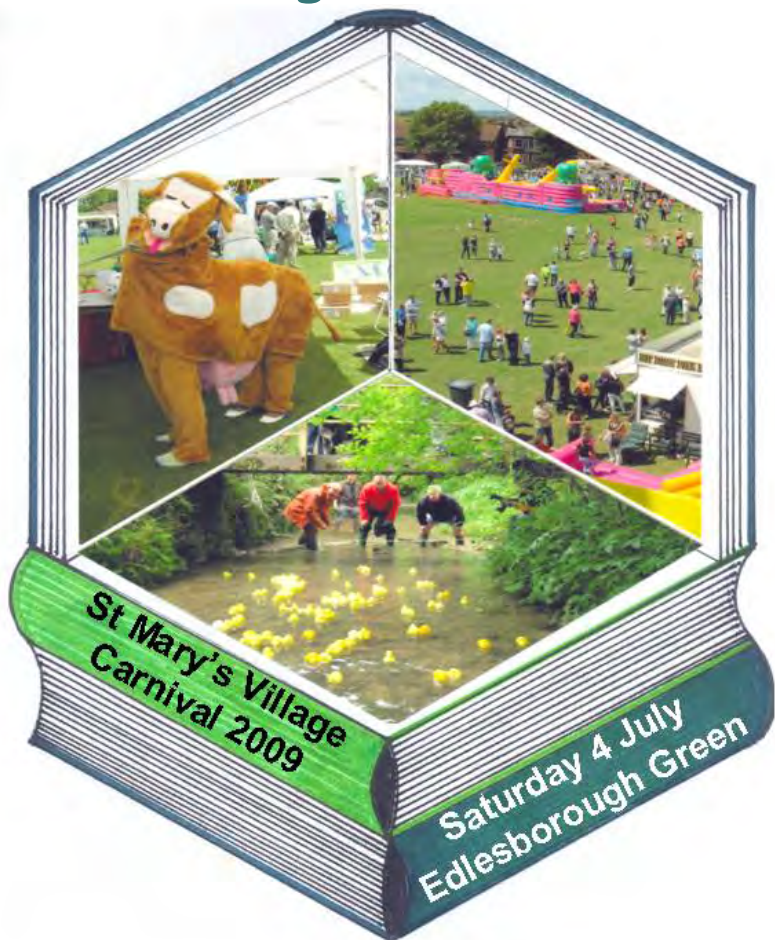


FOCUS

July 2009



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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19th to 22nd August



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Focus - The Four Village Magazine Magazine Committee

Joint Editors: George Crutcher - 7 Summerleys, Eaton Bray 221637

Email: george.crutcher@tiscali.co.uk

Sally Siddons - 34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

Email: sallysid@hotmail.com

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Northall Representative: Derrick Bonfield - 'Poppy'n', Eaton Bray Road 220013

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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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August Focus will be a joint issue for August & September. Don't forget to send in your August & September entries by 10th July.

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

General Assistance (Recommended Number) 01234 841212

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/P.C.Viv Dady 01582 473418

P.C. Viv Dady Mobile 07908520148

PCSO Joanne Glenn Mobile 0796 1067867

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

0845 8505505

Village Hall Bookings

To book your local village hall for an event please contact the following:

Northall: Lorna Cabbage, Tel: 220361

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee, Tel: 222831

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates, Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Beverly Sage, Tel: 01525 229509

Age Concern...

are looking for a driver to help on a Wednesday (about once a month). It is a very rewarding and friendly atmosphere. Please contact John Plater on 01525 221095 if you are interested.

Village Diaries July 2009



Weekly

- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468
Mon-Fri (term time) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.30-12 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 07956 526635
Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
Mondays (term time) Mums & Tots Group, 1-2.30pm, Grace Community Church
Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Rainbows, girls 5-7 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 4.45 - 5.45pm, Lyn 01525 222518
Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7- 10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Sarah 01525 229194
Tuesdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 1.30-3pm, Doreen 01525 377542
Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
Tuesdays Baby's First Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
Tuesdays Pilates, 10am-12noon, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 161680
Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, Totternhoe Village Hall, 07986 730922
Tuesdays Northall Toddler Group, 9.30am-11.30am (10am-12noon Summer School Holidays Only), Northall Village Hall, Lucy 01525 222498
Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
Tuesdays Fortnightly Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
Weds (term time) Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's Playtime, 1:00pm - 2:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Louise on 07784 165259
Wednesdays Chi Kung & Wu Chi classes, Coffee Tavern 11am - noon
Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7-8.30pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya 01525 853360
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, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
Thursdays Keep fit, 2-4pm, 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
Thursdays Keep Fit Edlesborough School, 8pm Tel: 01582 668735
Thursdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208

Thursdays	Karate, 7-9pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Brian Bates 07958 348086
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
Saturdays	Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
Saturdays	Drama Class for Children, 10.35am-12.35pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Claire Casey, 07792 508591

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
1st Sunday	Grace Baptist Church Service, 3pm, all welcome, David Coleman 01582 664990
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	Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

8th, 22nd	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm.
10th	Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am
21st	Dagnall Over 60's Garden Party, 2pm at 6 Dunstable Rd, by kind invitation of Rosemary & Brian

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

4th	St Mary's Village Carnival & Fete. Carnival procession starts 12.30pm from The Orchards, Eaton Bray and arrives at Edlesborough Green at 1.30pm. Fete on Edlesborough Green.
11th	Dagnall School Centenary Celebrations 2pm – 4.30pm
16th	Buds of May Summer Workshop, 7.30-9.30pm, Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall, £22.50. Bookings 221920
17-20th	Whipsnade Village Festival, 18th - 20th 10-5pm, Flower Festival including barbecue commences Friday 17th at 6.30pm in village hall. Tickets £15. Summer Fete Saturday 2-5pm. 01582 872406
18th	Ploughman's Lunch at All Saints Church, Dagnall 11.30am – 2.00pm
19th	Trad Jazz in the Churchyard, High Street, Eaton Bray, 1-5pm. Tickets £5 from Vivienne on 222726
20th	Play Around the Parishes, 2-4.30pm, Dagnall Recreation Ground
22nd	Play Around the Parishes, 2-4.30pm, Edlesborough Green



News From 1st Eaton Bray And Edlesborough Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs And Scouts)

Summer is here and all sections of our Scout Group have been busy making the most of the outdoors!

15th – 17th May saw the Scout Troop on our Scouts and Carers camp ('Dad's and lads' camp for the non PC!). As part of Scouting's BIG ADVENTURE – a national initiative to involve more adults in the Scouting movement, the group entered their camp plan into a national competition draw and were delighted to have won a GPS system!

40 Scouts and adults camped at Boyd Field, Henlow for the weekend enjoying activities such as pioneering, raft building, canoeing and hiking.

The small camp location meant a great opportunity for a bit of freedom for climbing trees, constructing mega catapults, archery, building fires and, of course, cooking over the flames.

Four of the newest Scouts, Laura Wood, James Hurley, Alex Poynter and Alfie Bowyer were also invested during the weekend on a raft they constructed themselves before being made to walk the plank!



Our Cubs recently enjoyed a District Survival Day at our local Scout campsite at Longrove in Studham where 2 teams came 4th and 5th by having a go at activities such as the assault course, knot tying, fire lighting and shelter building. The Cubs are also looking forward to their next camp at Marlow, Bucks, which will be a weekend of rafting, kayaking, dragon boating and climbing.



Our youngest section, the Beaver Scouts for 6 to 8 year olds have not been left out. They recently completed a 'Chip shop hike' (very important to have a reward at the end of a long walk!) and also visited Totternhoe's Beaver Colony for an alphabet hike on the Knolls. They enjoyed a day of activities at the District 'Beaveree', including trails, campfire songs and bug hunting and are shortly off to Ashridge as part of their Fitness Challenge badge. Four new Beavers have been invested this term so far with another three investitures planned shortly.

For more information about all sections contact the Group Scout Leader, ng.evans@btconnect.com

Ronald Edward Overhill

The Siddons Family would like to thank everyone for their kindness after the loss of their dad, grandad and great granddad. He had lived in the village for 5 years and survived his wife by only 4 months. They had been together for 70 years and will be reunited again. Thank you.

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Edlesborough W.I.

At the start of our last meeting cards from Linda Green and Margaret Laing were read out, both thanking members for all the good wishes sent to them during their recent times of illness.

Wendy Clark was welcomed as our newest member, and Chris Yates & helpers were thanked for arranging such an enjoyable Members' Night the month before. Suggestions for future outings were put forward, to be considered further. Maureen Shipway gave a report on the B.F.W.I. Spring Council Meeting she had recently attended. A newspaper article on the W.I. "Calendar Girls" was read to us, and we learned that another calendar for 2010 had already been printed. Congratulations to them, as they raise a large amount of money for charity.

