

FOCUS

December/January 2008

EDLESBRAY PLAYERS PRESENT

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THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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

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

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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

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

Beware! Bogus callers

In July 2007, Beds Police launched a campaign called 'Second Generation', to get children, grandchildren, carers and neighbours thinking about older people and reminding them about the dangers of burglars and rogue traders. Posters and leaflets were distributed to relevant locations such as GP surgeries, nurseries, post offices, schools and parish councils.

Bedfordshire residents, particularly older and vulnerable people, need to be on their guard after a spate of burglaries in the county. Offenders have been pretending to be from utility companies, e.g. water, gas, electricity and phone, to bluff their way into your homes. They do this by keeping the occupier busy while an accomplice steals cash and valuables. Sometimes they even pose as Police officers.

Beds Police offer the following advice:

- Use door chains and spy holes.
- Always ask to see identification before letting someone into your home.
- Do not keep large amounts of money at home.
- Keep outside doors and windows locked.
- Call the Police if you are in doubt about the identity of a caller.

Other nuisance callers include:

- Cold callers: sales reps who turn up without an appointment and won't leave until you have signed a contract.
- Rogue traders: unqualified workmen who often do jobs in your home badly and expensively. Victims are usually older people.

Anyone with information about bogus callers can contact Beds Police on 01234 841212, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111. In an emergency dial 999.

Village Diaries December/January 2008



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, 9.30-12 noon, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Under 5's Pre-School, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Sue Connor 01525 222739
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Kay 07803 925254
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays (term time) Mums & Tots Group, 1-2.30pm, Grace Community Church
- Tuesdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm 01525 377542
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Baby Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
- Tuesdays FITKID, 6-7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Caroline 08445 606432
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, Totternhoe Village Hall, 07986 730922
- Tuesdays Fortnightly Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Weds (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 Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Thurs (term time) Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45 - 2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) Contact Michelle Tel 01442 842 676
- Thursdays Yoga Classes, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm
- Thursdays Keep fit, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304
- Thursdays Kfa Body Moves 40+, Fitness through movement, exercise & dance. 8-9pm, Edlesborough School, Contact Pat 01582 668735
- Thursdays Baby & Toddler Group, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 9.30-11.30am
- 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, 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 at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
- 2nd Tuesday Toddlers' Church, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.00pm
- 2nd Tuesday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable (opposite Wilkinson)
- 2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 2nd Wednesday 8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church
- 2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3rd Sunday Grace Community Church Service, 11am, all welcome, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 11th Dec Over 60's Christmas Lunch, Dagnall Village Hall, 2pm
- 12th Dec Christmas Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm.
- 14th Dec Leukaemia Research Sherry & Mince Pies Morning, 2 Dunstable Road,
- 9th & 23rd Jan Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall, 8pm
- 11th Jan Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am
- 15th Jan Over 60's AGM & Birthday Party, Dagnall Village Hall 2pm

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 1st Dec Eaton Bray Lower School Christmas Fair, 12-3pm
- 2nd Dec 4.00pm Nth Chilterns Group Advent Service – St Mary's, Kensworth
- 7th Dec Christmas Market, 5-7pm, Outside Edlesborough School
- 8th Dec Christmas Coffee Morning, All Saints' Church Dagnall from 10.30am.
- 12th Dec 8.15pm Healing Service at St Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 15th Dec 6.00pm Carol Service at St Mary's, Edlesborough
- 16th Dec 4.00pm Dagnall Village Carol Service
6.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 21st Dec 6.30pm Carol Sing-along, St Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 24th Dec 4.15 & 6.00pm Christmas Eve Candles Services, 11.30pm Midnight Mass, St Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 25th Dec 10.00am Christmas Day Communion with Sunday School Nativity Play – St Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 20th Jan 4.00pm United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – Dagnall Church
- 23rd Jan 8.00pm Open Meeting for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – Salvation Army Hall



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These are just a few of the comments made in our fourth 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 2½ to 4½ year olds. If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Debbie 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,
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EDaN Project Update

Questionnaires – We had a fantastic response to the EDaN questionnaire. 1091 questionnaires were delivered and 732 returned - a staggering 67.1%. This truly shows the effort of the EDaN Steering group and a high level of interest from parish residents. Many thanks go to all our volunteer deliverers and collectors but also to you, the residents, for taking the time to participate.

Thanks must also go to the printers, Priory Press for their help in printing the questionnaire, and to Denson Estate Agents and staff who not only helped with the delivery and collection process but also acted as a central drop off point. Densons were also kind enough to allow us to use their premises for the Prize Draw.

Prize Draw Winner – Well done Mrs. Little from Dagnall, we hope you enjoy your prize.

What next? – At the time of writing data entry is in progress and we expect to have a summary of the data soon for analysis. The Steering group will be meeting with the Parish Council early in the New Year to present the first analysis as they are our sponsors. We will also be feeding back to you our residents. This will begin in February and will be carried out via public events in the villages and through this magazine. Please see flyer in the next Focus for more details.

We have been especially pleased with how many residents have taken the time to write additional comments on their questionnaire. These have been extremely useful and show the strength of opinion and enthusiasm for our villages.

Paul Smith

Paul, St. Mary's Eaton Bray Assistant Church Organist, passed away on October 31st after a short illness.

Paul lived in the village for many years until he and Lesley moved to Markyate. He maintained his link with his friends and connections with the church here in Eaton Bray.

Paul had a wonderful sense of humour and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts go out to Lesley, Andrew and Mathew at this time.

St. Mary's Church Edlesborough



Carol Service

Saturday
15th December

6.00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome

Wanted – Homes For Mary And Joseph And The Wise Men

There is an old Mexican custom where, during Advent, people dressed as Mary and Joseph travel around their villages knocking at peoples' doors to see who will give them hospitality. The Mothers' Union has adapted this custom through the idea of a Travelling Crib, which was initiated, throughout our villages, for the first time in 2004, using crib figures made from olive wood and carved by Christians in Bethlehem.

Many of you who attended one of St Mary's popular Christmas Eve Candle Service last year will have witnessed the return of our Mary and Joseph crib figures after they had spent December travelling from one home in the parish to another, symbolising Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus.

After a blessing in church on Advent Sunday (2 December) they will journey around the parish staying one night in any house that will welcome them. Eventually they will be brought back to church on Christmas Eve for this year's 4.15pm Candle Service.

