

Focus

April 2011

Front Row presents...

Glorious!



**A comedy by
Peter Quilter**

Thursday – Saturday 7 – 9 April 2011 8pm

Eaton Bray Village Hall

Box Office: 01525 222283

THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

**EATON BRAY
EDLESBOROUGH**

**NORTHALL
DAGNALL**

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New Sunday

13th to 16th April

Opening Times



We are pleased to announce that as from the beginning of April we will be taking bookings for lunch up to 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

We would advise booking your table in advance

(This will replace our previous evening service.)

**Thai Food
Week**

Spring is in the air, so it is time to spice up our lives a bit with some fragrant Thai cuisine.

How about Tiger Prawns with lemongrass or a classic green curry.

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 April 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, Angela Paine, 01525 229529
- 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), 9.30 - 11 am, Ivinghoe and Pitstone Sure Start Children's Centre, Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, St. Giles Church Hall, Nicki Banfield 07855 888338
- 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, 7.30-8.45pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya on 07976 964316 for more details
- 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 April 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 Methodist Church Hall. Contact Barbara Collier on 01525 221401
- 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 Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3rd Saturday Farmers/Craft Market, 12.30 till 3.30, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 3rd Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall.
- 8th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am
- 9th Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
- 13th, 27th Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
- 14th ELF meeting 10.30 Coffee Tavern
- 19th Dagnall Over 60's Lunch at The Cock, Wing. Coach 12 noon at Village Hall
- 28th ELF "bluebell" walk 10am Eaton Bray Church

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 6th Cookery Demonstration, 7-9.30pm, Eaton Bray Lower School, £5
- 7th Eaton Bray W.I. Coffee Morning, 10am-12noon, Coffee Tavern
- 7th-9th Front Row presents Glorious!, 8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, £7 222283
- 7th-9th 'Women Who Kill' by Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Box Office 0300 300 8125
- 30th Quiz, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tickets: £8 per person from Ross 221411

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners

February 2011

March 2011

28	Helen Wilkinson	£100	69	Graham Chappell	£100
138	Frank Blundell	£25	45	Pat Moreton	£25
82	Nigel Hillier	£25	36	Anthea Burke	£25
185	Holly Watkin	£25	23	Colin Siddons	£25

Drawn on 21st Feb 2011 at Hines The Butchers & 10th March 2011 at Eaton Bray Lower School. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

Kevin Cabbage - candidate for AVDC Elections

The elections will be held on **Thursday 5th May 2011** when 59 people, representing some 36 wards will be elected to serve for a term of 4 years.

I have been nominated to stand as an Independent candidate for the ward of Edlesborough – which comprises Edlesborough, Dagnall, Northall & Ivinghoe Aston.

I should like to use this article to introduce myself and explain how my family's involvement in local matters over many years will help me serve residents' best interests on AVDC.

My wife Lorna, three daughters (Jenny, Jackie and Joanna), and I moved from Shropshire to Northall in 1981. All our 3 daughters attended Edlesborough and Aylesbury High schools before going on to university.

Lorna is well known to many residents from her time as Brownie Leader (1982-1994), parent-helper and then trainee teacher at Edlesborough School, member of St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray, and more recently as an active member of the EDaN Beautification and Traffic Management teams. Lorna has also been a member of Northall Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) ever since the Hall was built in 1982, and very involved after becoming Booking's Secretary 3 years ago.

I have been Treasurer of NVHMC since 1989, and along with Lorna and all the other enthusiastic Committee members, we have worked very hard helping to make Northall Village Hall one of the best halls anywhere. And soon we'll have one of the best children's playgrounds!

I took-up running in 2003 and some of you will have seen me running around our local villages giving a cheery "Good Morning" as I pass. I managed to run the London Marathon in 2005. In 2010 I was very proud when Joanna and I both ran the London Marathon. I have been a very active member of Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) since 1999. In 2002/3 I was instrumental in designing and implementing new monthly accounting systems, annual budgeting and project management disciplines. In 2003 I became a self-taught web designer and webmaster, and www.edlesborough.gov.uk was subsequently launched in April of that year. Since then I have worked hard, in conjunction with Lin Sergeant our Parish Clerk, to keep our website informative, easy to navigate and up to date.

I served as Vice-Chairman of EPC from 2004 until November last year when I became Chairman. I have many ideas for improving the amenities and quality of life in Edlesborough, Dagnall, Northall and Ivinghoe Aston. My fellow Councillors on EPC and I will, I believe, be in a much better position to achieve our objectives if we have direct representation on AVDC - someone who lives locally and who is aware of issues at first hand.

I am prepared to make the necessary commitment in time and energy to become a successful District Councillor for the Edlesborough Ward.

Kevin Cabbage



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Theme: "Triumph through disaster"
Charity of the month: Samaritans.
All ages welcome.



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Eaton Bray Lower School



Cookery Demonstration

By Tanya Watkins

Wednesday 6th April 2011
7.00 - 9.30_{pm}

£5.00 a ticket



Please bring own drinks and glasses. Raffle.
Tanya will be demonstrating her lovely desserts.

Eaton Bray Lower School

Nearly New



Sale



Babies and children's clothes,
toys and equipment

Saturday 7th May

Eaton Bray Lower School

11am to 1pm

If you would like to sell at the sale,
there is a cost of £5 per seller and to
register please contact
Helen on 01525 752199 after 6pm or
e-mail helen.ethan@ntlworld.com.
Admission to the sale is 50p per adult.

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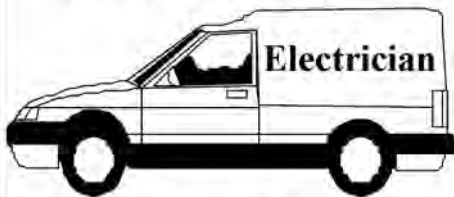
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Edlesborough School playing field
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Spring at Dunstable Downs

Don't miss our many fantastic events.

2nd April, 10.30am-12.30pm
Mother's Day Floristry Workshop
Do something special this mother's day and join this workshop teaching you to create a beautiful basket arrangement. Children can make a posy for mum. £20 for adult workshop, materials and tuition included. £5 for children. Booking essential.



9th & 10th April, 11am-4pm
Spring Craft Fair
Browse our exciting craft fair with lots of new spring and summer crafts from local craftsmen.



22nd to the 25th April, 11am-3pm
Easter Egg Hunt and Trail
Solve our trail and find our hidden treasure to claim your chocolate egg price! Enjoy this Easter extravaganza for all the family.



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MAYDAY

&

THE ROYAL WEDDING



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Quiz

**Eaton Bray Village Hall
Saturday 30th April 2011**

This fabulous quiz with quizmaster Keith Blackburn
will still include a **Free** supper with the questions.

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7.00pm for 7.30pm

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Teams of up to 8 people

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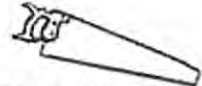
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EDaN Community Car Service

Community Transport



Everything is progressing nicely with our Community Car Scheme and we have already received calls to use the service.

If you volunteered to be a driver for the EDaN Community Car Service and you have not returned your forms to Peter our co-ordinator, could you do so as soon as possible. If you have any problems or queries with these forms please call Peter on 01442 842506 who will be glad to help you.

Thank you all once again for volunteering to help people in the local community who are disadvantaged by Public Transport.

Kathy Bovington - On behalf of EDaN Buses & Transportation



The Village Hall Update

As usual at the beginning of each month I sit here and think what can I say that may be of interest to you all? Well.....

Firstly a timely reminder of our next Super Quiz that is being held on Saturday 30th April in the hall. We have also kept the price at £8 per person which as you know, also includes the best ploughman's this side of Edlesborough!

As usual we have the master Quizmaster Mr Keith Blackburn, who offers up amazing questions to tickle the old brain. I personally will be memorising the names of all the attendants/bridesmaids at the Royal Wedding and hope he asks us to list them in alphabetical order!

If you require tickets please let me know and as usual I will be offering two free tickets to the first person to ring me with the correct page our advert appears on in Focus.

I will probably be away at the time (4th – 7th April) but be assured the answer machine records all messages in time order. Just so you don't think Shelagh and I are off on holiday I can assure you this trip is mostly business!

On the more mundane side of things we are planning the new car park and hope to go ahead with this project as soon as possible, maybe with following wind, even this year, although we do not want to make any promises we cannot keep.

