

FOCUS

June 2008

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this dragon*

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*8th June
12-6pm*

*Eaton Bray
Village Hall*

THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

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

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

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together

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P.C. Viv Dady Mobile 07900051367

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

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

Northall Freighter

Kindly note the date for the Northall Freighter is Wednesday 16th July. Apologies for the incorrect date quoted in Focus last month.

Village Hall AGM

Change of Date

The Annual General Meeting of the Eaton Bray Village Hall is now being held at 7.30pm on Monday 9th June. Members of the public are encouraged to attend this meeting.

NOTICE OF VISIT BY ANDREW SELOUS MP

18TH JULY 2008

11:30AM-12NOON

AT THE COFFEE

TAVERN, EATON BRAY

Andrew Selous MP hopes to meet as many constituents as possible

Village Diaries June 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 01525 222199
- 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 Northall Toddler Group, 10am - 12 noon, Northall Village Hall, Ellie 01525 222144
- 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, 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 & 25th Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm.
13th Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am. Plant Sale
17th Over 60's, Ploughman's lunch, 1.30pm, Village Hall

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 3rd Northall Age Concern A.G.M., 8pm, Coffee Tavern
6th/7th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer & Cider Festival, 6-11pm (6th), 12-11pm (7th)
7th Brunch take-away at All Saints Church from 9.30 – 11.30 am
7th Friends of St Mary's Coffee Morning, 10.30-12, St. Mary's Church
7th Eaton Bray Methodist Church Cream Teas at Chestnut Lodge, Leighton Road, Billington, 2.30 - 4.30pm
8th Open Gardens, 12-6pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
9th Eaton Bray Village Hall A.G.M., 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
10th Friends of Dagnall School Fashion Show, 7.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Tickets £4, 01525 221324
14th Friends of Edlesborough School Fete, 3-5pm
28th Friends of Edlesborough School Midsummer Ball, 7pm, Tickets £55, 01525 222873
28th Eaton Bray Lower School Summer Fair, 12-2.30pm

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Our Local Public Transport

The Country Rider 162 which serves all four of our villages will now run twice daily Monday to Saturday inclusive to Leighton Buzzard. Once a day only for Dagnall residents in school holidays and on Saturdays, but usage is being monitored, if the school bus is used by adult passengers the twice daily option could also be implemented for Dagnall in the near future. **If you wish to keep this service please make good use of it.** Unfortunately the Milton Keynes shopping bus from Edlesborough was losing £100.00 per run even though it was subsidised, so that is why it has been axed. The 61 Aylesbury-Luton timetable hasn't changed but the Edlesborough Parish Council do keep lobbying the bus company to call at Dagnall at least once a week.

Hospice at Home Volunteers

are looking for a Minutes Secretary to join the board of Trustees. Hospice at Home is a registered charity that supports people with life-limiting illnesses. For more information please phone the Chairman Ian Coulter on 01525 668004.

Has Anyone Lost a Tortoise Recently?

It was found strolling down The Comp on Sunday 11th May, probably feeling shell-shocked!! If so can you please contact Kay Griffiths on 222849 or Sally Siddons on 221733



Open Gardens – Sunday 8 June Eaton Bray Village Hall 12 – 6pm

Please come along and support the village Open Gardens event on the afternoon of Sunday 8 June – 12 to 6pm. This is the third running for what has become a wonderful annual social event. Tickets for adults, price £4, will be available from 11.30 on the day from Eaton Bray Village Hall where there will also be parking, refreshments and stalls; admission for accompanied children is free. Alternatively you can get tickets in advance from Gordon Gray or Kay Griffiths, from St Mary's Church at 11.15 on Sunday 1 June or at the Beer Festival the day before the event.

Nine gardens will be open to the public, in Edlesbough, Northall and Eaton Bray. The gardens range from small plots to plots of several acres – you will see a range of garden features from traditional herbaceous, perennial and vegetable borders to more unusual gardens, lakes and woodland and the occasional 'secret' garden.

Refreshments, toilets and plant sales are located at the Village Hall and will also be found at some of the gardens you will visit. Wheelchair access is available at most of the gardens and some gardens offer parking. We would be grateful for donations of plants or cakes, brought to the Hall on the day.

A walk taking in all nine gardens will be available from the Hall during the event. We do hope many of you will take advantage of these to explore the local countryside. The money raised by the event will be shared equally between St Mary's Parish Project for 2008 – Macmillan Cancer Support - and St Mary's Roof Fund.

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EDaN (Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) Project Update - May 2008

Edlesborough Post Office – Use it or lose it!

We now have dates related to the future of the Edlesborough Post Office located in the General Stores. Post Office Ltd has completed their assessment and will announce on **8th July 2008** whether this branch will be on a list for potential closure or not. This will be followed immediately by six-week public consultation period ending on **26th August** to allow customers, representative bodies and interested parties to express their views. A final decision on the PO closure (or not) will be announced on or about **17th September 2008**.

An EDaN Project Action Team has been formed to prepare a campaign to oppose closure should the need arise. We need to prepare an action plan NOW and be ready for the 8th July announcement.

If you wish to join this team and give your support for this important local amenity, then please contact us using the names and numbers given below. If you have Internet access then please look at the ‘Communities Against Post Office Closures’ (CAPOC) website www.postofficeclosures.org.uk that has much useful information.

Parish Plan Document and Action Teams – In Progress

The Steering Group are currently writing The Parish Plan for publication in June. We are also contacting all volunteers for the Action Teams to set them in motion by the end of June.

If you have not already signed up to join one or more of the EDaN Project Action Teams (listed in April 2008 FOCUS - page 27) then please contact Alan Williams on 01525 221926 or Vicky Lee on 01442 843 361. You can also contact us by Email at edanplan@yahoo.co.uk and find out more about the EDaN Project on the Edlesborough Parish Council website who kindly publish our results and information.

Thanks for your support –The EDaN Project Steering Group



Edlesborough Book Group Review

APRIL 2008



This month, we had the choice of two books. Some of the group were going to a library event and elected to read a book by the author they were going to meet. The rest of us read the chosen book of the month which was *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*.

***The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards**

In Lexington, Kentucky, in the winter of 1964, Dr David Henry delivers his own child, a son. Then, quite unexpectedly, a second child is born. In this little girl, he recognises the unmistakable features of Down's syndrome. With an immediate reaction to protect his wife, which he later regrets bitterly, he gives the baby to Caroline the attendant nurse with directions to take her to a specialist care home. He then tells Nora, his wife that their daughter died at birth.

The ramifications of that action form the plot and the story covers the lives of the characters concerned over the next twenty five years. Caroline does not deliver Phoebe to the institution, instead she decides to raise her as her own child. Nora always mourns

the loss of her daughter and David has to cope with the enormity of his decision and the effects of keeping it secret.

There are many themes in this novel; the burden of secrets, the loneliness of a crumbling marriage, the joys and sorrows of parenthood and the strength of love. There is also a plea for the need for disability to be recognised and accepted.

This was a splendid novel for discussion and a highly recommended read for book groups.

The library event choice was;

Ruso and the Disappearing Dancing Girls by R.S. Downie

Gaius Petreius Ruso is a newly divorced army doctor with the Twentieth Legion stationed in Deva, currently known as Chester, in AD117 . By chance he is involved in the rescue of a young slave girl, who he nurses back to health and by so doing gets caught up in the mysterious disappearances and deaths of some of the girls employed by Merula, the owner of the local bar and bawdy house.