As it was our annual Resolutions Meeting, the one for this year was given:

"Honey Bees play a vital role in the pollination of food crops and in our environment. In view of concerns about the accelerating decline in the U.K. honey bee population, this meeting urges H.M. Government to increase funding for research into Bee Health."

However, this resolution had been withdrawn from this year's A.G.M. of National W.I., as the Government had already put a considerable amount of money into such research.

Nonetheless, a vote had to be taken, and it was passed unanimously. Sue Parker had studied this subject on our behalf, and reported that the honey bee population had been decreasing since 2003, and that other pollinators are also affected. Honey bees need food from January to October, and the R.H.S. has a list of plants they like. Individual beekeepers are helping to prevent these diseases, and gardeners can do so by putting up bee boxes and growing suitable plants. Beekeepers can always be contacted to give help.

To end the evening we were served a tasty cheese and wine supper, organised by Ann Brinklow.

Later in the month the Committee went on their annual lunch outing, this time to Chez Jerome in Dunstable – very enjoyable. We always seem to be eating, but we do occupy ourselves in many other ways!

Val Harris

Unique Feet – A Podiatrist’s Thoughts

Visiting a friend in hospital one evening he said “Shhh, listen to those footsteps” as the heels clunked down the corridor. “I bet that’s Nurse Lynn”, he said, and he was right. He’d been there long enough to recognise the sound of a person’s footsteps! Is he unique? Well, surprisingly, no. Even Shakespeare knew about such things:

*“High’st Queen of state, Great Juno comes; I know her by her gait
(The Tempest Act 4 scene 1, Ceres observes)*

Gait is the manner of how we walk. How we walk is unique to each of us just as each of our individual feet are unique.

If you take two people, whose feet appear equally flat, one can have hard skin, the other person does not. The person with hard skin might be pain-free but the one with baby smooth feet can be in pain in the foot and leg muscles.

Hard skin generally results from things such as friction and sheer stress to the skin of the feet and tissues beneath it. Maybe our shoes pinch the skin, or they cause us to put more pressure on one area, like the ball of the foot. Callous may form or we might get a deep painful ache in there instead.

Painful feet and legs often come from the muscles having to work too hard, perhaps from prolonged standing or even from a simple walk - but our foot and leg muscles seem unable to take the strain. One sign that our feet are working harder can even be that walking seems such hard work. Some people are put off sport simply because running or walking is so tiring and hard, partly because their feet are not working efficiently for them!

It might surprise people to hear that a research study in January this year suggested that “Approximately one quarter” of a population are “affected by foot pain at any given time.” These kinds of situations can often be helped.

The role of the Podiatrist includes working out how to make the right changes and choices to make your feet happy again. They can advise on:

1. Footwear and any requirements for special inserts that go inside the shoe. These inserts or orthotics help to alter the way the foot bears load in standing and walking, taking the load off of tired strained feet.
2. The need for Chiropody – i.e. the removal of corns and callouses.
3. The need for liaison and treatment by our Physiotherapists. The Physiotherapist can often treat any painful areas locally and advise on exercises, joint mobilisation and soft tissue work.

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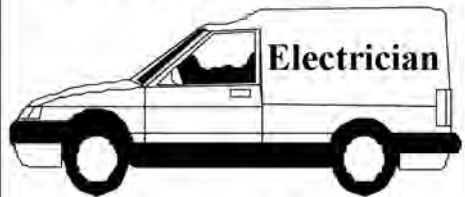




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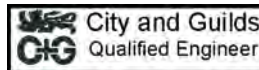
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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Hon. Assistant Priest: The Revd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618. Churchwardens: Chris Banks (221556) and Peter Bennett (221284)

It will soon be holiday time – sighs of relief from pupils and teachers alike – so many of us in our villages will get a change of scenery over the next few weeks. We need a break – life seems to go at such a hectic pace these days.

Of course, holidays aren't always straightforward affairs - the media is keen to tell us about holiday disasters – but, fortunately, most people will come back with happy memories and I hope that applies to you. Many of us will bring back photographs of special places we have visited, mementos of somewhere we have found to be special or simply we will sport suntans that are far too dark to have originated in this country. Holiday makers will see sights they find beautiful, feel the warmth of the sun on their backs, experience relaxed atmospheres that seem so unlike what we get at home.

Yes, holidays are very special and there is temptation to think that life would be so much better, we would be so much happier, if only we lived somewhere else. But this is ironic, first because the places we visit are populated by people who think that where they live is boring and, second, because we often have visitors who enthuse about how beautiful our villages are, and what a fantastic place this must be to live.

Perhaps it is simply a human weakness to think that the grass is greener on the other side; but what if we could see our villages through the eyes of visitors? What if we could look at the village in which we live and say ‘What a beautiful place - this is a fantastic place to live’?

And as soon as we see the positive sides of our home villages then we can begin to lift up our eyes to whatever we think of as God and say ‘Thank you, I am truly blessed’. Yes, look around you and see the blessings that daily come your way, not just in nature but in all aspect of your life. The gift of life, the gift of people with whom to share it, the gift of clean water, of enough food ... The list is endless.

In the words of the song *If Today Was Your Last Day*, by Nickelback, “each day is a gift, not a given right”. Don't spend your life wondering about what it could be like if only you were in some other place; go out and live it today – and be thankful.

Gordon Gray, Reader, St Mary's

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : **8.00am** – The Eucharist
 10.00am – PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST (with Sunday School)

On Third Sunday of each month:

10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service (Those who wish to attend a Communion Service on that Sunday are reminded that there is a Family Communion at 10.30am at All Saints', Dagnall, where they are assured of a warm welcome.)

WEEK-DAYS :

Tuesday: **2.00pm** (2nd Tuesday) – Toddlers' Church

Wednesday: **9.30am** – Eucharist

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Enquiries for these should be made in the first instance to:-

BAPTISMS – Mrs Eileen Bennett (221284)

WEDDINGS & PROCLAMATION OF BANNS – Mrs Jenny Hewett (220295)

FUNERALS – Mr Peter Bennett (221284)

or leave a message at the Parish Office (222254)

Even if the Weather was Bad.....!!!!

We still had a fabulous time at the 6th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer Festival. We must apologise again that despite having an extra 2 barrels of beer, plus doubling up on the perry & cider, we still ran out of beer!

We are still wondering how this came about, because when we put up the gazebo for the BBQ, on Friday afternoon, it pelted down with rain and we were all expecting a fall in sales and attendance. However, the good people of Eaton Bray, plus travellers from as far afield as Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard and even Edlesborough came to taste the beer and the fabulous food on offer.

What can we say to all our loyal supporters, except a huge thanks for coming along and hopefully having good time.

We are planning the 7th Beer Festival for the first weekend in June in 2010. Our first priority will be to get more beer in, to keep you all happy until late Saturday evening. We reckon the hall is over £3,500 better off and we will be putting that to good use soon.

The AGM of the trustees took place on the 8th June, just what we needed after a busy weekend!

We are sorry that Norman Lee has decided to step down as Chairman of the Trustees. The whole Village owes a great debt to him for driving us forward and getting phases 1,2, and 3 done on time and on budget (glad I wasn't the builder). As the fund raisers, we were well aware of the need to keep to our schedule and budget, but this is Norman's forte! Thank you Norman.

Barbara Marriage is also stepping down as secretary and we will miss her quiet and efficient manner in getting the job done.

I am listing the new management committee below and if you have any questions just contact either myself, Paul or Katrina. Norman Lee is continuing in his role as Bookings Manager and is the person to contact if you want to hire the hall.

Chairman:	Ross Bagni
Vice Chairman:	Paul Hurley
Secretary & Chair of Fund raising:	Katrina Hurley
Treasurer:	Roy Simmons

Although we have two new Trustees in Tanya Watkin and Mark Socaccio, we still have one vacancy left.

If you feel that you would like to get involved in helping to run this superb village amenity, then just call me and I can fill you in on what we actually do and see if you feel it is for you. It is hard work (sometimes), it is fun (most of the time) and you get a good feeling knowing you are helping your village (always). So go on give me a ring!

Ross Bagni, Tel 01525 221411

Dunstable

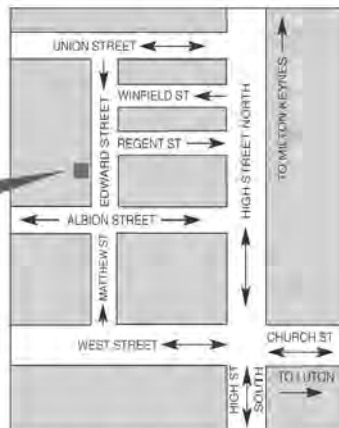
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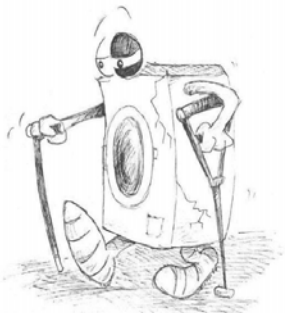
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Edlesborough School

Dear Edlesborough School Year 6 Pupils,

As you are now coming to the end of your time at Edlesborough School, we would like to wish you all the best for the future. It has been wonderful watching you grow and develop from being rather nervous reception class children to confident Year 6 pupils, about to leave the school.