Our next big event, to help pay for this, is the ***8th yes 8th Eaton Bray Beer Festival, to be held on Friday June 3rd and Saturday June 4th.*** We will have the usual entertainment and food along with an even greater variety of beer, perry and cider. We look forward to seeing you all there.

To buy tickets for the quiz or just for more information please ring: Ross 221411 or e-mail ross.bagni@btinternet.com

Dunstable & District Orbit Club

Dunstable & District Orbit Club ran a quiz night on 5th March at Eaton Bray Village Hall. 17 teams took part and we raised £840 for Bio-detection dogs which became a registered charity in 2008 to train dogs to detect the odour of human diseases.

Orbit is a social and charitable club and we meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm.

New members are always welcome. For more details please contact Jill on 01525 222441.

The EDaN Project - Beautification Team

EDaN Celebrates! Mayday and the Royal Wedding Sunday 1st May: 12 - 4.00 p.m. on Edlesborough Village Green

After such a long, hard winter we are all looking forward to welcoming the return of warm, sunny days to our villages. This is what Mayday is all about – and don't we deserve it?! The added delight of a Royal Wedding makes it even more special this year and we are combining the two events in an afternoon of springtime fun.

We can't have Mayday without a May Queen and if your little girl would like this honour bestowed on her by our "Green Man" and she is aged 9 – 12 years, please encourage her to pop her name in to one of our 2 boxes. They will be found in Edlesborough Post Office and Edlesborough School on the secretary's counter and names will be drawn at school on Friday 15th April, so please fill your name in on a slip of paper before 14th and post your entry. We will also be looking for many attendants to help with the crowning, so all is not lost if she doesn't win the draw.

All fairies and superheroes are invited to join in our Fancy Dress Parade and trophies will be awarded to the best and most imaginatively dressed boys and girls. Our "fun photo board" is bound to be a big hit – so don't forget to bring your camera – and also get splatted in the EDaN Stocks!

Come and have lunch with us at our Bar-B-Q and enjoy a mammoth beef burger or locally caught sausage roll. Our Royal Wedding Cream Teas will be served from 2.00 – 3.00 p.m., so feel free to wear a pretty hat for the occasion.



This year we are being entertained by Great Horwood Brass Band, who are kindly sponsored by Edlesborough Surgery, so thank you to all the team down Cow Lane. The celebrated Dagnall Community Choir will also be rendering some topical ditties from their repertoire and of course we will be looking forward to the children dancing round the Maypole.

Thames Valley Police will welcome anyone who would like their bike stamped to bring their vehicle along to their new van and will be offering advice and support.

The Tug-of-War entries – boys and girls, men and ladies – will be taken on the day. Medals will be awarded to winning teams, so start weight-training now! Do you have a dog who will enjoy our agility course? – bring him too! There will be a bouncy castle, jousting mat and plenty of games and races for all the family, so come along and join in the fun.

If anyone would like to have a stall for £15, contact Christine Yates, tel. 220739 or email chris@brooklyns.org.uk The Home Made Cake Stall is always popular and we would love to have your donations of cakes, buns or biscuits on the day, so please do support your very hard-working Beautification Team and help us to make your villages even more beautiful. Any offers of help gratefully accepted – please contact above. In the meantime, we hope you are all enjoying the daffodils in our planters and around the EDaN villages.



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Dagnall News

Over 60's

Following the important AGM in February Rosemary Allan has taken on the mantle of Chairperson and several new committee members were elected. Our thanks go to Roy Castledine for the many years of hard work he has put into the club as chairman. In March our speaker meeting is a return visit of Mr. Paul Heley from Dunstable. He will again be speaking to us about the history of Dunstable, a subject which proved to be most interesting on his earlier visit.

In April we will be taking lunch at one of our favourite venues, the Cock at Wing, leaving the village hall at 12 noon on April 19th, followed by an afternoon coach tour.

Community Choir

Having celebrated our first birthday in January, we are still delighted that over 40 members regularly attend our Monday night rehearsals to fill Dagnall Church with music.

Stuart Harding, our revered leader, is occasionally introducing more demanding pieces, much to the consternation of many of us, but with practice, perseverance and patience we will no doubt conquer them and feel a real sense of achievement at having done so. We are now busy planning this year's public performances starting with a short set at "EDaN CELEBRATES MAYDAY" on Edlesborough Green on 1st. May. Then the following week-end we will be part of a musical programme at Toddington Church on May 7th, and later in the Summer, following last year's resounding success, we will again be appearing at the beautiful "Church on the Hill" at Edlesborough for an EDaN musical evening.

We hope that you will come along, listen to and enjoy what can be achieved by working together as a Community Choir.

All Saints Church, Dagnall - Services & Meetings

April 2011

Sun 3rd April	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Family Service for Mothering Sunday
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Fri. 8th April	7.30 pm	An Evening with the Salvation Army
Sun. 10th April	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
Sun. 17th April	10.30 pm	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
Fri. 22nd April	6.00 pm	Special Service for Good Friday
Easter Day		
Sun. 24th April	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 pm	Family Service
Sun. 1st May	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am		



Dagnall Village Hall 100 Club

Progress so Far!

We are really proud that we have signed up over 80 members so far – please do make sure that you get those Standing Order forms to your bank to set up the regular payments – it won't work without you.

We still want to get to 100 members (or more) so please let a Village Hall Committee Member know if you want to join and have not yet been approached.

Remember:

- The first draw is 1 April 2011
- £1 a month to be a member - £12 a year
- Six prize draws a year
- Half of the stake money is paid back in prizes
- E.g. 1 prize of £50 and 2 prizes of £25



The Committee is really keen to fund the necessary improvements to the Village Hall kitchen so your contributions through the 100 Club will make a real difference – as well as giving you a chance to win a money prize.

ELF - Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship

Our February 10th meeting held in the Coffee Tavern was, as always, a happy occasion and it was good to meet for the first time in 2011. Refreshments were enjoyed and a lively meeting included several ideas for the 2011 programme. The suggestions included, hopefully, a “bluebell” walk in Ashridge on April 28th; A guided tour around College Lakes; A visit to the Frogmore Paper Mill at Apsley with a possible Canal boat trip; A musical session to include a light lunch; A visit to Totternhoe Castle and National Trust properties. Also, the lunches out and the annual cream tea are on the agenda.

New members are always welcome and transport is available for those people who need it.

Unfortunately, the walking group were thwarted once again, by inclement weather and therefore the walk on February 28th was, reluctantly, cancelled. The group hopes for better weather next time.

When this April Focus is delivered, the lunch outing on 10th March will have taken place at The White Lion, Dunstable.

The next meeting is in The Coffee Tavern at 10.30a.m. on April 14th. Please join us.

Northall and District Age Concern Wednesday Club

May we please thank all who came to support our Coffee Morning on 9th March. It was very busy and 'standing room only' for many of our visitors by the end of the morning. We are very pleased to announce we raised the grand sum of £282.40 which far exceeded our previous events. Thank you so much to all who came to support us. This will be put towards outings and events for our members to enjoy, the next of which is to be a Cream Tea to celebrate the forthcoming Royal Wedding - hopefully we shall create an indoor street party atmosphere!

We do have vacancies currently and would welcome contact from anyone interested in becoming a member. Please contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153 for details.



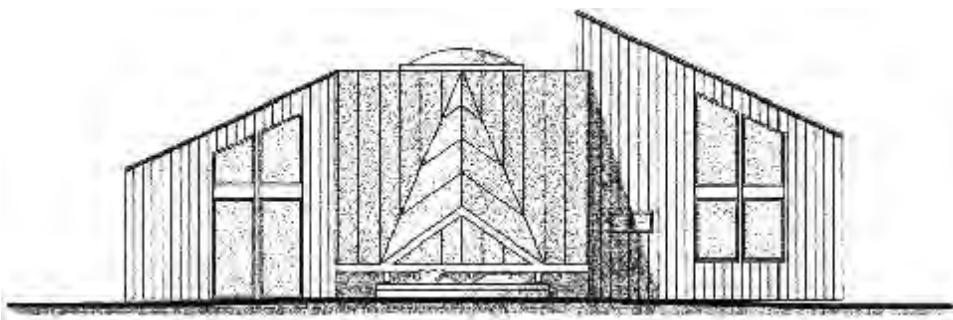
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

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

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

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Good News For “Wannabe” Croquet Players

Leighton Linlade Croquet Club has now obtained from Leighton Linlade Town Council (with the option of renewal) 6 years guaranteed use of its three lawns in Pages Park together with the use of toilet facilities and its own dedicated clubroom. We are now able to accept more members, and although we do have set sessions during the week and at weekends, members may play at anytime unless we are holding a competitive match or giving a coaching course for members. Our season runs from April to Early October and the annual fee is £65. Anyone may come for trial sessions at a cost of £5. Mallets and any other equipment needed will be supplied by the club. We do ask that you wear flat soled shoes. Should you, as a result, decide to become a full member your annual fee will be reduced to £60. At the moment the club has members from Eaton Bray, Northall and Edlesborough amongst its present players. During the off season we run a Social Club in Pages Park Pavilion from 10am until midday on a Wednesday at a cost of £2 per session. This charge includes a hot drink and biscuits. We play board and card games, darts and snooker, and generally enjoy meeting up and being social. Our lawns open unofficially on the Saturday 26th March and will be officially opened by the Mayor and Mayoress of Leighton Linlade Town Council at 2pm on Sunday the 3rd April 2011.