To enable as many families as possible to participate in this lovely ritual we will also be looking for homes for three wise men, who will set out from St Mary's at the 6pm Candle Service on Christmas Eve visiting homes in the parish before returning to worship the Christ child on Epiphany.

All are welcome to participate in this activity which provides an opportunity for a short act of worship during which a candle lit to signify our travellers have a home for the night. This is often followed by the chance for the two families concerned to share glasses of wine and mince pies if they wish. We do hope that St Mary's Travelling Crib will find a welcome in your house this Christmas. If you would like to have Mary and Joseph or the Wise Men in your home for a night please sign up on one of the forms on the Notice Board in St Mary's Church.



FAMILY SING-A-LONG

Traditional Christmas Carols

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Friday, 21st December 2007

6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

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Edlesborough Parish Council
(including Edlesborough Dagnall and Northall) News

EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL BOOKINGS - Beverly Sage is the new Bookings Secretary and enquiries should be made to her on 01525 229509

It has been ascertained that the Bridleway adjoining Edlesborough Church was included in the Inclosure Award and enquiries are being made of Buckinghamshire County Council regarding exact ownership of the Ivinghoe Aston to Edlesborough bridleway.

A reply from Buckinghamshire County Council was received explaining the reason for the problems with the School buses and this is being monitored.

The Council were concerned that development has commenced at Kircutt, Chapel Lane, Northall prior to it receiving notice of planning permission and enquiries have been made as to the present position.

Dog Fouling continues to be a problem particularly in Edlesborough despite numerous dog bins being positioned around various locations. The Council has agreed to purchase an additional Dog Bin at a cost of £220.00 to be placed near the top of the High Street in Edlesborough as dog fouling is causing problems with children using the 'crocodile' walk to Edlesborough School. It costs the Parish Council £2.22 to have each dog bin emptied and this is carried out twice a week during summer months and once a week during the winter months. Dog owners are requested to **please** tidy up after their dogs and use the Dog Bins that are provided as it causes a Health & Safety hazard to other members of the public.

The problem with non-drainage of water at the junction of Eaton Bray Road, Northall and the A4146 has again been reported requesting that further works are undertaken to remedy the problem.

Funding has been granted towards the cost of replacing the goal posts on Edlesborough Green and Dagnall Recreation Field and new goal posts will be available shortly.

The Parish Council intend to repeat during Easter and Summer holidays in 2008 the Childrens' events which took place during the Summer holidays. It is hoped that the events will take place in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall.

Allotments rents were collected during the weekend of 20th/21st October. Several allotment holders have given up their tenancies. If any parishioner wishes to take on an allotment please inform the Clerk and you name will be added to the waiting list.

E-mail:

parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk

Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

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Next meetings: Thurs 20th Dec 07
Thurs 17th Jan 08

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The annual Edlesborough Tennis Club 'Ben Wright' Golf Trophy was again held at MENTMORE Golf Club. It was hotly contested with some high scoring rounds and an overall winner Neil Rigby who managed to produce some spectacular golf on the day. A big thank you to David Brown for organising the afternoon.

The MEAL @ THE BELL was also very successful with everyone enjoying the hearty fayre provided by the Landlord/Landlady team of Andy and Alex.

A special thank you to our neighbours Eaton Bray Tennis Club and Ross Bagni for the loan of one tennis net when ours broke during a Ladies league match.

The BUCKS LTA have just introduced a full programme of MINI TENNIS tournaments sponsored by ARIEL, they consist of RED 5 to 7 year olds, ORANGE 7 to 8, and GREEN 9 to 10. All played on a round robin basis using the LTA recommended marked out courts together with the correct softness of ball. £6 entry fee and duration of around two hours. For more details have a look at the website www.etctennis.org or e-mail ziggy.bis@nissan-design.co.uk

These tournaments are very much enjoyed by the MINI TENNIS under 10 juniors but they require transportation to the respective venue. 80% of juniors playing football take part in competitive play, but only 8% of juniors playing tennis take part in competitive play. I've asked them why and they've told me it's because they can't drive.

By the time you read this the AGM will have been and gone 19-11-07, but if any members have a post AGM suggestion please convey it to the committee.

The new WINTER COACHING PROGRAMME up to APRIL 2008 is on the website.

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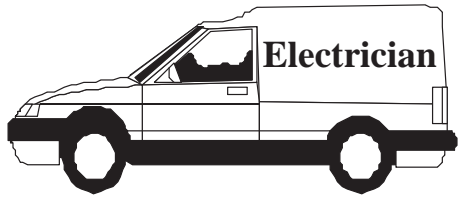
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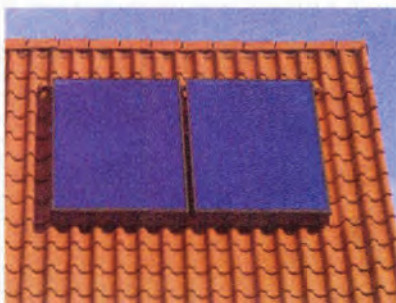
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SAT 9.30am E B Village Hall

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Or for kids classes 07790236087

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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 important themes in the Christmas story is that of silence. The Gospel tells of Mary's silence being broken by the angel who appeared to her with world-shattering news, and then the long silence as the Baby grows in her womb. There is the night-time silence of the fields above Bethlehem which was shattered as angels appeared to tell the shepherds of the Child born in the stable, and, above all, the silence of God's action in bringing Jesus into the world, a silence which was broken by the cry of a new-born Baby.

Silence is characteristic of the way God works in our world. People who think they are important and mighty never do anything without making sure there will be a blaze of publicity, but God doesn't work like that in our world. When He came among us, it was not in a royal palace, as the Wise Men discovered, but in a stable; not among courtiers and glittering furniture but in a manger surrounded only by the beasts that were sheltered there. Jesus's coming was announced to a group of shepherds out in the fields, not in the corridors of power. God acts quietly, behind the scenes, and we need to be alert and watchful to recognize the truth of what is happening. I believe that we can detect the activity of God behind all sorts of events in our everyday lives – if we are prepared to stop and look and listen.