We hope that you have enjoyed being a pupil at Edlesborough School and that you have many happy memories of people and events that you will stay with you, not only as you move to your new secondary school, but throughout your life.

Whatever your memories – friends you have made, favourite teachers or subjects, lunch on the field, singing ‘Who’s the king of the jungle?’ in assemblies – we hope you have a great time at secondary school.

With best wishes

Community Relations Committee, on behalf of the School Governors

Ever Thought of Becoming a School Governor??

It really isn’t a daunting task and you don’t have to have a background in education. It can be seen more as a community role that simply requires enthusiasm and a certain amount of time to attend occasional evening meetings to oversee the running of a school.

The membership of a school’s governing body can vary but mainly comprises different categories of governors from LEA-appointments, Parent Governors, Staff Governors and some Community Governors.

This last category of Community Governors is probably the one that would be most appropriate for anyone not having a child at the school. Occasionally, a governing body will have a vacancy to fill and often finds it useful to select someone who has experience or skills that could complement the rest of the Governing Body members. Perhaps your work is in IT or finance, the building trade and site management or maybe in personnel. These, and many others, are areas where decisions being made by governing bodies can benefit from outside experience.

At Edlesborough School, we have three Community Governors within our structure. As a Governing Body, we meet formally once a term. In addition, some governors are members of sub-committees of three or four governors that meet a couple of times a year to discuss particular issues.

The ‘work’ is interesting and the results very rewarding. We have a very successful school with an excellent reputation including a good working relationship with our teaching staff. If you are interested in being considered to fill a vacancy for a Community Governor, then please call Janet Hatfield, our Headteacher, on 01525 220431 or myself, Ian Binks, as Chairman of Governors on 01525 220094.

Calling All Ex-Pupils of Edlesborough School

As you know, Janet Hatfield is taking early retirement at the end of the summer term, and I thought it would be nice if you had the opportunity to pop into school and say goodbye to her – I know she would love to see you all again, and hear your news.

So I’ve asked her to stay in school until 5.30 p.m. on Monday 13th July which I hope will give you all time to pop in.

Please give me a ring or e-mail to let me know you can come.

Marlene Bennett (01525 220431 or manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk)

Dagnall News

Over 60's

On June 16th our annual Ploughman's Lunch was much enjoyed by our members and continues to be most popular.

In July we will be holding our Garden Party at a new venue, by kind invitation of Rosemary and Brian, to whom we are most grateful. We are obviously looking forward to good weather on the 21st; we are usually lucky and hope our good luck continues this year.

Dagnall Church

Come and enjoy a delicious Ploughman's Lunch at All Saints Church, Dagnall on Saturday July 18th, from 11.30am until 2.00pm. Usual stalls of cakes, cards, bring & buy and Tradecraft. In aid of the 2009 church project, the Paul Strickland Scanner Appeal, Mount Vernon Hospital.

Dagnall School

Dagnall School would like to invite all past pupils, staff, governors, friends and anyone else who would like to attend our Centenary Celebrations on

Saturday 11th July 2009 2-4.30pm.

Donations of cakes would be very welcome. Please contact Kathy at the school on 01442 842473 if you would like to attend.

Who Am I?

Tickly red slippers,
Stripy blue pyjamas,
Long, fluffy, soft white beard.

Big stomping feet,
Hands like boulders
Punching and grabbing.

Eyes shut,
Rosy, red face
Shouting and screaming.

Oh No
It's a fierce angry
GIANT!

By the Chaffinches (Reception Class at Dagnall School)



Dagnall Village Hall

Chairman & Treasurers Report - May 2009

This past year has seen our income grow again by about 9% to £9,876 whilst our costs have increased by 16% to £7,136. This increase in costs is as a result of the committee's commitment to maintain cleanliness and improve facilities at the hall and I hope you will all agree has been effective. Despite the increase in costs our current bank balance has also increased and now stands at £11,608 excluding the recreation ground track funds. Use of the hall for the Dagnall Under 5's and all of our numerous local groups has continued to grow this year. Unfortunately our plans for some major re-development of the hall failed to attract

funding from the major sources of money, as I suppose we should expect with the current economic climate. We will however continue to look for new opportunities to develop the local facilities for the village. We intend to address the general state of the decoration of the hall this coming year.

Our fund raising for the new track on the recreation ground was a significant success during the last year and we are pleased to announce that development of the track is due to start this month. Also, I would like to express our thanks for the efforts and quick thinking of Anne Thompson who managed to get us a grant for playground equipment. As a result we now have a new spiker for the children's play area which has been a great success.

Other changes that are worth highlighting are:

- A tremendous amount of effort has been spent this year resolving the problems with the moles on the rec. I think we will all agree that the problem is now a thing of the past. Let's hope it stays that way.
- For the second year running the Village Hall committee and volunteers organised a childrens' Christmas party. This was again a major success and could become a regular feature of our calendar. Many thanks to everyone who helped in organising this event.
- We have replaced the fencing on the recreation ground that backs onto the farmland and have almost completed clearance of the overgrown shrubs. Our intention is to plant this with hedgerow this year.

I would like to thank the members of the committee for their support this year and particularly the elected officers Sharon Quinn and Liz Coates.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us during the year and we look forward to your continued support and more successes in the coming year

Richard Cutler, Chairman & Treasurer – Dagnall Village Hall

Tea in the Sun

Sue and David Cawdell would like to thank everyone who contributed to a lovely afternoon tea in the garden on Friday 29th May. Their daughter-in-law, Karen, has just completed a six day trek in the Himalayas in aid of Save the Children. A donation of £400 was sent to the charity as a result of the teatime treat.

All Saints, Dagnall - Services in July 2009

Sun. 5th July	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sun. 12th July	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Sun. 19th July	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 26th July	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Sun. 2nd Aug.	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



EDaN Action Group

Buses & Transportation Travel Survey

The Buses and Transportation group would like to Thank the villagers who managed to return their completed travel survey.

Unfortunately the return rate was rather low and will not give us enough information to put any requests into the Bus Companies to try and encourage them to make changes to the Bus Service.

Therefore, we will put the survey out again later in the year, as a flyer in the focus, in the hope that maybe we will get a few more replies.

If we want to request any changes to the bus services we will need a lot more support from the 3 villages.

If you would like to make a difference please spend just a few minutes completing the travel survey, even if you don't presently travel by bus we are interested in your comments, including those from the teenagers of the 3 villages.

It couldn't be easier, we put collecting boxes in all the villages and even gave you a FREEPOST address where you could send your survey.

We had NO replies from Northall, 10 from Edlesborough

14 from Dagnall.

Please try to support us next time you see the travel survey appear in the Focus just a few minutes of your time is all we are asking and you could make a real difference in the community.

Kathy Bovington on Behalf of the EDaN Buses & Transportation Group



The EDaN Project

Traffic Management Team

Come and Meet Us!

We will be at the Carnival. So will "Speedwatch".

Would you like to discuss with us our aims to make motoring and travelling around our villages safer? Now is your chance!

Most drivers exceed the speed limit during even the shortest of journeys.

Would you like to know how many vehicles on average are speeding through our villages? Well we can tell you!

Would you like to know by how many miles per hour on average these vehicles are in excess of the speed limit? We can tell you!

Would you like to know how many drivers will be getting letters from Thames Valley Police for speeding? We can tell you!

Come and talk to us at the EDaN pitch at the Carnival.

We will be there to answer your concerns, show off the new "Speedwatch" equipment, so that you will easily recognise it, and we will be hoping to enlist new supporters and volunteers to help our very busy Team with our speed reduction campaign.

Hope to see you at the Carnival.

P.S. A word of warning. Please make sure that your vehicles are "street legal" as untaxed and uninsured vehicles recorded by our "Speedwatch" equipment will be of interest to the police!

Beautifying The EDaN Villages Update



- **Planters** – I think you will agree that these look really great. Thank you to all our sponsors. If your business would like to sponsor a vacant planter and advertise your business please contact chris@brooklyns.org.uk for further details.
- **Dagnall Roundabout** – Hopefully this is the next location for some visual improvement. The possibility of planters on the roundabout continues to be explored.
- **External Lighting of Edlesborough Church.** We are working our way through the various issues for this project to go ahead.
- **‘FireWalk Night’!!** – We continue to look at the feasibility of running this fundraising event. It would be run by an outside company specialising in helping good causes raise money by Fire Walking, take a look at www.t4c.org.uk. Ever fancied walking over hot embers whilst friends watch on in amazement! Previous ‘firewalkers’ have described the experience as life changing! Hopefully we will have more details shortly and registration and sponsorship forms will be available at the July Carnival.

