

Focus

December/January 2011

EDLESBRAY PLAYERS PRESENT

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THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

EATON BRAY
EDLESBOROUGH

NORTHALL
DAGNALL

The White Horse at Eaton Bray
Market Square
Eaton Bray
Beds LU6 2DG
Tel: 01525 220231
www.thewhitehorseeatonbray.co.uk



Christmas Menu

(G) Homemade Minted Pea Soup.

(G) Tian of Crab & Smoked Salmon
on a Bed of Cucumber Tagliatelle.

(G) Mozzarella & Salami
with a Basil Dressing.

(V) Mushrooms & Spinach in a Creamy
Garlic Sauce with a Parmesan Crust.



Roast Turkey with Sage & Onion Stuffing
& Chipolata Sausage Wrapped in Bacon.
Honey Roast Ham with Parsley Sauce.

(G) Braised Shoulder of Lamb
in a Rosemary & Redcurrant Sauce.

(G) Chargrilled Ribeye Steak with
a Shallot, Cream, White Wine
& Mushroom Sauce.

(G) Sea Bass Fillet in Lemon Butter with
Dauphinoise Potatoes & Green Beans.

(V) Baked Leeks & Courgettes
topped with a Cheese Crumble.



Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce.
Homemade Sticky Toffee Pudding.

(G) Chocolate Baileys Torte.

(G) Winter Fruits Meringue Nest.
Rum & Raisin Ice Cream.
Cheese & Biscuits.



Coffee & Mince Pies.

£26.95 per person

(V) Vegetarian **(G)** Gluten-Free



New Year's Eve Banquet 2010

Quail's Egg Florentine
with a Béarnaise Sauce



Chicken "Crème Caroline"
with Chives



Smoked Fish Terrine with a
Lemon and Dill Crème Fraiche



Prime Fillet Steak with a
Mushroom and Madeira Sauce,
Roasted "Château" Potatoes
and Seasonal Vegetables



Chocolate and Black Cherry
Mousse in a Wafer Basket



Classic French Cheese
with Baguette



Coffee and Chocolate Mints



Champagne at Midnight

£52.50 per person

A deposit of £5 per head is
required to confirm booking

Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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

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

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

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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

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

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 07506 745133

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

General Assistance: 0845 8505505

PC Jared Levens Mobile 07773 398 727

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile 07800 703 524

PCSO Chris Baker Mobile 07974 973 866

Email: WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Hall Bookings

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

Northall: Lorna Cabbage, Tel: 01525 220361

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee, Tel: 01525 222831

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates, Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Beverly Sage, Tel: 01525 229509

Village Diaries December 2010/January 2011



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, 9.15am - 12.15pm, 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, Ellie Deeley on 07913 529574
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays
(term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7- 10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Sarah 01525 229194
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- 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, 10-11am, 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, Naomi 01525 376575/07977 564449
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Yoga, Dagnall Village Hall 7.45 – 9.15pm
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's Playtime, 1:00pm - 2:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Louise on 07784 165259
- Weds
(term time) 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
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153
- Wednesdays Surestart Sensory Play for under 5s, 1.30-3pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- Thurs
(term time) Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45-2:45pm (12:30 if bringing lunch) £1 adult 50p child. Contact Faye 07746 120163 or Samantha 07882 903282
- 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 Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) Bible Study 7.30p.m.-9.00p.m. all welcome, Antony Coles 07848007977 or Peter Feben 01525 221048.
- 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

Village Diaries December 2010/January 2011

- 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
- Sundays Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) prayer time 9.30am, main meeting 11.00am-12.00pm. All welcome, Antony Coles 07848007977, or Peter Feben 01525 221048.

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 Monday Knit n Stitch. 2pm-3.30pm. Coffee Tavern. Eaton Bray. Knitting, crochet & needlecraft. Tel Wendy 07908 828414. www.wendy-poole.co.uk
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) 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 Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 4th Dec Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Xmas Show, 10am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall. Adults £4, accompanied under 16s free, refreshments
- 8, 22 Dec, 5, 19 Jan Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm, Christmas Bingo - 22nd Dec
- 10th Dec, 14th Jan Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. On 10th Dec Sherry & Mince Pies
- 11th Dec Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
- 14th Dec Dagnall Over 60's Christmas Lunch Village Hall 2pm
- 11th Dec Edlesborough Village Market Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 9am-1pm
- 18th Jan Dagnall Over 60's 40th Anniversary Celebration

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 3rd, 4th, 5th Dec Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's Eaton Bray
- 3rd, 4th, 5th Dec ELF Christmas Tree in St Mary's Eaton Bray
- 4th Dec Rachmaninov Vespers, St John's Boxmoor. 8pm
- 9th Dec ELF meeting at Coffee Tavern for sherry, mince pies, etc
- 10th Dec Rock Chorus Concert, St. Giles Church, Totterhoe, 7.30pm. Tickets: 01582 662778
- 11th Dec Christmas Coffee Morning at All Saints, Dagnall 10.30 - 12.30
- 15th Dec Cheeky Monkeys' Christmas Party, 1-2.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 16th Dec ELF Xmas lunch at The Cross Keys, Pulloxhill
- 19th Dec Carol Singing around Dagnall village. Meet Village Hall 6pm
- 19th Dec Grace Baptist Church Carol Service, 11am-12noon

Diary continued on page 6

Village Diaries December 2010/January 2011

19th Dec	Churches Together 'John Breeze', 7.30pm, Edlesborough Methodist Church
22nd Dec	Carol Singing around Dagnall village outskirts. Meet Village Hall 6pm
24th Dec	Candle Service, 4.15-6pm, St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
6th-22 Jan	Leighton Buzzard Theatre Group pantomime: The Snow Queen, Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Performances Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, (see page 43 for full details) Box Office 0300 300 8125
24th Jan	ELF walk planned
27-29th Jan	Edlesbray Players Pantomime, Santa the Panta, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Matinee on Saturday only at 2pm, Box Office 01525 222283

Anne Thompson

I would like to thank everyone who sent cards and letters of support during and after the passing of my dear daughter, and to the Iain Rennie nurses and the Hospice of St. Francis. Also to the Rev. Liz Hughes for the lovely memorial service and all who attended (even Anne would have been amazed).
Mary Dyson

Focus Deliveries

Focus Magazine requires volunteers for delivery in both Edlesborough (Cow Lane/Wren Walk area) and Eaton Bray (part of High Street along from the Coffee Tavern).

If anyone is able to help with either of these, or would be prepared to deliver on an occasional basis, please contact John Plater on 221095 for details. Thank you.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Please come and help to run your village
BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Parish Council consists of nine members of the public

We come to each Parish Council Meeting in the Coffee Tavern on the 1st Monday of each month and spend on average around four hours each month advising and helping to run our village.

**At present we have two vacancies – will YOU come and join us?
If yes, please contact the Parish Clerk**

You can also look at our website for more details

Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

Parish Office: 20 Good Intent, Edlesborough, Dunstable, Beds, LU6 2RD

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Methodist
Church

invites you to

**Café
Community**

Saturday 11th December 2010
11.00am to 1.00pm

Relax & chat with friends,
coffee & light bite

Theme: "What is the spirit of Christmas?"
Charity of the month: Crisis at Christmas.
Festive stalls will also feature this month.
All ages welcome.



See you there
food for the body.....
food for thought....