We play a version of croquet known as Golf Croquet which is fully recognised by the Croquet Association of which we are members. We field two teams in the East Anglia Croquet Federation's League. In 2005 we won the League and missed out last year by just one hoop after a season long campaign. In 2009 we reached the national finals of the Inter Club Plate competition, unfortunately losing to our old rivals Letchworth. Also last year we reached the quarter finals of the Inter-Club Murphy Shield, and again were narrowly beaten, this time by Belsay Hall at Tyne & Wear

However we very much recognise that not all members are competitively minded and just enjoy the social aspect of Golf Croquet with like-minded souls in fresh air and with gentle exercise- and waving to the folk on the Leighton Buzzard Light Railway which runs along side the park. Should you wish to know more please do not hesitate to contact our membership secretary Judith Cundell on 01525 374620 email Judith.cundell@btinternet.com, or our treasurer Len Buckingham on 01525 221079 email delboylen@tiscali.co.uk who will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

A letter from Revd Coralie

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Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com

It's March 11th, the sky's blue, the sun's shining, the snowdrops have gone over, the daffodils are still keeping their heads down but all seems right with the world. Well I'm not sure that it is! Try as I might I cannot avoid the images of suffering in North Africa, the deaths in Libya or as the headline in my newspaper said, *carnage in rebel city as Gaddafi hits back*, the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan and many more vile things happening around the world and closer to home. Add to that the latest earthquake and Tsunami in Japan.

Not a very positive Easter message I hear you say but the St Albans Diocese Lent challenge, *Choose Life; Choose Love*, is challenging and I am sure once again it will make me think and reconsider my priorities including the importance of family and friends and those who live alone in our villages. I do wonder whether we, the human race, with all our sophisticated technology and communication skills have progressed at all in our respect and care for one another and the planet we inhabit.

Two thousand years ago Jesus walked this planet with a message of hope. Many have followed in his footsteps sharing the message and bringing comfort and hope to others. Too many of them, like Jesus, have met an untimely death for their efforts to make a difference in the lives of ordinary people and above all having the courage to expose their faith in a loving God.

Yet that hope lives on and on Sunday April 24th the Churches of our villages will be celebrating Easter, the resurrection of Christ. It will mark a new day, a new beginning, bringing fresh hopes, and an opportunity to say sorry and to forgive.

As new Easter candles are lit accompanied by the words, *may the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts*, let's celebrate the hope and promise that God gives us in the resurrection of Christ. I hope that however you are celebrating the Easter weekend this year it will be a joyous celebration and that you may find hope and peace in the Easter message.

Don't forget **Sunday April 3rd is Mothering Sunday**, there will be a service at **St Mary's at 10am with Simnel Cake and flowers** (there may be no daffodils this year). I look forward to welcoming you for a good sing and a short lively sermon.

Coralie



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 Cinnamon Trust

The Cinnamon Trust is a charity whom I have approached to help with dog walking in our area. Having had dogs throughout the majority of my life not only do I want to help others who can not walk them, but I would get great enjoyment out of doing it too, along with some exercise which is never a bad thing!

What happens if illness, injury or just the fact that we all get older eventually, starts to get in the way of how we can look after our four legged companions? What if we can't walk them anymore? What if their health and wellbeing becomes compromised because we just can't do as much as we used to be able to?

A lot of elderly and ill pet owners become very depressed and worried about the fate of their beloved animals and feel that the best thing they can do for them is to rehome them. This fortunately is not true. The Cinnamon Trust is the only specialist national charity for the terminally ill and people in their later years and their much loved, much needed companion animals.

A network of 15,000 volunteers "hold hands" with owners to provide vital loving care for their pets. We keep them together - for example, we'll walk a dog every day for a housebound owner, we'll foster pets when owners need hospital care, we'll fetch the cat food, or even clean out the bird cage, etc.

If anyone would like more information, please contact us on 01736 757900 or via email volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk Please also check out our website for more details www.cinnamon.org.uk

Edlesborough Farmers/Craft Village Market

16th April

**Edlesborough
Memorial Hall**

12.30 - 3.30pm

**Hot snacks * Local crafts
Homemade fare**

**Beautiful jewellery & repairs
Local grown vegetables & plants
Pet foods**

Held 3rd Saturday of every month

Edlesborough Parish Council News

including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Parish Council Elections – 5th May 2011

There will be 9 vacancies for Councillors to represent the villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall coming up for election on Edlesborough Parish Council. Please submit your name to the Clerk if you would like to offer yourself for election.

Dagnall ‘Build Out’

At a recent Local Area Forum meeting the Parish Council were delighted to be informed that additional funding had been agreed in order that this project could continue. The original ‘Build Out’ will not now take place due to traffic problems and extensive costs therefore a pedestrian type of crossing will be installed with all necessary traffic calming measures.

A full report of the Local Area Forum meeting can be found in the Parish Council minutes of 17th February which are on the parish website.

Advanced Notice of visits of Village Freighter in May, July and November 2011

Edlesborough: (Memorial Hall Car Park)	24th May 2011	12.00 – 15.30pm
	22nd November 2011	7.30 – 11.00am
Dagnall: (Village Hall)	24th May 2011	7.30 – 11.00am
	17th November 2011	7.30 – 11.00am
Northall: (Village Hall)	27th July 2011	7.30 – 11.00am
	23rd November 2011	12.00 – 15.30pm

Dog Owners

Thames Valley Police are requesting dog owners to sign up for ‘Dogwatch’. This scheme is on trial in Wingrave and if successful will be taken across the Wing South area. Dog owners can register their details and those of their dog and they are then issued with a card. The card will give instructions on what to look out for when walking your dog. e.g. persons or vehicles acting suspiciously, fly tippers, hare coursers or **those not clearing up their dog’s mess**, and who to contact in each situation. If any dog owners feel they would be prepared and willing to sign up for ‘Dogwatch’ please contact the Clerk in order that should Edlesborough Parish Council be requested to form a ‘Dogwatch’ scheme it would be able to ascertain whether such a scheme would be beneficial to the parish as a whole.

Concessionary Travel Pass (Bus Pass) for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall residents

All further enquiries regarding new bus passes and new applications will from 6th March 2011 be dealt with by Bucks CC and not AVDC. Application forms can be downloaded online at www.buckscc.gov.uk or telephone 0845 5212521 to request a form. Existing holders whose concessionary bus passes are due to expire between 31st March and 30th June 2011 will receive a renewal form in the post. Passes for those who have already returned the form to the District Council will be sent out by 1st April 2011.

‘The Anne Thompson – Young Persons Photographer of the Parish’ award

Edlesborough Parish Council in memory of its late Chairman, Anne Thompson who passed away in October 2011, will be presenting a Cup for ‘Youth Excellence’ each

year at St. Mary's Village Carnival to the overall winner of a photographic competition which is for all school age children who reside in the villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall or Northall. The theme this year will be 'My view of the village I live in'. Certificates will be given to the winner of each age group. More details will be found in this issue of Focus magazine.

Cricket on Edlesborough Green

The Parish Council are pleased to announce that cricket will be returning to the Green this Summer.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Car Park

The Parish Council would apologise for any inconvenience caused to users of the car park whilst improvements are, or have been, taking place. Improvements will include the addition of one extra parking bay coupled with one disabled parking space, marking out of parking bays and the formation of a new entrance onto the High Street. In due course it is anticipated that funding can be made available to increase the amount of parking spaces as a means of reducing the amount of parked vehicles particularly on the High Street and Pebblemoor.

