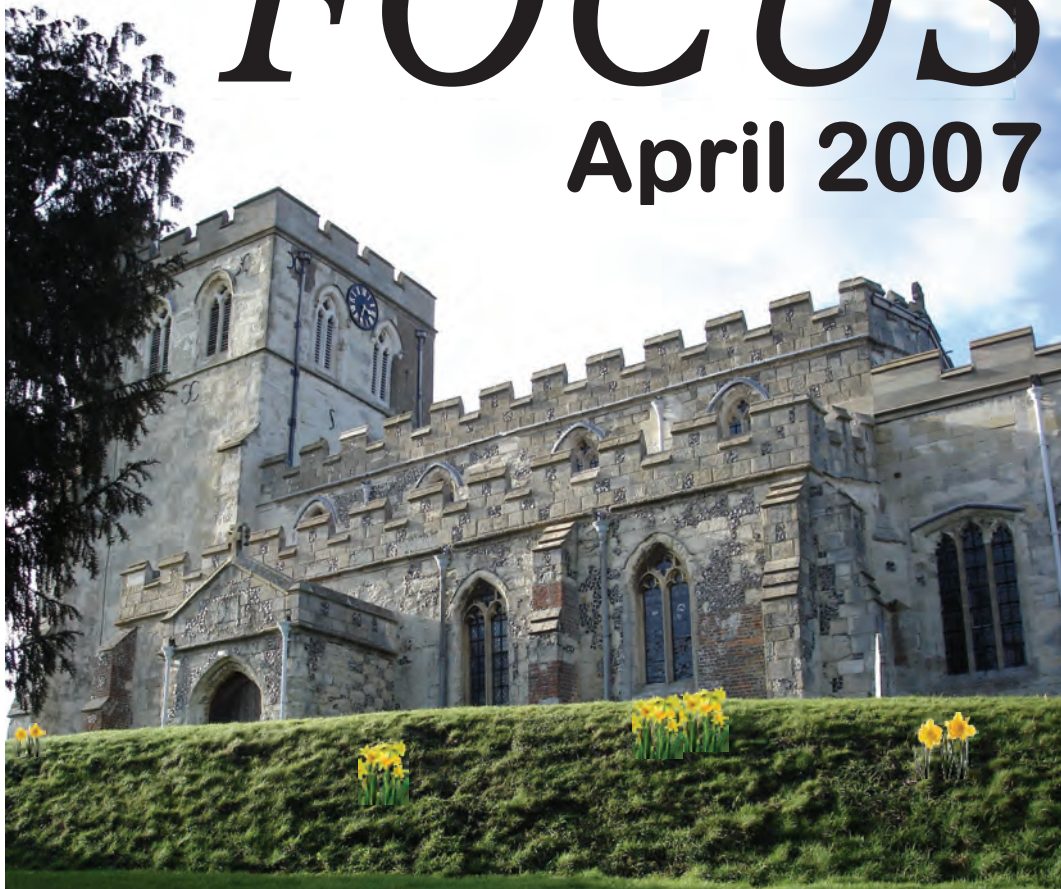


FOCUS

April 2007



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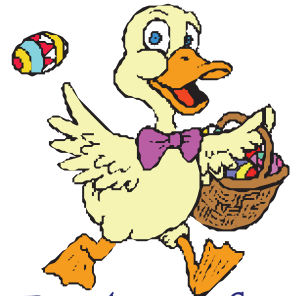


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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

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

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

Vandalism

Vandalism in the villages is on the increase. We will not get the extra support needed unless you report all crime and obtain a crime number

Bedfordshire Police

Leighton Buzzard Safer Neighbourhood Team

To all residents of Eaton Bray, **your Leighton Buzzard rural police officers are PC Viv Dady 5602** Leighton Buzzard Rural Beat Manager and **PCSO Josh Tonkin 4340** Leighton Buzzard Rural Police Community Support Officer

Our contact details are as follows: direct dial: 01582 473418 fax: 01582 473405, mobile: to follow e-mail – snt.leighton-rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

or write to us at: Leighton Buzzard Police Station, Hockliffe Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3FG Please note residents in **Dagnall, Edlesborough and Northall** should contact **PC Sarah Astley, Thames Valley Police - 08458505505.**

Fly tipping and other such nuisances should be directed in the first instance for the attention of the Envirocrime Unit at South Bedfordshire District Council on 01582 472222 or fax 01582 474122.

Village Diaries April 2007



Weekly

Mon-Fri (term time)	Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Cindy 07773 095624
Mon-Fri (term time)	Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15-12 noon
Mon-Fri (term time)	Edlesborough Under 5's Pre-School, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Sue Connor 01525 222739
Tuesdays	Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm
Tuesdays	Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
Tuesdays	Baby Cafe, 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
Wednesdays (term time)	Eaton Bray Under 5's, 1.15-3pm Eaton Bray Village, Hall Cindy 01582 477568
Wednesdays	Chi Kung & Wu Chi classes, Coffee Tavern 11am - noon
Wednesdays	Keep fit, 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Roch 220669
Thursdays (term time)	Mums & Toddlers session, Dagnall Village Hall, 1-3pm

Village Diaries April 2007 Cont'd

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
Fridays (term time)	The Venue for 8-12s @ Grace Community Church, 7.00-8.45 pm, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
Saturdays	Jazzercise, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Angela Veryard, 715208
Monthly	
1st Monday	Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
1st Monday	Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Sheila Beal on 01525 221185
1st & 3rd Tuesday	Dunstable & District Orbit Club meet in central Dunstable at 8pm. For more details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
1st Sunday	Grace Community Church meeting, 3.30 pm, all welcome, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
2nd Tuesday	Toddlers' Church, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.00pm
2nd Tuesday	Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
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	
4th & 18th	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm
13th	Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am
17th	Over 60's, Visit to Stondon Museum & Lunch at Stanford
One Off/Annual/Irregular Events	
14th	Eaton Bray Methodist Church Book Sale & Ploughmans Lunches, Sale from 11am, Lunches from 12-2pm
17th	St Mary's annual meeting for election of churchwardens, 7.45 pm and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 8pm Eaton Bray Village Hall
20th	Quiz Night, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, £8 inc supper, Ross 221411
24th	Dagnall School Fashion Show, 7.30, Dagnall Village Hall, £3 per person, Tickets 01525 221470
26th - 28th	DAOS presents Olde Tyme Music Hall, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tickets £7.50. Booking Office 0845 8386742
27th	NSPCC Gardeners Question Time, 7.30pm, Edlesborough Village Hall, Tickets 01525 220312

In Memory of Anne Rogers (nee Fountain)

Iris and family would like to thank everyone for their cards, donations and messages of sympathy following Anne's death.

Also thank you to all my friends for their prayers and support over the last few months.

Iris Fountain

Phyllis Rose Sole

James would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for bereavement cards, flowers and wreaths. Their support was overwhelming. "God Bless Phyllis" and may she rest in peace after long suffering.

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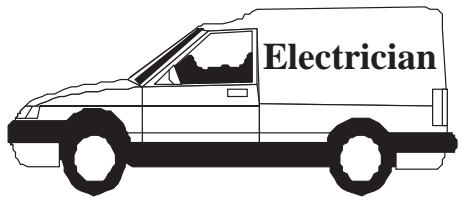
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Highlights from the Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting - Held on 5th March 2007

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 5th. February 2007 were signed.

The Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2006 has been returned from the external auditor. Copies will be displayed on the parish notice boards.

The crime figures for February are: 1 house burglary, 2 theft of a motor vehicle, 3 theft from a motor vehicle, 3 criminal damage.

Village Signpost.

The Clerk has been in contact with the suppliers and will be claiming the grant from the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

A new draft of the regulations will be prepared for the next meeting.

REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT

The Clerk will complete the review and advise the Councillors before the next meeting.

2007 CARNIVAL STALL.

Cllr Crace suggested that the Council uses this opportunity to compile an email address list of local residents, that could be used to advertise the Parish Council Meeting Agendas more effectively and encourage participation in the Parish Council Meetings through the Public Open Forum.

It was agreed to try this for a trial period of six months.

MEMBERSHIP of the CAMPAIGN to PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND.

The Chairman proposed that the Council becomes a member of the CPRE.

2nd. Cllr Brand. Unanimous. The Clerk will complete the application.

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month

7.30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 2 April 2007

St Mary's Parochial Church Council Meeting

St Mary's Parochial Church Council met on 8th March 2007, at All Saints' Church Dagnall.