We look forward to meeting everyone at the EDaN stand at the Carnival where pictorial displays of our achievements will be on show, together with a suggestion box for ideas on future beautification.

See The Past Brought To Life At Totternhoe

As part of the Festival of British Archaeology the Chilterns Conservation Board is teaming up with local groups for a free Archaeology and Local History Family Day at Totternhoe Memorial Hall on Saturday 18th July from 11am til 4pm.

Expert flint knapper John Lord will show you how Stone Age people made tools from flint, and Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologists Martin Oake and Hannah Firth will help you discover the ancient sites of Totternhoe Knolls and Maiden Bower.

Learn about local excavations with Manshead Archaeology Society and Dunstable Local History Society and bring along your finds for them to identify.

Try your hand at sieving for artefacts with Albion Archaeology and have a go at coin rubbing or making a Roman-style mosaic!

The local Womens’ Institute are offering tea and cakes in the Memorial Hall.

Parking will be available in the field behind the Memorial Hall.

Contact Cathy Rose from the Chilterns Conservation Board on 01844 355 506 or crose@chilternsaonb.org for more information.

The Chilterns Conservation Board, The Lodge, Station Road, Chinnor, Oxon OX39 4HA.

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Highlights of the Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting held in The Coffee Tavern on Mon 1st June 2009 at 7:30pm

Police Representative

The police went through the crime figures for the month. The police wish residents to be aware that now the summer months are here, longer daylight hours and better weather, there have been issues with groups of people congregating in areas within the parish; however they are monitoring the situation. With regards to nuisance motorcycles, this is an ongoing problem and they have been in contact with one offender and will keep monitoring this. The police confirmed they will be in attendance at the Parish Council meeting in July; in addition the Police Inspector from Leighton Buzzard Rural and the Neighbourhood Watch Officer for the area will also be in attendance.

Cold Calling

There have been a number of issues with cold callers within the parish recently. It is important to know what to do when this happens.

- (1) Put the chain on the door when answering as you do not know who is calling.
- (2) Ask for the person's name and the utility companies name/telephone number for whom they are representing. The person knocking on the door should provide this without a problem, if genuine.
- (3) Inform the caller that you are just going to telephone the company to ensure that they are supposed to be in the area and doing what they say they are doing.
- (4) Shut the door and make the phone call, if they are genuine they should still be at the door when you return.

If you are still unsure then contact the police and state what is happening, description of person and company they say they are working for.

Homewatch Areas In Eaton Bray

If you are interested in becoming a Homewatch Co-ordinator, please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

Housing Needs For The Parish

The Parish Council looked at the statistics put together by the Clerk regarding the types of housing currently in the parish and due to the small number of responses received back from residents within the parish, the Parish Council believe that currently there is not a need/want for additional housing. However the Parish Council will review this on an annual basis.

Play Equipment

The new springs, to replace the old, worn out springs for the 'springy animals' at the recreation ground are on order and will be fitted once received.

Damaged Village Gateway

The Clerk has now received a second quote for the work to the gateway. The Parish Council agreed to the insurer's amount quoted to cover costs and also agreed to accept the second quote for the work. The Clerk will contact relevant parties accordingly to get this matter completed.

Future Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Dates

Parish Council Meeting: Mon 6th July 2009, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

Parish Council Meeting: Mon 7th September 2009, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our

website.

Contact Details For Eaton Bray Parish Clerk
Clerk contact times: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answer
phone]

Parish Office: 20 Good Intent, Edlesborough,
LU6 2RD [Tel 01525 222601/Email clerk@ebpc.
co.uk]

Parish Council Website

www.ebpc.co.uk

**Eaton Bray
Parish Council Meetings
1st Monday of each month
7:30pm The Coffee Tavern
Next Meeting: Mon 6th July 09**



Village Club Nets Top Awards

This year EB Lions have exceeded their ambitions by scooping not only the FA County Award for Best Charter Standard Developing Club, but also the FA Charter Standard Regional Award, among the highest accolades attainable at grass roots level football. This acknowledgement places EB Lions amongst a tiny elite of clubs nationwide to achieve such an eminent recognition.

Consequently the club has a lot to shout about following the conclusion of a successful 2008/2009 season. Boys and girls from the Eaton Bray and Edlesborough teams, ranging from the under 5 age group to under 15s, acquitted themselves in exemplary fashion to help shape the club's outstanding image and yet again secure the results and accolades which are fast becoming part of their heritage.

The U8 Reds topped the prestigious Sporting Award Table, beating off competition from 17 other teams with a laudable average of 8.81 points per game, points were awarded by opposition teams for fair play, sporting attitude and conduct. In addition the U9 Reds progressed to this season's league cup final. And this year all 3 girls' teams have enjoyed success with the U11s finishing third in the league, while U10s and U13s both took the league runners up trophy.

New ground has been broken in all age categories, as players progress under the tutelage of the club's 15 FA qualified coaches.

These results do not come without a great deal of investment into the club, not least of which has been the acquisition of 24 winter light sets – enough to light up three mini soccer pitches – enabling the teams to continue winter training locally without having to rely on costly leisure centre facilities and the associated transport/environmental implications.

Working in partnership with Edlesborough School, the club undertook extensive enhancement of the School field to provide excellent facilities for the club and School notably availability of water and electricity, and improvements to the pitch.

The club has been the deserving beneficiary of more than £19000 in grants and donations.

EB Lions are keen to sign up enthusiastic young players of all ages, and are currently on the lookout for fresh talent to join their two new teams – an under 6 side from the reception school year and also year 2 girls to create a 4th girls' team. If you would like to contribute to the success of this accomplished club either as a young player or as an adult supporter, please email tim.26sanders@virgin.net or call 01525 221516.



www.etcennis.org

Wimbledon Ballot

Congratulations to the 18 Edlesborough Tennis Club members lucky enough to come up in the 2009 WIMBLEDON Ballot. Federer, Nadal and Murray await to entertain you and the new centre court sliding roof to keep you dry.

Road To Wimbledon Tournament

Not to be confused with the professional Wimbledon tournament, the LTA run a “Road to Wimbledon” tournament for boys and girls under the age of 14.

First as a club tournament with the winner and on occasions the runner-up going through to a county finals tournament and then if successful onto the national tournament held on the Wimbledon grass courts. This year Edlesborough TC has entered a U14 Boys tournament and at the time of writing is still in progress. Win or lose we would like to congratulate the eight for having a go. Will Sanders, Kyle Suter, Alex Mustoe, Jonathan Berry, Murray Claasen, Alex Nilson, Tom Henderson and Scott Mercer.

Inter Schools Tournament

During the summer our Head Coach Leon Leenders with the assistance of Alistair Bennett (tennis club development officer) are running an Inter-Schools Tournament between Edlesborough and three other lower schools Templefields from Flitwick, Ramsey Manor from Barton and Houghton Regis Lower. Teams consist of 8-12 players and are played in a doubles format.

Summer Camps

Leon will again be running these popular events during 6 weeks of the summer holidays. From 9.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Friday. Watch the web site and membership e-mail flyers for more information or just give him a ring 07515 409309.

Coaching Team Additions

We are pleased to announce and congratulate Rhys Dalkin and James Kight for the successful completion of the LTA Part One Assistant Coaching examination together with Child Protection qualifications thus becoming LTA – CRB checked.. This is the first rung of the coaching ladder and school and exams permitting they are ready to join the coaching team at Edlesborough under the auspices of Head Coach Leon Leenders. Their first foray into the world of coaching will commence with a Thursday slot from 6.00 to 7.00pm supervising team and doubles training for juniors from the age of 10-14. There will be a small charge of £2 per session.

Friendlies For Adults

There are a few clubs in the area looking for the occasional Adult friendly match as opposed to the standard league format of matches. If you think this might of interest to you please contact any committee member for details.

August Focus will be a joint issue for August & September. Don't forget to send in your August & September entries by 10th July.



Some comments from our recent Ofsted report (Jan 09):

Children are consistently offered a stimulating range of activities and opportunities which enable them to make good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

Staff have a good understanding of creating a safe and welcoming environment . . .

Staff support children well and encourage them to be active in their learning and to think critically.

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

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

Dagnall Day @ The Races

Dagnall will be holding an event at the recreational ground this year on

Saturday 12th September 2009

The day will start at **3.00pm** with a variety of different races for kids & adults. You will be able to have a bet on all races so join in the great family fun in the name of charity!

We will also be holding an evening event from **7.00pm** until late with a **hog roast** and a **live band**, so all the family can party late into the summer night.

More details to follow!