A4146

A fatal accident occurred in Northall on 1st March. It is hoped that when the 40mph speed limit is reduced through this village to 30mph later this year that motorists will take heed of the new speed limit signs.

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 Booking Secretary:
Beverly Sage – Tel. 01525 220509

<p>Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings 3rd Thursday monthly 7.30pm Memorial Hall Next Meeting: 21st April</p>

Medical Detection Dogs

Medical Detection Dogs who are a charity based in Great Horwood (nr Milton Keynes) are dedicated to training dogs to detect human diseases by odour. Working with universities and hospitals, studies have been done which showed that dogs could be trained to detect cancer in urine. Dog are renowned for their sense of smell and this research really is fascinating and extremely worthwhile as it could potentially lead to new methods of detecting cancer. These dogs work for two or three days a week and live with families, leading happy normal pet lives; they will never be placed with clients and only work in the training environment on samples on a carousel. The dogs are not trained to indicate on individuals. I was privileged to witness the carousel test first hand and was extremely impressed! Dogs are also trained to alert individuals managing day to day life threatening conditions by detecting minute changes in body odour; these include diabetes blood sugar alert dogs, severe pain seizures and Addison's disease. Alert dogs warn their owners and bring vital medical supplies and get assistance if required. The charity's work is extremely interesting I am sure you will agree. The charity is looking for volunteers including fundraisers, puppy socialisers and speakers. For further information can be found on their website www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk or by calling 01296 655888 or 01243 839306.

Wing South Neighbourhood Policing Update

Here is the latest Wing South Neighbourhood update from Police Community Support Officer Christine Baker:

Recent News

We have recently had reports of dogs running loose in fields in Northall where sheep are lambing. Although the dogs were not attacking the sheep in any way their presence disturbed the sheep. Please remember to keep your dogs under control especially at this important time in the farming calendar.

Our new neighbourhood van arrived towards the end of February and you may have already seen this around the villages. This provides a large high visibility presence and will be very useful for 'Have your Say' meetings. We hope to take it to as many fetes as possible this summer. Some villages have already booked us for their events. If you are organising a fete or other community event do let us know the date so we can add it to our diaries.

Young people, despite several of our villages having well attended youth clubs, often tell us there is little to do in the evenings. They will be pleased to hear Bucks County Council in conjunction with Street Dreams are putting on a free event at Pitstone Memorial Hall on Friday 18th March from 6.00 -10.00 p.m. This is for anyone aged 11 -17 and from any village. Activities will include street dance, I-van, PS3, DJ'ing, skateboard, sumosuits, Nintendo Wii, music, food, films, basketball and football. We hope to see lots of you there!

Road Safety issues

We have been dealing with parking issues at Edlesborough School where drivers have parked too close to a junction and the large number of parked vehicles means visibility is poor for those cars going up and down the High Street. This has resulted in cars mounting the pavement to get past and making it dangerous for the children walking home from school. PC Jared Levens has been working closely with the safer routes to school coordinator and all parents received a letter from the head teacher advising them where to park safely.

Operations tackling serious crime

Over this month we have increased our presence in the village and recently we have changed our shifts to work into the early hours of the morning to deter and catch criminals who operate in the moonlight. As the days grow longer now we have started to see an increase in visitors to the beauty spots and our patrols are dedicated at these peak times.

Offenders brought to justice

- On the 4th February 2011 a 20 year old male from Leighton Buzzard received a Police Caution for possessing cannabis when his vehicle was stopped in Mentmore.
- On the 11th February 2011 a 25 year old male from Chiltern View, Eaton Bray was arrested on suspicion of Burglary by the Wing North and Wing South Neighbourhood Team. This burglary occurred in Great Brickhill in January. This male is currently on bail and is due to return to Aylesbury Police Station on the 28th March.

Crime Stats

In February 2011 a total of 15 crimes were recorded in the Wing South area by Thames Valley Police. Five of these crimes were domestic related which shows that there was

very little crime across the Wing South area this month which is great news. This is a big decrease from February 2010 where 38 crimes were recorded. The new crime mapping website (www.police.uk) appears to be having some teething problems as when I looked today it still had statistics for December 2010 showing. If you require information for your street in the mean time please do get in touch with us. We also had some great team working in Ivinghoe Aston where residents have witnessed a possible suspect vehicle leaving the scene of a crime and through some quick emails and phone calls we have been able to make some good enquiries. Evidence which shows what can happen when the police and communities work together. Please do keep giving us the information.

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non emergency number 0845 8 505505 or email WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. Alternatively you can visit the force website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk to view information on your neighbourhood.



Spring is on it's way !
shake or shimmy off the winter blues

**Come and join the
Egyptian Dance Class**

Every Wednesday
Eaton Bray Village Hall
at 7.30pm

For more details or to book a place call:
Soraya 07976 964316

St Mary's Village Carnival 2011

The Carnival will soon be upon us once again; 2nd July 2011. Here are a few bullet points to make sure you don't miss out!

- **The Carnival theme** for this year is – “PIRATES” – Why are we going to be Pirates this year? Well, because we AAAAARGH HAHAAARGH. All parrots welcome.
- **Decorate your house** as a Galleon, fly the Skull and Crossbones from your chimney and brighten the route as the procession makes its way through the villages.
- **Can you provide any help to the carnival?**

For example:

- Prizes, of any sort, for the various raffle and tombola stalls.
- Items for the silent auction.
- Can you assist with transport or provide the use of a lorry or van?
- Can YOU provide help on the day of the carnival at any of the many charity stalls, even for a few hours?
- Contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136
- **Charity Stalls** - If you want to book a charity stall at the Carnival, call Chris Banks on 01525 221556.
- **Classic Cars** - If you have a Classic Car you would like to show off for all our pleasure, call Roger Wilkinson on 01525 221137.
- **Advertising in the Carnival Programme** means you become part of these gorgeous villages. For advice on the benefits of advertising call Pauline Glen on 01525 229 400; she is available!



There is Bias on the Green!

We each have our little prejudices and bias. Like you and me the bowls used at our local **Bowls Club** have a bias. Each one is different.

A bit like people, to get a bowl to do exactly what you want it to do is a challenge, which is why bias ensures bowls is so compelling and fun.

With a bias in every bowl, and, like the cricket ball, each one responding to changing ground and atmospheric conditions, no two shots are the same. Bowls is an easy game to get into but to be consistent takes time.

We joined the Cheddington Club, just a few miles from Edlesborough, nearly 3 years ago and have since fallen in love with bowls and the Club.

Bowls is relaxing, yet demands concentration and helps us stay flexible. The Club and the game are for men and women of all ages.

Cheddington is a really friendly Club, full of banter and good fun. There is usually a cuppa available, or something stronger from the bar, when needed.

The competitions, short mat bowls in the winter and the social events have added to our enjoyment of life and widened our circle of friends. **Cheddington Bowls Club** can do the same for you.

Tony & Rosemarie Duke: Eaton Bray

Easter Lilies 2011

St Mary's Church

Sunday 24th April



If anyone would like to support our "Easter Lilies" in memory of a loved one, please contact Catherine Hayden on 220527 before 12th April.

Give Bowls a Go!

OPEN DAYS

Warm welcome for everyone

Sunday 22nd May from 2pm (including BBQ)

Thursday 26th May from 6pm

CHEDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB, your friendly village Club, is for everybody – from beginners to experts.

Come with some trainers or flat soled shoes and we will supply everything else.

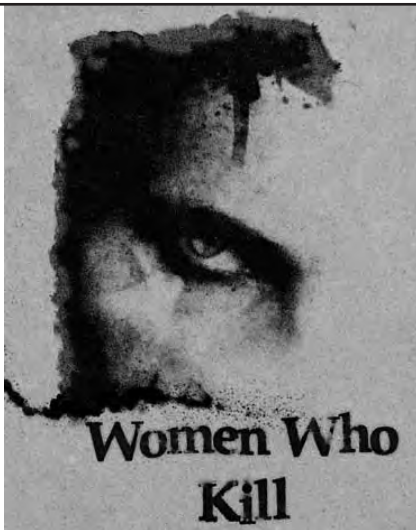
We love Bowls and our Club. We think you will too.