This is the first book of a series written by a local author. It is written in a fairly tongue in cheek style and is very easy to read. The story is quite entertaining and the main characters, of Ruso and the slave girl, Tilla, are obviously going to team up in future stories. We thought that this would be a good holiday read.



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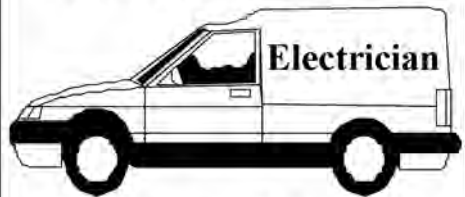
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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

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Hon. Assistant Priest : The Revd John Heffer

35 Peblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

“We got it wrong.” It is refreshing to hear a politician admit to having made a mistake. So often we are treated to blustering and prevarication intended to make us think that everything is going to plan. And that is why so many people today have little respect for politicians and little faith in the political process.

To admit when you’re wrong is an integral step towards putting things right again. Wrong actions can injure people or harm their interests, and that has to be admitted and faced before the damaged relationship can be put right again. But where there is no admission of error, no apology, no sense of being sorry, then the injury remains and often festers, making the situation worse and worse. Reconciliation demands that both sides are prepared to take positive steps: to admit the wrong and make amends, and to accept the apology and extend forgiveness.

This is important on the big stage – but it is equally important in personal and family relationships. There is nothing laudable in never admitting you are wrong – just plain pigheadedness. We all make mistakes, and the big people are the ones who can admit it. So much goes awry in family life when people cannot face their own shortcomings and talk about them; so much goes wrong when hurt cannot be faced and dealt with. The same is true in the office and the workplace, in clubs, and even in churches! It is true in communities and nations as well, and many of our contemporary problems are caused, in part at least, by this basic lack of honesty and consideration, and by the build-up of distrust and resentment.

I have just finished reading the official biography of Archbishop Desmond Tutu (“Rabble-Rouser for Peace” by John Allen, if you’re interested), who played a pivotal role in the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, which dealt with the crimes and injustices perpetrated by both sides in the struggle against apartheid. His vision was of a multi-racial nation liberated from resentment, guilt and anger, by a process of facing the awful reality of what people had done to one another, of giving amnesty in response to an admission of guilt, and of making reparation to the victims of violence and oppression, instead of trying to pretend things did not happen, of the guilty never having to confront their crimes, and of the voice of victims never being heard.

“We got it wrong. We’re sorry. Can we try again?” These are the words that can restore broken relationships and draw the sting of injury and damage. One thing that makes it harder to utter them is the readiness with which people resort to law in the quest for compensation. “It’s someone’s fault, and they will have to pay for it” is a disincentive to owning up and being honest. But in many day-to-day situations that is not likely to occur. But neither is reconciliation unless someone is prepared to make the first move.

If we all had the courage and the humility to admit our mistakes in the little things of life, the world would be a much happier place. And that would make it easier to face up to the big issues of life – and then we really would start making a difference to the world in which we live.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

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

27 April – Albert Monty Morgans



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

WEEK-DAYS : **2.00pm** (2nd Tuesday) – Toddlers’ Church
 Wednesday: 9.30am – Eucharist at All Saints’, Dagnall
 Other services discontinued during the roof repairs.
 EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

All Saints’ Church, Dagnall - Services in June 2008

Sun. 1st June 9.00 am Eucharist
 10.30 am Morning Service
 6.00 pm Evening Service with Holy Communion

Sun. 8th June 10.30 am Morning Service
 6.00 pm Sung Eucharist
 6.00 pm Circuit Service at Trinity Methodist Church,
 Leighton Buzzard

Sun. 15th June 10.30 am Family Communion
 6.00 pm Evening Service

Sun. 22nd June 9.00 am Eucharist
 10.30 am Family Service
 6.00 pm Evening Service

Sun. 29th June 10.30 am Morning Service
 6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Sun. 6th July 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



Edlesborough
Parish Council Meetings
3rd Thursday of every month
7.30pm Memorial Hall
Next meeting: Thurs 19th June 08

Eaton Bray
Parish Council Meetings
1st Monday of every month
7.30pm The Coffee Tavern
Next Meeting: Mon 2nd June 08

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47 Edward Street,
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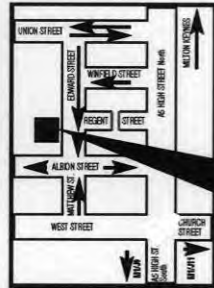


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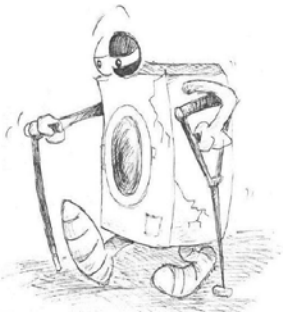


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Dagnall News

Over 60's

In the month of May we had our second lunch outing, visiting The Cock Inn at Wing to once again enjoy their well known carvery meal.

June sees us entertaining our friends from Kensworth Over 60's to a Ploughman's lunch. This is the first time we have invited another club to lunch and if it is a repeat of our visit to them last year it should be a great success.

Dagnall Church

On 3 May we held the first in a series of breakfast takeaways at All Saints' Church. It was great to see our 'regulars', but even better to meet with new people who "popped in on the way shopping to Hemel Hempstead". It's amazing what a boy with a poster, standing in the middle of the roundabout on the A4146 can do! We raised £91 towards our charity Crossroads International.

The next breakfast takeaway will be held on 7 June from 9.30 – 11.30 am at All Saints'. Bacon roll with tea/coffee £3.00; croissant/Danish with tea/coffee £2.00. There will also be a Fairtrade stall.

Future dates for breakfasts are: Saturdays 5 July; 2 August; 6 September – same time, same place, with a Fairtrade stall.

Dagnall Village Fete – Saturday 10th May

At the time of writing, the fete is still 24 hours ahead – so I can't tell you how it went, or how much money we have raised, but what I can tell you is how very generous our supporters have been. Several lots of goods and sponsorship came in later than in previous years – too late for all of you to be included in the programme, due to printing deadlines.

These are some of our supporters who did not make it into the programme

The Swan, Northall

MK Dons

The Oval Cricket Ground



The weather forecast of sunshine and warm temperatures, augers well for a successful day - so for now, thank you to everyone who has supported us in any way.

The Dagnall Fete Committee

Dagnall School

Dagnall School Trip

On Friday I felt excited because it was the school trip. When I got to school I did my fun spelling test and got them all right. When we arrived at the Toy Museum my group went to dress up in cool army clothes. We went upstairs and put on the clothes. At lunchtime we played in a fab park. After lunch we looked at the nasty Romans. When I got back I got ready to go home and played on my Xbox.

By Stuart d'Arcy

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Biting the Bullet

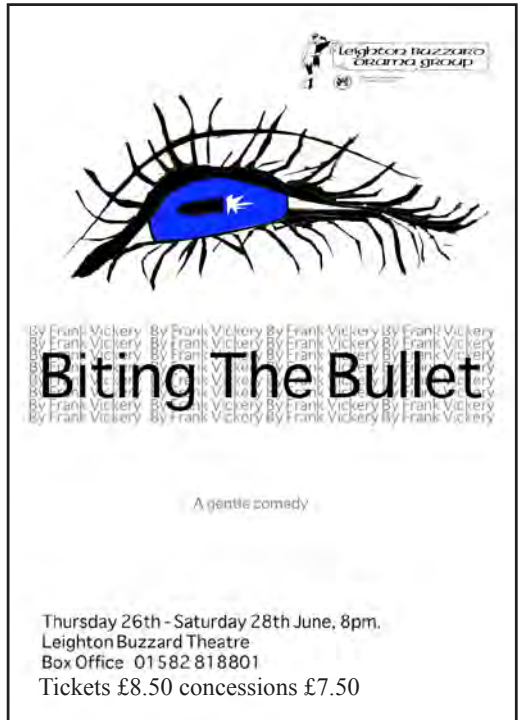
By Leighton Buzzard Drama Group
26 – 28 June 2008

A sharply observed, warm comedy that follows housewife Beryl whilst she deals with the emotional aftermath following the breakdown of her marriage. Realistic, touching, & often hilarious, this gentle play will allow you to watch Beryl's moving journey to its conclusion.