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Present

A Special Charity Concert
featuring
Pasque Harmony

At Eaton Bray Methodist Church
Totternhoe Road Eaton Bray
Saturday 26th September 2009
At 7.00pm & Doors open at 6.30pm

Tickets £6 each to include Concert Programme

Available from: Graham Carter 01525 220742
(Answer phone available)
John Mead 01582 667963

Light Refreshments will be available during the interval

A fee paying Concert to Benefit
The Keech Cottage Children's Hospice
Your support will be appreciated



TRAD JAZZ



in the churchyard

**High Street, Eaton Bray
(please note change of venue)**

Sunday 19th July 1.00 - 5.00pm

**Come and enjoy a lazy Sunday lunch with
The Vine Street Six Jazz Band**

Burgers, hotdogs & wine for sale
or bring your own picnic.

Tables will be provided - bring your own chairs

All proceeds go to **Merlin** the charity
which provides lasting healthcare throughout
the world & emergency disaster relief.

www.merlin.org.uk

Admission ticket £5.00
(under 15's £2.50 - under 10's free)

from Vivienne Grundy 222726

Lyn Stubbs 220731

Sharon Stilliard 222283



Carnival is almost here! Taking place on Edlesborough Green on Saturday 4th July, preparations are in hand for what should be a fantastic day for the whole family – with free admission, free parking and lots to do and see from 12.30 onwards .

The Carnival Procession starts from the Orchards in Eaton Bray at 12.30pm, before following the usual route down the High Street and Moor End to Edlesborough Green via Pebblemoor. Will you be competing for the trophy for the best-decorated house this year? Sponsored by Edlesborough Autos, there are two trophies to win – one for the best house in Eaton Bray, and one for Edlesborough.

Entertainment this year includes the chance to enjoy our ‘Best of Bands Challenge’ in the music tent. Whatever your musical tastes, there’s bound to be something that appeals to you – the bands will be busking during the day and the one that raises the most money will be invited to play in the arena. The annual worm charming will start around 4.30 - get your team ready!

As well as this we have appearances from the Birds of Bray, Manshead School Band, Appreciating Animals and Jazzercise, plus two shows by Magic Dave. You can also meet Rick Brand, a Radio Amateur or see Maggie Stearn, a spinner and dyer of fabrics, in action. The Dog Show, organised by Appledown Kennels, will be starting from 10.30am and exhibitors in the Classic Vehicle Display will be arriving on Edlesborough Green from 11.30am.

Please support the ever-popular Church stalls – the cake stall, plant stall, book and toy stalls, tombola and wine to water as well as the silent auction. You could win one of a range of fabulous prizes (anyone for a weekend break to Rome?) by buying a ticket for the prize draw, or might even be the winner of the annual Duck Race down the River Ouzel - the race starts at 1pm on 11 July – choose your duck at the carnival! Of course, Clarabelle the Cow will be putting in her annual appearance – see if you can win the prize by guessing where she’ll drop her load! And for those in need of refreshment, don’t forget the tea tent or barbeque.

There’s still time to get involved – decorate your house, join in the procession, make cakes for the cake stall or tea tent, provide plants for the plant stall or sell some draw tickets. We particularly need some strong volunteers to help set up the carnival on the Friday evening and Saturday morning. If you can help, please contact the committee via the Carnival website www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.

If you are involved in a local charity or good cause and would like a donation for your organisation, please contact the committee via the website. See you there!

**NORTHALL BAPTIST
CHAPEL**

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the speed limit signs on the road to Leighton Buzzard)

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday worship each week between 11am and 12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to talk together
For more information contact: Steve and Helen Orchard 01525 373106

There has been a Baptist Chapel in Northall for more than 200 years. Today we continue to seek to worship God, serve him in our daily lives and support and encourage one another in the difficult and the joyful times.



Edlesborough Book Group Review

The Remains Of The Day by Kashuo Ishiguro



This month's choice, *The Remains of the Day*, won its author Kashuo Ishiguro the Booker Prize for 1989. The story is told in the first person, by Stevens, the now aging butler to a once great household in the years leading up to, and during, the Second World War. The novel begins after the war, in 1956. Stevens is still the butler at Darlington Hall, but his circumstances are much reduced. The house has been sold to a wealthy American, Mr Farraday and is now being run much more informally with a minimal amount of staff. Stevens is worried that he will be unable to keep his impeccable standards and a letter from a previous housekeeper prompts him to make an appointment to meet her, thinking that he might be able to persuade her to rejoin his staff.

As he journeys to the West country in a car borrowed from Mr Farraday, he reminisces on days gone by and gradually, through his eyes, we are privy to a life of service, self-delusion and misguided loyalty. Kashuo Ishiguro brilliantly captures the pompous language used by the butler as he muses on his life and persuades himself that he performed his duties to the highest possible standard, maintaining his dignity and professionalism at all times. This came at great cost to himself and precluded any intimacy or personal relationships in his efforts to be a "great butler". His loyalty to Lord Darlington blinded him to the fact that his lordship had pro-Hitler tendencies and entertained guests such as Ribbentrop and Oswald Mosley. If his lordship did it, then it had to be right.

As he ponders over his life, he realises, at last, that he has nothing to show for all his efforts, in fact that he has no real identity. He wonders what he will do in the remains of his day.

This is a wonderfully engrossing book, it draws one into the mind of this very repressed, introverted man and reveals the utter sadness of an unfulfilled life. Our group all enjoyed this book and would recommend it unreservedly. As one of our members remarked "It is deceptively simple".

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- Heated outdoor swimming pool with sun terrace and barbecue area (summer only)
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- Snooker room with full size table
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Secluded position on outskirts of award winning village yet within 3 miles of beaches and Dartmouth Golf and Country Club. Available for weekly letting or for three plus days out of season.

**For further details please telephone
 01525 220957 evenings and weekends**

FLOWER FESTIVAL AT WHIPSNADE CHURCH

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Commences Friday 17th July at 6.30pm



Festival opening by



Pam Rhodes at Evening Preview & Barbecue
in Whipsnade Village Hall Tickets £15

Saturday, Sunday and Monday 10-5pm

More detail phone Pam Ward: 01582 872406

*Part of Whipsnade Village Festival
including Summer Fete Saturday 2-5pm*

Buds of May

Summer Workshop

Back by popular demand, Sam from Buds of May is running a Summer workshop, create a beautiful flower arrangement, in a relaxed and fun environment. All flowers, sundries and foliage are provided and you get to keep your creation at the end of the night. Refreshments provided.

Date: Thursday 16th July 2009

Time: 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Location: Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall

Cost: £22.50

For further information or to book a place please call

Buds of May on 01525 221920

2 High Street, Edlesborough, LU6 2HS

Email: sam@budsofmayflorist.co.uk

Dunstable Downs and the Chilterns Gateway Centre

There have been some staff changes to the National Trust's management for Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Ellen Dempster joined as Property Manager in January and Jon Powell has been appointed as Countryside Manager. Both Ellen and Jon are based at Dunstable Downs and they are responsible for the Chilterns Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs; Chute Farm; Whipsnade Downs and Heath and The Tree Cathedral; Sharpenhoe Clappers; Moleskin; Markham Hills; and Sundon Country Park in Bedfordshire as well as Shaw's Corner and Morven Park in Hertfordshire.

A regular Farmers Market is now held at the Chilterns Gateway Centre on the first Sunday of the month, from 10am to 3.30pm. Other forthcoming events include:

Sunday 5 July - Farmers' Market 10am - 3pm. Tastes of Bedfordshire farmers and local producers bring you a selection of stalls and products at this new regular monthly market.

Saturday 11 July 2009 - Alice Through the Looking Glass 6pm A Quantum Theatre outdoor production of Alice Through the Looking Glass. See Alice's fantastical adventures in the strange world she enters through the mirror above her drawing-room fireplace. The story follows her travels in a world laid out like a chess board, where she encounters characters such as Tweedledum and Tweedledee, the Walrus and the Carpenter, The Lion and the Unicorn and the Jabberwock.

Adult £10, child £7, family £28, concessions £8. Booking essential. Quantum Theatre Booking Office 0845 450 5157 or purchase at Chilterns Gateway Centre shop.

Sunday 19 July 2009 - Kite Festival 11am - 5pm Come and enjoy the annual Kite Festival on Dunstable Downs, a great opportunity to see unique and beautiful kites, flown by expert flyers demonstrating their skills throughout the day. Bring your own kites or join the Kite Making Workshop and there will be a variety of stalls and other activities on offer.

For further details please see the events section of the National Trust website, www.nationaltrust.org.uk or telephone the Chilterns Gateway Centre on 01582 500 925.