Cheddington Bowls Club, The Recreation Ground, High Street,

Contacts: Nigel on 01442 824 679 or Sue on 01296 668 772



Sponsored by: www.wisechoicewills.co.uk • 0845 070 1944



Women Who Kill

Two one-act plays

Semblance of Madness by John H Newmeir

The Long Road by Shelagh Stephenson

Leighton Buzzard Theatre, Thursday 7-Saturday 9 April 2011
(adult content). Box Office: 0300 300 8125

Heaven has no rage like love to hatred turned. Nor hell a fury like a woman scorned. (Congreve)

Leighton Buzzard Drama Group presents two award-winning one act plays with a common theme. 'The Long Road' by Shelagh Stephenson is a gritty and topical exploration of revenge versus forgiveness. When a young man is murdered how will his family cope with their grief and will they take the opportunity to confront his killer?

'Semblance of Madness' by John H Newmeir is an unconventional whodunit set in a psychiatric hospital. A terrible crime has been committed, but what and by whom? Intrigue and mystery are at the heart of a play that questions traditional concepts of normality.

Leighton Buzzard Theatre, 7-9 April

Tickets £8.50 Adults, £7.50 Concessions.

Box Office Number 0300 300 8125

EATON BRAY W.I.

COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 7TH APRIL

10-12

THE COFFEE TAVERN

CAKE STALL

BRING AND BUY

RAFFLE

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US

Carnival Queen & Princess

St Mary's Village Carnival

Would you like to lead the Carnival Procession and help open the Fete on Saturday 2nd July?

Are you aged between 8 and 12 years?

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

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

Eaton Bray Village Hall on

Sunday 10 April at 11.15am

when a draw to select the Queen, Princess and two Attendants will take place.

How to Enter

Please telephone Yvonne Ranson on 01525 220943 for an entry form, or download a form from the Carnival website:

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

Entry forms should be returned by 6th April.

Claydon House Re-opens for the New Season



National
Trust

Meet Heroes, Rogues and Pirates

at Claydon House as it re-opens for the new season

The Verney family has lived at Claydon House for over 400 years. One of the most colourful family members in the 16th century was Sir Francis Verney who left England to become a pirate on the Barbary Coast.

From Saturday 12 March, pirates, plus other heroes and rogues from the Verney family, are the theme of an exhibition and events throughout the year at Claydon.

In his twenties Sir Francis decamped to Tunis where he “turned Turk”, converted to Islam and joined a North African pirate fleet. When he died in extreme poverty in Messina, he left just his turban, a silk robe and a pair of Ottoman slippers. These extraordinary 400-year-old garments will be on show, together with a selection of letters and papers from the family archive, to give a fascinating personal glimpse into the lives of some of the family’s heroes and rogues.

Children can join in the pirate theme throughout the year, including activities such as an Easter Egg “Treasure Hunt”, sponsored by Cadbury’s, Pirate Picnics and events around “Talk like a Pirate Day”.

Other highlights this season include lecture teas with Adrian Tinniswood, author of “The Verneys”, a history of the family in the 17th century. Free live music evenings will take place in June and July. And visitors will have the chance to glimpse behind the scenes at Claydon when there are opportunities to meet housekeepers old and new. Mums will go free on 3rd April, as will dads on 19th June. Spooky trails will end the season in October.

For dates and details of all Claydon House events go to the National Trust website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/claydonhouse or call the info line: 01494 755561 or 01296 730349.



**TOY
LIBRARY**



**Central
Bedfordshire**
Sure Start Children's Centres



Central Bedfordshire Children’s Centre has its brand NEW Toy Library almost ready to roll! We have hundreds of brilliant toys organised into age appropriate packs for all ages between 0-5years. The service is open to all families of under 5’s and is FREE.

We will operate 2 static toy libraries based at Barton-le-Clay Children’s Centre Mondays 9.00-10.00am and Roundabout Children’s Centre Fridays 12.15-1.15pm. The catalogues can be accessed at anytime during our normal session times.

A mobile Toy Library service will also operate on a Thursday. The mobile toy library will operate a two weekly rota starting as below and will return to the same venues on a fortnightly basis:

Starting Thursday 17th March 2011

09.00-09.45 Heath and Reach Thrift Road

10.00-10.30 Aspley Guise Village Hall Car Park

10.45-11.15 Woburn Village Hall Car Park
11.30-12.15 Cranfield (TBC)
13.00-13.45 Ampthill Methodist Church Car Park
14.00-14.30 Clophill Village Hall Car Park
15.00-15.45 Toddington Methodist Church Car Park

Starting Thursday 24th March 2011

09.00-09.45 Eaton Bray (School Lane) Public Car Park
10.30-11.15 Kensworth Village Hall Car Park
11.30-12.15 Caddington Lower School Car Park
13.00-13.45 Slip End Village Hall Car Park
14.00 -15.00 Dunstable Methodist Church
(Creative Play session available 1.30-3.00pm at Dunstable venue)

To become a member of our Toy Library service you will need to bring along photographic I.D (i.e passport or driving licence) a recent utility bill with your current address on, a completed membership/application form and have registered with the children's centre. If you haven't got an application form, please pick one up from your local children's centre or come and get one on your first visit to the mobile library.

For more information on our Toy Libraries or any of our other Children's Centre services, please call us on 01582 881054 (Barton) or 01525 384368 (Leighton Buzzard). Barton-le-Clay Children's Centre, Our Space, c/o Ramsey Manor Lower School, Manor Road, Barton, MK45 4NS. Roundabout Children's Centre, c/o St George's Lower School, East Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EW



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 9:15 – 12:15 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.

Fundraising is a Family Affair for this Dagnall Family

Two brothers, their sister and two family friends from Dagnall are preparing for their toughest challenge yet – a 7 day Marathon in the Amazonian Jungle this October. But the challenge of walking and running 220 kilometres through some of the world's hardest terrain at 95% humidity isn't quite enough for this family – just to make it a little bit tougher they have set themselves the target of doing it all for charity and are aiming to raise £20,000 for the Hospice of St Francis which cared for their mother who died last October (2010).



Sally Thorne, aged 43 from Dagnall, sadly lost her mother on 9th October 2010, the same day the race will start this October in Brazil. The grandmother of eight, Anne Thompson, bravely battled with secondary breast cancer in the lung for over two years before passing away peacefully at home surrounded by friends and family. When her illness became really tough she

was referred to the Hospice of St Francis in Berkhamsted and enjoyed respite and care. She initially stayed on the In-patient Unit for two weeks in the beginning of August and then returned for a longer stay at the end of August before returning home.

Sally said: The people at the hospice of St Francis made her time there very normal and looked after her just like she was one of their friends. All visitors were made welcome and nothing was too much trouble for them. They helped Anne live her wish and helped her to go home before she passed away in October 2010.

Mother of two Sally, her older brother John Thompson aged 45, and younger brother Luke Thompson, aged, 34 all live on the same street in Dagnall where their mum Anne also used to live. Taking part in the trek with them are their friends Kingsley Basson aged 37, and Christine Davies, aged 42, also from Dagnall and Northall.

The Jungle Marathon is a 7 day trek along existing paths in primary jungle. There will be natural obstacles to pass including streams and rivers and they will be totally self sufficient carrying their own foods and provisions. Nights will be spent in hammocks at campsites along the shores of the river.

Following the trek on their arrival in England the family is arranging a charity celebration ball. Other fundraising events lined up throughout this year are: Golf Day 5th August (day before Anne Thompson's birthday) followed by a pig roast and a Race Night on St George's Day 23rd April.

All funds raised from the trek and the other events will go towards the Hospice of St Francis. Located in Berkhamsted the hospice provides professional support and care for people with terminal or life-limiting illnesses. It brings peace, comfort and dignity to patients, helping them to live life to the full, for whatever time is left. The care is tailored to each patient's individual needs whether that's in the In-Patient Unit, Day Hospice, or patients' homes. Also support



for families and carers is essential. The Hospice of St Francis really does provide total care when time is precious.

All care is given free of charge but the hospice needs to raise the £3.3 million annually to continue its care. It relies on voluntary donations for more than 80% of the money required. For more information contact 01442 869555 or visit www.stfrancis.org.uk If you have been inspired by the story then you can help them on their way by the following links: <http://www.doitforanne.co.uk/>

Edlesborough Post Office

Summerleys, Edlesbrough, LU6 2HH

Opening Times

Monday	09:00 - 17:30
Tuesday	09:00 - 17:30
Wednesday	09:00 - 13:00
Thursday	09:00 - 17:30
Friday	09:00 - 17:30
Saturday	09:00 - 12:30

Closed for lunch 13.00 - 14.00



Dunstable & District Local History Society

Tuesday 12th April, 7.45pm

The History of Chew's House

This beautiful building, originally a charity school, is one of the gems of Dunstable. Hugh Garrod tells its story.

Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
Visitors always welcome

St Mary's Ladies Guild

At the meeting held on Wednesday 9th March the devotions for Ash Wednesday were led by Thelma Bodsworth. Birthday cards and wishes were extended to Joan Fossey and Chris Driscoll (in her absence).

After the notices, Deirdrea introduced the speaker Don Taylor from the Children's Contact Centre which is held in the church that Don attends at Northampton.

As a 'Mission' within their church 12 adults, working on alternate Sundays on a rota basis, are present at the Church premises to supervise the meeting of a child with one or other of its parents, especially in the case of a divorce. Recommendations are passed to the Contact Centre, where all details have to be filled in by the attending parent.

Some of the background influencing the child, occurs as one or other of the parents, tries to convince the child that they are the best parent and the other parent is to blame and at fault. Sometimes the child sits there and the parent fails to turn up to see them, which leaves a scar on the child's feelings. So often in the case of family breakups it is the child who suffers, with feelings of hurt, rejection and a sense of bereavement.

The work that the Children's Contact Centre does is so valuable to the individual child, who needs to know that they are loved and matter, and through no fault of their own, their parents are divided and cannot live together as a family.

Questions followed and a vote of thanks was given by Deirdrea.

Teas and coffees were served by Barbara Ilic and Barbara Collier and the tea prepared by Marjorie, Jenny and Deirdrea.

There was an excellent Bring and Buy stall and raffle in aid of this years projects.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th April when the theme will be "Preparing for Easter". Hats will be provided for decoration by the members (with their many skills), there will be an Easter Tea and other Easter goodies.

A Bring and Buy stall and Raffle will be held.

Highlights of the Meeting for Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held in The Coffee Tavern on Monday 7th March 2011 at 7:30pm

LOCAL ELECTIONS

The Parish Council Local Elections will be held on Thursday 5th May 2011.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

Mobile Library: Concerns were raised with the reduction of the mobile library visits. Cllr Mustoe informed the Parish Council that a Library Link service is available; a facility available to those unable to get to main libraries.

Details of this service can be obtained by:-

1. http://www.galaxy.bedfordshire.gov.uk/webingres/bedfordshire/vlib/0.beds_libraries/library_link.htm
2. Telephone Library Link on 0300 300 8061
3. Write to Central Beds, Flitwick Library, Coniston Road, Flitwick, MK45 1QJ

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Recreation Ground Improvements:

The Parish Council have agreed on the new play equipment to be installed in School Lane play area

Allotments:

The council looked at the option of increasing the rent for allotment plots within the parish.

Eaton Bray Parish Council: Parish Allotment Income & Expenditure:

Income:	£144.00	Rent
Outgoings:	£328.00	Water Supply/Grass cutting
Shortfall:	-£184.00	

This shortfall does not include any other spends needed during the year.

<u>Proposed Increased:</u>	Whole Plot	Current: £5 - Increase: £10
	¾ Plot	Current: £4 - Increase: £7
	½ Plot	Current: £3 - Increase: £5

The Parish Council agreed that there is a need to increase the current rental and that the increase will take effect for current allotment holders from 1st October 2011 (2011-2012 allotment year). Any new allotment holders will pay the increased rate with immediate effect.

Rubbish Bins:

The Parish Council has agreed to two new bins being sited (i) Adjacent to skate park (ii) Entrance to Knights close. In addition, to have a bin relocated from the far corner of the School Lane Car Park to a more suitable location.

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

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

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

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

Edlesborough Book Group Book Review

Invitation to the Waltz by Rosamond Lehmann

Our choice this month was a classic 'coming of age' novel written in 1932 which describes a young girl's first adult social occasion. Her doubts and fears in the week leading up to the grand ball to which she and her elder sister have been invited, are examined in great detail and form the driving force behind the story, which is set just after the first World War, in 1920.

Olivia Curtis is the younger daughter of a comfortable middle class family, who live in a large house in a small country village. She and her elder sister, Kate, have been invited to a ball in honour of their friend Marigold Spencer. The story opens on Olivia's

17th birthday a week before the event, through the day leading up to it and to the grand finale of the ball itself.

Although, in essence a very slight premise on which to base a novel, Rosamond Lehmann manages very subtly to underline the class differences between Olivia's family and the villagers and also the gap between the Spencer and the Curtis family. Gradually, as she takes her bolt of scarlet satin to the local dressmaker to be made into her ball gown and anticipates, with dread, her first outing as an adult, she starts to notice the world around her and her place in it. All the inadequacies of inexperience and extreme youth are beautifully described and the nuances of upper class etiquette set down in such a way as to be social comment.

The ball itself, has differing results for Olivia and her sister. Kate is more confident, and in her young sister's eyes, more beautiful and accomplished in every way. On the surface, Kate appears to have had the more successful evening, but we know that Olivia in a quieter way has achieved even more.

There is a sequel to this novel, called 'The Weather in the Streets' which finds Olivia ten years on, and in love with an unsuitable man. It could be interesting to find out more about the 'grown up' Olivia.

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
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Thursday Evening

Ladies Fellowship	
Last Thursday in every month	7.45pm
For further details please telephone Captains Linda and Ray Charlton 01525 221156	

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

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

Next Meeting:	Mon 4th April
Annual Parish Meeting:	Mon 9th May
Annual Meeting:	Wed 11th May

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Edlesborough W.I.

Sue Parker and Wendy Poole acted as President & Minutes Secretary at our last meeting, when Sue welcomed several visitors. Christine Yates announced that the EDaN Beautification team would be running another May Day celebration on Edlesborough Green. This year it would combine with a further celebration of the Royal Wedding. She also urged that Edlesborough Church should be used more for various events.

Mrs Betty Page was our speaker, and lived up to the title of her talk: "Humour is a Tonic". She entertained us with a number of comical monologues, and added to the humour by wearing a different accessory for each one. With such titles as: "What have I done with my Glasses?", "A Bit of Binders String", "Life Begins again at 60", she covered a number of very amusing situations.

Mrs Page has always been interested in creative writing, and does write some of her own monologues. She was once a schoolteacher, and has kept copies of some of the children's work. We heard extracts from some eight year olds' essays of twenty years ago on their ideas of a grandmother. Mrs Page compared these with those of some ten year olds in a school of today. Twenty years ago the general feeling for Grandma was of an elderly, white-haired lady who cooked lovely cakes, and who sat knitting and told wonderful stories. Today's children see her in a much 'younger' way of life: foreign holidays, bleached hair, dancing etc. It made us realise how times have changed, even in the last twenty years. Altogether, it was a happy evening spent being entertained by a very amusing lady.

Val Harris



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A Beacon of Light : Bridget Elizabeth Talbot OBE

There is a pleasant linear walk near where I live, starting at St. Mary's church on the hill in Edlesborough and continuing via Ivinghoe Aston on to Ivinghoe, about three miles away.

As the footpath had recently been resurfaced, I decided it was high time I explored this track. Little did I know how a simple stone seat along the route would take me on a journey that was to include the Yorkshire Dales and details of the life of a truly remarkable woman who was influential in saving the very countryside I was to enjoy. I set off and was quickly among the rolling hills of this northern end of the Chilterns. All the usual suspects adorned the low hedgerow on one side of the path – common mallow, rose-bay willow herb, scabious and the ubiquitous bindweed. A kestrel hovered overhead and sheep were grazing. The view ahead was a delight with ripening wheat and a glimpse of Ivinghoe Beacon in the distance. A little over a third of the way towards Ivinghoe, a small stream crossed the path, meandering its way down from the higher chalk hills towards the Vale of Aylesbury. I crossed the stream on a small concrete bridge in a hedge and emerging the other side, relaxed on the handily placed seat on the other side. On standing up I noticed some indistinct writing carved into the stone bench and was intrigued to read the following:

IN MEMORY OF
BRIDGET ELIZABETH TALBOT OBE
OF LITTLE GADDESSEN & KIPLIN HALL
SEAMANS FRIEND AND DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS
SHE HELPED TO PRESERVE THESE DOWNS FOR YOU WHO READ THIS
DIED 29TH NOV. 1971
INVENTOR OF LIFE SAVING WATERTIGHT TORCH FOR MARINERS

Several thoughts immediately came to mind. Who was this woman and for what did she receive the OBE? Little Gaddesden was not far away in Hertfordshire but where was Kiplin Hall? Lastly, how did someone who was clearly interested in the countryside come to invent a waterproof torch for mariners?