Quiz Night

**Saturday 5th February 2011
Edlesborough Memorial Hall**

7.30 - 11.30pm
**£12.50 per person
or 4 tickets for £40**

Single, couple or teams all welcome
Fish & Chips served between 8 - 9pm
Quiz starts at approx. 9.30pm
Bring your own drinks

**Call or text Kath Mead on
07786 061959 or
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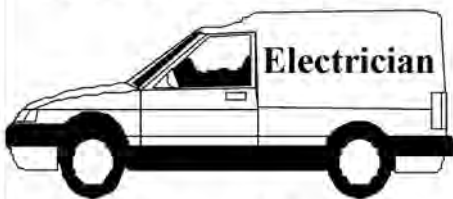
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Call Samantha on 07956526635

NORTHALL & DISTRICT WEDNESDAY CLUB

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AGE
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RACE NIGHT

Friday 4th February

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

7.00PM (First race 7.30)

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Cheeky monkeys
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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday
 15th December 2010
 1:00pm to 2:45pm

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Merry Christmas



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**December 11th
 10.30 - 12.30
 All Saints Dagnall**

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**11th December
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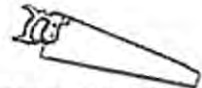
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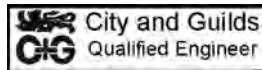
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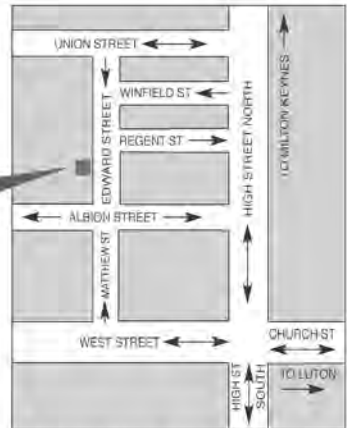
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Fish & Chip Night

*Thursday evening is Fish & Chip night, either takeaway or eat in.
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Edlesborough Parish Housing Needs Survey

One of the issues highlighted in the EDaN Parish Plan was to discover whether there was a need for some affordable housing for local people, both young and elderly. Edlesborough Parish Council, in partnership with Community Impact Bucks, has now decided to pursue this matter.

A Housing Needs Survey will be distributed throughout Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall with the February 2011 issue of 'Focus' and will, we hope, result in a comprehensive overview of affordable housing needs within our community.

We need you to respond, whether you are for, against, in need or know someone in need of housing. PLEASE take the time to complete the form and return it to Community Impact Bucks in the freepost envelope which will be provided by the deadline of **Friday 26 February 2011**.

Please remember that if a need is established, any housing provided will always be for local people who belong to Edlesborough parish. The homes will remain affordable and for the use of the villagers in perpetuity.

Lin Sargeant – Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council Tel: 01525 220859
e-mail: parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk
website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

Countdown to Super-Christmas MMX

Pigs might fly, or even Snowmen – but not over the Four Villages on Christmas Eve, that piece of airspace is strictly for super-Fat super-Santa and his faithful team of Cervidae aviators. They swoop over the villages looking out for the homes of the nice children (and studiously avoiding the dwellings of the naughty children!) using as their guide the invaluable super-Santa letters database correlated by the super-Elves of the Villages – it's a kind of Sat-Nav homing in on the homes of the deserving children.

Just how can you make sure that your little one is on the list?

Just how can you make sure they look forward to Christmas with a smile and a glint in their eye rather than a sullen and surly super-sulk?

Simple – just contact the super-elves of the Four Villages and send them details of your child's achievements, what they would like for Christmas and whether they will be at home or at Auntie Hilda's on Christmas morning and quick as a flash (well in about two weeks really!) super-Santa will send a reassuring letter to the children, letting them know for sure that they are on the list and can expect a visit on Christmas night – and that super-Rudolf will be looking forward to his carrot!

The village super-Elves will open for business on 1st December – so just collect a form from the super-Elves safe house at 96a High Street, Eaton Bray – it's between the Butchers and the Village Shop (or email super-Santa at super.santa@talktalk.net) – then no matter how you got it just return it with £2 by Saturday 11th December in an envelope marked "Village Hall Project" (the super-Elves have little Elves of their own so the code words are vital!).

The Elves also have to help Santa sort the presents and pack the sleighs so the letters will be delivered the weekend of the 18th and 19th December. Santa as in previous years is donating the money to the Eaton Bray Village Hall, where he parks his sleigh when visiting the village.





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Charity Christmas Puzzle 2010

It is nearly time for Gordon Gray to distribute this year's Charity Christmas Puzzle. This, the 20th annual Puzzle that Gordon has set, has a theme designed to help completion and will appeal to people who enjoy doing Crossword puzzles, such as in the Daily Telegraph (though it is not a Crossword puzzle). Puzzlers have plenty of time to find the answers and Puzzles should be returned, with donation, by 23 January.

Four winners will each receive a £30 prize.

Everyone who enters will qualify for a £30 prize draw.

Gordon plans to post Puzzles on 7 December, so those already on the distribution list should receive their copies by 9 December. Anyone else who would like a copy of the Puzzle can access it from the web at www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. You can register early to receive a copy on the issue date of 8 December.

Over £36,000 raised for charity

£4,700 donated last year

This year's puzzle will support St Mary's Fabric Fund plus four other charities. If you want further details contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136.

Letter to the Carnival Committee

Dear Sirs

Stray Cat Rescue would like to thank the Carnival Committee for their generous donation to the charity from the 2010 Carnival. We are a small local charity and receive no outside funding. For the last couple of years, we have had an unprecedented number of cats and kittens in our care and at present our vets' bills are running between £1000.00 & £1500.00 per month. We neuter all the cats in our care and never euthanize a healthy cat. All the monies we receive go towards the cats' welfare as we are all volunteers and take nothing from the charity. If you can give a good home to a cat or kitten like the one in the photo (courtesy of Luton News), or would like to join the charity (for a minimum of £7.50 pa) and receive our newsletter or help with fundraising please contact Sue on 229013.

Thank you, Sue Lang



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Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our theme for the next Cafe Community on Saturday December 11th will be, "What is the Spirit of Christmas?" We welcome you to pop in between 11-00am and 1-00pm to Relax, Read the Newspapers, try the Fun Quiz, Chat with friends and enjoy something from our menu. We offer a selection of Beverages, Homemade Biscuits, Jacket Potatoes and B.L.T 's. As an extra for this Advent Season there will be various Festive Stalls including Craft Goods, Homemade Cakes and Second-Hand Books.

The Charity for the month will be CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS.

As the 2nd Saturday in January is so close to the New Year Holiday there will be no Cafe Community in January.

Our Family Christmas Carol Service will be held on Sunday December 19th at 10-30am.

There will be a Christmas Day Service in our Chapel at 10-30am and we invite you to join us on this special day.

We will not have a Service in our Chapel on Sunday 26th December but you are invited to join our Trinity Church at Leighton Buzzard at 10-30am for their Service.

Dagnall News

Over 60's

Our November meeting was reorganised and we welcomed Paul Healey who gave us an interesting talk based on the History of Dunstable. Several of our members will remember most of what was described but will be reluctant to mention their names!

In December we will be having our usual Christmas Lunch. This is always enjoyed by everyone and makes a most welcome finale of our meetings for the year.

During January 2011 we will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary. We hope to provide our members with a most enjoyable celebration on the 18th of the month. Full details will have been passed on to our members by the time the Focus Magazine is available.

The Organ Concert

Dagnall Over 60's are delighted to extend sincere thanks to everyone who supported the Organ Concert by Andrew Nix on October 30th. We are pleased to report a profit of £450 which will be devoted to the funds of the Club and will be most helpful in enabling us to celebrate our 40th Anniversary in January.

We had a most successful Raffle and we wish to record our thanks to all who contributed prizes for which we were most grateful.

Herewith a list of our Donors

Cross Keys Farm, Highbury Farm and Dagnall Farm, Little Gaddesden Store, Bridgewater Arms, B & H Autos, Edlesborough Post Office, Janes Ltd, Edlesborough, Mrs Bleakley, Well Farm Dagnall. Many thanks to all concerned.

Dagnall School

Our Class Charter

- Don't run in the classroom.
- Don't talk when the teacher is talking.
- Always listen or you won't know what to do.
- Take turns on the computer.
- Be kind to your friends.