Kind regards Ellen

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

May 2009

£25	K Blackburn	No 60
£10	G Newey	No 86

June 2009

£25	M Smith	No 31
£10	K Stern	No 46

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins and M&M Properties

NORTHALL & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB

WANTED

3 Volunteer Cooks

To join existing teams

There are 5 teams so the roster is every 5th Wednesday

Northall Village Hall has an excellent kitchen and approximately 30 meals are provided every week for our elderly members

If you would like to help please contact The Chairman
Tel 01525 221154

Email idorsetian@yahoo.co.uk



EB Lions AFC

**Winner Eastern region
FA Chartered standard
club of the year 2008**



www.eblions.co.uk

Want to play football?

Then join our award winning, successful and friendly youth football club based in Edlesborough, Eaton Bray and surrounding villages.

We particularly want to hear from:

-  **Boys and girls currently in reception school year to join our newest and youngest squad**
-  **Girls currently in school year 2 to form an U9 girls' team ready for the 2010 season**
-  **Anyone interested in joining an existing team, of any age group, boys and girls - we have football teams playing at virtually every youth age group**

**Contact us on enquiries@eblions.co.uk
or phone Tim Sanders on 01525 221516.
All coaches FA qualified and CRB checked.**

Stuart Ball

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

For a brochure and details call Peter or Celia on **01525 220173** or visit the website at www.479losnaranjos.co.uk.

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For The Elderly

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Katrina Fountain (01296) 429785
E-mail : susantearle@tiscali.co.uk

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or mowing doesn't move you,
you need someone to **Do It for You**

For your General
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**Contact Carl Bird on 01582 703039
or Mobile 07773 230055**

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

Edlesborough Parish Council

(including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) News

2009 Return dates of the Village Freighter

Northall Wednesday 22nd July 7.30am – 11am in Northall Village Hall Car Park

Dates of second visit:

Edlesborough Tuesday 24th November 7.30am – 11am

Dagnall Thursday 19th November 7.30am – 11am

Northall Wednesday 25th November 12noon – 3.30pm

Parishioners are reminded that no electrical items are allowed to be collected.

Website

Unfortunately the Parish Website has been ‘hacked’ on two occasions and the Council would apologise to Parishioners for not being able to receive any information. Hopefully this will be up and running again as soon as possible. Please contact the Clerk for any information in the meantime.

Cemetery Access

The Access is now complete and a new gate will be installed shortly. The Parish Council will also be finishing off the surface of the bridleway to the main entrance on the A4146 and are currently considering replacing the existing gate.

Play Around the Parishes will be returning during the Summer, dates and times as follows:

Edlesborough, The Green	Wednesday 22nd July	2.00 – 4.30pm
	Tuesday 4th August	10.00 – 12.30pm
	Friday 14th August	2.00 – 4.30pm
	Monday 24th August	2.00 – 4.30pm
Dagnall Recreation Field	Monday 20th July	2.00 – 4.30pm
	Monday 10th August	2.00 – 4.30pm
	Wednesday 26th August	2.00 – 4.30pm
Northall Village Hall	Monday 17th August	2.00 – 4.30pm
	Friday 28th August	10.00 – 12.30pm

Streetlighting

The lights at Studham Lane, Dagnall and at Church End, Edlesborough have now been repaired.

Traffic Calming

The Parish Council has purchased Speedwatch equipment which will be manned by volunteers and operate throughout the Parish – drivers are warned!!

Review of Charges

The General Purpose Committee have reviewed the charges for Edlesborough Memorial Hall, The Pavilion and usage of The Green by Sports Clubs. A review of the burial fees will take place in October and there will be an annual rise in Allotment rents in 2010.

Edlesborough Cricket Club

The Council were disheartened to be informed that due to shortage of playing members the Cricket Club would not be playing matches this Summer unless more players could be found. Cricket on Edlesborough Village Green has taken place for many years and it is extremely sad not to see this continuing.

Dagnall Recreational Track

Work is well under way creating the Recreational Track which will be of benefit to all parishioners enabling a variety of activities to take place.

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

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

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Bookings can be made by telephoning Beverly Sage on 01525 229509

**Edlesborough
Parish Council Meetings
3rd Thursday of every month
7.30pm Memorial Hall
Next meeting: Thurs 16th July 09**



Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity

Registered Charity No. 1119499

July Diary Dates

Saturday 4th - Weston Turville Horticultural Society Open Gardens. 10 gardens open between 11am - 5pm.

Fri & Sat 10th & 11th - Open Garden from 2.30pm to 5pm, Brudenall House, Quainton

Sat & Sun 11th & 12th - Open Garden from 2pm to 6pm at 16 Thorp Close, Aylesbury

Saturday 11th - Day in the Park, Bedgrove from 12 noon to 4pm. A fun day for all with Nightingale Country Crafts stall in aid of the hospice.

Sunday 12th - Teddy Bear's Picnic at The Elms, Bishopstone

Monday 13th - The second Charity Golf Match at The Oxfordshire, organised by Paul Bown in aid of the hospice. For more details and to book a team, call Lindsey on 01296 744704.

Saturday 25th - Charity Bingo at Bedgrove Community Centre for just £7 a ticket including fish & chip supper. Eyes down at 7.30pm.

Saturday 25th - Charity Football Match - Mix 96 Britannia v. Hollyoaks



The Church Mouse

The P.C.C. met on 21st May after an uplifting service on Ascension Day led by Father John Heffer. The vacancies for vicar and organist were discussed, it is hoped that interviews will have taken place in June.

A generous legacy has been left to St. Marys which will be very gratefully received. The churchyard upkeep was discussed; the churchwardens will liaise with the Parish Council to agree who will upkeep which areas, to ensure a well kept churchyard. St.Marys featured in the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust as a church worthy of help; they had given a grant in recent months which enabled much needed roof repairs to be carried out.

The PCC agreed to stabilise the organ pipes to ensure it will be easier to retune in future.

The recent review held in the hall, attended by 90 plus people, raised a good sum of money which may be used to buy new curtains for the hall.

The meeting closed with Grace.

Samaritan Branches Work Together At The Herts Show

4 local branches of Samaritans worked together and split the cost to save vital funds when they attended The Herts Show on 23rd/24th May and the sun shone down on us.

It is quite an expensive event for a charity to take part in, so to get round this Luton Branch teamed up with 3 of our neighbouring branches.

Luton, Hitchin, Ware & Watford were all keen to raise Samaritans profile and get the message out there that we are available 24/7 to everyone, and you don't need to be suicidal to ring us.

Whatever is on your mind and causing you distress you can talk about, and we will listen in confidence.

Samaritans will also come and give a talk about our work at schools, clubs or any event that we are required.

Bev, Publicity Officer at Hitchin, devised a short quiz and people came up to us to take part, to ask about volunteering or just to chat and give a donation.

We had 2 prizes, a book token, won by Ms S Trinder from Welwyn Garden City and some M&S vouchers, won by Richard Fraser from Watford.

Samaritans received over 5 million contacts in 2008, and the only method that you can't use to contact us is smoke signals.

Although we weren't allowed to walk around with our collecting bucket, we had one on the stall and received £91.87 in donations from people who were keen to support us, and we received numerous comments from the public thanking us for the work that we do.

All 4 branches have benefited from this collaboration in that several people took our leaflets about volunteering with their local Branch of Samaritans and we always need new volunteers whether it is as listening volunteers or to help with vital fundraising.

Anyone wishing to find out more about volunteering with Samaritans can visit our website www.samaritans.org and then click on: 'Find your nearest branch' which will direct you to the local website and contact details.

We would also welcome donations from anyone who missed us and would like to support us and help us to keep on talking.

Church Humour

For those of you who have children
and don't know it, we have a nursery
downstairs.

Wednesdays
1:00pm to 2:45pm
(During term time)
Eaton Bray Village Hall

Cheeky monkeys

under fives play time

£1.50 per adult / £1.00 per child / 50p under 1yr

- creative play
- singing
- stories
- baby corner
- craft
- juice & biscuit
- tea or coffee
- and more!

Come along,
make new friends
and join in
the fun!

Letters to the Editors



Dear Editor

I read with interest, tinged with sadness, the letter from Jess Hawkes in support of the proposed skateboard park on Eaton Bray recreational ground and I am sure she is a very sincere and good person who tries to see the goodness in others, which without doubt is mostly justified. I remain neutral in regard to the park which would not be close to my residence, but now feel inclined to air my views after many years of life and its experiences.

Moving here from Hemel Hempstead 15 years ago, I looked forward to a peaceful and friendly life amongst kind and considerate neighbours, and thankfully this has proved to be true. However, as an active cyclist using roads around the villages, my experience is in complete contrast, with many instances of harassment from youths in passing cars. I wish to tell you of the most recent ones occurring this year.