Last year's Financial Statements were signed, in preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 17th April, and members were reminded that activity reports for the Meeting would be required by 23rd March. The PCC re-confirmed its 2004 decision that publicity for fund-raising events other than those sponsored by St Mary's Church, would be confined to the Church porch, while publicity inside, and on the pew leaflet, would be limited to events sponsored directly by the Church. The Meeting also decided that money raised by the Open Gardens event, to be held on 10th June 2007, would be split between the Chilterns Multiple Sclerosis Centre (this year's project) and the much-depleted church roof fund, provided there was no objection by the participating garden owners. We were also advised that the Friends of St Mary's would be holding an open evening in the Church on 24th April, with the theme "We need friends!".

The meeting then reviewed progress following the recent Away Day, which had addressed various matters over which members of the congregation had expressed concern. Three groups had been tasked to consider different aspects of the problems identified, although considerable areas of overlap had become evident. Their reports led to wide ranging discussion covering opportunities for following up christenings, confirmations, weddings etc, involvement with village schools and other activity groups, making services more attractive – particularly to children and young parents – and contacting new arrivals in the villages. The groups were encouraged to continue their activities with the aim of arriving at specific proposals.

Finally, the outgoing PCC agreed to have one further meeting (on 12th April) before the APCM elects its successors.

The Church Mouse

Rebecca Baldock in Eaton Bray

On Monday 5th of March St Mary's Eaton Bray was blessed by a visit from Rebecca Baldock whose work, at Kagando Hospital in Uganda, we have been supporting throughout 2006. Rebecca has returned to England for her annual holiday and to share in the celebrations, in York, of her sister's 18th birthday but she took the time out of a busy schedule of talks and appearances to come to Eaton Bray to say 'Thank you' for the support the Hospital has received from this community.

In a fascinating illustrated talk, that included pictures of the beautiful landscape and wildlife, she brought home, with personal stories, the enormous need that the Kagando community addresses. Among heartbreaking stories Rebecca gave us some inspiring examples of the hope that Kagando is bringing to the local people. And she described how Christian community who run the hospital witness to the power of prayer in meeting their needs.

Rebecca described the ways in which money donated from our villages has aided Kagando Hospital. Some of the equipment is literally life saving and as a result of our support the hospital's two intensive care beds are now equipped with some of the basic equipment, such as a blood pressure monitor and an oximeter, that we take for granted with the NHS. Whilst this equipment is vital for the hospital more basic needs have also been met by our donations – a simple path has been built that replaces the steps and rough ground between the main surgical wards and the physiotherapy department. As a result there is no longer a problem getting wheel chairs between the two and patients on crutches or callipers are now able to reach the physiotherapy department.

At the end of the evening Rebecca was presented with a cheque for £2,060, bringing the total amount donated to Kagando by the congregations of St Mary's and All Saints Dagnall from their fundraising activities in 2006 to £5,291. She was so very thankful and carried with her the thanks of many of Kagando's nursing community.



Apart from an occasional letter this will be the last regular entry in Focus from Rebecca, but if you want to follow her story you will be able to read her monthly newsletter on the St Mary's website – www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk. If you would like to make a donation to Kagando please get in touch with Gordon Gray on 220136 or Rev Malcolm Grant on 220261.

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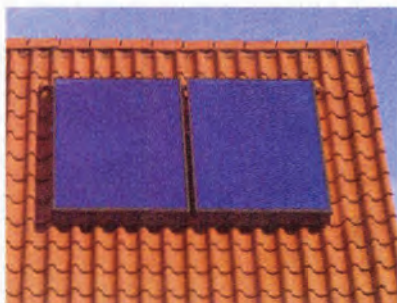
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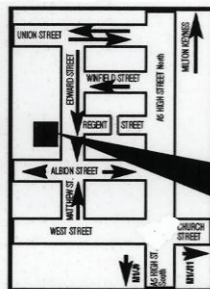
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Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

We are often told that it is not possible to believe the Easter-story in a scientific age. Just because an event is without precedent and without parallel in human experience does not mean it could not have happened. The true scientist will sift the evidence carefully and evaluate it, and draw conclusions from the results.

The joyful Easter-proclamation of the Church is that Jesus who was put to death by crucifixion and whose corpse was hurriedly buried in a tomb nearby, was raised to life again on the third day after all this happened. The evidence for it is what is recorded in the Gospels, the effect it had on the original band of disciples, the existence of the Church, and two thousand years of Christian belief and worship.

Central to the Gospel-stories is that the disciples found the tomb empty. If they had gone to the wrong tomb, it would have been easy enough for the authorities to open the correct tomb and prove their claims wrong by producing the body of Jesus. The same could have been done had the authorities themselves removed the body for fear of what the disciples might do.

Had the disciples themselves removed the body and hidden it, then everything else they did would have been a conscious lie, and one of the most amazing facts about the Easter-story is the change in the lives of these men, all of whom deserted Jesus in His hour of need. Within seven weeks they were standing up in the city proclaiming that Jesus was alive, and they devoted themselves to spreading that message all round the world, even at the cost of their own lives. People don't do that for something they know is untrue.

Some people have claimed that Jesus did not really die on the cross but merely fell unconscious, and revived in the cool of the tomb and made His escape. But tombs were sealed by large stones which would be impossible to move from inside. And when we consider all that Jesus had endured less than two days previously, even had He come round He would have been a mangled invalid. Moreover, Roman soldiers were professional and experienced as executioners, and historical records as well as the Gospels show us the lengths they went to to ensure that an executed criminal was indeed dead.

It has also been suggested that the appearances of the risen Jesus to the disciples were some form of hallucination or wishful thinking. But again this is hardly adequate to explain the change in those disciples in such a very short time, and it certainly cannot explain the long tradition of witness of Christian men and women down the ages who have known the presence of a living Lord in their lives.

There are good grounds, therefore, for accepting the evidence of the Gospels and Christian tradition, and in that conviction I invite you to share with us in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus in church on Easter Day, and I pray that we may all experience His living presence and power as we try to serve Him day by day. "Jesus is alive" – that is the jubilant conviction which brings hope and joy into our lives. Blessed be God who has given us new hope and new birth in raising Jesus from the dead.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

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

21 February

27 February

Robert Harry Tremain, Chapel Lane, Northall

Rose Elizabeth Mason, Dean's Meadow, Dagnall



Dunstable Church Schools

Parents wishing to apply this autumn for their children to be admitted to Manshead Upper School in September 2008, on the grounds that they are practising members of the Church of England, are

reminded that the Governors require that they have attended public worship regularly during at least the previous six months. I, along with the other local clergy, will sign the application form only when parents can prove that they have fulfilled the Governors' requirement. A small "Record of Attendance" card is available at St Mary's, and parents intending to apply should ensure that they obtain a card and have it signed each time they attend church.

Parents wishing to apply for admission to Ashton Middle School in September 2008 are reminded that the Governors of this School now require confirmation of regular church attendance for the **twelve** months preceding the application, so such parents should already be attending regularly and getting their cards signed.

The churches are following this procedure to ensure that the available places at these two schools are fairly allocated.

M.E.G.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST MARY'S

<i>Palm Sunday, 1 April</i>	<i>8 am</i>	<i>The Eucharist</i>
	<i>10 am</i>	<i>Blessing of Palms, Procession and Sung Eucharist (assemble in Village Hall)</i>
<i>Monday, 2 April</i>	<i>8 pm</i>	<i>The Eucharist at St Mary's, Kensworth (with North Chilterns Group Churches)</i>
<i>Tuesday, 3 April</i>	<i>7.30 am</i>	<i>The Eucharist</i>
	<i>8 pm</i>	<i>The Eucharist (with North Chilterns Group Churches)</i>
<i>Wednesday, 4 April</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>The Eucharist</i>
	<i>8 pm</i>	<i>The Eucharist at All Saints', Tilsworth (with North Chilterns Group Churches)</i>
<i>Maundy Thursday, 5 April</i>	<i>8 pm</i>	<i>Solemn Eucharist of the Lord's Supper, followed by Stripping of the Altars and Watch of the Passion until midnight</i>
<i>Good Friday, 6 April</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>Liturgy and Holy Communion</i>
	<i>2 pm</i>	<i>'An Hour at the Cross' (devotional service)</i>
<i>Easter Eve, 7 April</i>	<i>9 pm</i>	<i>Vigil Service</i>
<i>Easter Day, 8 April</i>	<i>8 am</i>	<i>The Eucharist</i>
	<i>10 am</i>	<i>Sung Eucharist</i>
	<i>6 pm</i>	<i>Easter Praise - a celebration for the whole community - in St Mary's, Edlesborough</i>

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Edlesborough Book Group

Review of To Kill a Mockingbird



The group read To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee last month. It was an old favourite for some of us and those to whom the book was new agreed it was a compelling, powerful read.