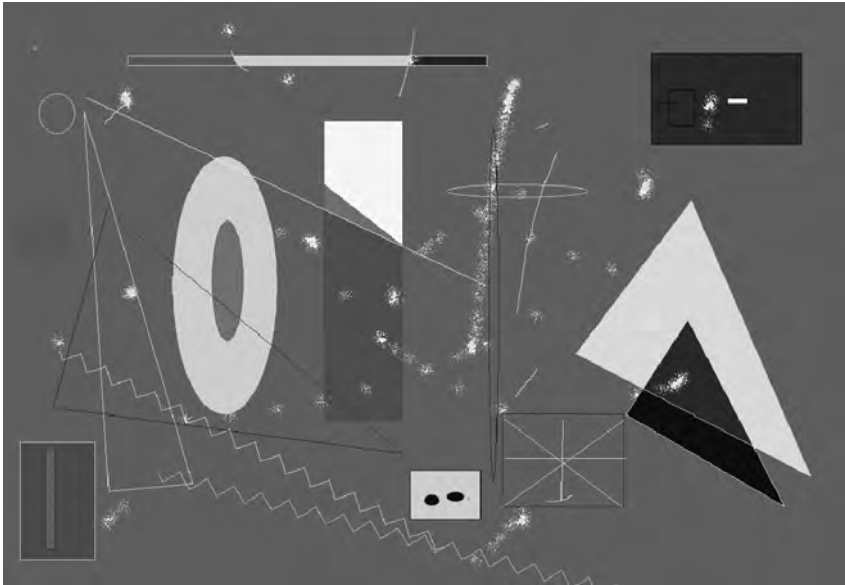


- Always put the books back in the right place.
- Look after all the toys in the class.
- Make sure the pencils are always tidy.
- Don't whistle in the class.

Written by the Bluetits and Robins

The children looked at the Russian artist 'Kandinsky' and used the tools in the paint programme to re-create a design in the style of this artist.

This picture was designed using 'Colour Magic' by Ruby in the Robins.



Community Choir

Continuing Growth of Dagnall Community Choir

With a regular attendance of about 50, (and rising), for our weekly practice sessions, we have now become a fairly large Choir and on the more and more frequent occasions that we all hit the right note at the right time, we make an impressive sound.

Every Monday evening Dagnall Church is filled with people enjoying making music together under the much valued leadership of Stuart Harding. There can be little doubt over the veracity of the recent medical research suggesting that, quite apart from the pleasure enjoyed by a group of people singing together, there are the positive and beneficial effects on health and the feeling of well being.

We are busy expanding our repertoire and our appearance in the "Grove Sings" Show at the Grove Theatre in Dunstable on November 9th was a great success. We are also beginning to incorporate some Christmas Music for a proposed December Concert.

Meanwhile, if you would like to enjoy the chance of music with like minded aspirants, please contact either Val Lumley on 01442 842214 or Geoff Ward on 01442 843515.

Firework Lunch

Val & Chris are pleased to tell you that their Firework Lunch in aid of the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home raised £330. Thank you to everyone who contributed and attended.



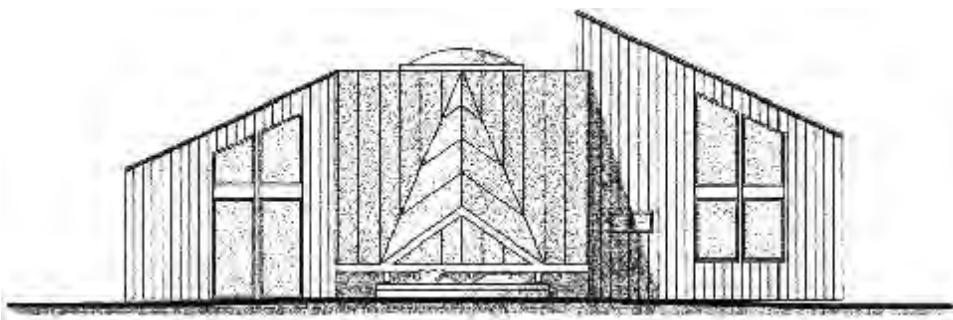
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

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

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Healthy School

Dagnall Football Team

I thought Focus readers would be interested in this photograph of the local Dagnall football team. The photo was taken in the 1950s and I believe the team were playing in Dunstable. I'm sure many local people will recognise familiar faces.

Please would anyone who can name the players, officials and/or the trophy please contact me or the Focus editors.

Mavis Hignell, Dagnall, Tel: 01442 842356.



Rotary Club of Dunstable

The Rotary Club of Dunstable shares an international motto of "Service above Self". The Club members raise money during the year to put into their Benevolent Fund and once a year this money is distributed to charities local to Dunstable and the surrounding villages.

Each year three Antiques Fairs are held at the Dunstable Leisure Centre where all the profits go into the Benevolent Fund. The next Fair is on New Year Bank Holiday, Saturday 1st January, 2011 and is open to the public between 10am and 4pm. Admission is a modest £2 per person.

How can you help?

- By having a stall at the event. Please contact Alan Tarsey on 01582 872673
- By attending the event
- By becoming a member of The Rotary Club and helping worthwhile causes in the community.

More information can be obtained from Roger Sharp on 01582 606405.

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Pastoral Matters: The Rev'd John Heffer, 35 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough (220618)

Associate Minister: Revd Canon Christine Farrington (01582 793409)

Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

Church Wardens: Peter Bennett (221284) and Graham Mockett (01582 668210)

Parish Administrator: Elisabeth Ryder (07890 718117)

Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com

As we approach the shortest day of the year you might have noticed it getting colder and darker; though some people, snug in their cosy houses with hot water on tap having plenty of food from the supermarket reached in air-conditioned cars, don't experience the extremes of the season. It wasn't always so - I'm sure many older readers recall the experience of waking up with ice on the bedspread. They remember what it felt like to be cold, dark and hungry and how they looked forward with hope and expectation to spring and the joy of warmer, lighter days and more food to eat.

Hope, expectation and joyfulness – those should be the characteristics that mark our celebration of Advent and Christmas. Advent – the four weeks before Christmas - is a time when the church meditates on the state of the world with its darkness and violence, at the coldness which people can show one another, and considers its hopes for the future of the human race, hungry for a better way.

How can we bring an end to the ever more sophisticated ways we have of killing one another, wars over resources, mass starvation, poor healthcare of most of the world's inhabitants, the greed of the wealthy, fear of strangers, pollution, climate change? An end to injustice has been the great hope of people from time immemorial – the world groans for such a change - for someone who will show us how to bring about change. Surely, it's too much to hope for, too much to expect.

But the Christian message is that in the birth of Jesus, at Christmas, God does change things. That is exciting, that is Good News, and it is why so many of our Advent and Christmas carols are filled with joy: 'Hark the glad sound!' Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come', 'A great and mighty wonder', 'Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King', 'Joy to the world, the Lord is come'.

Born a little baby, Jesus came and showed a different way, a way based on love, peace and justice for all people; and if the world is not to spiral into more and more despair perhaps His way is the one to try. It's not easy; I quoted G K Chesterton last month, well, here he is again "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult, and left untried".

Christmas brings Good News, a message of joy for the world; but maybe you have missed it, maybe you have failed to be excited. Perhaps, like our experience of the seasons we are too comfortable, too distracted by modern commercial Christmases, to see the excitement that the message of Jesus brings to many millions of people throughout the world. Come along to church this Christmas and be awakened to the joy.

Finally, if hope, expectation and joy have been the themes of this article, please share with the congregation of St Mary's in their hope, expectation and joy at the announcement of a new vicar, Rev Coralie McCluskey; she will move here to take up

her post in February. Please pray for her and her family as they prepare for their move and for her new ministry.

My hope is that you will experience the joy of the Christian message this Christmas. Gordon, Reader at St Mary's Eaton Bray

Please Welcome Our New Vicar

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a new Vicar. The Reverend Coralie McCluskey is presently Team Vicar in the Welwyn Team Ministry and, until the end of a recent vacancy in Welwyn, was also Acting Team Rector. Coralie is married to Ralph and has four grown-up children. Her Licensing by The Bishop of Bedford will take place at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray, on the evening of Tuesday 22nd February 2011. We will endeavour to keep you informed of developments through the Church notice boards and website. Needless to say, we very much look forward to welcoming Coralie and her family to our Parish and to celebrating Easter with them.

Graham Mockett & Peter Bennett, Churchwardens

Dorothy Green & Philip Lee, District Churchwardens

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS :

8.00am HOLY COMMUNION

10.00am PARISH SUNG HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month:

10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service for families. (For anyone wishing to attend a service where Holy Communion is offered, there is a Family Communion at 10.30am at All Saints' Church, Dagnall, where visitors are assured of a warm welcome).