A row following a firm's dinner dance is the catalyst for Ted's decision to leave Beryl, his wife of 32 years, whilst he submits to his mid-life crisis. At first Beryl is shattered, but gradually works back from the edge of despair helped by her exuberant daughter Angie and the down-to-earth, straight talking neighbour, Dawn. A holiday abroad, a complete make-over and a platonic friendship with the handyman - who gives her new ways at looking at life – all go to rescue her from the nightmare of separation.

When Ted decides that the grass is not so green on the other side of the fence, Beryl is able to meet him on her own terms – but what will she decide about her future?

A lovely touching comedy that should not be missed!



Time for a change?

Would you like work that is fulfilling and enhances the quality of life for both young and elderly people who are living in residential homes or nursing homes. Please read on:

Much 'to do' About Nothing

I am sitting looking at a wall, I'm in a large room.

No-one is speaking to me.

I don't recognise anyone.

Someone is asleep in the chair next to me, I can hear snoring.

Someone is crying.

Someone is shouting, 'help, help!'

Where am I, why am I here?

Is anything going to happen?

I don't think I'll eat today...but I have nothing to do.

I could listen to Jo on the pianoforte wearing silly clothes – how old and stupid do they think I am?

I feel thirsty.

It's time for me to get our tea, I'd better go now, where's my handbag?

How familiar are these comments to people working in the field of care?

Due to inspection requirements and subsequent political debate it is clear that some changes need to be implemented within the care system. It is recognised that in order to make changes this requires time, extra effort and money, all of which are apparently in short supply.

We, Pat Quartermaine and Fran Taylor, have set up a training company called Vivalo. This means 'nourishing aliveness'. We have created a training programme for carers and staff, part of which specialises in communicating with people with dementia. An essential part of this training is the understanding of the use of activities in the care setting.

Our workshop/training sessions cover: communication skills, dementia, expressive art and craft, life history work, music, drama, daily living skills, movement, accessing community facilities and massage.

In order to enhance the quality of life of their residents we feel all care staff need to have a practical and theoretical training. With the increased number of residents who have dementia, understanding their needs and having the confidence to approach with a variety of communication skills and appropriate activities is essential.

Carers need to be involved with each resident's emotional, physical and spiritual needs with the person-centred approach. In order to do this it is necessary for carers to encourage and implement the day to day activities of their residents. To do this efficiently staff need to be trained in the complex issues regarding communication skills.

We have been working in the field of care, therapy and education for many years and would welcome the opportunity to pass on our knowledge and ideas. We see our training as a supportive exercise, giving encouragement to staff to enhance the skills they often undervalue in themselves. We believe that by working with care organisations we can help increase staff motivation and skills complementing the work of the employer.

It is not enough to have one person, often with no training in the field, and on limited hours, organising activities, raising funds for materials and getting to know each resident. Expectations that an activity organiser alone will be able to speak regularly with the number of residents in her care is 'pie in the sky'.

If you are an interested individual or small group of people please contact us. We can arrange for you to join a training programme with the staff of a residential home or nursing home in your area.

We would welcome any enquiries and/or comments.

Email: fran_m_taylor@yahoo.com Tel.no: 07801754602 or 07775847139

Website www.vivalo.co.uk

News from Terry Jones
Conservative Councillor for Edlesborough, Dagnall, Ivinghoe Aston
Aylesbury Vale District Council

Eco-towns

These consist of houses which are extremely well insulated and use a minimum of energy for heating and other purposes. Examples can be found in Milton Keynes and Northampton. While we would support the idea of such houses, they would be in addition to the huge number of houses that the government is insisting are built in Buckinghamshire. For that reason AVDC would not support the building of eco-towns here, but would support the idea of making all new houses carbon neutral. The latest government information shows that no eco-towns are planned for our county.

Aircraft noise over the Chilterns

Changes are being considered for flight paths into and out of Luton Airport. These have grown considerably in the past 20 years. Increased air traffic causes congestion in the airways, meaning delay and extra fuel burn which has an impact on the environment. By re-drawing the routes they can be made more efficient and this provides an opportunity to avoid flying over as many towns and villages as possible, especially at lower levels. Changes to flight paths into and out of Luton airport will affect parts of the Aylesbury Vale district, particularly Parishes to the East and North East of Aylesbury.

National Air Traffic Services (NATS) is seeking feedback on its proposals before submitting them to the UK airspace regulator, the Civil Aviation Authority, for a decision.

The consultation process runs until 22 May, 2008. All feedback received during this period will be analysed and summarised in a report to be published on the NATS website by 22 June 2008.

Aylesbury Vale District Council is considering its position subject to receiving further information from NATS. For further information and to complete the feedback form on the consultation please go to NATS website: <http://www.consultation.nats.co.uk/>

2007 AVDC Customer Satisfaction Survey

AVDC has now produced the findings from its Customer Satisfaction Survey

A detailed report is posted on the AVDC website, www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk - You Tell Us For more information or clarification on any of the results, please contact Alison Kennedy by email akennedy@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk or phone on (01296) 585007.

The English Housing Survey (EHS)

AVDC has been advised by the Department for Communities and Local Government that it has launched the English Housing Survey and that interviewers and surveyors will be working in this area.

The survey will be the Department's primary source of information on people's changing housing circumstances and the condition and energy efficiency of the nation's housing. Fieldwork will run continuously throughout the year and a number of householders will be invited to take part. Taking part is optional.

The survey comprises an initial interview with the householder to ask about his or her housing circumstances and views on their home and neighbourhood. About half those interviewed will then be selected to go on and receive a physical inspection of the interior and exterior of the property by a professional surveyor to collect information on its condition and energy efficiency.

The Department for Communities and Local Government wishes to reassure residents of the importance of the data they are collecting to the development of housing policy. A good response rate from all sectors is vital to the success of the survey. Confidentiality and anonymity are guaranteed to those taking part.

Full details about the survey are on the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) website at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/englishhousingsurvey>
Contact Officer: David Smedley (01296) 585149

Stray Dogs

As from 6 April, Aylesbury Vale District Council has taken on responsibility for lost and stray dogs. Previously you would have had to report lost and strays to your local police station. If you wish to report a lost dog or a stray please call Environmental Services on (01296) 585605.

Community Chest and Other Grants

The Community Chest is a partnership fund between AVDC and the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust, for community and voluntary sector organisations.

Micro Grants of up to £1,000 are awarded each month – Closing date 15th of each month.

Project grants of up to £25,000 are also available, the next closing date is 18th July. Average grants have been around 70% of the total amount applied for. Over £270,000 was awarded in grants to twenty organisations in the Vale in 2007/8. The Grants Panel comprises three AVDC members and three VAHT officers.