The book is set in a sleepy Alabama town of Maycomb in the 1930's and is narrated in the first person by Scout Finch, the daughter of a reasonably well off lawyer, Atticus . Scout looks back in retrospect over an unspecified number of years after the events of the novel took place.

We thought the most important theme of the book was the moral nature of human beings - that is whether people are essentially good or essentially evil. This was developed through the growing up of the three children in the story from their childhood innocence, in which they assume that people are good because they have never seen evil, to a more adult perspective, in which they have confronted evil and incorporated it into their understanding of the world.

Harper Lee's deft touch, bringing in a variety of incidents that expose the evil side of human nature, is linked with parenting, moral education, social class and prejudice.

The discussion centred on these themes and was lively, especially in relation to education and poverty.

All thoroughly enjoyed the book and felt it was just as powerful now as it was when published in the 1960's .We all admired Atticus, and felt he would have been an interesting father.

The mockingbird comes to represent innocence and thus to kill a mockingbird is to destroy innocence.



Edlesborough W.I.

Members' views on the new magazine, "W.I. Life", were exchanged at our last meeting. We were divided in our opinions of the publication. However, it is early days yet, and it will be interesting to see how we all feel in a few months.

Unfortunately, the speaker engaged for that evening had been taken ill, but Mrs Hughes, a teacher, gave an instructive talk on self defence, and advised on many precautions that could be taken to avoid personal attack. These included both street and home incidents.

Our speaker covered many instances when these dangers might arise, and explained the different ways in which we could attempt either to prevent or deal with them. Understandably, this is not a very pleasant subject to discuss and we hope we never experience such horrors. However, the advice given by Mrs. Hughes made us aware of certain points we should keep in mind in connection with personal safety.

As Brenda Shields pointed out in her vote of thanks, it's sad we have to know all this in our day and age.

Val Harris

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They will be a group of local people, old friends and others who want to be involved and whose sole aim will be to ensure that the Church building is passed on to the next generation in as good a state of repair as it is now. Achieving this goal will require the funding of a planned maintenance programme, for like any old building there is always something that needs doing to keep out the weather or to keep it safe. Over £200,000 has been spent in the last few years on the stonework and roof and more work is needed to finish off the roof project and to make the floor safe.

So this is an invitation to everyone to come along on the 24th to hear talks about the Church building, together with entertainments on the Bells and by the Organ & Choir. Meet The Edlesbray Players and talk about the 2008 Panto, discuss the 2007 Carnival with its organisers, meet staff from the Chiltern MS therapy Centre and talk to representatives from Fairtrade. If you are not free on the 24th and would like to talk about being associated with The Friends then do call me on 01525 221284.

Entry and light refreshments are free.

Peter Bennett



Edlesborough School

On Friday 2nd February, Edlesborough schools hockey team (year six's) went for their first match in Milton Keynes. They went against Bury Lawn School. Edlesborough team only started this year so they weren't sure what was going to happen. The team was picked about 2 weeks before the match day so they could get in some extra practice. They took two substitutes which were going on in case any players got tired. They had excellent goalies, and to make them look the part, and for safety, they got the proper kit ready for the match. On the day of the game they came in early from lunch play and got everything ready. Some players mum's helped take the team to the pitch. When they got there they were half an hour early so that gave them time to have a practice get photos taken. There were going to be two games playing at the same time so they had to make sure they were ready to start. So off they went nervously walking towards the pitch. The games both lasted for half an hour. After the first game both Edlesborough school teams had won 8-0 and 1-0! They had a little break and then they swapped over teams, and yet again the Edlesborough team won! 3-0 and another amazing score 6-0! On the way home everyone was very pleased with themselves and couldn't wait to tell all their friends that they had won all four games. So it was a great success. Edlesborough were ecstatic about how they had played. A great score in the end, Well Done Edlesborough!

Pink Day

In February, Edlesborough School held a 'pink' day to raise money for the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home Charity. The money raised will pay for nearly a week of specialist home nursing care.

An enthusiastic group of Year 6 children organised the whole event. We had sales of cakes, sweets, gadgets and toys as well as competitions and a raffle. Everyone could wear mufty provided they were wearing at least one item of pink clothing.

We had such fun! The children were very creative in their outfits, hairstyles and face paints. They were awarded prizes for the best outfits. We were thrilled to have raised £426.84 in total!

Many thanks to everyone who supported this excellent event.

J. Hatfield, Headteacher

Edlesborough Cricket Club

The 2007 season

Edlesborough Cricket Club welcomes new members of all standards and abilities for the 2007 season. Adults (including youths from school year 11 upwards) interested in playing either Saturday league or Sunday friendly cricket, or both, should contact Ceri Davies (01525-221472) or Paul Mortimer (01525-222342) as soon as possible. The team's home ground is on Edlesborough Green and competitive matches start in late April, although pre-season indoor net sessions will be taking place prior to this.

Prospective new Colts (school years 7 to 10 only please) who did not play in 2006 should contact Rod Hacking (01525-221710), Paul Mortimer (01525-222342) or Robert Prys-Jones (01525-221520) as soon as possible. The team will again play in the Aylesbury & District Midweek Cricket League, starting in early May, and weekly outdoor practice sessions will commence on Edlesborough Green in mid April.

Review of 2006

As usual, the club fielded a Saturday league side, a Sunday friendly side and a Colts team for the 2006 season, with overall wins and losses in the total of 40 matches played ending up precisely balanced. For the second year in succession, the Saturday side ended up with a record of 6 wins, 6 losses and 6 games drawn or abandoned in Division 2 of the Marrant Four Counties Cricket League. However, despite finishing mid-table, the closeness of the competition was such that relegation remained a possibility up to the last game, when Edlesborough resolved matters with a 7 wicket win over Olney Town in which one of our promising young teenagers, Andrew Kight, scored a crucial 99 not out.

The most consistent batsmen over the season were Jaco Jacobs, who averaged 47.1, and Matthew Merrick, on 40.8 and with the season's highest score of 126 in the home league win over Simpson & Walton, in which he turned the game around in a stand of 132 for the fifth wicket with Les Thorne (63 not out). The other two centuries of the season were both scored by Jaco Jacobs, who hit 111 not out in the home friendly win over neighbours Eaton Bray and 107 not out in the away friendly at Bamville, in which he and Paul Mortimer (52 not out) won the match with an unbeaten stand of 173 for the fourth wicket. However, perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the season was the batting performances of the two youngsters Andrew Kight and, in particular, Chris Kimpton, both of whom were still playing for the Colts in the previous year. Chris's batting has always looked good, with stylish on-drives through mid-wicket, but he only really began producing the runs in mid July. On one key weekend he scored 52 not out in the Saturday league win at Eggington, followed by 97 in the Sunday friendly loss against Mentmore, and never looked back thereafter.

The bowling throughout the season was relatively undistinguished, with not a single 5-wicket haul being achieved by a bowler in a match. In terms of wickets taken Edlesborough relied heavily on Jaco Jacobs, whose 46 for the season averaged 18.7 runs each. Supporting him, Matthew Merrick chipped in with 19 at 19.8, Chris Deciacco, who could only play occasionally, with 14 at 18.7 and Mark Brown with 21 at 31.2. Now that Barry Jenkins has (mostly!) retired, Edlesborough urgently need another good spinner to complement Mark. The one bright spot was that the bowling of two or three of the Colts who played frequently for the Sunday friendly side showed distinct promise. Development of this will be vital for the future success of the club!

For the first time in a number of years, the Colts played in the under 15 (East) section of the Aylesbury & District Midweek Cricket League, where they acquitted themselves well, winning 4 of their 6 matches and finishing in third place in a division of 7 teams. The batting was generally solid, with the team posting at least 100 in all but one of the 20-over league games, and Declan Hall and Chris Mortimer each scoring 30 or more in the games against both Long Marston and Winslow. Almost the entire team was involved in the bowling, with the best individual performances being James Kight's 3 wickets for 6 runs against Long Marston and Andrew Scott-Lewis's 3 for 20 against Ivinghoe & Pitstone.

Robert Prys-Jones

Spring Clean Your Body

Spring is in the air and as we all knuckle down to our annual spring cleaning of the house, why not spare a thought for our body! During the cold, dark, wet months it is very easy to pick up bad habits such as slouching, slumping and forgetting to exercise. So, put a spring back into your step with a few simple postural exercises. Good posture involves keeping your body in correct alignment by maintaining your natural curves in sitting, standing and walking. Try following these 4 simple steps to help improve posture, as well as minimise the stress and strain on muscles, joints and discs.