WEEK-DAYS :

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

Wednesday: **10.00am** Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES



**The National Trust
South Beds Assn**

**Monday 6th December
Stowe Landscape Gardens:
a transformation**

*David Brooks: Project Manager,
Stowe landscape Gardens*

**2.30pm, Salvation Army Centre,
Bull Pond Lane, Dunstable**

**Visitors are welcome at £1
For further information
phone 01582 527790**

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.

EB Lions AFC

THE childrens village football club



Season 2010 - 11

There is a real and strong demand in our Club/villages for children's football, where the skill levels, coaching and development of players and teams is among the best in the County.

This season we have almost 20 teams (yes 20!!) – that's 250 children - playing team sport in our villages every week, where almost 90% come from our rural bases – in and around Edlesborough/Eaton Bray/Northall/Kensworth/Studham and Dagnall. Furthermore the quality and skill of our players and teams just gets better and better and we have a few teams top of their League already this season.

250!

We are delighted to announce that the Club have just signed their 250th player in a season – the first time ever. To think we were just 25 players and two teams 8 years ago!!

A very proud Daisy Moore, aged 5, picked up her special award to mark this historic moment, at our coaches club night in October and is pictured here

with Chairman Andy Lancefield (r) and Treasurer Tim Sanders (l).

Well done Daisy who is just one of 22 players in our Under 5's, the newest team!



New Players

Whilst we have clearly been hugely successful in stimulating demand, particularly from the youngest age groups which ensures sustainable growth over the next decade and also that our teams are well supported, we do have a small number of opportunities still available in certain age groups/teams.

We are keen to attract new players for the following teams:-

1. Boys and Girls - Reception year and year 1 – only a couple of places left for our U5 and U6.
2. Boys YEAR 7 – 2 new players to join our U12's 11 a side team,
3. Boy YEAR 9 – 1 extra player to join our U14's squad.

We would particularly like to hear from you if you fall into these age bands – but indeed from anyone who has a son or daughter of any age who wants to play competitive football for their village club please email us at enquiries@eblions.co.uk

Golf Day

We had a hugely successful Golf Day on 1st October 2010 at Three Locks golf club, where 32 golfers battled the elements on the Friday of European Rider Cup glory to play team golf and a fantastic day was had by all. Our sincere thanks to Paul Cook for running a brilliantly organised event and we raised £1,000 as our first fund raising for our potential new training pitch.

Committee

We have been blessed with a very keen and enthusiastic committee for the last 8 years and moreover have a wonderful group of dedicated coaches, which now totals almost 40! As part of our continued development there are a few key roles we are now looking

to appoint and we are seeking keen mums or dads interested in the Club – be them parent, coach, grandparent etc.

1. *VICE CHAIR – to take over the great work done by Andy Lancefield (as Chair) over the last 8 years*
2. *CLUB SECRETARY – to take this on from Julie Fox who has sadly decided to retire at the end of this season!*
3. *ASST GROUNDSMAN – to help Adrian Bush with lining and looking after our pitches and goals.*
4. *U17 COACH – to help manage our strong boys U17's for this season and their least next year.*

All these roles are very much part time. Everyone on the committee and those coaching have busy lives, jobs and families, but in sparing a few hours a week we make a vital difference to the fabric and life of our children in the villages, without which there would be few healthy sporting opportunities without getting into a car and travelling. Please step up to help make a difference.

Sponsors

We are delighted to have sponsors for all our teams this Summer, who we are hugely grateful too. They include;-

EDLESBOROUGH POST OFFICE – who again sponsor our Jason Reynolds and Gary Toughs team - Under 11's.

CANNERS & PACKERS – who again sponsor a team, this next 2 years the U14's. Special thanks to Simon Tate for his huge support and contribution.

YELLOW YOYO – Bryan Wright and Amanda have kindly sponsored their Under 12 Girls kit which is very much above and beyond with commitment and dedication. Our huge thanks to them for the generous sponsorship and time.

And Finally

We support all our teams and coaches win lose or draw as its the active participation and team work which is the core of what we are. That said, albeit early season, it is right to mention a few successes on the pitch by the boys and girls, notably our U12 and U10 girls teams are who top and 2nd respectively in their leagues and also U15's who are 2nd, U14's (joint top) and U11's who are 4th.

Keep the dedicated hard work going!

E B Lions AFC

The Salvation Army, Booth Place	
Weekly Activities	
Sunday	
'Footprints' (Sunday School)	9.45-10.45am
Morning Worship	11.00am
Family Worship	
3rd Sunday in month	10.30am
Songs of Praise	
3rd Sunday in month	4pm
Monday	
'Champion's Challenge' Club	
(Age 5 - 9 yrs)	5.30-6.30pm
Junior Club (age 9+)	
(Term time only)	6.45-7.45pm
Tuesday	
Coffee Morning	
Once A Fortnight	10.00 - 12 Noon
Songster and band practice	7.30 - 9.00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30-3.30pm
Weekly Bible Study	7.30pm
Thursday	
Parent and Toddler Group	
(Term time only)	9.30-11.30am
Thursday Evening	
Ladies Fellowship	
Last Thursday in every month	7.45pm
For further details please telephone Captains Linda and Ray Charlton 01525 221156	



Edlesborough Parish Council News

including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

The Green

A further 2 seats are being installed in front of the Pavilion in an attempt to reduce the amount of vandalism caused to the guttering and roof due to footballs being constantly kicked against the Pavilion walls.

The General Purpose Committee agreed at its meeting in November that no football would be played by either EB Lions or the adult football teams on the Green other than on that part of the Green towards the Memorial Car park end and in no circumstances on land in front of the Pavilion or the cricket pitch which is for the recreational use of parishioners.

The Memorial Hall

Shot gun pellets have damaged the windows of the Memorial Hall. This matter is being treated as a severe and dangerous crime. If any nearby residents hear or see anything suspicious would they please immediately ring Thames Valley Police on the 999 number.

Affordable Housing

The Parish Council in conjunction with Community Impact will be carrying out a Housing Needs Survey for each of the three villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall early in the New Year. Please refer to the separate item in this issue of 'Focus'

Edlesborough Sewerage System

Up to date plans of the current sewerage system have been supplied to the Parish Council by Anglian Water.

Speed Limit Review

The Area 13 Speed Limit Review decisions had now been made and the original proposals made by Bucks CC for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall would be implemented without any changes.

Northall drainage

Bucks CC have been made aware of problems on Leighton Road one of which is currently being looked into.

Core Strategy

Following the scrapping of the original Core Strategy it will be progressed under the title of "The Vale of Aylesbury Plan" and it is intended that this will involve a significant amount of engagement with town and parish councils.

Advice from Bucks CC – snow clearance

Do not use hot water as snow could be replaced with black ice increasing the risk of injury.

Use sand or ash as a salt substitute should salt supplies run out.

When shovelling snow be careful not to block residents paths or drainage channels,

Be a "good neighbour" by clearing snow for those people who may be unable to do so themselves.

Warning!

Several energy companies use a password security system which is available to domestic customers who can register a password against their account. Anyone claiming to be

from your energy company, reading meters etc. can then be asked for this password to confirm they are genuine. If they are not able to give you the password, do not allow them access to your property. Contact your individual companies to find out if they operate such a system – the numbers will be available from your energy bills.

Change of Dates

The General Purpose Committee meeting scheduled for 1st December has been cancelled.

The Edlesborough Parish Council meeting scheduled to take place on Thursday 16th December will be held on Thursday 9th December in The Pavilion commencing 7.30pm.

Minutes of both the General Purpose Committee and Parish Council meetings can be viewed on Edlesborough website.