God acts in our lives through the love of those close to us, and He speaks to us through the events which go on around us, through the words of friends and colleagues, even in the silence of our own minds. The Christmas story reveals to us a God who is passionately concerned about what goes on in our world and in our own lives, a God who is constantly seeking to take the mess we make of things and to make something good out of it all. Today's world is full of the tragic consequences of evil, ignorance and stupidity, and God is looking for us to work with Him to sort it out. I believe that is one of the things we are talking about when we pray "thy kingdom come", and if that prayer is to be real it needs to be accompanied by a willingness to get involved in the problems of our community, our nation and our world (as well as the difficulties and problems in our own lives) and try to identify God's solution and work together to attain it. There won't be flashing lights and trumpet blasts to rally us to the cause. God works silently behind the scenes, and challenges us to work with Him to make the world a better place. And Jesus shows us that love is the transforming power through which God seeks to achieve His purpose, love which can make all things new.

This is where the familiar Christmas story holds out hope for the world. If we want 2008 to be better than 2007, it is no use just waiting for a miracle to happen. The miracle has happened already – at Bethlehem, two thousand years ago. What is needed now is for us to take its message seriously, listen again to the promise of "peace to people of goodwill", and make up our minds to do all we can in the spirit of goodwill to help build that peace of which the angels sang. It may seem a tall order, but we have to start somewhere, and for us that somewhere is here.

May God grant you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas, and many blessings in the coming New Year.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

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

28 October Charlie Robert Jordon Summerson
Jake Robert Edward Summerson



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

25 October Alexander William Glass of The Nurseries, Eaton Bray
26 October Ruth Barnett of Tasker’s Row, Edlesborough
8 November Paul Martin Smith of Cheverals Green, Markyate

Services at St Mary’s Church

SUNDAYS: 8.00am – The Eucharist
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

For **CHRISTMAS SERVICES** at St Mary’s, please see the accompanying Christmas card, which comes with greetings and good wishes from all the churches of our villages.

WEEK-DAYS: Tuesday: 7.30am - Eucharist
2.00pm (2nd Tuesday) - Toddlers’ Church
Wednesday: 9.30am - Eucharist
8.15pm (2nd Wednesday) – Healing Service
Thursday: 7.30pm - Eucharist
(on 2nd Thursday at All Saints’, Dagnall)

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Sunday, 20 January

4.00pm

**United Service at
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Wednesday, 23 January

8.00pm

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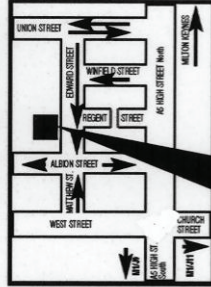


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The Royal British Legion and SSAFA Forces Help (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) are long established charities that exist to support families confronted by these problems, but the sad reality is that this message is not always getting through to the people who matter - those in need. Although the charities are, by tradition, associated with the twentieth century world wars their work now deals additionally with the consequences of more than 20 military campaigns since the end of WWII, thus widening and continually extending the catchment of Service personnel who might have fallen upon hard times.

A programme to heighten the awareness of serving and ex-service personnel of the wide range of help and advice that is available is currently being launched throughout Buckinghamshire. National estimates suggest that currently the charities reach a disappointingly small proportion of the ex-service people and their dependants who could be eligible for support.

There could be many reasons for this, not least the threat to the privacy of the individuals, who would be asked to divulge financial and other personal details, albeit to a well trained caseworker. The casework is always handled with extreme sensitivity and in the utmost confidence. We hope that this assurance will encourage more potential clients to come forward and give us the opportunity to help. The help could be financial, emotional or practical: it could provide respite for those who suffer great strain in their present circumstances.

If any readers, through either their professional or social contacts, are aware of people with a Service background who might be in need of help they are asked to bring this article to their attention and consider with them whether they would like to get in touch with one of the two numbers below. Just one day's service is enough to qualify for support and our clients certainly include national servicemen. Furthermore, if anyone belongs to a local organisation which would welcome a brief talk from one of our staff on the issues raised in this article they are welcome to contact Mr Kerr Gibb, the caseworker coordinator for South Bucks, on 01494 675343.

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St Mary's Parochial Church Council Meeting

The PCC met on 11th October at All Saints' Church, Dagnall, following a celebration of the Eucharist. Barbara Morton has agreed to serve as Electoral Roll Officer.

Members have been invited to respond to a questionnaire from Churches Together, who are asking how their organisation can best help the churches of the four villages. It was generally agreed that the recent Harvest Supper and Barn Dance had been a very enjoyable and successful evening, and those who had attended expressed great appreciation of the skill and versatility of the band.

An extensive report from the Fabric Committee was followed by a decision that the necessary work should be carried out on the Chancel roof at a suitable time in the spring – unless more funds can be raised, work on the north aisle roof may have to be delayed. Since only positive comments have been received about the Pulpit design, the PCC agreed that plans for this should go ahead.

The Fire Prevention Officer will be asked to advise on evacuation from the tower ringing chamber and the organ gallery in the event of a fire.

The meeting took place at Dagnall on 8th November. As a fair trade church St Mary's has agreed to use fair trade products at all of its events and to support fair trade week. A brief is being prepared inviting young Christian artists to submit works of art for niches in St Mary's. The annual parish meeting will now take place on Thursday 24th April at 7.45pm in Eaton Bray hall. Arrangements for cleaning the church were discussed with a view to obtaining quotes for contract cleaners to undertake some of the work.

The draft of the new child protection policy was discussed with some alterations being suggested by the committee. The proposal to create the position of parish administrator was debated at length. It was decided that a review of all administration tasks be undertaken before further discussion takes place. Samples of the new church chairs are being delivered next week for examination as to their suitability.

The Church Mouse.

The Salvation Army, Booth Place Weekly Activities

Sunday

Sunday School	9.45-10.45am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	6.00pm

Sunday Evening (1st and 3rd each month)

Youth Group (age 12+)	7.45-9.00pm
-----------------------	-------------

Monday

Junior Club (age 8+)	6.30-7.45pm
----------------------	-------------

Wednesday

Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm
------------------------------	--------

Thursday

Baby and Toddler Group	9.30-11.30am
------------------------	--------------

Thursday Evening

Young Ladies Fellowship	7.45pm
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Eaton Bray Lower School
Home School Association



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Highlights of Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Held on 6th November 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

Theo Gray

Theo gave a talk about the Eaton Bray Website which he populates and maintains. If anyone wants anything added to the site, contact Theo by email to theo.gray@eatonbray.com.