1 **Try to stand as tall as you can**

This will make you look longer, leaner, fitter and thinner.

2 **Push your shoulders down and back**

- This reduces the possibility of shoulder and neck pain. Imagine you are opening up the front of the chest wall, not standing to attention!

3 **Pull your lower tummy muscle in**

- Only try to hold with 20% effort. This helps to improve the tone of your tummy muscles and improve your core stability.

4 **Strike the heels to the ground and the toes-off all the way**

- This helps to employ the full gait cycle.

Try to carry out these tips daily and soon it will become second nature.

If you have any aches or pains or feel you would benefit from physiotherapy, please, do not hesitate to give St Judes a ring on 01525 377751. One of our Chartered Physiotherapist will be happy to have a chat with you. For other tips and topical information, you may wish to view our website at www.Stjudesclinic.com

Member of the Organisation of Chartered Physiotherapists in Private Practice

Principal Mrs M. K. M D'Arcy MCSP

**St Judes Physiotherapy & Consulting Ltd, 26 Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard,
Beds LU7 1RX, Tel/Fax 01525 377751**

E-mail enquiries@stjudesclinic.com Web Site: www.stjudesclinic.com



Round-Ireland Charity Ride

Though we moved out of Eaton Bray in the summer, we hope it's a case of gone but not forgotten. Shaun is cycling around Ireland, give or take a peninsula or two, at a distance of about 1300 miles, starting on 24th March. So, by the time you read this, he ought to be about halfway round and heading down the west coast.

Whilst he may be enjoying one of his favourite parts of the world, and possibly the odd drop of Guinness to fortify him, such a distance is no mean feat for a man approaching forty, so he is raising money in aid of cancer-related charities as he goes. Your generous contribution would be most appreciated. Some of you may remember his articles in Focus in 1995 describing his ride from John O'Groats to Land's End, from which over £3000 was raised, so that sounds like a good target to try and beat this time.

All those years ago, the internet was just a glint in somebody's eye but, in 2007, if you have access to it, sponsorship is easy. Go to the website www.drude.co.uk you can read more about this venture and it will also direct you to an official charity giving site. For those of you who prefer more traditional methods, you can mark your pledge and leave your cash (or cheque) at Eaton Bray Lower School, who have kindly agreed to help out – if any queries on that, Liz Warby would be happy to hear from you on 222259 (evenings), or speak to Liz Constable in the school office on 220468 (days).

With a warm hello to everyone who knows us....I'll be there in the backup car with co-pilot Calum (and an oxygen mask!!!),

Beccy Haydon

Friends of Dagnall School's

Fashion Show

Tuesday 24th April

Dagnall Village Hall 7.30pm

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

£3 per person to include
glass of wine.

All clothes available to buy on
the night.

Cash / cheque/ debit and
credit cards accepted.

Also raffle and refreshments.

**For tickets please contact:
Tina on 01525 221470**

**ST.MARY'S CHURCH 2007
CHARITY PROJECT IN AID OF
THE CHILTERN CENTRE FOR
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS**

**Joan & Robert Calder will have
a stall on the Leighton Buzzard
Market selling secondhand and
nearly new clothes and
household items on**

SATURDAY 14th APRIL 2007

all of the proceeds
for the Church Project.

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT US

**Kindly note that Johnstons Ltd,
the chiropodist and podiatrist
has changed telephone number.
Please see advert on page 39**

???

???

QUIZ NIGHT

(ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE SPLIT EQUALLY
BETWEEN EATON BRAY TENNIS CLUB
AND EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL
REFURBISHMENT)

FRIDAY 20th April

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL

7.30 FOR 8 PM START

£8 INC SUPPER

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND GLASSES

**PRIZE FOR WINNERS
RAFFLE
TEAMS OF UP TO 8 PEOPLE**

CONTACT ROSS 221411

OR KATRINA 222503

????????



NSPCC

Gardener's Question Time

Team

Mr Martin Finney

Representative from Ayletts Nurseries
(London Colney)

Mr Jason Breed

Representative from Leighton Buzzard
Garden Centre

Chairman

Mr Robert Burgoyne Professional
Gardener Rtd. (Luton Parks Department)

Time 7.30 pm Friday 27th April 2007

Place Edlesborough Village Hall

**Price Ticket £6 including a Glass of
Wine**

Raffle

Tickets Available 01525 220312

Registered Charity No. 216401

Our Survey Said....

Thank you to those who sent in responses to our survey earlier in the year. You told us quite clearly that you love our carnival just as it is. There were some suggestions for things we already do... so make sure when you come to the carnival that you don't miss a thing, whether it's the cake stall, BBQ or the entertainment in the arena. Your carnival programme will give you full details. The carnival format will stay the same but we do like to introduce some new things to entertain you all.

New for 2007

Climbing Wall

Especially for those who like a little adventure. Scaling Mount Everest it's not, but we expect this one to be a big hit. Can you make it to the top?

Silent Auction

Shhhh... It's a great way to choose the price you want to pay for that special item,...but prepare for some fierce competition. We are expecting some very interesting lots for bidding, but you'll need to keep an eye on your favourites.

Booking a Stall is so easy...

To book a pitch for your group or organisation, call Chris Banks 01525 221556 and you could be raking in the profits. And remember to give your stall the edge by dressing up for our theme...Favourite Adverts.

Advertise your local business

The carnival programme is widely distributed and read by several thousand households and many local businesses advertise regularly in this publication. You can book adverts at a competitive price to reach your customers. Contact our website or chairman Peter Bennett 01525 221284 for details.

Wanted...Helpers and... a 20 foot shipping container!

We would love to hear from people who would like to help with the carnival. The great community spirit of our villagers is the reason we have such a wonderful event each summer. If you've never experienced it, come and get involved, because that way you'll get even more out of it. Contact us on:

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com or call Peter Bennett, chairman 01525 221284

St Mary's Village Carnival

Would you like to lead the Carnival Procession and open the Fete on Saturday 7th July?

Are you aged between 8 and 13 years?

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

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

Sunday 15 April at 11.15am

when the Queen, Princess and two Attendants will be chosen.

How to Enter

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

Entry forms should be returned by 8 April

**Carnival Queen
& Princess**

DAOS PRESENTS

OLDE TYME MUSIC HALL

26TH - 28TH APRIL

EVENING PERFORMANCE 7.30PM

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL

ALL TICKETS £7.50

Including Ploughman's Supper

TELEPHONE BOOKING OFFICE

0845 8386742

Optional - Prize for best dressed and best dressed table

Leighton Linslade Croquet Club

L.L.C.C. was formed in the year 2000 in the Council Offices of the White House in Leighton Buzzard by a small group of interested people and Council representatives. At this meeting it was decided to form the club; a small committee and Chairperson were elected, and the Council agreed to provide the club with a lawn and a store for equipment, etc. In due course the Council also supplied the new venture with two sets of hoops and two sets of balls.

In 2005 the club was successful in winning the East Anglia Croquet Federation trophy, having managed to first win the Area League, then the Federation semi finals and final. In 2006 the club organised the East Anglian competition, arranging all the Area League clubs, then supervising and refereeing the semis and finals. Unfortunately we were narrowly beaten to a place in the semi finals.

In the 2006 season our average membership for the year was about 50, and we had two near full size lawns and one full size lawn, all situated around our clubhouse where we have a water and electricity supply. Together with the Council we have raised enough funds to extend the smaller pair of our lawns to full size with a pathway between them. Both lawns are also to be fenced. Due to the very wet winter season, it has unfortunately not yet been possible to start this work, but we have been assured that work will commence as soon as conditions permit. A full size lawn is 35 by 28 yards. Our lawns are situated adjacent to the pavilion in Pages Park.

There are two recognised versions of World Croquet. The original game is known as Association Croquet and is usually played by two people, with just one person at a time on the field of play. Each individual can occupy the lawn until they break down whilst playing a recognised sequence; when this breakdown occurs the opponent then takes the field, rather as in a game of billiards, and so the order of play continues. These games usually take some three hours minimum. England are World Champions at Association Croquet.

The game we play is called Golf Croquet and can be played as singles or doubles; in club play it is usually doubles. Games normally lasts for 30 to 45 minutes depending upon the skill of the players and are completed when one pair - or, in the case of singles, one person - runs the best of 12 hoops or 13 if there is a draw. This game is very much more sociable as all players are on the lawn for the entire course of the match. We have three lawns and each is able to be used with two sets of balls, which means that we are able to accommodate 24 players at any one time. The Egyptians are current World Golf Croquet Champions.