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

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

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

**1st Monday of each month
7:30pm The Coffee Tavern**

**Next Meetings: Mon 6th Dec
Mon 10th Jan**

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

**3rd Thursday monthly
7.30pm Memorial Hall**

**Please note: December meeting has
changed from 16th December to
THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER 2010
at THE PAVILION**

Eaton Bray Cricket Club Grand Draw Winners

1st Prize	£125	N Pearson	Eaton Bray
2nd Prize	£50	E Lalock	Eaton Bray
3rd Prize	£25	A Cox	Eaton Bray

Other prize winners

S Hemmings	Totternhoe
J Postawa	Dunstable
S Burton	Dunstable
A Jones	Eaton Bray
P Spicer	Eaton Bray
K Galley	
S Lyons	
N Yeoman	Eaton Bray
L Caston	Eaton Bray
D Kerins	Eaton Bray
G Hearn	

Many thanks to those who sold tickets and to those who supported the Club by buying tickets.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners Oct 2010

£25	John Hill
£10	Lyn Alder

November 2010

£100	Jason Mcdermid
£25	Sofie Alder
£20	Olive Blackburn
£10	John Salmon

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

St Mary's Catholic Church

82 West Street Dunstable

Times of Christmas services

Friday 24th Dec	10am-10.30 Confessions 11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight mass
Saturday 25th Dec Christmas day	Mass 8.30am--Mass 10.30am
Sunday 26th Dec	Mass 8.30am--Mass 10.30am

Presbytery and parish; office 82 West St, LU6 1NY. 01582 662710

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Eaton Bray Village Hall 100

Club Winners - November 2010

140	Mel Grundy	£100
194	Pricilla Dorrance	£25
173	Margaret Roberts	£25
89	Win Hicks	£25

Drawn on 15th November 2010 at Eaton Bray Lower School. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.



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 julee & biscuit
tea or coffee and more!

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



Hemel Hempstead Singers
Musical Director - Simon Pusey

RACHMANINOV VESPERS

Stanford
Magnificat

Saturday December 4th 2010
8pm

St John's Church, Boxmoor
Hemel Hempstead

Tickets £8
01442 386657 for details

www.hemel Hempstead Singers.org.uk



Leighton Buzzard Drama Group
is pleased to present its
2011 WINTER PANTOMIME

THE SNOW QUEEN

By David Jeanes

Based on Hans Christian Andersen's enchanting children's story

Leighton Buzzard Drama Group has been staging pantomimes in Leighton Buzzard for over fifty years and is proud to bring you the exciting and much loved tale of good versus evil, THE SNOW QUEEN.

Inquisitive young Kai is captured by the beautiful but cold-hearted Snow Queen and is whisked away to the sparkling, snowy Forests of Siberia and The Land of Ice. His fearless friend Gerda sets out to rescue him with the help of the magical Jack Frost. Her grandmother, Granny Featheredge, a wacky, wonderful Good Witch goes too, and on the way they meet a host of characters including HAMMER and TONGS, the Riddling Crowman, evil Black Ice and even Father Christmas! This marvellous family show will appeal to all ages and features cheers, tears (of laughter!) and some magical, musical moments. DON'T MISS IT!

Performances: Thursday 6, 13 and 20 Jan - 7.15pm
Friday 7, 14 and 21 Jan - 7.15pm,
Saturday 8, 15 and 22 Jan - 11.00am, 2.30pm and 6.30pm

Tickets: Adults £8.50, Conc £7.50, Family (2 Ad + 2 Ch) Thursday only £25
Block booking discount: 34+ seats all at £7.50 (not available for 6.30pm
performance on Saturday 22 Jan)

On sale NOW from the Theatre Box Office
Telephone 0300 300 8125

What was the Question?

Don't know about you but one of this years best bits of television was watching the Chilean miners being brought safely to the surface, as each one arrived I kept getting emotional. It seems strange now only a month since it happened that all has gone quiet and they are as if they had never been. I'm sure all of us wish them and their families well.

Strangely this was subject to a lot of discussion as our team sat ready for the start of our Quiz which was held on October 23rd. Everybody spoke in hushed tones whispering "I know the name of the first miner up". "I know the name of the last miner to be rescued". We sat in anticipation as Keith (the best quiz master in town) Blackburn started the questions. "First Round, Kings & Queens" at this point we all looked at each other feeling very lost, got only 4 points and realised that all those Chilean names we had spent hours learning would be to no avail.

Still a great evening was had by all and over £1100 was raised, this being split equally between Eaton Bray Tennis Club and the Village Hall.

I am not sure what they intend to spend their money on, perhaps Andy in the Tennis Club bit will let on but ours is going towards the resurfacing of the car park! We have raised nearly £6,000 this year from the two quizzes, the Beer festival and the 200 club. As Chair of the Trustees I want to thank all the people involved; Katrina and her committee who organise all these events, Shelagh, my wife, who runs the 200 Club but doesn't like anybody to know that, the other trustees who support the hall not only in fundraising but also in making the hall a superb facility for the Village, but mostly to you for supporting all we do in fund raising and using the hall for all your various functions.

May we, at the Hall, wish a very Happy Christmas to everyone.

PS Our next Quiz is on April 30th 2011 and I have sold 4 tables already! To book just ring me, Ross, on 221411.

Edlesborough W.I.

Our last monthly meeting took the form of our Birthday Dinner. We celebrated this again at Dunstable Downs Golf Club, thanks to Ann Brinklow's assistance, and what a great evening it was. The food, as usual, was delicious, and we were made very welcome. It's becoming an annual event we all thoroughly enjoy.



After the meal we were entertained by an 'old' friend Gabriella. She is a very talented lady, whose act includes comedy, singing and playing the ukelele and banjo. Gabriella is very clever, and includes her audience in much of her humour. How she remembers so many names is remarkable. One of the funnier parts of her act involved her description of trying on a swimsuit, when the lady involved is not 'as slim as she used to be'. Another very amusing idea was her suggestion of how Edlesborough W.I. should head the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games. This involved a human cannon ball and pyramid of members! Our slogan would be "World Peace Starts Here"

Gabriella demonstrated her ukelele and banjo skills, and sang a variety of songs including one of a mother lecturing a teenage son or daughter (to the tune of the William Tell Overture). She is very clever, because the audience can so easily relate to her songs and stories. We all had such a good laugh - a really great evening. Thank you, Gabriella.
Val Harris

Eaton Bray Leisure Fellowship (E.L.F.)

Unfortunately, our walk on October 25th was cancelled due to unforeseen problems. With the days shortening and possible inclement weather we may have to curtail the walking outings until 2011. It is a week by week decision, but will be on the fourth Monday of each month at 10.00am near to Eaton Bray Church.

The National Trust members and guests enjoyed an afternoon visit to Waddesden Manor and marvelled at the opulence!! Afternoon tea, coffee and cake was taken in the restaurant, finishing our outing.

The ELF club will have a decorated Christmas tree in St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray on 3rd, 4th and 5th of December. Please try to visit the Church.

On 9th December there is an invitation to everyone to join ELF members in the Coffee Tavern between 11.00am and 12.00 noon to enjoy sherry, mince pies, tea, coffee and biscuits and a chat.

The 16th December will see members visiting the Cross Keys at Pulloxhill for their Xmas lunch. It is necessary to make a reservation and choose from the menu which will be displayed in THE NORTH PORCH of the Church. If you would like to join in please contact Val on 01525 220972. Val will require payment by December 10th 2010.

The list of events is complete and will be published in Focus as the dates occur.

Happy Christmas and New Year to everyone.

CHRISTMAS TREES FRESH FROM THE FARM



**Top Quality Christmas Trees
Direct From The Grower**

**We are situated on the B4506
between Ringshall and Dagnall**

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Giant Father Christmas**

GI Rogers & Son

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*** winner of the best spruce 2009 ***

£2 OFF ANY TREE WITH THIS ADVERT

Dagnall Under 5's

We have had a very busy time recently at Dagnall Under Fives, with lots of fundraising events and an interesting visit!

At the end of September our MacMillan Coffee Morning raised £60 towards their excellent work, then in October we held a Psychic Evening which everyone thoroughly enjoyed, this raised £200 for playgroup and a raffle we held for Breast Cancer Care made £50. A big thank you to everyone who helped and/or attended, we hope to hold another one next June.

Forthcoming events include a cake sale for Children in



Need and of course the Xmas Fete in conjunction with Dagnall school.