Public Forum

Alan Woolridge requested an update on Mill End Close and the Ransom Strip. The chairman advised:

- the fencing is still in a state of disrepair and we are now looking at erecting a different type of fence. Mr Woolridge advised more fencing broken down near the bridge area.
- The River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board are due to commence dredging work and will access through the broken fence area

Mr Woolridge asked what was happening regarding the Youth Shelter, the Chairman advised we are liaising with PC Viv Dady, still awaiting response and as yet no decision has been made.

Mr Woolridge also advised more clearing up had been done in this area and recommended EBPC liaise with Edlesborough Parish Council and work together on this. The state of the fencing is a Health and Safety Issue. Cllrs Crace and Gallagher to talk with Edlesborough Parish Council.

Chairman's comments and correspondence

Poppy Appeal, Cllr Heyland proposed we increase donation to £100, Cllr Marriage seconded, all in favour, cheque raised at end of meeting to this effect.

Leaf clearing at the memorial will be carried out at 10am on Saturday morning,

Ms Hounslow, Eaton Bray Lower School

Ms Hounslow and two school governors gave a brief presentation on "Why Have A Nursery" and distributed the latest Ofsted Report. Building work commenced on the new building this week and a copy of the plans will be made available to the Parish Council. The cost is £335,000, for the building work, but not fitting out, existing fitments will be used. Funding is in place for £300,000 and looking to raise the remainder by either donation or loan. The Parish Council will consider gift or loan to be addressed at a separate meeting. The Chairman congratulated Ms Hounslow on their fantastic achievements and Ofsted Report.

The clerk confirmed the Parish Council representatives will meet with the School Council on Friday 30 November at the school.

District and County Representatives

County Councillor B Piggott gave a talk on the two current task forces he is currently involved in, these being transport and Unitary Council for Bedfordshire.

Youth Club Accounts

The accounts were distributed prior to the meeting for consideration. The chairman

<p>Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings 1st Monday of every month 7.30pm The Coffee Tavern Next Meetings: Mon 3rd Dec 07 Mon 7th Jan 08</p>

advised still no success in recruiting a Youth Club Leader and will advertise this post again. To consider using Post Office, Public Houses and Garage along with media sources. If this vacancy cannot be filled the Youth Club Constitution regulations are the money must be used for youths.

Bus Shelter

Three quotations have now been received.

The chairman recommended we replace the roof, not make do with repairs due to the state of disrepair. The clerk to advise Alan Barnard.

Christmas Decorations

The Parish Council would like to buy trees and lights at a cost of £100. Cllr Beal proposed budget of £100, Cllr Crace seconded. All in favour.

Planning

The following planning applications were considered:

- TP/07/1108 - Grasmere, Wellhead, Dunstable LU6 2JU
Erection of Replacement Garage
- TP/07/1214 – 44 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray LU6 2DF
Erection of new chimney breast

No objections were received.



Eaton Bray WI Report

Our President welcomed the members and two visitors to the November meeting, and our 86th birthday celebration with wine and birthday cake. Three members also had birthdays and received birthday cards.

The business consisted of plans for our Dunstable Group Christmas Evening, in which Eaton Bray will be performing ‘our version’ of Snow White.

Our vice president will lay a Poppy wreath at Eaton Bray War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday and also place a poppy cross on the Edlesborough memorial.

We will be supporting Luton Woman’s Refuge as our Christmas charity, and items for this will be required at the December meeting.

With business finished we welcomed our guest speaker Rusty Goffe who spoke to us about his lifetime in show business. Rusty was born a dwarf and explained that there is still no medical explanation why this happens; adding that his brother is over six feet tall and both parents were a normal height. After leaving school, Rusty's ambition was to go into show business and he joined a band show performing at the end of Southsea Pier. On entering a talent competition, he was invited to join a variety show in London and worked in many of the West End theatres. Rusty started to audition for films in 1970 and landed his first film part in “Willy Wonker and the Chocolate Factory”; he went on to work alongside Hollywood stars in film blockbusters “Star Wars” and “Harry Potter”. Also having roles in the TV comedies “ ‘Allo ‘Allo” and “Are You Being Served?” Rusty is currently working in a Saturday morning children’s TV show, and will shortly be performing in his thirty seventh pantomime - but alas not in our area.

Our next meeting is on 3rd December at 7.30pm in Eaton Bray Village Hall members and friends are always very welcome, for more info. Contact Sheila on 221185.

Your Business & Your Will

Last month I emphasised how your Will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. It is essential that it is both available to your executor(s) for immediate reference on your death and acceptable (valid) to the Probate Registry. A Will is of little worth if either of these conditions is not met.

Here is an important question for many readers.

‘What would happen to my business if I were to die tomorrow?’

Business Operated as a Sole Trader:

As sole trader you have skills and experience not easily replaced. Is there someone you have groomed to succeed you – is there an option to purchase? Can the business be sold as a going concern or must it be wound up, and the monies realised added to your estate? Your Will should record your wishes.

A Firm Operated in Partnership:

A Partnership Agreement needs to be in place that includes what is to happen when a partner dies etc. The surviving partner(s) may wish to continue trading but will have to raise monies to pay into your estate. You have no rights to bequeath your position as a partner but you can bequeath the financial interest you have in the partnership.

A combination of a Will and Partnership Agreement will ensure that your beneficiaries and surviving partners enjoy an orderly and planned settlement of your business affairs. The Agreement has priority over the Will, so executors and trustees cannot take an active part in the firm, except as required to secure the financial interest of the deceased.

A Major Shareholder in a Limited Liability Company:

Many former sole traders and partnerships have changed to a limited company or partnership status in recent years. This totally changes the situation when death occurs. E.g. the Articles of Association determine what rights the shareholder has in the disposal of shares. They can include an option to bequeath shares to certain family members usually restricted to a spouse and children. The Articles take precedent over any conflicting clause in a Will and the Executors and Trustees cannot interfere in any way with the operation of the Company.

KEY POINT: The legal status of your business, or interest in a business, determines the options available to you to influence what happens to your business interest on your death. This is a complex topic demanding professional guidance from an accountant, and, on your Will, it is essential you obtain expert guidance, ideally in the privacy of your home, and that your Will is correctly drafted. Sovereign Will & Probate Services Ltd provide this service locally for a very competitive fee.

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Eaton Bray Lions AFC

E. B. Lions AFC is a children's football club for the boys and girls living in and around the villages of Edlesborough, Eaton Bray, Dagnall and Northall.