On completion of my walk I quickly accessed the internet and found intriguing details about Bridget Talbot on the Chilterns website (www.chilternsaonb.org) under 'people and places'. More information was to follow when I contacted the archivist at Kiplin Hall, a Jacobean country house near Richmond in North Yorkshire. Apparently the last owners of the hall were Bridget Talbot and her cousin Sarah Turnor and in a recent exhibition of family scrapbooks and artefacts they found 'a box containing three cigarettes given to Bridget Talbot at the Sultan's palace, 1920' and an oval bone and agate box with a label in her own hand: 'Cor. Day 1953 – Hairs from the mane of the Queen's greys taken at Westminster during the time Queen Elizabeth II was crowned' Was it, the archivist speculated, the then 68-year old lady herself who had a close encounter with one of the horses that pulled the royal carriage at the 1953 coronation? Bridget Elizabeth Talbot was clearly a remarkable lady and I think, one of those redoubtable women who didn't just think about what should be done in a situation –

they got on and did it. This is typified by her work with the Anglo-Italian Red Cross, for which she was awarded the OBE in 1920.

Our main interest is of course the incident which benefited the Chilterns. On 5 October 1925 it was announced that the great house and park at Ashridge, Hertfordshire, was to be sold. Having been born at Little Gaddesden, Ashridge was her childhood playground, so she was determined that others should also enjoy the famous beechwoods and rides that she herself had experienced. Using her considerable political connections, she trawled around London for supporters to her cause and by 10 October there was a letter in The Times urging people to send money to The National Trust with all speed, to purchase land between Ivinghoe Beacon and Berkhamsted Common. "We believe that there are few if any parks that combine so many features of desirability for public acquisition as Ashridge...it is amongst the most richly timbered of parks and has adjoining it stretches of downland, with magnificent views." The letter was signed by Stanley Baldwin, Ramsay MacDonald, Lord Oxford and Lord Grey of Fallodon - a considerable achievement for a few days work. In due course the estate was indeed purchased for the National Trust and as a consequence we are all still able to enjoy it today.

And the waterproof torch? It seems that Bridget Talbot sailed on the four masted ship Panir to Finland in 1937 and on her return a couple of years later began the National Labour Enquiry into the state of the Merchant Navy. Presumably appalled by the loss of life of sailors who could not summon assistance due to their torches being waterlogged, she set about designing a waterproof version that attached to a lifebelt. Again using her considerable connections, she was successful in getting the torch made standard issue for the Merchant Navy, the Royal Navy and also the RAF.

Bridget Talbot died on 29 November 1971 at the age of 86 and asked for her ashes be scattered 'over the little stream off the grass road between Edlesborough and Ivinghoe, in view of the nine miles stretch of wood and country, and a stone put up...to say that I saved them for the National Trust.' If you are fortunate enough to walk that way, rest and be thankful that she did.

By John Hockey

CHILTERN PEOPLE

A beacon of light



IN MEMORY OF
BRIDGET ELIZABETH TALBOT OBE
OF LITTLE GADDESSEN & PIPPIN FIELDS
 SEAMANS FRIEND AND DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS
 SHE HELPED TO PRESERVE THESE Downs FOR YOU WHO READ THIS
DIED 29th NOV. 1971
 INVENTOR OF LIFE-SAVING WATERPROOF TORCH FOR MARINERS

THERE IS A PLEASANT LINEAR WALK NEAR WHERE I live, starting at St. Mary's Church on the hill in Edlesborough and continuing via Ivinghoe Aston to Ivinghoe, about three miles away. As the footpath had recently been resurfaced, I decided it was high time I explored this track. Little did I know how a simple stone seat along the route would take me on a journey that was to include the Yorkshire Dales and details of the life of a truly remarkable woman who was influential in saving the very countryside I was to enjoy.

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Several thoughts immediately came to mind. Who was this woman and for what did she receive the OBE? Little Gaddesden was not far away in Hertfordshire, where was King's Hall? Lastly, how did someone who was clearly interested in the countryside come to invent a waterproof torch for mariners?

On completion of my walk, I quickly accessed the internet and found an engaging article about Bridget Talbot on the Chilterns website (www.chilterns.co.uk).

■ JOHN HOCKEY CHANCES UPON THE STORY OF BRIDGET ELIZABETH TALBOT OBE

Below: The seat and view of Ivinghoe Beacon
 Photo: John Hockey

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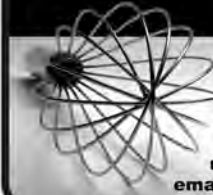
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Table Corner and a Spring Recipe

Now that spring has officially sprung, and with most British lambs born at around this time of the year, I thought that I would share with you one of the easiest yet tastiest recipes we have in our repertoire. It is a French classic, perfect for a convivial meal with friends. The meat gently drips over the potatoes as it cooks, creating a meal full of flavour. Although it appears a little awkward to prepare, it is actually fairly easy. And there are 2 methods. You can either have 2 racks, one above the other, with the one below large enough to support your roasting tin (which must be wide enough to fit under your leg of lamb) and the upper one clean enough (as the meat is cooked directly on the rack) to fit your leg of lamb just above your tin. Alternatively, you simply can rest the leg directly onto the potatoes, which is equally good but not the “traditional” method.

Serves 6 to 8



Ingredients

For the meat

2.5kg leg of lamb, on the bone
2 stalks rosemary, leaves finely chopped
2 stalks thyme, leaves finely chopped
50g butter, softened
3 large cloves garlic, finely chopped

For the potatoes

A couple of knobs of butter
2 medium onions, thinly sliced
1.5kg peeled and thinly sliced potatoes
4 stalks thyme, leaves only
400ml chicken stock
2 bay leaves

Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas Mark 6.

Meat

With the tip of a sharp knife, make about 20 deep cuts in the flesh of the lamb. Season well on all sides. Mix the herbs and garlic into the butter and carefully smear the butter all over the outside of, and into the cuts in the lamb. Prepare the potatoes.

Potatoes

Melt the butter in a saucepan, add the onions and a pinch of salt and cook for 5-10 minutes until the onions have just become soft and translucent. Grease a roasting tin large enough to fit under your leg of lamb. Layer the potatoes and onions in the tin, sprinkling each layer with thyme leaves and seasoning well. Start and finish with potatoes. Pour over the stock and place the bay leaves on top.

Put the potatoes on the lower shelf of the oven and position the lamb on the rack above or directly onto the potatoes (second method). Cook at 200°C/Gas Mark 6 for 20 minutes, then turn down the heat to 180°C/Gas Mark 4 and cook for 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 40 minutes, depending on how well done you would like the meat to be.

Serve with a green salad, et voilà, a delicious spring recipe!

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Eaton Bray WI

The meeting held on Monday 7th March was held at the new venue, Eaton Bray Methodist Hall, where members and one visitor were welcomed by Deirdrea.

The members were thanked for giving back the questionnaire and sharing ideas for future meetings, speakers and outings. Suggestions were invited to select a charity for the year.

The guest speaker and demonstrator was Keith Lilley, a florist and owner of Greycourt Florists in Kempston. Keith creates many floral and plant displays in various venues and events in and around London, as well as advising clients, brides for wedding flowers, plus funeral tributes, Mother's Day posies and Easter flowers, plus working in the shop on the practical side.

Four beautiful arrangements were demonstrated making the most of colour, design and texture. Keith's easy going manner and friendly chat whilst demonstrating, contributed to a very relaxed and most enjoyable evening.

Two of the arrangements were raffled and were won by Sheila Beal and Anne Salmon. Details of the annual outing to Sulgrave Manor in August were given out.

The next meeting is on Monday 4th April at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be Jean Yates, speaking about the Albanian Royal Family's exile in WW2 in the Chilterns.

There will be a Bring and Buy and raffle.

Deirdrea

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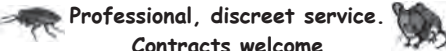
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The baker ran out of the bakers shop and ran away. The flames were getting bigger and they burnt down the shop.

All the people ran out of their houses.

The king's soldiers used gun powder to blow up the houses.

The wind stopped and the fire stopped too. It destroyed a big part of London.

By Emily
Year One



Edlesborough School Contributions



World Book Day

The children and staff of Edlesborough School took part in World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March, by dressing up as a character from their favourite book. Activities over the course of the day included the children listening to some volunteer parents reading extracts from their favourite book, designing their own short stories and each child showing their character to the rest of the school in a special assembly.