March 22nd, remembered as it was our anniversary, I was cycling past St. Mary's Church to Totternhoe when a pony and trap rounded the corner ahead, spotted me and crossed the road heading straight at me, a frightening experience looking a terrified pony straight in the eyes, the consequences could have been disastrous but the driver veered off with inches to spare, much laughter and verbal abuse. More recently, cycling along the High Street passing the Nurseries on the right, a noisy motorcycle turned right out of that road, and when passing me the helmetless rider swiped me around the head trying to dislodge my hat. He looked back to see if he was successful whilst approaching the blind bend by the church.

I am writing these experiences to illustrate that if youths of this nature become involved with the proposed facility, they will drive away the decent children who wish to use it and gather around them the more weak and simple minded, i.e. a gang, thereby I am sure, justifying the fears of everyone living in the vicinity.

I mention sadness at the beginning of this letter because my wife and I are frequent visitors to Switzerland where the skateboard parks are well used and very popular without apparently any problems. I don't think it will happen here. Although some may describe me as a cynic, it is because experience has made me so.

Sincerely, Edward Taylor, a village octogenarian



Mother's Union Eaton Bray With Edlesborough

Our May meeting was held at the lovely home of Keith and Audrey Reynolds. Barbara Marriage spoke to us about life in the two villages in the past centuries. She has researched how the inhabitants had survived during those hard times. The main work was for blacksmiths, carpenters, shoemakers and wheelwrights, also a whiting works which was probably located at Doolittle Lane. A workhouse in each village helped to support the very poor however there appears to be no record of where they were in the village. A very interesting afternoon and a real eye opener to the past. We celebrated 5 birthdays with a delicious tea. A big thankyou to Barbara & Audrey. Our June meeting venue is St Mary's where we will be entertained by Simon Heiffer of the Metropolitan Police.

Our annual outing takes place in July and this year we will be visiting the lovely town of Ely in Cambridgeshire. Should be a wonderful day.

GIRLS!

**Do you love Football?
Come and join an award winning
and friendly club and have fun playing
competitive football with your
friends next season.**

**At EB Lions AFC being one of the biggest
clubs in the county we can offer you fun
and football to a high standard.**

**We already have several very successful
girls' teams. We want to recruit another
team of girls from Years 2 and 3 to join
the league this September.**

**For more information
please email:
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Table Corner

In the “Tip of the month” section on our website www.dagnallcatering.co.uk, we give simple tips about how to plan a successful menu. With the luxury of a little more space here, we thought that we would also share our tips from June and July with the readers of Focus Magazine.

Tip No 1. Try to create a menu where as many dishes as possible can be prepared in advance.

Why?

- This will greatly reduce your stress level, as there will be plenty of other things to do just as your guests arrive at the door!
- In case you burn a dish, you might just have enough time to start again or find an alternative
- You will have enough time to tidy your kitchen and enjoy the lovely clean space
- You will have more spare time to enjoy your guests’ company rather than being busy slaving in front of the stove

Tip No 2: Aim for colour

Remember to blend colours. We eat as much with our eyes as with our palate. So avoid an all white or an all brown plate. You can add little touches too. Use some (unsprayed) edible flowers from your garden to decorate a place such as violas, clovers and nasturtiums.

Tip No 3: Keep it simple

Your guests have come, of course, to enjoy your delicious cooking but also more importantly, to enjoy your company. If you spend the entire time in your kitchen whilst they are sitting at your dining table, they will not have your company to enjoy and might also feel ignored.

Tip No 4: Avoid new recipes

Our last tip is the one, which I feel is most important. Absolutely, Never EVER use an untried recipe at a dinner party. The recipe might not work, things might go wrong and you will so regret it.

If you would like more advice or our help organizing your next dinner party, please don’t hesitate to contact us: The Little Dagnall Catering Company on 01442 842 857 or 07900 49 8476

North Chilterns Group

Spring Harvest 2010 – 13th-18th April at Minehead

‘Spring Harvest is a Christian event which takes place over Easter. It’s for people of all ages and church backgrounds and features inspirational Bible teaching, seminars, and spirit-filled worship. It’s about one thing: deepening your walk with God.’ <http://www.springharvest.org/>

You may have heard that a small group of people from the NCG went to Spring Harvest this year. We enjoyed it so much that we will be returning next year. We would love you to join us.

We are having an open meeting on **Saturday 5th September 2009, 4pm, at Church House, Tilsworth**. Come along to find out more over afternoon tea and see if you would like to join us in 2010.

God bless.

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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 Tracey on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.

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I have recently signed up for a Charity Walk in Aid of the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, and have set myself the target of raising £3,000! My name is Jane Tickell (nee Palmer) but when it came to writing this entry it was a revelation to recall the other ways I may be known: Brian's younger sister, Mark's older sister, Janet & Bob's daughter, Sam, Charlie (Chazza), and Emily's Mum, "Auntie" Jane to many through Eaton Bray preschool history, Beaver colony helper and briefly "Mrs. Tickell" as After School Supervisor at the Lower School. Many may recall me as "Sparra's missus" from my younger days... the list seems to go on... as I have been a resident of Eaton Bray for a little over 40 years now.

I in my wisdom have registered for a 9 day Iceland trip, trekking between 6-9 hours a day through wild volcanic landscapes, mountains and glaciers... camping each night (hopefully sleeping) beneath the stars. "Why?" Springs to my mind as I sit here in the comfort of my own home. Then I recall the much needed support and help my family received during the very last weeks of my Dad's illness before he passed away the end of 2006. Ian Rennie Hospice at Home provided Dad with specialist nursing care, our Mum and family with practical and emotional support and ultimately enabled us to be with Dad at home.

I am sure many of you reading this will have knowledge or personal experience of the IRHH and their dedication, they are locally based, Registered Charity No. 297847. Donations towards IRHH are online through www.justgiving.com/janetickell where it is also possible to Gift Aid.

"Sparra" or Bernie as he seems to be known as now, has taken upon himself the role of Fundraising Manager... (I am still unsure if the title is spurring him on to reach the target or the thought of my being away for a few days, and his subsequent demotion to Chief Cook and Bottleswasher at home.) He has a number of exciting and ambitious events planned, you may well have seen Mum (aka Janet) & I already at this years Carnival assisting on the IRHH stall. the next being a Village Slide Show presented by Peter Mayne at Eaton Bray Village Hall, on Saturday 3rd October, details to be confirmed.

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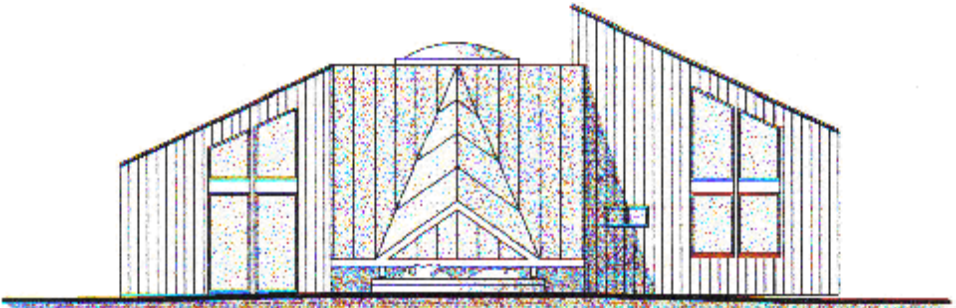
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

The opening paragraph from the OfSTED inspection report, after their October 2007 visit, said this about EBL5:

"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



NOW OPEN: EBL5 Nursery with extended School provision and wrap-around care in a modern, light, environmentally-aware building. Please call at the school (01525 220468) to find out more.



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Seventh Heaven Summer Newsletter

2a High Street, Edlesborough (above Buds of May) – 01525 222918

In addition to Bio sculpture Gel nails, manicure, pedicure and Fake Bake spray tanning we also carry out ear piercing, with the ability to pierce both ears together, alleviating the discomfort for children.

For that special girlie night why not have a party at Seventh Heaven, great for a hen do, birthday or just and good excuse to get together with your friends and get pampered. You bring your nibbles and drink we make you relaxed by offering a pamper package of manicure, pedicure, facial and neck and shoulder massage. A fun, but relaxing evening!



With summer upon us why feel ashamed to get those lily white legs and arms out, have a Fake Bake spray tan and look like you have just had a holiday. Better still have a tan before you go on holiday to save feeling embarrassed on your first day on the beach. Don't delay book now for those special occasions.

We would like to announce two new treatments to Seventh Heaven:-

Our first is to introduce our certified Masseur, Em Challis. Em specialises in traditional Thai massage and brings a wealth of experience. Trained at the famous Wat Po Traditional medical school in Bangkok, Em can assist you in reducing stress and promoting relaxation. Thai massage can benefit a number of conditions, including poor postural alignment, stiff and painful muscles and joints, as well as neck, back and shoulder pain.

Our second is to introduce Anna Tiseo who provides bio feedback testing to define any underlying factors in the following conditions, IBS, bloating, allergies, weight gain, migraine, skin problems. This dynamic treatment alleviates these distressing conditions quickly and easily. Anna runs her clinic on Mondays from Seventh Heaven.