We are becoming very active in the LU7/LU6 area and have become involved with taking our sport to schools, resulting in a Leighton Buzzard school that is forming its own club as an after hours' activity. In the near future we hope to approach charitable organisations for funds to provide a fourth lawn at Pages Park, and to further promote the sport to the younger members in the area.

Our committee has recently agreed to purchase mallets suitable for younger players. If a school wishes us to pay a visit, please contact our Chairperson Mrs M.J. Brown, Telephone 01525 373860 for further information. We will bring along the necessary equipment.

We are a very social group and have organised a social club for our members and their friends during our closed season, usually from early October to early April. This club meets in the Pages Park Pavilion and this year is from 10am to 12am on Wednesday mornings. At this club we play table tennis, darts, snooker (1/4 size table), board games, dominoes, card games, etc.

Please see our announcement in this issue of

LEIGHTON LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

**2007 SEASON TO BE OPENED BY
THE MAYOR**

SATURDAY 14th April 2007

2 pm PAGES PARK PAVILION

All visitors will be welcome, and may play
free on Saturday 14th.

Our annual fee is £50.00.

All enquiries to Club Membership Secretary -
John Fogg 01525 375787

Social Club - Len Buckingham 01525 221079

Focus for further details concerning our club and its activities.

Should you be interested in joining or giving the game a try, please contact Membership Secretary John Fogg on 01525 375787. Our annual fee for 2007 will remain at £50.00, but you may play for two sessions for £5; if as a result you become a full member you will only be required to pay a balance of £45. Your annual fee also includes the use of Club mallets, equipment and free tea, coffee and biscuits at each session. If you are interested in the social club please contact the undersigned on 01525 221079.

Len Buckingham

‘ORGAN ENCORE’

Friday 4th May 2007

**International theatre organist
and entertainer**

LEN RAWLE

**at Eaton Bray Methodist Church
Totternhoe Road, Eaton Bray**

**ADMISSION BY
PROGRAMME ONLY**

**These souvenir Programmes
must be purchased in advance
£5 each from Helen on
01525 221137**

**Profits from this evening’s entertainment
will be shared equally between Northall
and District Age Concern and Eaton Bray
Methodist Church**

WANTED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

**For The Dunstable and District
Disabled Persons Typing Club**

**We meet in Priory Church Hall, Dunstable,
every Friday, 7.30pm- 9.30pm**

**We are desperate for volunteer drivers to
pick up members from their homes and
take them back home again.**

A petrol allowance will be paid if wanted

For further details please telephone:-

Heather Tibballs: 01525 221813

**You will be making it possible for another
disabled person to enjoy an evening away
from home.**

Dagnall Fete 2007

An important date for your diaries!!

Saturday 12th May 2007

12.30 to 4.00 pm

Dagnall Recreation ground

Lots to see and do...

Ellesborough Silver band

Dunstable Sea Cadets

Vintage vehicles

Dancing by children of Dagnall school

Stalls and attractions

Things to do and things to buy...

Refreshments, BBQ and cakes..

**If you would like to help with donating
items, having a stall of your own , or to
advertise in the programme, please contact
one of the following**

Vicky Lee 01442 843361

Kathy Bovington 01442 842796

Julie Jones 01442 843066

Liz Coates 01442 842250

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.**

An Introduction to Bee-Keeping

My name is Angel and I am a local beekeeper. During the following months I will be reporting the successes and failures of my beekeeping season, I hope this will be informative as well as enjoyable.

Beekeeping has been around for a long time, it is a much loved craft for many people, not only is it enjoyable (minus stings) but it brings the benefit of exceptional produce: honey, pollen, propolis and wax, however the most important contribution to nature by the bees is pollination. Many crops and fruits would not be able to develop without the help of these small insects.

Most bees are kept in wooden boxes called hives. The hives are full of frames where the bees build the honey comb in which to store honey and pollen as well as the brood which will become the future bees. It is a highly organised environment (50,000 bees in high season) where everybody has a task to perform with the queen bee at the helm.

The beekeeping season kicks off with the association GM at the end of February. It is an enjoyable event where you can meet old friends and talk about bees etc. as well as buy bits and bobs from the association stores.

Back in the field, hives are assessed for food stores and if needed, fed with some fondant.

During warm days bees can be seen flying from the hives so there may be an opportunity to have a quick look inside the hive.

All the equipment is checked and prepared and the beesuit washed so everything is ready for action.

I will be explaining how the bees work as I go along, as beekeeping is such an extensive subject, in the meantime if anybody wants some more info please e-mail me at huelamo47@aol.com

Open Gardens - Sunday 10 June 2007

Following last year's wonderful day exploring the gardens of Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall it is time to start preparing for this year's event. Once again various garden owners and allotment holders have been kind enough to agree to open their gardens for our delight, with more from Edlesborough than there were last year. The money raised will be shared between Chilterns Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre and St Mary's Roof Fund.

There will be tiny gardens, huge gardens, gardens for picnicking, gardens to admire, water features ranging from small ponds to lakes. Please get the date in your diary and purchase your Roving Programme tickets when they become available in early June.

At this stage the organisers are keen to receive offers of help from Focus readers.

- To help with refreshments in Edlesborough Memorial Hall – both making cakes and selling
- To help with organisation on the day, selling programmes, organising traffic, helping on stalls etc
- Donations of plants for a Plant Stall
- Donations of Raffle Prizes
- There is still time to add your garden to the list of those that will be open

If you would like to contribute to this very special day please contact Gordon Gray on 220136.



Easter Lilies



St Mary's Church Sunday April 8th 2007

If anyone would like to support our "Easter Lilies" in memory of a loved one, please contact Edna on 220143 or Sally on 221733



National Trust South Bedfordshire Association Talk

Wednesday 4th April, 2007
Life Downstairs at Shaw's Corner
Paul Williamson, custodian
7.45pm, *Salvation Army Centre,*
Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable.

Visitors are welcome at £1.00
For further information phone 01582 527790

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

For a brochure and details call Peter or Celia on **01525 220173** or email hpkilfoyle@aol.com



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you need someone to **Do It for You**

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**Contact Carl Bird on 01582 703039
or Mobile 07773 230055**

*Floor Laying Gutter Cleaning Fencing
Loft Boarding Gardening etc.*

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

Parish Plan

A 'follow up' meeting was held on 28th February which was well attended. A separate article gives full details.

PCSO Funding

A conflict of opinion has come about between Thames Valley Police and the Parishes regarding the amount of time spent by the PCSO in the Parish compared to the Parish Council funding. Edlesborough, Pitstone and Ivinghoe Parish Councils are extremely concerned that they will not be receiving 100% of the PCSO's time and a meeting is being arranged between the Parishes and Thames Valley Police to clarify the situation.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Work is due to commence on replacement of the hall floor during the Easter period and the hall will be closed to the general public from 2nd – 12th April. The Parish Council are delighted to know that this long outstanding project will at last come to fruition.

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month
7.30pm Memorial Hall
Next meeting: Thurs 19 April 2007

Traffic Calming

The Parish Council are chasing up the provision of Dragons Teeth on the A4146 approaching Edlesborough from Northall.

Police Matters

Dangerous parking has become a serious problem in Edlesborough particularly on Saturday mornings whilst football matches are being played. Cars are parked wherever they can, on corners, both sides of Pebblemoor and blocking residents' drives making it impossible for any emergency vehicle to access Pebblemoor etc. The Police are making patrols and the Parish Council request that car drivers of both home and away teams have more consideration when parking their cars and remind drivers that the car park at the rear of the Pavilion is available.

The continuing problem of anti-social behaviour appears to be increasing and the PCSO is doing all she can to combat the situation.

Dog Fouling/Litter

The amount of dog fouling not picked up and put in the Dog Litter bins is becoming a serious health hazard. There are many pedestrians who walk across The Green, small children playing and sports activities taking place and the Parish Council would remind dog walkers who do not pick up dog fouling are liable to a heavy fine. The Parish Council spend over £3000 a year for the bins to be emptied as a means of keeping the Parish in a clean, tidy and healthy state and would ask that Dog Walkers either use the bins supplied or bag and take away.

It has been observed that some of the ordinary Litter Bins around the Parish are being filled with 'domestic' waste such as disposable nappies, washing power and fabric conditioner containers. These public Litter Bins are for litter collected around the parish footpaths, open spaces and for small amounts of rubbish put in by passers by and NOT for any domestic waste, people are requested to use their own dustbins for this purpose.