Recently our children had a visit from Wrigglies reptile specialists, all our children were incredibly brave, and our helpers somewhat! The children got up close with a variety of creatures including snakes, spiders, lizards and a giant frog!

Thank you to Wrigglies for coming along we all had a lovely morning.

Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights Of The Meeting For Eaton Bray Parish Council Held in The Coffee Tavern on Monday 1st November 2010 at 7:30pm

Become A Parish Councillor

There are vacancies for Parish Councillors on Eaton Bray Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the council please contact the Parish Clerk or visit our website for more details.

Parish Council Condolences

Eaton Bray Parish Council would like to express their deepest sympathy to family and friends of Edlesborough Parish Council Chairman, Anne Thompson, who recently passed away. Our thoughts are with you.

Central Bedfordshire Representative/s

Ward Cllr Marion Mustoe attended the meeting. The Parish Council was informed that the new application for the Five Bells development has gone through.

Miscellaneous Items

Cemetery: Turf has been laid in the new section of the cemetery.

School Lane Parking Issues: The council have again received complaints regarding parents dropping/collecting children from the school and blocking residents' drives. The Parish Council wished to remind all parents/carers when dropping/collecting children from school to park/drive with due care and attention.

Allotments: Allotment renewals are currently being forwarded to the Clerk, any plots not being renewed for the 2010-11 year will be released to those on the waiting list.

No Cold Calling Signs: The Parish Council have agreed to purchase three free standing, No Cold Calling signs; two to be sited in Eaton Bray and one at Wellhead.

Future Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Dates

1. Parish Council Meeting: Monday 6th December 2010, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern
2. Parish Council Meeting: Monday 10th January 2011, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

Parish Council Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

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

Contact Details For Eaton Bray Parish Council/Clerk

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answer phone]

Parish Office: 20 Good Intent, Edlesborough, LU6 2RD; Tel/Fax 01525 221464 & Email clerk@ebpc.co.uk

[Emergency contact only: Chairman of Parish Council 01525 220177]

All Saints Church, Dagnall - Services & Meetings

December 2010 & January 2011

Wed. 1st Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting Speaker: Revd Malcolm Grant
Sun. 5th Dec.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 8th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Games Evening
Sat 11th Dec.	10.30 am	Coffee Morning
Sun. 12th. Dec.	4.00 pm	Dagnall Village Carol Service
Wed. 15th Dec.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting Speaker: Revd Don Brewin
Sun. 19th Dec.	10.30 am	Family Communion
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 26th Dec.	10.30 am	Carol Praise
Sun. 2nd Jan.	4.00 pm	Covenant Service
Wed. 5th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting led by Revd Lucille Rogers
Sun. 9th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Sung Eucharist
Wed. 12th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Don Otter speaks about Ashridge
Sun. 16th Jan.	10.30 am	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Wed 19th Jan.	7.30 pm	An Evening with John Breeze – Folk Singer at Edlesborough Methodist Church
Sun. 23rd Jan.	10.30 pm	Family Service
	4.00 pm	United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Salvation Army Hall, Eaton Bray
Wed. 26th Jan.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Colin Simpson speaks about Cliff Richard
Sun. 30th Jan.	10.30 am	Informal Worship
Wed. 2nd Feb	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Patrick Wood speaks about the RNLI



Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am.



22ND WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE SWEDEN 2011

UNITED KINGDOM



A huge thank you to all those who have already helped us for your continued support - we are all now at least three quarters of the way to our target of £2200 each. Hopefully, we will be just about there by Christmas!

We are pleased to have managed to raise quite a lot through recycling.



Last month we weighed in an amazing 600kg of cans which brought us £500. Thank you to all who helped us whether you dropped one can in the bin or left sacks full outside our doors! We are no longer collecting cans.

We are however still collecting old **mobile phones** and empty **ink** and **laser cartridges** - so far we have had another £500 from these! Empty **Ella's Kitchen** baby food packaging (pouches and snack packs) - empty **Kenco Coffee Eco Refill** packs and **Danone yogurt**

pots and **Actimel bottles** are all worth 2p each to us and it all adds up!

We also have a **clothing** collection booked for January. We can collect old **clothes, shoes** and **household textiles** – almost anything as long as it is clean and dry! Please hold onto items for us and let us know that you have some so that we can collect it nearer the time.

Finally, if you wish to become “A Friend of the Jamboree” and make a direct donation, please let us know.

Once we return from our adventure next year, we plan to hold a Presentation to share our amazing adventure. All those who we know have supported us will be invited. If you would like to become part of this, then please become one of the “Friends of the Jamboree”.

If you leave us a message on jamboree@centreboard.net or 07598 330636 we will arrange to collect items from you or you can take them to the Scout Hut in Edlesborough on Mondays or Thursdays at 6.30.

Matthew Johnson, Miguel Garcia, James Tate, Gemma Johnson & Cody Plaats.

Grace Baptist Church

Moor End, Edlesborough
(by the Post Office)

Come and join us for our

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 2010
11.00 to 12.00

Also on Sunday December 26th
11.00 to 12.00

and every Sunday morning

Refreshments and time for
a chat afterwards

You will be very welcome!

For further information please
contact: Peter on 01525 221048



Dinosnores!

What a way to spend an autumn evening! 40 Cubs, Scouts, parents and leaders from the 1st Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Scout Group spent a hair raising night with the dinosaurs last month in the Natural History Museum in London.

We joined over 400 other participants in:

- a torch-lit tour of some of the famous galleries coming face to face with T-Rex!
 - a live show about bugs from the Museum insect expert
 - fossil modelling as palaeontologists
- before we snuggled down in sleeping bags at midnight in the shadow of the Central Hall Diplodocus skeleton.

The next morning after tucking into breakfast and other fun activities, we joined the public as the Museum opened its doors at 10am for a good look around all the displays in daylight before heading home bleary eyed.

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



Northall and District Age Concern

WEDNESDAY CLUB

Since our last update we have enjoyed Harvest Festival with the children from Dagnall School (a big hello to all of you who came to visit us). The children brought lots of produce with them which was very much appreciated by our members. Several of them made very nice soup with the vegetables, so we hear. We have also had mini manicures by Charlotte (thank you!) for those members who wanted some pampering. These were very popular and so we are hoping for a return visit in the next school holidays. We have also had fun with armchair exercises - thanks to Kirsty for coming to visit us again and keep us fit. Following all that excitement we took a trip out to lunch in November, and will start on our Christmas programme of festivities in December, including Christmas Sale Table, and visits to both Dagnall and Eaton Bray schools to view their Christmas productions which are both very popular with our members. We love to join in with their Christmas songs.

If you live in Dagnall, Edlesborough, Eaton Bray or Northall and would like to join us, please get in contact with our leaders, Anna 221996 and Julie 220153, for more information

May we take this opportunity to thank everyone in the villages who gives us so much support and wish you all a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and very BEST WISHES for the NEW YEAR.

Claire & Natalie's Amazing Bike Ride Around China

In Aid of Women For Women



Call it a mid-life crisis, a mad dream, a housewife's little joke over coffee, or just plain amazing. Claire Smith of Edlesborough & Natalie Sunderland of Eaton Bray decided just over a year ago that they would participate in this year's Women for Women Cycle Ride Around China.

The "Funds raised by Women for Women will support that which we all hold most dear – the birth of a healthy baby – investing in our family's health. This vital medical research will to some extent affect every man, woman and child in this country." Professor Robert Winston.

So decision made, reality began to kick in. The girls worked tirelessly for over a year training and fundraising. Between them they have raised almost £8000! And then on the 23rd October they embarked upon the bike ride of a life time!



You can still donate, just visit:

- www.justgiving.com/clairsmithcyclechina2010
- www.justgiving.com/nataliesunderland

Many many friends, family members and local villagers have all supported these two amazing women and we are all extremely proud of them. Come rain or shine they continued to train, even if it was indoors in front of daytime TV.

Even now the ride is over they are still sharing the amazingsness of their adventure. People are constantly asking how they got on and they keep regaling their friends with funny stories & amazing information from their trip.