Applications are welcome from charity, voluntary and community groups as well as Parish Councils and Social Enterprises throughout Aylesbury Vale. If you know of local projects in your area which would be eligible, please encourage them to get in touch .

For further information see the grants pages in the ‘Community & Living’ section of the new-look AVDC website, www.aylesburyvale.gov.uk or contact Sarah Rothwell, Community Chest Grants Officer, on (01296) 585634, or email: communitychest@aylesburyvale.gov.uk

AVDC also continues to operate its own project grants scheme. Organisations providing community leisure facilities or activities can apply for projects which improve the range or quality of service provision, community buildings or equipment. Generally, grants are available up to 30% of the cost of the project, with a usual limit of £5,000, although a limited number of larger grants are available for significant capital projects.

For more information, contact Sue Butt, Grants & Voluntary Sector Liaison Officer, on (01296) 585186, or email grants@aylesburyvale.gov.uk

Terry Jones, tel: 01296 630062, email: tjones@aylesburyvale.gov.uk

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Tuesday & Thursday 12.45 pm - 3.15 pm

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These are just a few of the comments made in our fifth OFSTED Report (March 2008 - available via our website). The report reflects the high quality of learning on offer to all children at Edlesborough Under 5's and highlighted the quality of teaching by the staff. We are currently operating a waiting list for 2½ to 4½ year olds. If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Tina on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.

For registration details, or to place your child on the waiting list, please phone Sue Pickering: Tel - 01525 222199.

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Do you grow your own produce? Come and sell any that you don't need at St Mary's Church on the first Saturdays in June and August from 10.30am to 12 noon. We will provide you with a table for your sales in exchange for a donation. Would you like to buy locally grown produce? Come along to St Mary's Church on the first Saturdays in June and August from 10.30am to 12 noon
For more information please contact 220295

Sat 5th July



Fairy Tales

St Mary's Village Carnival

Sat. 5th July 2008 **Edlesborough Green**
www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

Get ready for the big day!

That's what our Carnival Queen, princess and attendants will soon be doing, so make sure you turn out to see the girls in their finery and support them on their big day.

Seated in front: Carnival Princess, Jemma Flitton aged 8 from Northall, Carnival Queen Holly Potton aged 10 from Edlesborough.

Standing at back: Attendants Devon Brown, aged 8 and Isabel Dorrance, aged 8 both from Northall



Goods Collection Day 12.00noon –2.00pm

Sunday 8th June at Eaton Bray Village Hall

Clear out your attic and those unwanted gifts, get rid of clutter and donate it all to the carnival. Once again we are having a goods collection day. Drop off unwanted items (good quality only please and no large pieces of furniture please) when you visit Eaton bray hall for the Open Gardens Day.

Come and Join Us!

Don't miss our fantastic carnival –you can help us raise money for the Air Ambulance Service and a host of other local charities and good causes by being there on the day. Better still, come and join our team of helpers. You don't need to make a big commitment, but if you can spare even an hour to help , we'll find you a job, and guarantee a welcome and a very friendly team. Contact us on the website- www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com, or at the Goods Collection day or call 01525 221284.

In aid of St Mary's Church Fabric Fund, East Anglian Air Ambulance, and other local charities & good causes
In 2007, £11,000 was raised for local charities & good causes.



Letter to the Editors

Reading the article about Medley Close last month, Bruce Wiseman said she died at the house, which is incorrect. Just to put the records straight, I can tell you that Mrs Medley and her husband moved to Lytham St. Annes near Blackpool where they died many years later.

Mrs C Rogers



Quiz Sold Out Again!

The latest quiz held jointly by the Village hall Fund raisers and the Tennis Club was sold out 3 weeks before the event and I was sitting on a waiting list of 10 good and honest people. Well maybe I should have sold them the tickets and not the team that won! They might not have been as good as them. The net result would have meant that our team came 11th instead of 12th . Well one must think up ways of getting better mustn't one.

It was a great night and our thanks must go to Keith Blackburn who generously gives his time to creating and presenting these quizzes. For all his efforts and our feeble ones in trying to answer the question over £1300 was raised on the night. Thanks to all of you who came.

Just a reminder; The next quiz is on Saturday 11th October in the Village Hall and the booking office is now open so don't be disappointed, ring Ross on 221411 to book your places!

Beer Festival Friday 6th and Saturday 7th June Village Hall



Can you believe this is the 5th beer festival the old G I's have organised. We really get a kick out of them (not to mention the odd strange attack of a flu like illness on both Saturday and Sunday mornings, is there a doctor out there who can help? The symptoms are a headache, slight shivering, dryness in the mouth and an overall feeling of A) I will never do that again and B) It couldn't have been the drink! Answers on a post card please.....).

Elsewhere is the main advert for the Beer Festival with all the opening times and entertainment on each night. My usual offer, of free entry to the first reader to call me with the correct page number, on still stands. Telephone 221411 to claim your prize.

Hope to see you at the beer festival I am the one behind the BBQ looking slightly red faced and cooking delicious burgers and sausages (all from Hines). See you there.

Any further information call me on 221411.



Greens Garage, Dagnall, which opened c1920. This photo was taken some years later after the petrol pumps were added.

Photo supplied by Mr Geoff Spencer, author of 'A History of Dagnall Village' available to purchase from Dagnall School.



Macmillan Cancer Support
St. Mary's Church 2008 Charity



Desserts and Divas Evening

Saturday 19th July 7.30pm

Tickets Price £7.00

A summer gala evening is to be held in South End Lane, Northall to raise funds for this very important charity. We invite you to bring along YOUR favourite dessert/ pudding and sample other delicious desserts. Recipes of these to be provided if required. There will be music in the marquee.

We have been very fortunate that most of the members of the 'Just A Cappella' group have agreed to sing for us in two separate performances during the evening.

Price to include all the desserts you can comfortably eat, plus your welcome drink. Other drinks will be available throughout the evening.

All welcome. Tickets available from Lyn Stubbs 01525 220731.



Feeling hungry?
Fancy a brunch made by
someone else?

Why not come and join us on Sats 7 June & 5 July between 9.30-11.30 am at All Saints' Church, Dagnall for a breakfast takeaway. Bacon rolls with tea/coffee for £3.00; Danish/ croissant for £2.00.

Proceeds in aid of Crossroads International, our Church project for 2008.



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SATURDAY, JUNE 7th
2.30pm – 4.30pm.

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OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 8 June

12 - 6pm



**In aid of the Macmillan Cancer Support
& St Mary's Roof Fund**



**Eaton Bray
Village Hall**

Admission: adults £4, children free

**Tickets £3.50 in advance from St Mary's
on Sunday 1 June at 11.15am**



5th Eaton Bray Village Hall



Beer and Cider Festival

Friday 6th June

6 till 11pm

and Saturday 7th June 2008

12 till 11pm

16 Real Ales + 2 ciders and 2 perrys
Soft drinks, bottled lager and Wine available

Hot food and BBQ available
Lunchtime and evenings



Live entertainment:

Friday night - Jerome Chance

Saturday afternoon Family Magic Show

Saturday evening - Bob Thomson

Entrance £3 by raffle ticket
Free to CAMRA members with card


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Midsummer Ball

Saturday 28th June 2008
7.00pm til late

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Eaton Bray Lower School



Summer Fair

Saturday 28th June

12.00-2.30

Raffle Refreshments Crafts

***Come along and see how our fantastic new
nursery building is progressing!***

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ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT
A



FASHION SHOW

Tuesday 10th June 2008

7.30pm for 8.00pm start

Dagnall Village Hall. Tickets £4.00 each
(includes complimentary glass of wine & prize draw ticket)
Raffle on night.