We have ten teams this season, ranging from our Under 14's down to our newest U7's including two girls teams in the Under 10's and the Under 12's League. This is providing competitive sport by qualified coaches to over 130 children! We are working hard to develop our players and teams into a successful and thriving Club and have FA qualified coaches running every team. Please look us up on our website which is being revamped as we speak - www.eblions.co.uk

Charter Standard Development Status

We are delighted to announce that EB Lions AFC, after much work by our coaches and committee, has won the coveted Charter Standard Development status via Beds FA. There are only 8 Charter Standard Development Youth Football Clubs in Bedfordshire.

This scheme is a core component of the FA Football Development programme. The scheme established minimum standards for football development and acts as a quality assurance mechanism recognising well run schools and clubs. As a benchmark for quality it will improve the playing experience for all.

The Charter Standard Scheme is a best practice guide that sets standards of coaching, administration and child protection for all clubs outside the Football League and Premier League. Youth Football Clubs are the heartbeat of football in this country. That is why The FA Charter Standard club programme, which raises standards and recognises and rewards quality, is so important.

The FA Charter Standard Programme provides recognition that clubs are well run and sustainable, with child protection and safety paramount. It also recognises a club's commitment to coaching, player and coach development, and the raising of standards of behaviour in the game - all of which are big priorities for the Club and the FA.

Grant for new goalposts

With huge and much appreciated support from Eaton Bray Parish Council we have been able to purchase new steel 11-a-side goals at Holmans Field, Eaton Bray to continue the investment in high quality equipment and facilities. This was made possible by a grant from the Football Foundation and a significant contribution from the Parish Council.

Since 1991 nine young footballers have been killed in the UK by unsafe goals and many more have been seriously injured by posts and crossbars that fail to meet basic safety standards. The Football Foundation is funded by the Premier League, The FA, Sport England and the Government (visit www.footballfoundation.org.uk for more information).

The club is grateful for their assistance in helping to ensure the safety of our young players.

New Under 7's Team

Our 2008-9 season Under 7's have already held their first training session which was fantastic and there are clearly some able and skilful players. The interest, quality and skill levels were much higher than we expected and 3 or 4 players in particular caught

the eye – indeed all the trainees looked very good. If we are able to attract 3 or 4 more school year 1 players we will be able to form two teams, which is our aim. This will enable all players to play regular football and ensure we have sufficient experience when 11-a-side football starts at Under 11.

Year 1 pupils at Dagnall, Edlesborough, Eaton Bray and Studham schools have already received invitation letters to join us at EB Lions. If your child did not attend the first training session and is interested in playing for the club please contact Liz Coates (see below). Please note to be considered, players need to be no older than 6 years old on 31st August 2008 i.e. all year 1 children are eligible.

Adrian Bush and Tim Sanders will run the second informal training session on **Saturday 1st December at 9.30am on Edlesborough Green for one hour.**

Other Club News

There are a number of other exciting announcements to make:-

- We have appointed a fitness coach, Nick Bramston, who has gained an expanded version of the FA Level 1 coaching badge. He will work with all our 10 teams to improve fitness and agility at all levels.
- We have appointed a Head Coach, Lewis Taylor, to help new coaches to the Club learn the ropes and the game.
- We have established a 5 year plan that includes increasing the number of teams to 18 over 5 years and seeking a suitable site for an all weather floodlit training pitch. We hope to secure substantial Football Foundation and Sport England funding for this once we have identified a suitable location – please help us with this if you can!
- We are expanding our number of 7-a-side and 11-a-side pitches to 8 next season. Thank you to Dagnall Village Hall Committee for allowing the Club the use of Dagnall pitch this season and hopefully for many years to come.

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

Charity Christmas Puzzle 2007

It is nearly time for Gordon Gray to distribute this year's Charity Christmas Puzzle. This, the 17th annual Puzzle that Gordon has set, has a theme designed to help completion and will appeal to people who enjoy doing Crossword puzzles, such as in the Daily Telegraph (though it is not a Crossword puzzle). Puzzlers have plenty of time to find the answers and Puzzles should be returned, with donation, by 27 January. Four winners will each receive a £25 prize.

Everyone who enters will qualify for a £25 prize draw.

Gordon plans to post Puzzles on 8 December, so those already on the distribution list should receive their copies by 12 December. Anyone else who would like a copy of the Puzzle can access it from the web at www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. You can register early to receive a copy on the issue date of 8 December. Alternatively puzzles can be collected from St Mary's Eaton Bray on Sunday 9 December.

Over £24,000 raised for charity

Over £3,000 donated in each of the last three years

This year's puzzle will support three charities Romania Care, the restoration of the Harrison & Harrison Organ, St Albans Cathedral, and Michael Sobell House Hospice, Mount Vernon. If you want further details contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136.

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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

As the nights progressively draw in, the less hardy members of our club (including myself) are sometimes less inclined to venture outside in the dark damp evenings for a set or two of tennis, and more disposed to sitting in front of the fire with a warming brew and the dulcet tones of Bruce ‘nice to see you’ Forsyth blaring from the TV set as he once again tells the couple, with a celebratory possessing the dancing skills of a pregnant warthog, that they are his favourites. So in order to entice a few of these lounge-lovers onto the courts, we organised a ‘Round Robin’ tournament last week and were delighted that 12 members turned out on what was actually a rather nice afternoon, and we only had to pay 7 of them. For those not in the know of such colloquial tennis terms, a ‘round robin’ involves games of doubles where everyone plays with everyone else in rotation, swapping partners after 4 games (tennis partners, not what you’re thinking) and keeps count of their own scores as to how many games they have won. It’s all quite simple after you’ve played in a few hundred competitions, but fortunately there’s always someone there who nearly understands it, so by the end of an afternoon’s play punctuated by cries such as ‘who swaps with whom?’, ‘is it sudden death deuce?’ and ‘ouch that hurt’ a winner was decided and awarded the usual lavish prize of a bottle of cheap plonk. As befits tradition, the last placed player also receives a special consolatory prize, so at least I went home with something.