So from all your friends & family WELL DONE on your AMAZING achievement we are all so proud of you!



Claire & Natalie proudly wearing their medals.



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...and Little People when we are in a Christmas Mood!



Forget the gifts. Our dearest wish at this time of the year is to spend quality time with those special people in our lives. Be it children, grandchildren, old friends, new friends or those dearest to you in the village. So I was very pleased recently when Ann Tobin, leader of the Dagnall Under Fives playgroup, kindly invited me to spend time with the children, as their recent topic was “Jobs People Do”! So with my caterer’s chef’s hat on off I went!

Were all the children interested? No of course not, but with my little team of Erin, Adelaide, Frieda, Alice, Leo, Malachi and Callum we got on with the cooking and piped, cracked, mixed and generally got very messy (see the picture for evidence)!

I had chosen to prepare some chicken kiev’s as these are always fun and tasty. We gave a miss to the traditional garlic though as some children really feel strongly about it and replaced it with fragrant fresh thyme and rosemary.

So Adelaide and Alice cracked the eggs and mixed them for the egg wash. Leo, Frieda, Erin and Callum dipped the breasts of chicken in the flour, then the egg wash and finally the breadcrumbs. And they had a turn at piping the butter into the little pocket I had cut ahead of time ...

Once the chicken was beautifully coated with breadcrumbs, I left the children in the play area to go and fry the chicken and, once this was safely done, my little assistant Malachi came to give me a hand with sliding the tray in the oven to let the chicken bake for another 20 minutes.

The result: some beautiful and yummy chicken kiev’s, which we all had as a snack! Following on from the chicken and breadcrumbs topic above, and Christmas literally

a few days away, I can’t leave you without this reaction from a three year old to her Christmas dinner: “I don’t like the turkey, but I like the bread he ate.” ~Author Unknown.

I hope that you have a wonderful Christmas time. Thanks to all for being so supportive of our little business during the past year.

Pascale, The Little Dagnall Catering Company, www.dagnallcatering.co.uk
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Edlesborough Book Group

‘TROUBLES’ by J.G. FARRELL

‘Troubles’ by JG Farrell, is the recent winner of the ‘Lost Booker Award’. Written by J G Farrell in 1970, it is a tragi-comedy which seeks to portray the reasons behind the struggle of the Irish people to regain their independence from the British in the aftermath of World War One. It also focuses on the plight of the resident Anglo Irish aristocracy, as they are forced from their homes and from their comfortable lifestyle. Central to the plot, is a once grand 300 room hotel which is situated on the coast of County Wexford. The Majestic Hotel is owned and run by Edward Spencer and his

family. It has been severely neglected recently because of the fading fortunes of the Spencer family and the lack of visitors during the war. Edward however, is a martinet and insists that the old standards and customs are upheld by his family and also by the tenants on his land. He demands that they sign a loyalty oath to the King. They are increasingly reluctant to do so.

Major Brendan Archer, who is convalescing from the effects of the first world war, arrives at the hotel in 1918. He had met Edward's daughter, Angela, once whilst on leave in Brighton. They had corresponded and on the strength of these letters Angela appears to consider herself engaged to the Major. He would like to reintroduce himself and to see if there is a future in their relationship. He gradually becomes more involved with the mouldering hotel and its eccentric inhabitants. Sinn Fein have begun their attacks and the story continues, gradually introducing us to the struggle of the Irish people. J.G. Farrell uses the Majestic Hotel as a symbol of the glory days of British rule and his powers of description conjure up a vivid atmosphere of the dust and decay of the old building as it gradually has to give way to its fate.

'Troubles' divided our book group. It was a definite love or hate situation. There was, however, no question of the excellence of the writing and the skill of the author. The picture he paints of the hotel and the small local community is vivid and tangible. There was also humour in the book, which not all our readers appreciated.

J.G Farrell wrote 'Troubles' as the first book of a trilogy, which has been widely acclaimed. He died tragically, aged 44 in a fishing accident. Who knows how his writing would have continued.



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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. **If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Tina McKay on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.**

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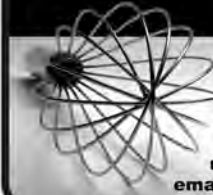
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I made it to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro!

I wrote in the April edition of the Focus about the challenge I was doing to raise money for the Evelina Childrens hospital in London and I just wanted to say a huge 'Thank you' to everybody who was kind enough to sponsor me. In total my friend and I raised £4500 and the paediatric intensive care unit at the hospital were completely overwhelmed with the amount donated. One of the things they are spending the money on is a sensory tent, which costs



£900, and they could not afford to get this without donations.

We had an amazing time on the trip and both successfully got to the summit, Uhuru peak 5898m.

Thank you again, the money raised really will make a difference to very sick babies and children.

Tracy Stokes



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.

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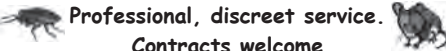
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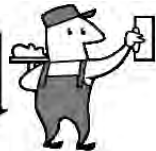
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Make your own Christingle

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YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



*Beech Trees
by Richard Woodhead*

*The start of Autumn at Ashridge
by Adrian Lewis*



*Ashridge Deer
by Geoff Spencer*

*Edlesborough Church from South
End Lane by Steve Harrison*



YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



Left: The Swan, Northall

Below: The Red Lion, Dagnall



*Left: The White Horse,
Eaton Bray*

*Below: The Travellers Rest,
Edlesborough*



*4 villages, 4 pubs,
4 photos...4 Focus!
by John Hockey*

Please email or post your photos to Sally Siddons, editor (see page 3)

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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

October was a quiet month, moving us gradually through autumn with the first two weeks on the mild side. On the 25th, we had a sharp taste of the winter to come with the temperature dropping to -2.3°C. The previous night (24th-25th) saw a clear sky with rising pressure, which helped keep the temperature below zero for 10.5 hours - that's a long time for an October night. It killed off many tender plants in the garden, such as dahlias, and started to turn the leaves on the trees their rich autumn shades.

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

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

Weather Conditions for October 2010

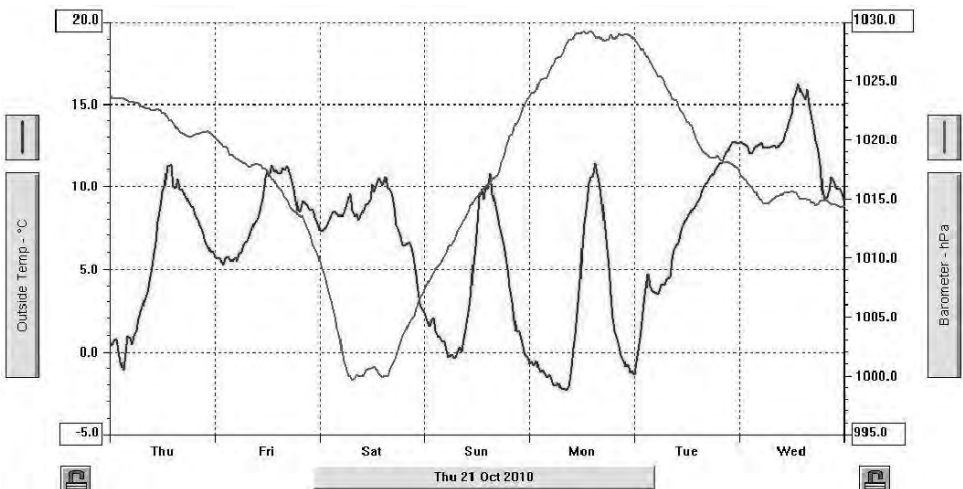


Elevation: 450 ft – Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	21.6°C	10 Oct 16.00	-2.3°C	25 Oct 08.00
Mean Temperature	9.8°C			
Dewpoint:	16.9°C	8 Oct 13.30	-2.8°C	25 Oct 05.30
Humidity:	98%	3 Oct 07.00	47%	10 Oct 16.00
Barometer:	1029.2 hPa	25 Oct 14.00	991.0 hPa	3 Oct 13.30
Wind Speed /Dir	34 mph S	1 Oct 13.30	Months avg.	5.6 mph
Wind Chill:	22.7 °C	2 Oct 17.00	1.3°C	25Oct 06.30
Dominant Wind:	S			
<i>Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain</i>				
*Rain Days: 21 (T), 16(R)	Total	Wettest Day 1 Oct	14.9mm	0.59 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Oct	65.3 mm	2.57 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	10 Months	547.2 mm	21.54 ins

A week in October 2010

Plot shows Low Temperatures on the night 24th/25th and the Barometer rising



Edlesborough School Contributions



A huge 'thank you' from Edlesborough School

In October Edlesborough School said goodbye to their Chair of Governors Mr Ian Binks. Mr Binks stood down as Chair of Governors after almost 15 years on the governing body where he has made an enormous contribution to the leadership of the school, providing support to both Miss Hatfield, the previous Head teacher, and Mrs Foster. A special assembly was held to commemorate the occasion with each class presenting their own 'thank you'. The children prepared cards and poems and the School Council acted out plays depicting the role of a Governor in action.