BIG HIGH STREET NAMES.

All items are for sale on the night.

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Sarah Ketteridge 01525 221324 or 07510 295584



Friends Of Edlesborough School

Edlesborough School Fete

14th June 2008, 3–5 pm
at Edlesborough School

- ★ Go karts
- ★ Bowling
- ★ Human football table
- ★ Archery
- ★ Craft stalls
- ★ Face painting
- ★ And much more!
- ★ Gymnastics display by Harlequin Gymnastics
- ★ Refreshments
- ★ Barbeque
- ★ Bouncy castle
- ★ Raffle and tombola



Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

OK so I've been rumbled. I admit here and now that maybe I allowed my journalistic juices to run a little out of control in my last article. Let me explain. When I reported that the lady at the party (to celebrate my homecoming, or the chairman's birthday, I'll let you decide which one it was..) asked me to sign my Focus article for her, she didn't actually say, in as many words, 'Would you please sign this for me'? What she actually said was more along the lines of, well nothing. It was me who said to her, in a somewhat pleading voice, 'Would you like me to sign that for you'? Or it might have been 'Please please can I sign it for you in front of all those people'? So I did, somewhat lavishly. I have to reveal the truth this month because a little bird, who was listening in to our conversation, has told the Chairman who in turn has threatened to ban me from public office if I don't say what really happened. So I'm happy to set the record straight, and to assure everyone that I've put a contract out on that bird. No one likes a grass.

The recent heat wave has resulted in a queue to use the tennis courts! Last Sunday morning there were far more players than places available for them to stand (unless you put eight on each court and it gets confusing then, and it's really difficult to keep the score). So we had players sitting out occasionally so that everyone had a chance to play a few games. We'd decided to have a barbecue at the courts that morning, so as our exhausted members crawled off court, heavily perspiring in the baking heat, there was a cool glass of squash and one of my infamous burgers or hot dogs awaiting them! There was the option of sizzling onions and several tasty sauces to complement the main meal; needless to say once a burger or two had been consumed it soon solved the problem of too many people on the courts. Most participants then just collapsed into a chair and sat in the sunshine watching the die-hards on court one finish their set. It proved a mammoth game, taking nearly an hour for Peter Hale and Ross Bagni to narrowly defeat Jon Moon and Simon Mitchener by six games to four. By then unfortunately all the burgers had been eaten, but there were plenty of onions left over, at which they unceremoniously turned up their noses. Can't please some people...!

The next outing for the barbecue will be on Saturday 21st June at our annual Play Tennis Day, and it's open to everyone to come along and try out some tennis for free. Running from around 11am, we'll have both Fastest Serve, and Longest Rally Against the Coach competitions. Think I'll blindfold him to give everyone a chance. Racquet Sports Direct will be there with tennis racquets to try out and maybe buy, together with clothes and shoes at discount prices. With half price membership for any new members joining on the day, plus did I mention the barbecue, there can be no better way to spend an hour or two on the 21st. We look forward to seeing as many villagers there as we can squeeze onto the Green!

And finally Cyril. Can I pass on my congratulations to all Portsmouth FC supporters

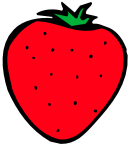
in the villages after I was lucky enough to witness their magnificent FA Cup victory against Cardiff at Wembley? A very well deserved victory, we can be very proud of our club! Oh by the way, if Cardiff won I'm sorry, but I had to get this article in the week before the final. I'm sure it'll all be fine. I did go along to a clairvoyant's convention to try to find out who will win, but it had been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

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 banging my drum shouting 'Play Up Pompey', me, Andy Cross, on 01582 477114.

**NORTHALL & DISTRICT
AGE CONCERN**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd June at 8.00PM at the Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray. Interested members of the public are very welcome to attend.

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

The public were welcomed to the Annual Parish Meeting and updated on events raised at last year's Annual Parish Meeting on 8th May 2007 with an update of projects ongoing for this year in the parish. This included the opening of the new section of the Bower Lane Cemetery and the tidying up of the old section with additional improvements planned for this year. It was reported that the new village sign, obtained by the Chilterns Grant Scheme last year was now ready to be fitted on site, this being the green area outside the village off-licence. The Allotments are now in full use with all tenants taking an active interest in their plots, there is even a waiting list now for allotment plots! There also appears to have been an improvement in the speed of traffic on the High Street since the appearance of the VAS (vehicle activated signs).

A number of suggestions were raised as improvements for the village:

1. Kerbstones being put around the three corners triangle at the High Street/Bower Lane end of the village in a hope to stop vehicles parking/driving over the grass area.
2. Improving the pathway by the dual carriageway at Wellhead to make it safer to walk along.
3. Improving the pathways within the village.
4. To look at placing weight restrictions on lorries entering the village.
5. Tidying up the village gateways and attaching a sign to the gates as a welcome into the village. A suggestion was using the 'hemp mark' of Sir Reginald Bray.
6. The cleaning of signs in the village and tidying around those obscured by trees/bushes.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Highlights of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council held on Wednesday, 7th May 2008 at 7:30pm

Councillor Marriage was elected as Chairman

Councillor Gallagher was elected as Vice Chairman

Two new Councillors were welcomed and co-opted onto the Parish Council, Councillor Moxey and Councillor Hawkes. All current standing Councillors wished to restand for this year. All changes to the Parish Council were agreed and adopted.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

It was reported that Eaton Bray Parish is within the area category for possible closure of a Post Office. Confirmation of which Post Offices to be closed will be announced on the 8th July 2008 at which point there will be a six week consultation period for responses from those affected. It was pointed out that any responses received after that six week period will not be accepted. It was agreed to bring this issue forward to the next Parish Council meeting in June 2008. The Parish Council were thanked by residents of Wallace Drive for the filling-in of pot holes in the road. The Village Hall committee wished to thank the Parish Council for all their help in the improvements of the village hall.

POLICING FOR EATON BRAY PARISH

It was agreed to look into additional policing for the parish.

MILL END CLOSE – CONSERVATION AREA/RANSOME STRIP

The Parish Council agreed to look into these areas in more detail.

VILLAGE SIGN POST

The Parish Council agreed to the siting of the new village signpost and to obtain quotes for the work to be done.

CEMETERY

The Parish Council confirmed that the new section in the Cemetery is now in use and are looking at improvements for tidying up the original section.

CLERK

The Clerk brought to the Council's attention the damaged bridge at Holmans field and it was agreed to obtain quotes to get this mended.

The Clerk requested items for the next Parish Council Meeting by Thursday 22nd May 2008.

VISIT FROM ANDREW SELOUS MP

A reminder to all electors that Andrew Selous MP will be holding a surgery in Eaton Bray Parish on Friday, 18th July 2008 from 11:30am-12Noon at The Coffee Tavern.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Next Meeting: Monday 2nd June 2008. 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern.