As Focus goes to press, I’m delighted to bring ‘hold the front page’ news about last night’s Quiz night held in our clubhouse. It’s not known as the Tardis for nothing; from the outside one would never imagine that any more than 32 people could be ‘reasonably’ comfortably seated inside, but blow me down if we didn’t have 33 people including quizmaster Keith Blackburn ensconced. Let me tell you about Keith; although he’s never made the same big time as brother Tony (and therefore never munched on tsetse fly larvae in the jungles of Australia) he does put together a rather excellent quiz, and would make a welcome fellow passenger on a long haul flight to that same country, as he can keep one amused for hours, nay days, on fascinating trivia to prevent you from falling asleep and therefore making a complete hash of adapting to the vastly different time zone. ‘Who invented NASA?’ and ‘What decade was Zinc’ might have been 2 of the questions, but I may have got those mixed up, as I did most of the answers. My team, ‘4 Js and an A’, consisted of myself (the ‘A’) plus four others whose names began with a ‘J’; quite clever we thought, but no bonus points. I can reveal that three of the four were a Jane, a Jan and a John, but the fourth member has begged anonymity which I have to respect (thanks for the fiver J*nny, 29). Up until the last round, we were level pegging with Chairman Ross’s team “One overly loud Italian and his long suffering wife (Shelagh ‘where’s me mini’) plus a couple of hangers-on”.

The last round was critical. Could we make up the two points required to overtake them and prevent another six months of insufferable smugness? It all hinged on the last question; ‘Which three small islands in the British Isles issues their own postage stamps?’. ‘One overly loud’ etc went for Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man, whilst

I, as chief scribe, was persuaded to note down the Isle of Wight, Isle of Dogs and Isla St Clair. Inevitably we were pipped at the post and our Chairman delighted in handing out to his team their much deserved prizes of quality wine, one of which my wife and I had donated, so at least one of them will have a shock when they open that at their next dinner party. Home made is always the most enjoyed, I find, and Goldfish wine has to be savoured at almost freezing to be fully appreciated, although we didn't make that clear on the bottle notes. Thinking about it, we missed out any reference to the goldfish either. Probably best though after all the media trouble last time, although the guinea-pig fruit cake has since proved a gastronomic success at our local market cake stall in Dunstable. Call for further details, but leave it a couple more months until my release date.

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 still in Strangeways awaiting the results of my parole request, me, Andy Cross, on 01582 477114.

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Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners October 2007

Number	Name	Winnings
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125	Sally Taylor	£25
189	Sonia Dean	£25
178	Alison Tigg	£25
156	Jane Bagni	£25

Drawn on 18th October 2007 at Eaton Bray
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Dagnall School

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Salvation Sound. . . . December 2007/January 2008

Christmas, with holly, ivy and mistletoe,
winter's evergreens.

What though we rove the woods no more
Should we not still be gay.

When winter hoar, has leaves in store
That never fade away.?"

Holly was sacred to Saturn - thanks to its distinctive appearance the Church was able to eradicate the pagan beliefs and give the holly a new symbolism; the spiked leaves representing the crown of thorns, the berries, Christ's blood. Ivy was dedicated to the god Bacchus; he is usually depicted wearing a crown of ivy and carrying a staff entwined with it. Ivy was believed to ward off drunkenness. Mistletoe is held by Druids in great reverence; they esteem it as a gift sent from heaven, and hold the tree on which it is found as sacred.

"Then let us all each other aid,
Where friendships wreath is seen,
'Tis never made of flowers that fade
But of the evergreen."

Christmas box, Christmas card, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Christmas pudding, Christmas rose, Christmas tree; a young conifer, decorated with baubles and lights. The custom was a Medieval German tradition, but is now practised in many Western countries. The tree most commonly used is the Norway Spruce.

So cometh that busy time of year we call
CHRISTMAS.....

I thought of Christmas and the nativity,
Of promised joy, families and festivity,
Bells ringing from church spire,
The smell of pine from an open fire.

I thought of Jack Frost and icy tableaux,
Of misty breath, and blue winter shadows,

Of moonlight and starshine,
Of black velvet nights and cold winds whine.

I thought of ivy and mistletoe, and tall fir trees;

And of men and women upon their knees
Whispering a prayer of hope
That crabb'd mankind on earth might cope.

I thought of presents, gifts to delight,
Of feasting, of crackers, of candlelight;
Of carols and choirs singing;
Of angels through heaven winging.

I thought of Santa, and children, trying to sleep,

I thought of shepherds herding sheep.
I thought of a donkey heavily laden,
That beast of burden, carrying a maiden.

I thought of Mary and Joseph, awaiting a 'stranger';

I thought then of the baby, lying in a manger.

That tiny babe born in a stall;
At His feet, wise men did fall,
For He was the gift of God's own Son,
Emmanuel, Prince of Peace, Blessed One.

He came to earth for our salvation,
Sing songs to Him of exultation.

The Saviour who was once a child
Walked this earth all undefiled.

I thought then how once again
He soon will come as king to reign,
So let us now our homage pay,

And look forward to that glorious day.....

May you all be blessed this Christmastime
and may the New Year bring health and
happiness to each one.

Soon 'twill be Spring.....

Diary Dates

Carol Service. December 16th.

4p.m. in our own hall.

December 23rd

Normal services at 11am. and 6pm.

Christmas Day

Morning service at 10-30am.

December 30th

11am. service only...

All Saints, Dagnall - Services and Meetings in December 2007 and January 2008

Sun. 2nd Dec.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 5th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting - Speaker: Janet Munro from the National Trust
Sat. 8th Dec.	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
Sun. 9th. Dec.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Wed. 12th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Peter Dudeney
Thu. 13th Dec.	7.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun. 16th Dec.	4.00 pm	Dagnall Village Carol Service
Tue. 18th Dec.	7.45 pm	Circuit Carol Service at <u>Trinity Methodist Church, Leighton Buzzard</u>
Thu. 20th Dec.	7.00 pm	Carol Singing
Sun. 23rd Dec.	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Carol Singing
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 30th Dec.	10.30 am	Carol Praise
Wed. 2nd Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Phil and Ann Farrer speak about “Red Kites in the Chilterns”
Sun. 6th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Covenant Service
Wed. 9th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Peter Dudeney
Thu. 10th Jan	7.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun. 13th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Wed. 16th Jan.	7.45 pm	Quiz Evening led by Tony Lumley
Sun. 20th Jan.	10.30 am	Family Communion
	4.00 pm	United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Wed. 23rd Jan.	8.00 pm	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Meeting at the <u>Salvation Army Hall, Eaton Bray</u>
Sun. 27th Jan.	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 pm	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Circuit Praise Service at the <u>Methodist Church, The Square, Dunstable</u>
Wed. 30th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Lucille Kaye
Sun 3rd Feb.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.		