The children also acknowledged the many hours of voluntary work that Mr Binks has put into projects around the school, particularly as the caretaker's assistant. We are delighted that Mr Binks will continue to be a familiar figure around school as a much valued friend and volunteer, although he will now have significantly less paperwork to complete! Mrs Priscilla Dorrance has now taken over as Chair of Governors.

The School also said goodbye to Mrs Janice Keep who has been a Lunch time Supervisor at Edlesborough for 24 years and remembers the days when there were hot meals every day prepared in a school kitchen (now the ICT suite). Mrs Keep was herself a pupil at Edlesborough and has a long association with the school which we hope will continue. The children presented her with a card and gift and a lunch was held with many of her colleagues from the past attending.



Church Mouse

A new flag of St George with the diocesan crest has been ordered and should arrive in four – six weeks.

Guidelines for those who take the Intercessions have been distributed by Gordon Gray. The owner of the new fence which was erected earlier in the year between the church/village hall land and the neighbouring property has now asked for our contribution towards the cost. Work to restore the font is in the planning stage. It was reported that the heating is not working properly in the side chapel. This will be investigated.



On Wednesday 8th December at 7.45pm in St Mary's the Bishop of St Albans is coming to give a talk entitled 'Mission in a Rural Community', as this year's North Chiltern Group's Talking Point. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A Christmas Tree Festival will be held in St Mary's from the 3rd until the 5th of December. This will conclude with a concert given by Dunstable Ladies Choir on Sunday evening.

The annual review of the fees for funerals and weddings has taken place. They will remain the same as last year. The exception being for a winter wedding, where the

heating cost has been increased to reflect increased energy charges. The fees for the Choir and Organist have increased if the ceremony is to be recorded by video or other means. This is in line with a national agreement.

The PCC expressed their delight at the news that the Revd Coralie McCluskey has been appointed Priest-in-Charge and look forward to her joining us in February.

Edlesborough Tennis Club

Our finals day this year had to start in the pouring rain which was a real shame especially after all the time and effort spent making arrangements for the event. However there is nothing you can do about the weather and because the LTA umpires, who were booked back in June, were ready and willing to go on court, our players had to be as well! The marquee was duly erected (seems to get more complicated every year despite the step by step instructions which had been provided by our chairman) usually giving our spectators essential shelter from the sun but this year invaluable as a huge umbrella to enjoy the tennis under as well as the delicious ploughman's lunch. The number one seeds in three events had to pull out of the tournament:- Leon Leenders in the mens singles (injured), Jack Coates in the boys U16 (injured) and Morgan Emmett in the mini orange event who having won all his matches to get to the final was unfortunately ill on the day and had to concede!

As the weather improved the scene was set for some very closely-fought competitive matches.

The BBQ and trophy presentation took place in the evening. Many thanks to everybody who helped to make it a very successful day. Congratulations to all our winners and runners up.

Results in full:

Mens Singles	James Kight	bt	David Kight	6-4 6-1
Ladies Singles	Abigail Kight	bt	Anna Henderson	6-3 6-1
Mens Doubles	Rhys Dalkin & James Kight	bt	Ziggy Bis & Bruce Thomson	3-6 6-4 6-4
Ladies Doubles	Margaret Bis & Teresa Deverell	bt	Carolyn Kight & Lindsey Rigby	6-2 6-0
Mixed Doubles	James Kight & Abigail Kight	bt	Ziggy Bis & Margaret Bis	6-2 3-6 6-2
Veteran Mens	Bruce Thomson	bt	David Kight	6-4 6-2
U16 Boys Singles	Will Sanders	bt	Scott Mercer	6-2 6-3
U16 Girls Singles	Abigail Kight	bt	Anna Henderson	6-4 7-5
U16 Mxd Doubles	Alex Nilsen & Abigail Kight	bt	Tom Henderson & Anna Henderson	6-4 6-4
U14 Boys Singles	Will Sanders	bt	Jordan Fender	6-1 6-1
U14 Girls Singles	Georgia Rigby	bt	Sophie McCloskey	6-4 6-3
U12 Boys Singles	Huw Dalkin	bt	Karl Shrowder	7-5 7-5
U12 Girls Singles	Anna Henderson	bt	Sophie McCloskey	6-0 6-0
Mini Green	Karl Shrowder	bt	Harrison Ambrose	5-3 4-1
Mini Orange	Alex Piddington	(Walkover)		
Mini Red	Dillon Ambrose	bt	Josh Farnfield	10-4

Salvation Sound - December 2010

Christmas is come - Cold winters night,
Shepherds huddle close - Moon shines bright,
Over the town - A stillness lay,
Time to remember, - The Saviours birthday;
Beasts in a stable - Wisemen from afar,
Bearing gifts - They follow a star;
Mary, the Mother, - With Her gift from above;
Joseph, the Father - His eyes filled with love.
Her face is pale - Her movements frail,
Yet Her joy is plain to see,
The baby she bore,- A boy,
Blessed child is He.
Angels sang, - Shepherds ran;
Fun and frustration, peace and panic, excitement and exhaustion, feasting and fattening;
Christmas --- The bottom line Jesus? No - He is the 'star' - in the midst of all of your
preparations remember to say a simple thank-you to God for that special day. Make room
in your heart for Jesus, then He will make room for you in heaven. HAPPY CHRISTMAS
EVERYONE. MAUREEN

St Mary's Guild Report

A bright sunny day ensured that the Guild autumn outing was a great success for the members and their guests. The first visit was to Bicester Avenue Garden Centre and outlet shops for coffee, lots of shopping and lunch. Then later in the afternoon Yarnton Garden and Antique Centre was visited for more shopping and afternoon tea. Drink and biscuits were enjoyed on the return journey, courtesy of June Thorne, and Deirdrea had prepared a raffle. A most enjoyable day, in every way.

Deirdrea welcomed both members and visitors to the November meeting, where birthday cards and good wishes were expressed to Kathy Lewis and Judy Venn.

Celia, Barbara Collier and Gladys Ruffet were able to be at the meeting this month.

Marjorie Mann led the devotions, including two poems.

After the notices had been given out, Deirdrea welcomed and introduced Gordon Abbott as the afternoon's speaker. His subject "My little Evacuee". Gordon spoke about the great British Evacuation of the Second World War. Although Britain was not invaded, over three million of its civilians, mostly children, were evacuated from their homes and families. They were taken from the cities and towns that were seen as likely targets for enemy bombing and from the coastal regions threatened with invasion. Parents were not allowed to walk with them or go into the stations, there was no opportunity for farewell kisses, or even to say goodbye to them. Where were the children going? That was secret. Who would they be living with and when would they be seen again?

Gordon spoke movingly of his own experiences as an evacuee. A lovely tea followed, provided by June Thorne.

The meeting on the 8th December will be making fresh foliage door garlands. Joan Fossey will be teaching and overseeing the making of the garlands.

The Christmas Lunch will be at the White Horse on Tuesday 9th December at 12.00.

The Guild members wish all the Focus readers, A very Happy Christmas.

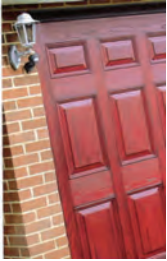


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