Clerk Details: Mrs Heidi Head, 20 Good Intent, Edlesborough, LU6 2RD; Email clerk@ebpc.co.uk

Parish Council Website: www.eatonbray.com/parish-council

Chairman's Report (Part 1)

Edlesborough Annual Parish Meeting April 17th 2008

My report covers the period May 2007 - April 2008

Firstly I would like to introduce your Parish Council as there have been some changes since the May 2007 elections. Edlesborough Ward is represented by Councillors John Wilkinson, David Brown, Marilyn Pryce-Jones, Julie Ratheram and Alan Williams. Councillors Kevin Cubbage who is Vice chairman of the PC and Phil Conacher represent Northall Ward. Dagnall Ward also has 2 representatives, Councillors Tim Jones who replaces Karen Coppen and Me Anne Thompson, as chairman. Cllrs John Wilkinson, Phil Conacher supported by Kevin Cubbage during Phil's temporary leave of absence and Tim Jones are responsible for all planning issues in their respective wards. I would like to thank Karen Coppen retired Cllr for Dagnall ward, for her valued contribution to this Council especially for her input in getting the Parish Plan up and running. We are all kept up to speed by our industrious Clerk Lin Sargeant who deals with all telephone calls, correspondence, burials and the every day business activities of the Council.

Once again I am pleased to report the past 12 months has been a positive period for the Parish Council with many projects taking a huge step forward and many been completed. I will enlarge on these issues later in my report. To achieve these results

the clerk and every member of this council, works tirelessly on your behalf and for that I personally thank them.

County Councillor Avril Davies continues to advise and help on many issues within our Parish as does our District Councillor Terry Jones. Two major items of concern they are currently strongly supporting us on is the A4146, (BCC) and a local planning issue, (AVDC). I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the parish to thank them both for their valued input.

General Purposes Committee chaired by Cllr David Brown comprises of Councillors Marilyn Pryce-Jones Vice Chair, Alan Williams, Kevin Cubbage, John Wilkinson, and myself, our Clerk Lin records the minutes. This committee continues to do sterling work, responsible for making decisions on the Churchyard/Cemetery, Memorial Hall, allotments, lighting and open spaces, thus reducing the time spent in full council when these decisions are ratified.

Wing & Ivinghoe Local Area Forum. This is a new Forum run by Bucks C.C Cllr John Wilkinson attended the inaugural meeting along with your Clerk and Chairman. This Forum covers all the issues that are dealt with by BCC in the Wing & Ivinghoe District This is the one meeting where we can address our issues with the relevant BCC officer. This Forum is planned to replace the local Cluster meetings and Aylesbury Vale Local Committee which covered a much larger area. Cllr John Wilkinson represented the PC on these committees and will continue to attend this Forum on your behalf.

Parish Plan. I am pleased to report that the EDaN project due to the hard work of its committee members has exceeded all expectations The consultation period was completed in record time as was the very detailed analysis The presentations to each village were informative and very interesting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the EDaN steering group led by Alan Williams for all the hours they spent delivering and collecting questionnaires, analyzing all the data and then doing such a professional job on the presentations. The next stage is to produce the draft PP which will be presented to Bucks Community Action and the Parish Council for their approval. The final Parish Plan will then be published and everyone in the parish will have access to it, Bucks CC and AVDC will also have a copy. This is YOU the parishioners plan supported by the Parish Council and we look forward to lots of interesting things that have been highlighted in the plan happening in the very near future.

Airport & Airspace Issues PAIN is the very important group which looks after our interests with regards to any Luton Airport issues and for this we continue to support them. Cllr John Wilkinson is the council's representative. You can rest assured that any future development plans for the Airport will quickly be addressed by PAIN. Our concerns with regard to the recently proposed NATS air space changes have been posted on our website and a response has been sent to NATS. Cllr Wilkinson is also dealing with this matter on the PCs behalf.

www.edlesborough.gov.uk Cllr Cabbage continues, as he has done for the past five years, to update and monitor this very popular informative site. If you want to know anything about our Parish or your Council this is the place to start. Once again Kevin thank you for your commitment to this most important commodity

Churchyard/Cemetery: Last July a production company used our beautiful church as a location for the Film Maid of Honor, bringing in much needed revenue for the Church Conservation Trust who is responsible for the upkeep of the Church. This film is showing locally at the moment.

Discussions are still taking place with the Church Conservation Trust about upgrading the access to the Churchyard and Cemetery. Problems arose with the initial Plans due to cost. It has now been decided by all parties concerned, cost permitting, to install a hard standing track with Eco-Grid to the cemetery, this is the most aesthetically pleasing option as within a few months the grass will have grown back to its original state. The amended drawings will be going out to tender shortly. I would like to thank the St Mary's Carnival Committee for making this project their charity of the year 2007 donating a magnificent £2,875.00, Thanks also to the Burghope Trust and Edlesborough W.I for their donations of £500.00 & £183.37 respectively, along with the monies already precepted by this council this will certainly help to get this project underway sooner rather than later.

Allotments: Allotments throughout the Parish continue to be well used; there are still plots available in all three villages. Safer Routes to School have funded the footway through Dagnall allotments for the accompanied village children to walk to school during term time, the work should be completed this month making it much safer to access the school. Once again I would like to thank Dagnall Gardeners Society for being such an asset to our community, supplying everything any gardener needs, even participating in a chat show about the village on three counties radio. The Trading Hut is open every Sunday morning during the summer months from 10.30am to 12noon

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: The hall continues to be well used by a large range of local organizations everyone seems in agreement that the new floor was money well spent. We continued to support Dagnall and Northall halls with a donation of £1,000 each, to help with their everyday running and maintenance costs.

Edlesborough Green: The green is still the center jewel of our Parish and continues to be used by every section of the community. The tennis club continues to flourish as does the cricket and football. This year with the help of 50% funding from the Football Foundation we have purchased new football posts for both Edlesborough and Dagnall. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate EB Lions AFC on their recently attained Charter Standard Development award being one of only 8 youth clubs in the County to obtain such status. I would also like to thank all three organizations for their continued good work especially with the youth of the parish. We continue to maintain all the facilities on the green to a high standard so

it can be enjoyed by the whole community. St Mary's carnival continues to use the green for their very successful annual event which raises large sums of money for local good causes and we are pleased to be able to offer this venue to the carnival committee. Last year the weather was diabolical leading up to the carnival and at one stage cancellation was being mused, but on the day the sun came out and the carnival was once again a huge success. The Basketball surface & drainage has been installed thanks to the fund raising efforts of Owain Prys-Jones. Owain is a local teenager, who applied to the Bucks Youth Opportunity & Capital fund for a grant and was successful, thanks again Owain.

Road Repairs: We continue to report any holes or problem areas in our parish, as do our conscientious parishioners on a regular basis to Highways on call. We have just finalized and sent our annual road report to County.

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming has always been a priority of this council. The A4146 continues to be a major problem. We have campaigned tirelessly on your behalf for reduction of the speed limit in Northall, and much more recently the dangerous situation caused by the waste freighters going to the Newton Longville land fill site via the newly opened Stoke Hammond By-pass. Traffic calming in the High St Edlesborough has also been high on the Agenda. With regard to the speed limit at Northall I am pleased to be able to report that the long awaited speed limit review will at last commence early next year, so continued pressure from your Parish Council, District Councilor & County Councilor along with the petition that Marilyn initiated has paid dividends. With regard to the waste freighters we have ascertained that the preferred route is the M1/A5 but obviously with the road widening works on the M1 causing huge delays the A4146 is a better option. All the haulage companies are being advised by the landfill site operator to use the designated route. We will be monitoring this unacceptable situation very closely.

The legality of non repeater signs in the High Street has long been questioned by Cllr Wilkinson at the Aylesbury Vale Local Committee and it has now been agreed by County that if we remove 2 street lights, the distance between the remaining street lights will be such that we can install the previously refused 30mph repeater signs and roundels in the High Street. Unfortunately the removal of the identified lights could not take place immediately as another light has been demolished due to a traffic accident, as soon as this light has been replaced and the supply reconnected the proposed actions will take place. Another issue raised by Cllr Wilkinson was the non existence of road edge white line markings on the Bucks section of the A4146 which passes through our three villages I am pleased to report County have now rectified this situation. Drop kerbs have also been installed throughout Edlesborough. The Build out in Dunstable Road Dagnall has been deferred for another year, but we will keep pursuing this very important crossing point.