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Final Bee Report!

Somehow I missed the November issue, although not much is happening in the apiary anyway, some bees can be seen flying around and bringing pollen and nectar mainly from ivy which is late like everything this year.

Overall it has been a good year, well my best year as it happens. I have left a super of honey on each hive as winter feed, so no sugar syrup this year for the girls, a bit of a bonus you could say.

I have not been stung so many times this season, are my bees starting to like me, I wonder? Bee's venom is made of enzymes (swelling) and the poison protein apitoxin (pain) which is similar to the cobra poison, so in large quantities bee's venom can kill you. Bee's venom is believed to relieve arthritis, something to do with the apitoxin poison, still I'd rather not get stung it is very painful.

Well, folks this is my last report, what a relief you may say, well I have enjoyed reporting to you my adventures, I hope you found some interesting info as well, do not forget to take lots of honey in your diet, you know by now that is good for you.

I must thank Sally the editor for filtering my reports in pigeon English to something more readable and to wish you all a Happy Christmas. Yes, it is here again!

Adios, Angel Huelamo

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Dunstable & District Local History Society

Tuesday 11th December, 7.45pm
Christmas Social

With John Smith playing barrel organs

Tuesday 8th January, 7.45pm
The Whitbreads of Bedfordshire
By the Lord Lieutenant, Sam Whitbread
Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable

Dunstable & District Orbit Club
Dunstable & District Orbit Club held a Race Night at Dunstable Rugby Club on 27th October. It was a very good evening after a lot of hard work and 80 people attended. We raised £4,300 which will be split between the Rugby Club, Air Ambulance and the Stroke Association. We had a quiz on 9th November at Toddington Village Hall and raised £1,000 for the Dunstable Resource Centre.

The Club meets every first and third Tuesday at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. New members always welcome.

Back Care Awareness Week – 8th – 12th October 2007 St Judes Clinic Open Day Saturday 6th October 2007

Annabel Croft comes to St Judes

Keep Moving, Keep Living was this year's theme for Back Care Awareness Week, and the many people that attended our Open Day picked up loads of tips from our team on ways to do just that.

Ms. Annabel Croft, who was our special guest for the event, spoke about feeling like she was in a “sweet shop” with all that there was to view and sample in the clinic. Ms. Croft toured the clinic with her husband, former round-the-world yachtsman, Mel Coleman.

They spoke to the staff about how Physiotherapy, Acupuncture, Massage, Reflexology, and exercise can all help combat back pain and the many ways in which we can all help ourselves prevent back pain.

They got involved in the Pilates demonstration and watched our Podiatrist checking willing participants' foot and lower leg alignments to ascertain any effect altered alignments may have on the back. They found out why computers can literally be “a pain in the neck” and how we can prevent “*work stopping our play*”.

Ms. Croft tried her hand at our Nutritional Quiz and thoroughly enjoyed her Reflexology taster session.

Finishing up her time with us, Ms. Croft answered questions from our guests about her time in tennis and her views on the current game. Several of our guests, from the local Tennis Clubs, could have kept her talking all day, I feel, but we had to draw proceedings to a close.

Ms. Croft, in summing up, said that she had had a most enjoyable and interesting morning, and was very happy to have had attended such an event, at a Clinic of such excellent repute.

Winners Announcement :

Winner of our prize draw to win a Body Alignment Check or Sports Massage was Julie Ramsay.

Winners of our Nutritional Therapy Quiz, a free place on one of our Nutritional Workshops are Mrs. C. Mercer and Mrs. A. Stock.



Grace Community Church, Edlesborough

(meeting at the Baptist Chapel
opposite Edlesborough Post Office)
Our Carol Service is on 16th
December @ 5.30pm to which we
would like to invite everyone in the
villages. The service will be followed
by refreshments. Monthly Sunday
services are continuing on the 3rd
Sunday in each month at 11am as well
as the Friday night youth club and the
mums and tots group on a Monday.



Eaton Bray Lower School

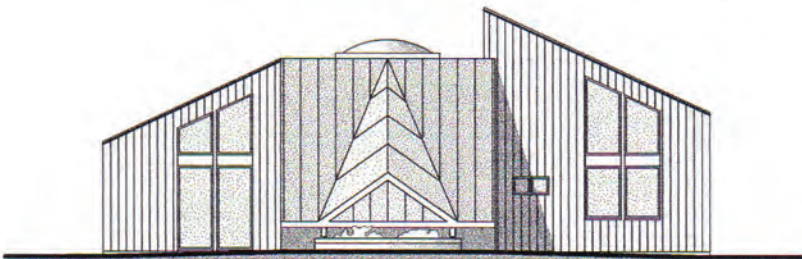
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“All of the girls working at the nursery make it their interest to know each and every child and are aware of each Child’s character. Clearly the children are happy as on my duty as parent helper you hardly ever heard tears, and any arguments over sharing are quickly noticed and dissolved by excellent staffing.” **letter from parent, 2006**

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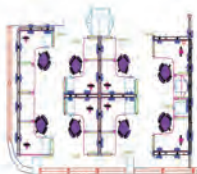
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Dagnall News

Over 60's

As the end of another year looms on the horizon, we in the Over 60's are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch on December 11th. As usual it will be a fun afternoon, with a full Christmas menu, carols and a lucky dip. Please supply a prize to win a prize – maximum cost £2.

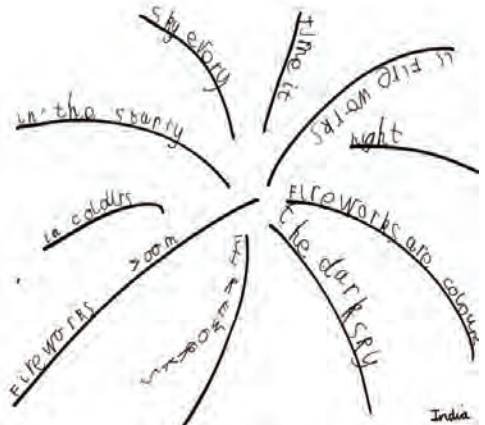
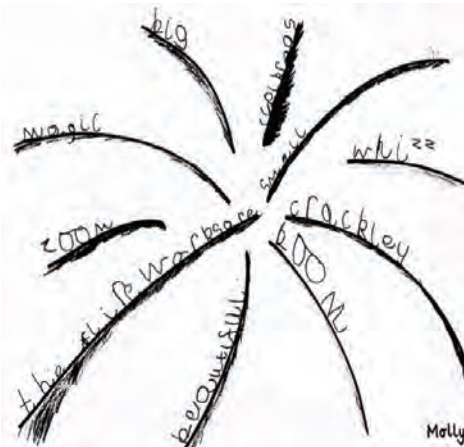
In January we will have our usual AGM and Birthday tea, with entertainment.