We often have special offers running so watch Buds of May window for any deals or simply call in and see us. Open Tuesday – Saturday 9.00 – 3.00 and late nights Thursday until 10.00. Bring along this article and receive 10% discount, valid until 31st August 2009.

Stamps For Cancer Research U.K.

To all you people who are collecting used stamps for me, this is just to let you know that after this August I am no longer able to take any more.

Many thanks to all of you who have sent me stamps in HUGE numbers.

Sue Cawdell.

Plastic Milk Bottles Tops

I am no longer able to accept plastic milk bottles tops for charity. Thank you all for supporting me in the past.

Sue Cawdell.



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Please contact Lucy for more
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01525 222139 or

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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

May was another settled month and very dry. There were only 2 days of any noticeable rain on the 15th and the 17th.

The hottest it reached was 26.2°C on the 15th and there were 7 days above 20°C. But that wasn't as hot as May 2008 when the temperature was above 20°C for 18 days and reached a max 28.2°C.

The Dagnall weather station is now live on the web with 15 mins updates from approx 0800-2200 hours each day. <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/dagnallweather>.

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

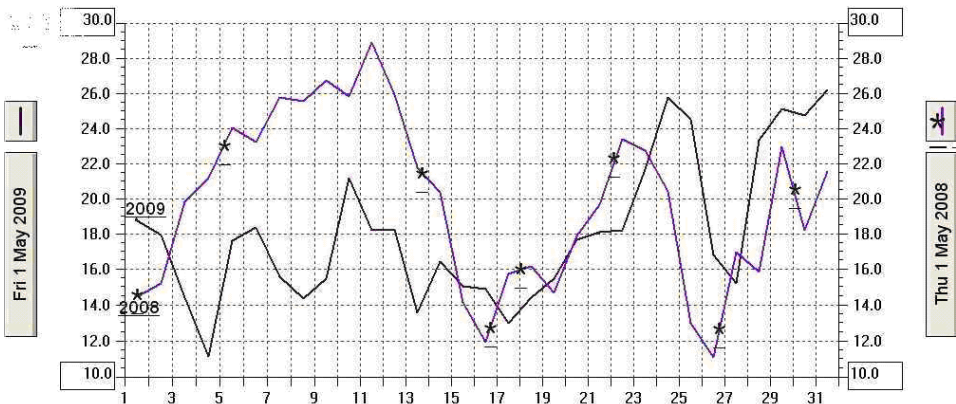


Weather Conditions for May 2009

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	26.2°C	15 May 15.30	1.9°C	10 May 06.00
Mean Temperature	12.5°C			
Dewpoint:	16.6°C	29 May 11.00	- 0.3°C	4 May 01.00
Humidity:	96%	15 - 29 May 07.00	35%	30 May 17.00
Barometer:	1031.4 hPa	29 May 02.00	999.5 hPa	15 May 14.00
Wind Speed	35 mph S	8 May 15.30	Months avg.	6.5 mph
Wind Chill:	25.7 °C	24 May 17.00	1.3°C	4 May 03.30
Dominant Wind:	w			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 10 (T), 10 (R)	Wettest Day 15 May		12.19 mm	0.48 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	May	36.60 mm	144 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	5 Months	234.8 mm	9.24 ins

Temperature comparisons May 2008 - 2009



August Focus will be a joint issue for August & September. Don't forget to send in your August & September entries by 10th July.

Cheeky Monkeys Under Five's Playtime

Well it is nearly time to close for the summer, so if you have not already visited us make sure you come along shortly! On 15th July we will be holding our "end of term party" with lots of party food, music, balloons and maybe even some party games. Do make sure you buy your raffle tickets, as we will be drawing the raffle on this day too! Prizes include a glider flight, photographic session, Leighton Buzzard railway passes, cinema tickets, Grove Theatre tickets, plus lots more!!! Our thanks go to all the organisations who have given so generously to our raffle. We are pleased to report that we were able to purchase some new craft materials from the profits made from our last raffle. Our next goal is to improve and expand the baby corner.

If any parent would like to hold a table top stall between now until the end of term, please speak to anyone of us - contact details below. We charge £5 per table, and you can keep all the money you make. A great chance to clear out your cupboards, create more space and make lots of extra money!

If you are a parent or carer and would like to join our friendly group, please come along to Eaton Bray Village Hall on a Wednesday afternoon at 1pm. Everyone is welcome. We charge £1.50 per adult, £1 per child over 1, and 50p per child under 1. Cheeky Monkeys is run by three volunteer parents, Sarah, 07904 348113, Louise 07784 165259 and Sue 01525 222387. For enquiries please contact anyone of us.

Remember – keep coming and we will keep running!

www.cheekymonkeys.btik.com



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

For the last nine years it has been our privilege and great pleasure to act as organizers for the Royal British Legion Annual Poppy Appeal in Eaton Bray. Your generosity every year and concern for the needs of the many ex-servicemen and women cared for by the Legion has been a humbling yet uplifting experience for us; never to be forgotten.

For a number of reasons, we shall no longer be able to carry out the functions of local organizers for the appeal and are looking for someone who would be interested in carrying on this invaluable though not especially onerous voluntary work.

Hopefully, someone will take over from us as it would be very sad should the Legion lose its support in the village.

As well as explaining all that needs to be done we would be delighted to offer support through the initial year if that would be helpful and would wish to continue to play our part as house to house collectors.

The Royal British Legion is a charity committed to helping people facing difficult times. To be successful the Legion needs continuing support, so please someone, come along and take up the baton from us. Thank you. Keith and Jean Stanley.
Tel. 01525. 220608.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100

Club Winners

May 2009

110	Matthew Ford	£100
135	Bob Smith	£25
35	Mile Burke	£25
33	Kate Cartwright	£25
104	Sheila Wright	£25

Drawn on 19 May 2009 at Eaton Bray Lower School. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

Salvation Sound...July 2009

Letters today are an accepted part of everyday life. However it wasn't always like that. In early Victorian times letters were an expensive luxury, far beyond the reach of the poor; postal charges were levied according to distance and anyone receiving the letter had to pay for it.

A man named Rowland Hill noticed a poor woman refusing a letter from the postman because the charge was one shilling. Concerned for her plight, he paid the fee and gave the letter to her. The woman told him that the missive was from her son, there was no writing on the paper, but when he was working away from home he would send a blank sheet at regular intervals, thus its arrival told her he was alive and well. Being poor she would not accept it but she would know the meaning of it. Rowland Hill used this knowledge as one of his weapons to obtain postal reform; so it was that in the year 1840, the pre-paid Penny Post, along with the Penny Black Stamp was introduced.

Communication today is so much easier for we have the telephone, e-mail, cell-phones, and fax machines, and of course texting. It is surprising how much can be said in just a few words, which is why I like to read the mini-sermons that are on the notice boards outside some of our churches.

“Don't pray that your load may be lightened, but that your back may be strengthened to bear it.”

“Where the faithless may see only a hopeless end, the faithful rejoice in endless hope.”

“What is missing from this: CH__CH ? U R !!

Paul wrote many letters and we are fortunate to be able to read copies of them in our bibles today. Each of them gave good advice, instructions on how to live, sometimes he scolded. He told us (yes, it is relevant today) to live in union with Christ Jesus, to keep our roots deep in him, build our lives on him and become ever stronger in our faith, and be filled with thanksgiving. He ended each letter with a blessing. His friends must have felt that these letters were not only helpful but comforting as well.

The art of writing was known in the time of the early Pharaohs. Moses was commanded “to write for a memorial in a book.” Ex. 17:14. The books of Moses are the most ancient that are still in existence. Rameses II built a library in Thebes which was reputed to have held 20,000 books. The first mention of letter writing in the bible is in the time of David. 2 Sam. 11. 14:15.

It is a great joy to hear the post-person push letters through the letter-box; but so often all we receive are those things called ‘junk-mail’. How good it feels if someone has sent a card from a holiday destination, or better still an unexpected letter from a loved one, friend or relative.

Why don't you write to someone today? and end your letter with something like this instead of just ‘all good wishes’...

“We shared our laughter and our tears,

We shared our joys and sometimes fears.

We shared our company and in the end,

We each of us had made a friend.”

God bless you.

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

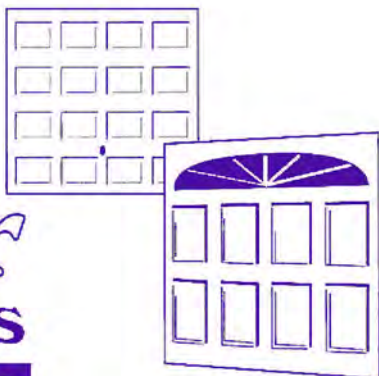
Young Ladies Fellowship 7.45pm

(last Thursday in every month)



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