

A vibrant garden scene with a path, trees, and flowers. The background shows a lush green lawn with several large trees and a wooden bench. In the foreground, there are colorful flowers, including yellow and orange ones. To the left, there's a small wooden structure and a purple wisteria vine. To the right, there's a blue building and a stack of logs.

Focus

June 2011

Open Gardens Art & Music Festival

Sunday 12th June

12 - 5pm

Eaton Bray Village Hall

Admission: adults £5, children free

THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

EATON BRAY
EDLESBOROUGH

NORTHALL
DAGNALL

The White Horse at Eaton Bray
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www.thewhitehorseeeatonbray.co.uk



8th to 11th June



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(A Greek Week)

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for a fine summer so that
we can enjoy the fresh
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and perhaps some
Greek Wine.

13th to 16th July



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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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

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

Val Barrow - 3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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

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

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 June 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
Mondays	Weight Watchers, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
Mondays	Zumba Fitness Class, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
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	
Weds (term time)	Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's Playtime, 1:00pm - 2:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Louise on 07784 165259
Wednesdays	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
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, (currently meeting at 6 Kingsmead) Peter Feben 01525 221048.
Thursdays	Karate, 7-9pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Brian Bates 07958 348086
Thursdays	Central Bedfordshire Children's Centres' Toy Library, 9-9.45am, Eaton Bray (School Lane) Public Car Park
Fortnightly	

Village Diaries June 2011

Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
Saturdays	Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
Saturdays	Drama Class for Children, 10.35am-12.35pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Claire Casey, 07792 508591
Last Saturday	Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
Sundays	Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) prayer time 9.30am, main meeting 11.00am-12.00pm. All welcome, Nathan 07403 903178, or Peter 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

5th	Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall.
9th	ELF meeting 10.30 at Coffee Tavern
8th & 22nd	Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
10th	Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am
21st	Dagnall Over 60's Garden Party at 6 Dunstable Rd 1.30pm
27th	ELF walk from E.B Church at 10.00am

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

1st-30th	Beds Open Studios, www.artsnetsbeds.org.uk . Nearest event open Fri, Sat, Sun in June 10-4pm, Sparrow Hall Farm
3rd - 4th	Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer & Cider Festival, Fri 6-11pm, Sat 12-11pm £3
11th	Edlesborough School Royal Summer Fayre, 2-4pm
11th	Dagnall's Day @ the Races, 2.30pm
12th	Open Gardens Art & Music Festival, 12-5pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, £5
15th	Christian Aid Concert, 7pm, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
16th	Northall & District Age Concern AGM, 7.30pm Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray
18th	Eaton Bray Methodist Church Garden Party, from 12 noon, Chestnut Lodge, Leighton Road, Gt Billington
18th	Eaton Bray Academy Summer Fayre, 12-2.30pm
18th Jun-3rd Jly	Bucks Open Studios www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk
25th	Ploughman's Lunch, 12-2pm, Edlesborough Methodist Church
26th	Open Church Sunday, St Mary's Eaton Bray 2-5pm

Letter to the Editors

Beware of Driving on the Pavement !!!

Our 20 month old daughter, Olivia, was nearly run down on Good Intent by a car driven on pavement, on the wrong side of the road, across three house fronts (8, 10 and 12).



It happened when Olivia nearly stepped onto the pavement into the path of an irresponsible car driver that was driving at speed on the pavement. It seems that this irresponsible driver did this because it was easier to park! This blatant disregard of law and commonsense is an obvious danger. We want to highlight that careless drivers are amongst us and that when a child gets injured it's not always "some else's", and for people to think again and be aware of such irresponsible driving around the school AND elsewhere in our village.

We should strive to make our neighbourhood a decent and safe place to live. Please report any antisocial or criminal behaviour to the Police.

Most of us have pride in where we live; let's try raising standards of those that do not care.