Anne Thompson, Chairman Edlesborough Parish Council

The remainder of Anne Thompson's speech will be in the July issue of Focus.

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Edlesborough Tennis Club - New Season Update

Thank you to all those who have joined the Club this year, and allowing us to continue to provide a great facility to our community.

Junior Coaching

We continue to teach a growing number of village residents with up to 100 juniors of all ages being taught each week. This year the South Beds Tennis League have introduced a brand new Mini Tennis League for Juniors from 6 to 10 years of age. Just a few clubs i.e. Vauxhall, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard and Linslade together with Edlesborough, (as the only village club) will be contesting this league during the summer. We wish them all a successful season and thank the parents for their continued support, the kids dedication and the high level of instruction our Head Coach, Leon Leenders has brought to the Club.

Ladies Coaching

In the last year we have sought to expand our ladies involvement in the Club and leagues. From a dedicated Thursday morning group we are looking to once again have a ladies league team as well as having a regular time when ladies can come down to the courts and play.

Website

Our website has now been live for 18 months. After some hard work, we are regularly receiving over 100 unique hits per month from members and non-members wanting to find out about the facilities. A new online court booking system is now in use and a number of members now use this to find out about availability and book, without having to remember who has the booking sheet!

Getting involved


If you want to find out more about the Club or memberships contact Iona McLean Hall 01525 220562, Leon Leenders for Coaching 07515 409309 or Ziggy Bis for general enquires. Alternatively visit the website www.etctennis.org.

Future dates


July 5 - Carnival day - Opportunity to sample the facilities, have some free coaching and maybe join the Club

September 15- Annual finals day

September 29 - Quiz night



Luton Airport TCN Consultation



**The Luton Airport Terminal Control North Airspace Change
Proposals consultation period has been extended from
22 May to 19 June 2008.**

**For further details please refer to page 48 of
last month's (May) Focus.**

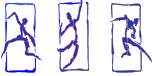


A parent's thoughts on our playgroup:

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We are a committee run playgroup operating five mornings a week 9:30 – 12:00 for children aged 2½ to school age.

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'Pupils make very good progress'

'Pupils are very well behaved, want to learn and work hard to meet the many challenges they are given'

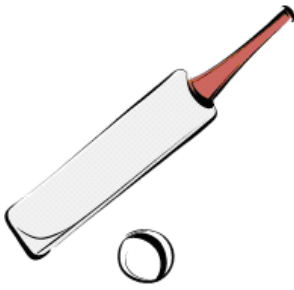
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We would welcome the opportunity to show you round our friendly school.

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Eaton Bray Cricket Club

This season is a month old and the first eleven has already established a lead at the top of the Four Counties cricket league. A win and 2 one-sided winning draws has set the pace. With the bat Wes Hosking, Andy Norris, Paul Harris, Josh Peacock, Lee Bearton have all recorded Saturday 50s, but James Flecknell has gone one better by scoring a century in the first league match at Aspley Guise. James has also starred with the ball taking 6 wickets in the winning

draw with Olney. Nick Pearson has re-modelled his bowling style and looks far more effective as a 'dibbly-dobbler'. And as always, Gary Ellerton has bowled quickly, sometimes even too quickly for the umpire to spot the dismissal.

The Saturday second team has had a tough time, failing to register a single win in the early season. However the seconds is not just about winning, it is also about development and nurturing of talent plus team for a few old boys to go out to graze.

The Sunday team, under the direction of Ian Jones has fared little better losing to Totternhoe for the first time in 83 years! But Barmy did mastermind a victory over Shenley Church End. Having totalled 280, the captain took the opportunity to bowl his lesser established stars. Joe Roff and Phil Spicer took their chances with both hands, taking 5 and 3 wickets respectively.

Despite a squad of over 30 playing members, there is always room for more. If you would like to join the club, or help in some way, please contact Treasurer Ian Jones 07956 340888. The club wishes to thank everyone involved for their support in the past. **MJ**

Home Fixtures for June

Sunday 1 – Roving Reporters
Saturday 7 – New Bradwell 2
Saturday 14 – New Bradwell
Saturday 21 – Shenley Church End
Saturday 28 – North Crawley
Sunday 29 – Potten End

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

May 2008

£25 Marianne Nicholas No 25
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Eaton Bray Village Hall 100

Club Winners

April 2008

137	Carole Blundell	£100
25	Lynne Rust	£25
21	Liam Conner	£25
76	C & H Giles	£25
117	C Roe	£25

Drawn on 29th April 2008 at Eaton Bray Playgroup. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

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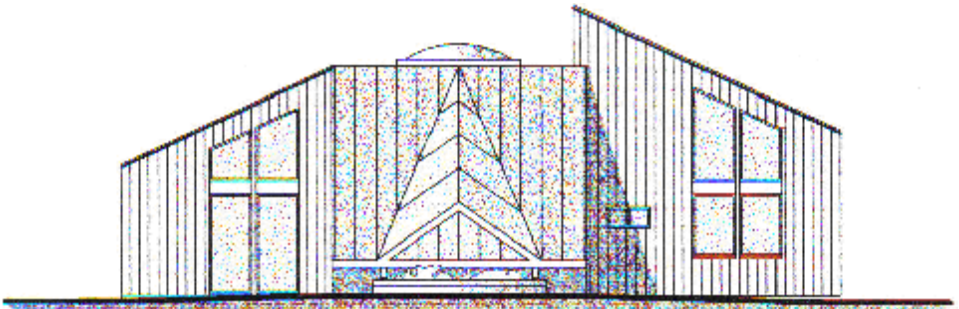
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

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

"Eaton Bray Lower is an outstanding school. It modestly evaluates itself as good with some outstanding areas, but it is better than this. Its self-evaluation is correct in identifying strengths and areas for development. It provides an outstanding quality of education and care for its pupils and excellent value for money. Staff work exceptionally well in partnership with parents and the community for the benefit of all pupils. Pupils' enjoyment of school is impressive. The supportive parents are delighted with all aspects of its provision. Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher's vision for a school at the heart of its community is shared by the highly committed staff and excellent governors. This is set to become more firmly realised with the building of a new nursery with facilities for the local community and visiting professional from children's services."

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



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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

April has been a dryer month and cold for the time of the year. On the 8th of April the temperature dropped below zero degrees for 6.5 hours reaching -3.3° that was a sharp frost for April.

Last year April felt like summer. In fact, I think it was! For interest I have shown the temperature comparisons below.