We wish to thank the parents who gave up their time to read aloud to children and to all our parents for helping the children with their costumes. Much fun was had by all!



Wanted - Gardens

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This year's Open Gardens event will be on 12 June.
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YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



Above: Dagnall Under Fives children and parents had a fun morning at Dunstable downs, taking part in the first ever pancake race to be held there. The children came 5th and the parents team a respectable 2nd.

Below: Sunset at Pitstone Mill by Richard Woodhead



YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



A frosty morning at the canal by Adrian Lewis. The photo above is of a lock gate.



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

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Salvation Sound - April 2011

Lent is almost over, and Eastertime is come once more. What does it mean to you? Is it a time of restoration for you? A time to reanimate your life? To infuse with courage and hope? On Easter day Christ rose from the grave after His crucifixion. He resumed His life.

Sometimes we find these things hard to believe - the Resurrection is perhaps easier to believe when we call to mind those lesser facts which have recalled us to life from the depths of self pity or depression. Maybe a certain piece of music "speaks" to you, or the songs of birds at dawn, a new love or friendship, or even just the reading of a well loved book, or having to move yourself because of someone's urgent needs. These things can give rise to an awakened sense of gratitude. Jesus was always saying thank-you to His Father; He took the cup and gave thanks. He took two fish and five loaves and gave thanks - just two examples - for throughout the gospels runs a stream of unspoken gratitude.

At this time of year it seems impossible not to feel grateful to God - especially in nature when we can see the new crops growing in the fields around us, shining from the touch of spring rains. Or see the green mist on the willow trees which precedes the first leaves, the colour of spring flowers, sunshine after clouds, new life on farms, simple things. "Consider the lilies" Jesus said, the ear of corn, the vine, the sparrows, the child. Seeds were I think one of His favourite symbols of rebirth and one that we as 'country folk' will understand. Easter day is the feast of happiness, joy and gratitude. On it we should think of the kindness of Christ, for He forgave the appalling things done to Him by man whilst on this beautiful earth. Just a day or two before, in a haze of pain the dying Christ said "forgive them!" He turned to a criminal and told him that they would be together in paradise - such a hard thing for us to understand, let alone accept this reality. But we believe that Christ's death invalidates death for us, for we too will see paradise! He lives and so we live -

I was there at the foot of the cross,
For it's with my mind that I can see.
I know that when He died, it was for me.
That far away day, is yet very near.
I'm filled with wonder, and yes, sometimes fear;
For my faith is weak, 'though it is sincere.
Today it is to me that He calls,
He lifts me when I stumble or fall.
His presence is always by my side,
And it's in His love that I abide.
Yes, I am here at the foot of the cross,
But I am not filled with a sense of loss,
For I now that He will come again,
And when He does there will be no pain.
It is here, the foot of the cross,
Wherever we meet, the foot of the cross,
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The thought of His love, it's undying ember;
I can't forget----

Do you remember?

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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for February 2011

After a cold December and January, February was a very mild month with only 3 days when the temperature dropped below zero. It was a windy month with a high wind speed of 42 miles per hour coming from the west on the 1st. In comparison with February last year, which had a mean temperature of 2.5°C, this year's 6.1°C is a significant increase. You can see this in the plot below.

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>.

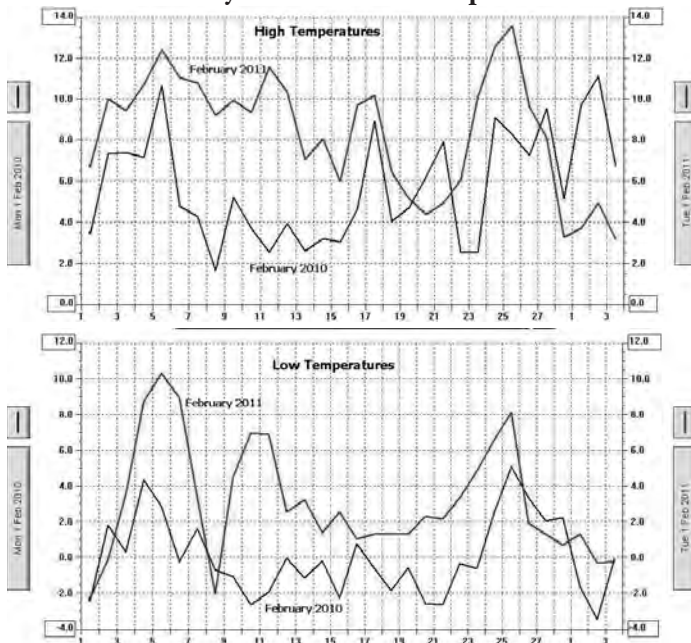
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Elevation: 450 ft – Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	13.6°C	25 Feb 11.30	- 2.2°C	1 Feb 00.30
Mean Temperature	6.1°C			
Dewpoint:	10.2°C	11 Feb 14.00	-3.3°C	1 Feb 00.30
Humidity:	100%	4 Feb 00.00	60%	8 Feb 14.30
Barometer:	1039.6 hPa	21 Feb 22.30	985.6 hPa	8 Feb 06.30
Wind Speed	42 mph W	5 Feb 23.00	Months avg.	7.6 mph
Wind Chill:	12.4 °c	25 Feb 11.30	-5.8°C	1 Feb 00.30
Dominant Wind:	SSW			
Rainfall * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 18 (T), 15(R)	Wettest Day 19 Feb		11.6 mm	0.46 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Feb	51.8 mm	2.17 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	1 Months	128.6 mm	5.06 ins

February 2010 & 2011 Comparisons



Church Mouse

The PCC met on 10th February 2011. We were all looking forward to the arrival of our new vicar, Coralie McCluskey, whose licensing took place on 22nd February. Thanks were expressed to the Churchwardens for their work during the vacancy. The font is currently being restored and the work will be finished very soon. The History of the Church Guidebook is now available. The stain on the wall caused by the leaking roof has now been lime-washed. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 5th April. A number of fund-raising events are planned, including a jazz evening in May. A Fair-trade Breakfast was held in St Mary's on 5th March. We heard about Shared Interest, which is an ethical investment co-operative and part of the Fair-trade movement.

St. Mary's Day of Prayer

Ladies from all the local churches met together on Friday afternoon 4th March, to celebrate the Day of Prayer at St Mary's, Eaton Bray. The service this year was written by the ladies of Chile, entitled "How many loaves have you?". The service was led by Deirdrea Ellins with various ladies taking the reading parts throughout the service. Canon Christine Farrington was the speaker and spoke firstly about the background of Chile and then related to the question Jesus asked, "How many loaves have you?". The search reveals five loaves and two fish-a boy's picnic. After being blessed by Jesus, the five loaves and two fish are given to the multitude that had gathered and after they had all had their fill, 12 baskets of fragments were gathered up.

Then there was a widow in Zarephath, she had food only for one meal. She shares the little she has left with Elijah, she gives him the last thing she has, water and bread to a stranger. God shows Himself in the small details.

So each one of us is asked to share our gifts and talents whatever they are, with others around us, villagers, neighbours, friends and family, offering them friendship and love in the service of others. All we are prepared to give can be used.

As a thank you, a plant was presented to Christine Farrington and one to Joan who each year plays the piano for the service.

A tea prepared by the Ladies Guild followed with the opportunity to chat and catch up with all the news.

Next year's service will be at Eaton Bray Methodist Church.

A Tour/Pilgrimage of the Holy Land

I have just returned from the Holy Land, my second visit, and it was absolutely wonderful. I went with Val Fellows from All Saints, Leighton Buzzard, with a view to arranging a tour between all the churches in the Ouzel Valley and the North Chilterns. We have now made a provisional booking with McCabe's, the firm used by the Diocese, for 21st February to 1st March 2012. I took a group to Oberammergau last year, using McCabe's and they really are an excellent firm.

If you would like your name added to the list, which has already started, to receive a brochure with the itinerary, or just want more information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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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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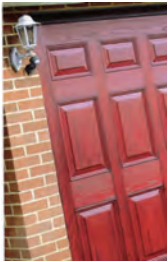


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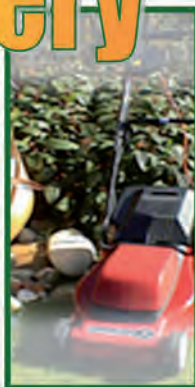
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