Whilst these notes were being written we had the sad, but not unexpected news that the last of our Founder Members, Mrs Ivy Munt, had passed away at the age of 98. Such a pity she did not survive to receive a telegram on her 100th. We send condolences to her family and will always remember her for the way she commenced the Over 60's club nearly 40 years ago.

We in the Over 60's extend warm Christmas wishes to all our members and trust they will have a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Dagnall School

Year 1 children at Dagnall School wrote poems as part of the school's Firework Week. Guys, firework biscuits, moving pictures and other art work were also created. Parents and members of staff also shared their favourite stories with the children. The children dressed up in bright clothes to represent fireworks and held a book fair, a cake sale and an afternoon tea. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the school!



Dagnall Church

Christmas Coffee Morning, Sat 8th December, All Saints' Church Dagnall from 10.30 am. Monies in aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. There will be stalls run by Fairtrade, Phoenix Cards, Christmas gifts and of course our famous cake stall.

Carol Singing in aid of NCH

Thursday 20th December Carol Singing around Village outskirts. Meet at Dagnall Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Sunday 23rd December Carol Singing within the village. Meet at Dagnall Village Hall at 6.00pm. Refreshments at the church afterwards.

Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day Family Service at the church at 10.30am.
Everyone is welcome to any of the above.

Christmas Card Delivery for Dagnall Village - in aid of Iain Rennie Hospice at Home

Once again the children of Dagnall Sunday School, a few friends and adult helpers will be offering a 'Dagnall village only' Christmas card delivery service. All we need are your fully addressed cards and a suitable donation to Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

Cards and donations may be left at one of the following places:

Dagnall Church (Sundays only)

Munns Eggs and Potatoes, Main Road South, Dagnall

Fir Tree Cottage, Ringshall Road, Dagnall (opposite the church)

We raised over £100 in each of the last two years and would love to do even better this year. More details from Vicky Lee on 01442 843361

French Evening

On October 27th Dagnall was treated to an evening of French entertainment organised by Pascale Searle, in aid of the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. A fantastic £504 was raised by a crowd of merrymakers, some in fancy dress, who enjoyed a French meal with accordion accompaniment and a French lesson!

Ivy Munt

Ivy, who must surely have been our longest standing resident, passed away on November 8th, aged 98. Despite living in a residential home in Leighton Buzzard for the last few years she will be sadly missed by the villagers of Dagnall. She was a founder member of the Dagnall Over 60's Club, and was a great friend to many of the newcomers to the village, always ready to help and with an ever-open door.

Dagnall Under Fives



As part of their topic on animals, Dagnall Under Fives had a visit from Animal Farm. The children were able to interact with a variety of animals including rabbits, mice and ferrets. They were also

given the opportunity to feed some of them, including Nugget the chicken, before rounding off the morning with a ride on Ebony the pony.

Animal Farm, free range produce including sausages, joints, eggs. For information on opening times or to arrange a visit from the animals please call 01494 757232 / 07958 753469.

Christmas
 **Coffee** 
Morning
Sat 8 December
All Saints' Church Dagnall
from 10.30 am
In aid of
Iain Rennie Hospice at Home



Totternhoe Preschool Update

Thank you to everyone who came to our Halloween Party. The children had a wonderful time bobbing for apples, having spider races and looking for prizes

in slime (otherwise known as green jelly!) The event raised over £300 which will go towards buying new equipment for the preschool.

We're now all looking forward to Christmas and are using this term's theme of festivals to learn the letters STAR.

We'll be holding our next open morning on Tuesday 18th December and everyone is welcome to come and visit to see the children's work and find out more about our preschool.

We run sessions Monday – Thursday 9.15 – 11.45 during term time. We also have a popular lunch club on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 12.45. For more information or to register your child call Kay on 07803 925254.



Book Review from the Edlesborough Book Group Urban Grimshaw and the Shed Crew' by Bernard Hare



Hare an ex-London social worker with a minor criminal record, returns to his roots, a notoriously poor Leeds housing estate, where he encounters Urban and loyal friends who prefer life in a garden shed to life in care. Here girls and boys, aged 10 – 18, hide from the Authorities whilst getting their kicks from car stealing and burning, boozing, drug-taking and sex. Hare's flat becomes a safe house where the Crew can be kids; he cooks, teaches them to read, to play games and express themselves through poetry. Yet Hare survives on petty thieving so is he the ideal role model? Unsurprisingly, despite deep discussion, we could not agree on a solution to such societal ills.

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

A reminder that our Christmas Lunches with festive stalls will be held on Saturday December 1st from 12.00 noon and the Charity to be supported will be the Rwanda Appeal.

Our Family Carol Service is on Sunday December 16th at 10.30 am. The young people of the Church will take part in the service and give us a fresh slant on the Christmas story, always a special time, do join us.

Once again we have a service on Christmas Day and we welcome you to this Celebration which will start at 10.30 am.

Our Covenant Service is on Sunday 6th of January at 10.30 am and will be led by our Minister the Rev; Peter Dudeney.

January Lunches will be served on Saturday 12th from 12.00 noon until 1.30pm and the Charity to be supported will be the Re-Building Fund of our Harlington Church.

February Lunches on Saturday 9th from 12.00 noon and our chosen Charity will be the FIBROMYALGIA group.

Mark Janes Contacts

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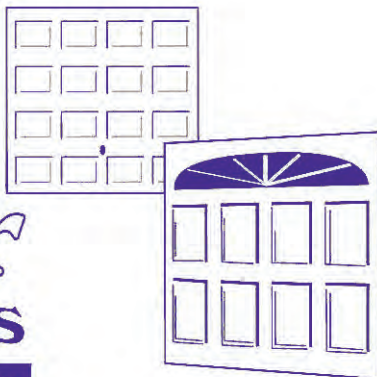
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