George and Joanna Zaleski

NORTHALL & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN

The Annual General Meeting

will be held on

**Thursday 16th June
at 7.30PM**

**at The Coffee Tavern
Eaton Bray**

Interested members of the public
are very welcome to attend

**ALL RESIDENTS of
NORTHALL**
are invited to the
Annual General Meeting
of
**Northall Village Trust
(Northall Village Hall)
Friday 8th July 2011
8.00p.m.
Northall Village Hall
South End Lane, Northall**



WEDNESDAY CLUB

Northall Village Hall

**WEDNESDAY CLUB at Northall Village Hall is opening its doors to
occasional members**

We have a varied programme of events for June and July, including coach trip out to lunch, armchair aerobics, visit to local school for country dancing, afternoon tea party, to name but a few. We are also hoping to have an Open Afternoon, serving teas and homemade cakes in our lovely surroundings to our guests.

We can offer transport from the villages of Eaton Bray, Totternhoe, Edlesborough, Dagnall, Northall and Slapton.

Please contact Anna on 221996 or Julie on 220153 for more details.

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If you would like to take advantage of this offer please contact our co-ordinator Peter Williams on 01442 842506, who will be happy to take your call.

We are always looking for more volunteers to come and help us, so if you would like to join our friendly team give Kathy Bovington a call on 0779 0537032 or 01442 842796.

On behalf of the EDaN Buses & Transportation Group



National Trust

Dunstable Downs

Don't miss our many fantastic events.

9th June, 4pm-7.30pm

Wind in the Willows, Outdoor Theatre

Take a merry romp through the world of the river bank with this wonderful adaptation of the children's classic tale. You can even join the river bankers before the play for a 45min drama workshop.

9th June, 10am-3pm

Father's Day Cycle Tour

Come along and join Nick Gracie from Open Adventure and take part in the cycle tour around the Downs for Father's Day. For more information visit www.cylcefiterevents.com



16th & 17th July, 11am-5pm

Kite Festival

Our popular annual event is back for 2 days. Professional kite teams entertain you, browse our craft marquee, and join in our activities, evening BBQ and bar.

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Farmers/Craft
Village Market**

18th June

**Edlesborough
Memorial Hall**

12.30 - 3.30pm

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Friends Of Edlesborough School

Edlesborough School Royal Summer Fayre

Sat 11th June 2011 2 - 4pm

Join us for a fun filled 'regal' afternoon with
live music from the children of Edlesborough School and
spectacular grand balloon finale

Jousting * Go-Karts * Gifts * Crafts * Displays * Pimms & beer tent
BBQ * Prizes for best dressed Royal * Strawberries & cream

Edlesborough School playing field
High Street, Edlesborough

£1 adults, 50p children, Edlesborough School children go free

Eaton Bray Academy's

SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 18th June 2011
12.00pm to 2.30pm

Tomboles • Raffle • Lucky Dip • Gift and Home Ware Stalls

JoAnn Latus Dance School Showcase • Sponge Splash

★★★ **Pirate Fancy Dress Competition (2-9 Yrs)** ★★★

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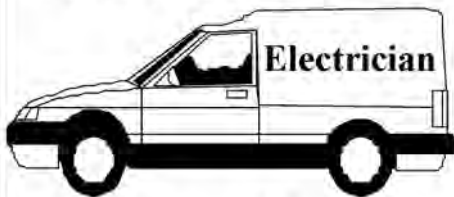
Everyone welcome - look forward to seeing you there.



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2.30 p.m. **Magic Dave and the Macmillan All Stars**
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Dagnall's Day @ The Races

SATURDAY 11th June 2011 @ 2.30 p.m. (free entry)

First race @ 3.00 and evening entertainment @ 7 p.m. with hog roast and live band
Evening tickets £8.50 per adult, and £2 a child.

There will be 8 races with maximum of 8 people per race. A tote will be running throughout the day so you can join in the fun!

Free entertainment for the children throughout the day, including: face painting, bouncy castle, football and for the adults a Pimm's tent, refreshments.

