!



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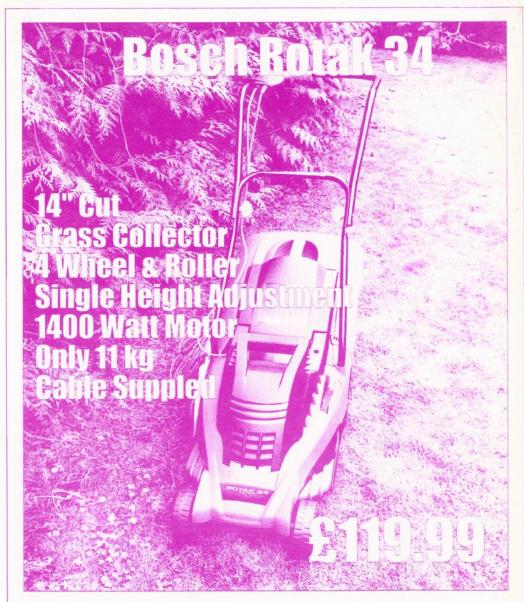






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