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

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

Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall Parish Plan Report From Meeting 28th February 2007

Edlesborough Parish Council hosted this second meeting in conjunction with representatives from Bucks Community Action, who are a charity based organisation specialising in helping rural communities develop parish plans. It was a very interesting evening and hopefully all who attended are a little better informed as to the benefits of developing a plan or, 'Vision for the future of our

Parish’.

BCA highlighted the following as some of the reasons to develop a plan:-

- 1 Parish Plans are influencing local planning and are being acknowledged by AVDC and Bucks CC in their forward planning. e.g. AVDC use parish plan data in their programme of improving leisure/play facilities in rural areas and Bucks CC include parish plan data in their local transport forward planning.
- 2 Parish plans can provide very good evidence for funding opportunities and approval of local projects such as village hall improvements, facilities and equipment for young people, affordable housing, improved footpaths/bridleways etc.
- 3 The whole community taking ownership of issues affecting the parish and setting the agenda for improving these issues.

It was stressed how important it would be to reach out into the community so that the plan became truly representative of parishioners needs. One of the best ways to do this is to hold public open days where by everyone living, working, owning businesses or simply passing through the parish can call in to give their views on the good things, the needs and issues that concern them. So watch this space as the very first item on the agenda of a newly formed Parish Plan Steering Group will be to set some dates for an open day in each of the three villages. We hope these will take place during Spring/early Summer.

Keep your eye open in the Focus, village notice boards, shop windows, Edlesborough Parish Council website (www.edlesborough.gov.uk) for further news, dates etc.

Edlesborough Parish Plan will be developed by the Steering Group in partnership with Edlesborough Parish Council. Edlesborough Parish Council looks forward to working from an action plan developed from issues raised by you the parishioners.

Are You Young & Enthusiastic?

Do You Care About Your Environment & Community?

Why not join the newly formed Edlesborough Parish Plan steering group? What’s good about our villages? Do young people need more facilities? Can you catch a bus to where you want to go? Can you travel between villages easily? Will you be able to afford to buy/rent housing in your village?

The newly formed Parish Plan Steering Group are volunteers from the community representing a wide range of groups/businesses/landowners etc. BUT, Edlesborough Parish Council would especially like to have some young representatives from the age groups 12 – 16yrs and 16 – 21yrs involved. Do you fall into these age categories and would like to know why there aren’t better facilities for you or maybe there are things/places in the parish you truly value and wouldn’t like to see changed? We would love to hear from you, you don’t have to come forward by yourself, maybe a group of you would like to represent the views of the young people of the parish and be part of shaping the future of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall?

Please contact:- parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk or phone Lin Sargeant 01525 220859.

Parish Council Elections Edlesborough Parish Council

Why not apply to join your parish council this year and do something positive for your community? The elections will be on Thursday May 3rd. If you are 18, are on the electoral register (or live within 3 miles) you could be eligible.

Your council meets eleven (11) times a year (no meeting in August) on the third Thursday evening in the month at Edlesborough Memorial Hall.

Simply watch out for more information in the local press or, (from mid-March onwards), contact the Elections Officer on 01296 585050 or the Parish Clerk on 01525 220859 for a nomination form.

If you would like information about the duties of a councillor, contact BALC on 01296 383154 or balc@buckscc.gov.uk

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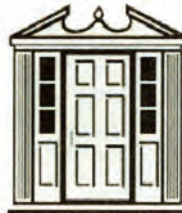
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www.christopherpallet.com

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

BOOK SALE and PLOUGHMANS LUNCHEs on Saturday April 14th . Sale from 11.00am and Lunches served from 12.00 noon until 2.00pm.

Anyone with books to donate please contact Sandra on 375229 or Alannah on 221814 and they will arrange to collect them from you.

The proceeds from this event are to be shared between;

THE TIGERS CLUB in Uganda which enables street children to realize their potential and discover their worth. This charity is now extending its work into Ethiopia and Kenya, helping their street children too.

SMILE INTERNATIONAL which is a charity helping to relieve suffering and poverty in over 20 countries throughout the world, by providing humanitarian aid and long term development projects.

The charity is perhaps best known for the “ Shoe Box Appeal” which we take part in every year.

Please help us make this (what is for us a new venture) a successful event by donating books and coming along on the day for the Book Sale and Lunches.

DATES for your diary.

April 6th Friday United Service @ 10.30 am.

April 8th Easter Day Family Communion Service @ 10.30am.

May 4th Organ Encore with Len Rawle. Admission by programme only at £5.00 available from Helen on 01525 221137.

June 9th Garden Fete and Lunches from 12noon at the home of Jane and James McFarland: Chestnut Lodge, Leighton Road, Billington.

<h3 style="margin: 0;">The Salvation Army, Booth Place</h3> <h4 style="margin: 0;">Weekly Activities</h4>												
<p>Sunday</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Sunday School</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">9.45am</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Morning Service</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">11.00am</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Evening Service</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">6.00pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>Monday</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Games Night (Ages 5-8)</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">4.30pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>Wednesday</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Home League (Ladies Meeting)</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">2.30pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>Thursday</p> <p style="padding: 2px;">Young Ladies Fellowship (Last Thursday in every month)</p> <p>Friday</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Young People</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">5.00pm</td> </tr> </table> <p style="padding: 2px;">(Singing, tambourine & recorder practices)</p>	Sunday School	9.45am	Morning Service	11.00am	Evening Service	6.00pm	Games Night (Ages 5-8)	4.30pm	Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm	Young People	5.00pm
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Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm											
Young People	5.00pm											

All Saints, Dagnall - Services in April 2007

Sun. 1st April	9.00 am Eucharist	10.30 am Morning Service	6.00 pm Evening Service with Holy Communion	
Fri. 6th April	6.00 pm Special Service for Good Friday			
Easter Day				
Sun. 8th April	9.00 am Eucharist	10.30 pm Family Celebration Service	6.00 pm Easter Praise at <u>St Mary's, Edlesborough</u>	
Sun. 15th April	10.30 pm Family Communion	6.00 pm Evening Service		
Sun. 22nd April	9.00 am Eucharist	10.30 am Family Service	6.00 pm Evening Prayer	
Sun. 29th April	10.30 am Fellowship Service	6.00 pm Evening Service		
Sun. 7th May	9.00 pm Eucharist	10.30 am Morning Service	6.00 pm Circuit Service at <u>Trinity Methodist Church, Leighton Buzzard</u>	
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.				



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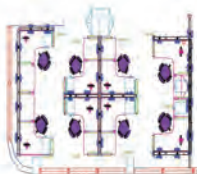
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Letter to the Editors



Dear Sally

I am writing in connection with Penny Sydenham's letter (Dec/Jan issue) about putting Edlesborough on the map, which I am in agreement with regarding emergency services, as I have had problems myself getting the police in the past. On one occasion being transferred from Aylesbury to Bedford to Dunstable and back to Aylesbury again, although it got sorted out in the end.

As far as the postal side, I must disagree with Edlesborough going in to Bucks, as many years ago a lot of mail went to Ellesborough Bucks and a lot of letters and parcels went astray. Of course possibly now with post codes it might not be a problem.

Yours sincerely

A Fountain.

ST Judes Clinic Wants To Say A Big “Thank You”

St Judes Clinic, as many of you already know, became operational from our new site in Leighton Buzzard on Monday, 12th February 2007.

We have been overwhelmed by the cards and flowers from well wishers that have been appearing at our door and we would just like to say thanks to everyone, very much indeed, for all the support and encouragement, it's been wonderful.

St Judes had been operating from Edlesborough for the last 14 years and it was time for a move to a bigger place, where we could continue to build upon our multi-disciplinary service.

Our Open Days over the 16th to 18th February were well attended and many of our patients, past and present, got to meet and chat to some of our new staff and find out about our new services.

We are still, however, very much part of the local community and will be sponsoring Mrs Sally Thorne from Dagnall in her charity bid to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis and Facing Africa in crossing the Sahara.

We will also still be a part of the Edlesborough Carnival raising money for the Fete Charities again this year, and will still be presenting public information articles to Focus magazine on a multitude of aches and pains, and tips on how to deal with them. There is a new article in the pipeline from our new Physiotherapist and “Focus correspondent” Joanna Laurence.



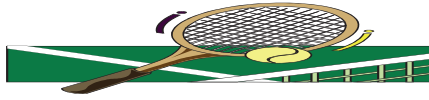
EB Lions AFC

A belated thank you to everybody who collected Tesco Sport for Schools & Clubs vouchers for us at the end of 2006. As a result we have been able to obtain some very useful training equipment for the teams. We are also expecting to be able to use our new storage facility very soon, which has been partially funded by the AVDC Sports Grant team. Thank you to Edlesborough School for kindly allowing us to site the facility at the school.