During April I have had installed a new mast for the anemometer that the device that measures the wind speed and direction. Instead of being on a 3-metre poll in the garden and now it is to Met Office standard 10 metre from ground level above the roof line in clear air and will give an accurate reading

If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email me: aonb-weather@tiscali.co.uk

David G Killick, Station Owner

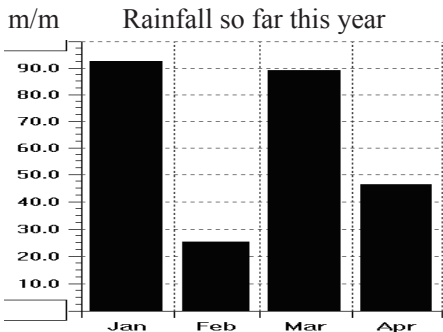
Weather Conditions for April 2008

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	20.8°C	26 April 16.00	-3.3°C	8 April 06.30
Mean Temperature	7.7°C			
Dewpoint:	12.5°C	27 April 15.00	-4.9°C	6 April 17.30
Humidity:	97%	4 April 09.00	36%	15 April 16.30
Barometer:	1030.5 hPa	3 April 12.00	986.00 hPa	30 April 12.00
Wind Speed	26 mph	29 April 20.00	Mths Avg.	2.6 mph
Wind Chill:	19.8°C	22 April 16.00	-3.30°C	8 April 06.30
Dominant Wind:	SW			
Rainfall				
Rain Days: 18	Wettest Day	10 April	11.60mm	0.46 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April	46.80mm	1.84ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	4 Months	254.6mm	10.02ins

Comparisons

Temperature	April 2007	April 2008
Below 0°C	1 day	8 days
Below 5°C	13 days	18 days
Above 15°C	28 days	7 days
Above 20°C	11 days	1 day



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Edlesborough W.I.

Our latest meeting took the form of Members' Night, when the Committee took a rest from arranging the evening. This year Christina Yates and a band of helpers put on a great evening. The usual business details were carried out, after which Christina and her group took over.

First of all a very attractive pen engraved "Edlesborough W.I. 80th Birthday", was presented to each Committee member, June & Jill (who set out the Memorial Hall each month) and Elizabeth (who arranges all the garden outings). A basket of plants was given to Phrena (our President).

What followed can only be described as 'frantic': a game of Beetle. The shrieks and laughs sounded like a children's playground! It was good fun, although extremely competitive. At the end of the game we all received an inscribed pencil. We were entertained by Brenda and Megan, who each read part of (very amusingly) "Good Wife's Guide". Published in 1955, it gives advice to a wife on how to welcome her tired husband home from work. How times have changed! Lovely cakes were served with our tea, adding to our enjoyment. Thank you Christina and helpers for a great evening.

Val Harris

Rotary Club of Dunstable

At their inaugural Grand Balloon Race, the Rotary Club of Dunstable released over 500 balloons at the Dunstable Carnival on Bank Holiday Monday.

On the same day the Club organised an Antiques Fair at the Dunstable Leisure Centre. All proceeds from both events will go to deserving causes in Dunstable and the surrounding villages. During 2007-8 the Club helped 23 such deserving causes. The President, Philip Gillam would like to thank all those who took part in these events. These are examples of how Rotarians raise money to distribute annually and anyone interested in becoming a Rotarian should contact Roger Sharp on 01582 606405. New members are always welcome.

"Every year the Rotary Club of Dunstable gives a Rotary Award to a person or group that it considers has done something good in the community. This year it was decided to give this award to the Dunstable and District Disabled Sports which meets every Tuesday at the Dunstable leisure Centre. The object of D.A.D.S is to provide a variety of recreational activities for people with all forms of disability. These activities include swimming, badminton, short tennis, bowls, hockey, carpet bowls, table tennis volleyball and boccia. Those who attend are supervised by their carers and a group of dedicated volunteers.

The photograph shows Philip Gillam, President of the Rotary Club, presenting the award to Roger Sharp, the new Chairman of



D.A.D.D.S. Roger says, "It is a very worthwhile cause and very rewarding to see so many disabled people enjoying themselves. We are very proud to receive this award for the second time."

Roger Sharp
01582 606405
07931 475286

Nutwood Bunnies

"Bring your Bunnies and Guinea Pigs to us for their Holiday!"
"Have total peace of mind about your pets and enjoy your Holiday"



This is the service offered by "Nutwood Bunnies" - based in the quiet village of Eggington run by Jayne & John Symonds. They provide holiday boarding for your pets while you are away, on either a short or long-term basis.

"We have kept and bred rabbits for 21-years now and love them all dearly" says Jayne. "We currently have five furry family members of our own!"

We understand how difficult it can be to find someone to care for your beloved pets, just the way you do. We treat our 'guests' exactly the same as our own pets, giving them lots of love and attention, with daily cuddles and grooming, and playtime in an individual secure run with lots of toys!

We are members of the Rabbit Welfare Association and the British Rabbit Council and are also known for our appearances on the BBC's Animal Hospital programme some years ago, when we adopted 'Chaz'. He became very famous and even received Fan Mail! We also have a very good relationship with our Vet, who has on occasion contacted us for advice on Rabbits!

Whilst your pet is boarding with us, our main aim is to ensure that they are as happy and contented as possible, and remain in the best of health. All hutches and runs are cleaned-out on a daily basis and totally disinfected when 'guests' check-out!

While your pet is on 'vacation' with us, we ensure they receive daily:- fresh water (both on hutches and runs), fresh hay, fresh veggies/fruit, playtime, cuddles (and grooming/claw clipping if required) and all-over checks - twice a day in warmer weather.

For very busy travellers, a collection/delivery service is available should this assist them.

Nutwood Bunnies can be contacted on: Tel: 01525-211087 Mob: 07507-064748
Email: jms19@btinternet.com

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Salvation Sound...June 2008

* Nobody knows the trouble I'm in,
Nobody knows at all...*

Well, I think the line of the Negro Spiritual goes something like that.
Where do you turn when in trouble ?.

Some people hit the bottle; they turn to drink in the hope that they may find a way of drowning their troubles. Others turn to some other drug in the vain hope that the magic potion will bring them peace. They escape - but only for a short time; the problem doesn't go away. All that happens is that the power to deal with it has diminished. Some turn to other, stronger people; that's good, for there they may find solutions to help them. Some turn to the Church - and why not ? After all one of the functions of the Church is to comfort people in trouble, to help them to find peace of mind.

Well, where should I turn ? Where do you turn ?

Psalm 121 Good News Bible begins,

"I look to the mountains, where will my help come from ?

My help will come from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

The writer of the Psalm asks the question, and then answers his own question. The hills tell us something about God - they have been there as long as anyone can remember. Geologists say millions of years. God has been 'there' for even longer than that!!

Hills have a solid permanence, they are not here today and gone tomorrow. Neither is God. He never changes. So when trouble troubles you, look to the hills, press on to the summit, find the way, ask, pray.

Psalm 120 : 1 says; "When I was in trouble I called to the Lord, and He answered me. Church or Chapel, Cathedral or Abbey, in a garden, or on a hilltop, it does not matter; what does matter is that you acknowledge your deep need of God; intuition tells you that there is a God, and that with His help you can be forgiven, restored and healed. Remember the old saying, "A trouble shared, is a trouble halved."

Follow your instinct and you will come to a God who is the source of all goodness, truth and joy.

"There's always another tomorrow,
However dark the day.

There's always an end to sorrow,

Time wipes your tears away.

There's always a reason for living,

Though sad your heart may be.

There's always another horizon

Beyond the one you see."

Charles Wesley wrote,

Help us to help each other Lord,

each other's cross to bear;

let each his friendly aid afford,

and feel his brother's care...

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

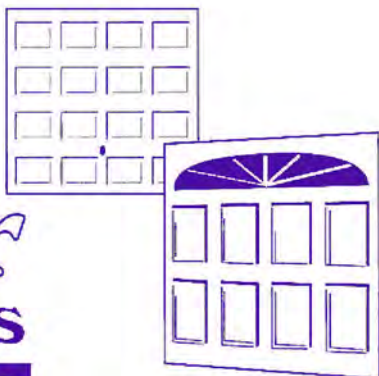
(last Thursday in every month)





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