If you would like to check up on the progress of the various teams in the club, please access our website at www.eblions.co.uk. Match reports for some of the teams also appear in the Leighton Buzzard Observer.

Looking to the future, a new U7 boys' team and an U10 girls' team will be formed for next season. Also, the club is still interested in finding a permanent site where we could have room for a pavilion, about three junior pitches and a senior pitch. If anybody knows of a suitable site please contact the club chairman, Andrew Lancefield, at lancers@onetel.com.

Liz Coates, Press Officer, EB Lions AFC (lizcoates@btinternet.com), 01442 842550).



Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

First this month, a date for your diary. Saturday 16th June. Mark it in now, as that's when we'll be holding our Play Tennis Day at the School Lane courts. As part of the Lawn Tennis Association promotion to encourage more people to take up the sport, we'll be starting off around midday with free playing and coaching for everyone, with special sessions for the youngsters, and you don't even need your own racquet as we can lend you one! There'll be games and competitions, tennis clothing and equipment for sale, the ubiquitous tasty BBQ, and as I write we are in secret negotiations with Chiltern Radio to come along! We'll keep you informed on that one, as they haven't answered my e-mail yet! Plus, our local MP Andrew Selous will attend from midday for 45 minutes to try his hand at tennis against some lucky volunteers, and to officially open our resurfaced courts. Finally, there's half price membership for anyone who joins on the day! So please do come up and join us for an hour or two, and enjoy some good company, hopefully some sunshine, (it's bound to be typically English summer weather, i.e. rainy with sunny intervals, or sunny with rainy intervals), a burger or two and some gentle exercise on the tennis courts (maybe have that burger afterwards...). I'll have to make sure they're properly cooked – I could go to the tower for attempting to poison a Member of Parliament.

The onset of spring has thrown me a challenge. Over the previous few months, on a Sunday morning I've been able to peek through my bedroom curtains and persuade myself that it's either too wet / cold / foggy / dark / slippery or even too cloudy to go up to our Sunday morning social tennis sessions. This has given me the perfect excuse to dive back under my duvet and begin the traditional ritual of 'discussing' with my wife who's turn it is to get the coffee. I normally lose, and such were my expectations last Sunday when I nosed through the window at about 9am. Quelle Horreur, as they say in Germany. The sun was shining brightly. Not a cloud in the sky. The birds were singing and next door's cat was sunbathing on top of the guinea-pig hutch. I was all out of excuses, it was now or never. I slipped into my tennis shorts (which once again had shrunk over the winter months), donned my XXL t-shirt, which I really should have put in for washing after my last appearance on court back in September, collected my racquet from the back of the shed where it had been thrown in disgust after that last defeat, and drove to the courts to find that 12 other people had had the same idea. There was no getting out of it; I was going to have to play some tennis.

I must admit to being a tad rusty; in fact 12 gallons of WD40 wouldn't have helped me much, but at least I could still hit the ball most of the time. My serving was, lets say, unique, but not as weird as my first opponent Martin Clark, who's self-taught technique caused the ball to travel three sides of a square before it finally plopped down on my side of the court. I think it was all that running around back and forth, left and right, trying to return his serve that set off the alarm on my heart monitor, whereupon I decided that a nice sit down was called for, whilst everyone else discussed the next pairings for the subsequent set. I began to wish I hadn't left my iron lung at home. By a quirky chance of good fortune I was paired with a lady called Claire, whose day job is a paramedic. I felt a wave of relaxation drift over me as I served off in the next game knowing that if I did keel over at any point then at least there was help close by; I was sure she'd have at least a defibrillator in her tennis bag, plus a wide variety of additional highly technical life-saving equipment, and probably knew a very quick way to the L&D although how she'd have got me in the back of her sports car I'm not sure.

Fortunately I saw out the rest of the morning without incident, and can thoroughly recommend our Sunday sessions as a way to blow away those winter cobwebs. If I can survive it, then so can you! For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at the School Lane courts, or our various activities, please call either Chairman Ross Bagni on 01525 221411, Coach Nick Boys on 07810 832774, or if they're all out and I'm not giving myself a medical, me, Andy Cross, on 01582 477114.

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Why following Him should be banned; I was just a young impressionable youth.
I was still searching for the truth.

César was our living God; but we had many another.
I had come here to visit, the Tribune, my brother.
Jerusalem,.... this place, full of Jews. They talk of a Messiah;
A bringer of 'Good News', A deliverer, a shepherd for His sheep.
This place is so boring - I'm almost asleep!
I came because a crucifixion meant at last some small measure of excitement.
But now I feel it's time to go home, life's far more entertaining
When I'm in Rome.....

I was there at the foot of the cross, I am a Jew,
I had nothing better that day to do; I had to come here for the feast,
Go to the Temple, buy lamb from the priest;
There was a trial, Pilate asked, and sought an answer,
Are you a Lord, Man from Galilee?" Later he said, "Take Him to Herod,
He this farce will oversee". "Kill Him", we cried, "Let Him be crucified".
Me, a goldsmith, I went along with the crowd, and I saw the sad look on Jesus' face
And I knew then that that hill was a sacred place. We killed Him, the Nazarene
Son of God; that man had seen.....

I was there at the foot of the cross, I saw his agony, felt the people's loss,
I heard Him call to His Father that day, "Forgive them", he said,
"They know not what they do or say".... The sky was black just as of night,
Lightning, wind, rain, the people took fright. The Temple curtain rent in two.
He called, "Father, I am cometh to You". After that, I too, went on my way,
But I'll not forget what I saw that day; for this was a man, full of love, I'm told,
A carpenter's son, who made so bold as to teach and promise a Spirit from God,
A life everlasting, washed by His blood!..A merchant I am, with spices to sell,
And time truth to tell, is something I cannot afford, to talk of someone who called
Himself, 'The Son of the Lord'.

I was there at the foot of the cross, I saw the soldiers as dice they did toss,
They were gambling for His cloak. He hung and died upon that tree,
To take the sin from you and me. 'Twas to His Father that He spoke;
But I was His MOTHER:...Oh, don't you see, why didn't He say a last word to me?
My tears, they fell and mingled with His blood, as it ran down the hill,
And mixed with the mud... The heavens were dark, storm filled the air.
Where were His friends? Did they not care? He was my firstborn, my eldest son.
Why did they crucify Him? What had He done? He was so gentle, good and kind,
How could the people be so blind? They tested Him and put Him on trial,
Made Him carry that cross, mile upon mile. They scourged His back with many a whip
And gave Him vinegar, when He asked for water to sip.
They put on His head a crown of thorn, was this really why He was born?
On each of His sides they hung a thief; His life on this earth, had been so brief...

I was there at the foot of the cross; for it's with my mind that I can see.
I know when He died it was for me. That far away day yet very near.
I'm filled with wonder, and yes, sometimes fear; for my faith is not strong,
'Though it is sincere. Today it is to me that He calls. He lifts me when I stumble,
or fall. His presence is always at my side, and it's in His love, that I abide.

Yes, I am here at the foot of the cross, but I am not filled with a sense of loss,
For I know that He will come again, and when He does there will be no pain.
We will laugh and shout, and full of joy we'll sing, for He is coming again,
Coming as King....I am here standing at the foot of the cross, for it is here
Wherever we meet; the foot of the cross, the mercy seat.
The thought of love, its undying ember, I can't forget..... DO YOU REMEMBER...?

Maureen Richardson

Dagnall News

Over 60's

At our February meeting we welcomed Mr & Mrs Rinkel from Berkhamsted. They gave us a very entertaining talk on living and working in Saudi Arabia in the 1980s.

During both March and April our meetings will in fact be trips out for lunch, which proves very popular with our members.

We are certainly looking ahead to September when we have a return visit from Jean Martyn who gave us such an enjoyable organ recital last year. Make a note of the date – Saturday September 15th. We have already sold some tickets.

Dagnall Church

All Saints' Church will be having a cake stall at the Village Fete on Saturday 12 May, the proceeds from which will go towards the Ian Rennie Hospice at Home. All contributions welcome.

Dagnall School

ALIENS LIKE TO EAT

They like chewing soft chicken
They like munching yummy eyes
They like crunching juicy worms
By Wilf Year 1
They like eating worms
They like crunching caterpillars
They like munching slugs
They like gobbling starfish
By Jessica Year 1

As part of the Year One's work on Space, the children imagined what Aliens like to eat.



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All residents of Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall

As Spring is now upon us, and your thoughts are turning to gardening, I thought I would remind you that I am still selling the AVDC green refuse sacks. Currently they are £4.50 for 20. For the benefit of any newcomers to the area if you pay your rates to the Aylesbury District Council, then you can use these sacks. The Parish Council permit me to sell the sacks at the same price as they buy them from the District Council.

They can only be used for garden rubbish i.e. grass mowings, chopped up bushes etc. If you stand them out with your wheelie bin on collection refuse day, the dustmen will take them away.

Sue Parker 221416

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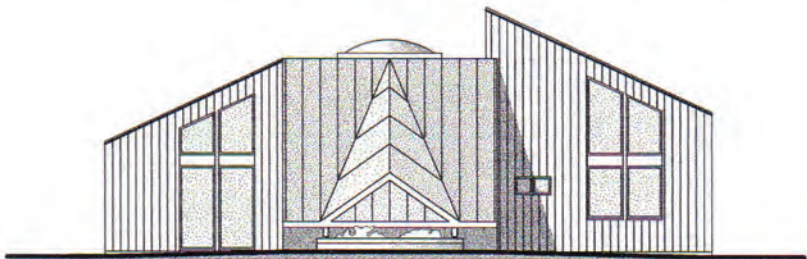
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Village Pubs Past & Present

As a "Newcomer" to Edlesborough, (I only moved here in 1970) I recently got to thinking of how the history of Public Houses is so closely associated with the changing faces of our villages. I pinched the idea of a story written around Public Houses from an article that I read and have applied the idea to the Pubs past and present in the four villages served by Focus. I have also tried to identify their original sites, but I am sure that some of the real locals from the four villages will be able to point out my errors and find for me some more forgotten pubs. I am willing to bet that no one remembers the "Victoria", an alehouse that stood on the site of 8 High Street Edlesborough. The original deeds, once owned by me, showed that it had been two cottages, then an alehouse, then a retail haberdashery, to be followed by Buckrods Hardware, which was demolished and rebuilt, eventually to become Janes Carpets.

I will be very pleased to hear from anybody who can cast any light on more Pubs, their locations, and possibly some of the stories connected to them. Many years ago in the reign of Reg & Marie Catchpole (publicans of the Bell, Edlesborough during the seventies) one regular at the Bell, living at the time in the Old Greyhound when it was a private residence, and others who visited his house, all swore that a man known to many elders of the village, whose name was known to them, (but which escapes me), was to be seen after his death regularly sitting in the lounge of the house in the position where he apparently always sat when alive, and would come and go on a regular basis. True or false? Would anyone who has any news or information regarding any of the items raised in this piece please contact me through the pages of "Focus" thus providing its readers with more information about our villages and their history . Thank you.

Len Buckingham

The Travelling Woodcutter

Once upon a time, many years ago there was a woodcutter from Edlesborough who decided to go and see the wider world. He took his **Axe and Compass**, jumped on his **White Horse**, and as **The Bell** in the church tower rang its Sunday call he rode off. Later as he tired of riding he stopped at a building where **Travellers Rest**, for his evening refreshment and room. There he got into conversation with a man he knew to be a carpenter by his **Rule & Square**, which he carried with him. They were very soon happy with each other's company, and to pass the time were playing a game of **Chequers**. When asked by the carpenter why he, the woodsman, was on the road, the woodsman replied that he was looking for pastures new, to which the carpenter replied, "Upon my word God bless **Victoria** and the **Prince of Wales**, why on earth are you doing that? Don't you know that what you need in this world is **Hope: and Anchor** yourself to the people you know, your friends and family?" After much thought the woodcutter decided that he had started his travels with **Good Intent**, and would therefore continue on his way for a little longer yet. Before very long he came to a splendid lake with a solitary **Swan**, and an impressive **Fountain**. On enquiring of a local damsel he was informed that the lake was the work of the local squire, but that it had proved to be a **Labour In vain**, as he died by drowning in the self same lake, so always remember **The Golden Rule**, look before you leap she said. The woodsman carried on with his journey to **Plough** up hills only to drop down in to the valleys again. After some miles he met a man with an **Old Greyhound** who explained that he had come from the local fair where he had been watching the **Wrestlers**, and a crack shot **Rifleman**. He was also carrying a soft toy in the form of a **Red Lion**, which he said he had won on the hoopla stall, which he intended to give to his granddaughter. After this encounter the woodsman walked some 20 miles **North, all inn** one day. Eventually the woodsman finished up on the Duke of Bedford's estate, where he was to find rewarding employment. Never the less he was always happy to hear the estate clock chiming **Five Bells** signifying the end of a long working day, thus enabling him to wend his way to his local pub **The Bedford Arms**, where he would enjoy a well earned pint and the company of his friends and other workers on the estate. He was in due course to settle down and get married, and raise a family making him realise how lucky he had been not to have taken the word of the carpenter, but to continue with his journey, eventually to find all

the security hope and friendship that he had been seeking.

The End

The Four Village Pubs Used In The Story

- 1 The Axe & Compass: Now a private house in High Street Edlesborough with a balcony overlooking the cricket square
- 2 The White Horse: Public House in Park Lane Eaton Bray adjacent to The Five bells
- 3 The Bell: Public House Leighton Road Edlesborough opposite Edlesborough Church
- 4 The Travellers Rest: Theme Public House & Restaurant Icknield Way Edlesborough adjacent to double roundabout
- 5 The Rule & Square: Now a residential site at the end of Green Street Edlesborough known as the Willows
- 6 The Chequers: Now a small housing estate opposite the Market Square Moor End Eaton Bray
- 7 The Victoria: 8 High Street Edlesborough. Now Janes Carpet Shop. Was an alehouse
- 8 The Prince Of Wales: Now a private dwelling just past the corner of Brook Street, opposite the allotments. Also thought to be an alehouse
- 9 The Hope & Anchor: Now an Indian Restaurant in Bower Lane Eaton Bray
- 10 The Good Intent: Now the name of a housing estate in Edlesborough, the pub was thought to be one of the original buildings at the entrance
- 11 The Swan: Public House in Leighton Road Northall near South End Lane
- 12 The Fountain: Now private semidetached housing was situated just past the Roebuck garage forecourt
- 13 The Labour In Vain: Thought to have been on the site of Hawkins Transport Tottenhoe Road Eaton Bray
- 14 The Golden Rule: Public House on the Leighton Road Dagnall
- 15 The Plough: Now an Indian Restaurant on roundabout Harling Road/Tring Road Eaton Bray
- 16 The Old Greyhound: Now a private house next to The Bell Leighton Road Edlesborough
- 17 The Wrestlers: Now a private house Leighton Road Northall just past and opposite the Swan now called The Old Wrestlers
- 18 The Rifleman: Now the Coffee Tavern High Street Eaton Bray
- 19 The Five bells: Public House Totternhoe Road Eaton Bray adjacent to the White Horse
- 20 The Red Lion: Public House Leighton Road Dagnall
- 21 The Northall Inn: Now site of private houses off the Leighton Road on outskirts of Northall
- 22 The Bedford Arms: Was on the site of the Roebuck garage shop

Mothers' Union, Eaton Bray With Edlesborough

At our meeting on Wednesday, 14th February, we were pleased to welcome, as our speaker, Jenny Duke assisted by her friend Elka.

Prayers were said by Christine after which Jenny proceeded to show us her lifetime of work in quilts and patchwork. Jenny had worked hard to obtain her City & Guilds of which she showed us her set pieces of work. She has been teaching at Barnfield College for seven years and still takes private work shops. She designs all of her own work including patterns, colours and materials. Her first handwork quilt depicting 'Grandmothers' Flower Garden' was exquisite. Various types of patchwork, boxwork, quilt and applique work were passed around and the work in each piece amazed us all. She is a remarkable lady. She previously visited us with Ruth Deacon who spoke about her work in China. They had just heard that seven people they had met had become Christians. Jenny spent two years in America where patchwork and quilting is more fashionable than here. Quilts are made in Church and distributed to distressed children.

It was a very pleasant afternoon enjoyed by fourteen members. We were pleased to welcome Muriel and would welcome any other ladies who care to join our very informal gathering.

Jenny was thanked by us all and refreshments were served and we ended with Grace at 4pm.

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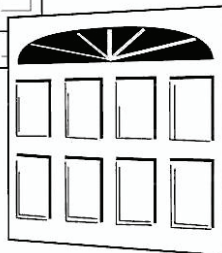
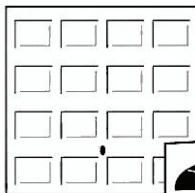
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