This event in aid of raising money for the Hospice of St Francis in Berkhamsted

List of Races:

Wheelbarrow race

Hobby Horse, 5-7

Teenage Hurdles

Bikes & Trikes, Under 5's

Great Dagnall Race

Hobby Horse, 8-12

Drag Race

Grand National (inter-Villagers race 2 teams per village with maximum of 4 people per team, which village will come out on top and win the prize!!)

Why not enter a race @£5 per adult and £2 per child per race, with cash prizes and more.

For further information contact Lynn Basson 01525 222518 or

Emma Thompson 01442 842748

For further information look at our website

www.doitforanne.co.uk



8th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer and Cider Festival

Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th June 2011

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Saturday evening - Jerome Chance

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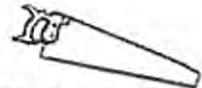
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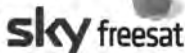
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The Carnival Queen, Carnival Princess and Attendants have now been chosen for the main event on 2nd July!

Carnival Queen – Rebecca Baldwin

Carnival Princess – Stephanie Tate

The Attendants – Melanie Tate and Chloe Tough

The four young ladies will lead the procession from the Orchards to the Green in a horse drawn carriage. Follow the procession and cheer them on their way.

The Carnival theme for this year is – “Pirates” – So come and join the procession representing anything associated with Pirates; Buried Treasure, Dastardly Deeds, The Skull and Cross-Bones or anything else that might push a happy reveller to the end of the plank .. let your imagination run wild !!

Why not decorate your house as part of the Carnival Theme and brighten the route as the procession makes its way through the villages. Could you transform the outside of your house into a Caribbean galleon, will there be a plank out of your front bedroom, will Black Beard be adorning your front door, does the “X” mark the spot in the front garden where the buried treasure lies? For the less faint hearted (me hearties .. Haaa Haaa !) just how large a “Skull and Cross –Bones” can you fly from your chimney stack, I mean mast?!

This year it looks like there will be a superb number of stalls on the Green, with more exciting entertainment and activities than ever before.

- A whole range of entertainment and spectacles will take place throughout the afternoon in the Grand Arena, starting with the arrival of the Carnival Procession led by the Carnival Queen and Princess accompanied by their Attendants
- Look out for the special techniques and contraptions used at the worm-charming event as contestants pour water, jump up and down, dance and play music into the ground to entice as many worms from the soil as they can in the allotted time.
- Listen out for the silent auction with the huge list of items to bid for.
- Watch out where you put your feet when Clarabelle the cow decides where to drop her special load which will provide a lucky person with a special cash prize. Be sure to buy your Clarabelle square on the Green; don't miss out or man'ure going to be sorry.
- There will be a wide range of tombolas and raffles for adults and children with instant prizes and non-stop fun. Make sure you get tickets for the Grand Draw too with extra special prizes!
- If it's breath taking thrills you are after be sure to try the giant bouncy castle and slide that will be on the Green on Carnival day.
- Are you a budding young artist? Be part of the massive picture that will be put together on the Green made from many individual paintings; all coming together on Carnival day.
- Don't miss the dog show! Whether you have a pooch or a pedigree the dog show is a don't miss event at the Carnival. This year wonder at the pooch and owner sausage eating competition; the canine that wins this is going to be a really “Hot Dog”!
- If your garden needs that final splash of colour or you wish to nurture something for

- summer salads you can pick up beautiful plants at the charity plant stall.
- Be entertained and amazed by the wood carving demonstration and perhaps you'll head home with a carving of your own.
 - Whatever your taste buds might fancy there will be something for you at the Carnival. Homemade cakes, sponges and sandwiches of all kinds with a cold drink or a cup of freshly made tea from the Tea Tent. Perhaps you would prefer something hot from the barbeque with an ice cold soft drink! There will be something for everyone at the various food stalls.
 - Be sure to visit the newly introduced **Coq au vin Corner** where a portion of France will be available providing the freshly prepared classics, Coq au vin and Boeuf Bourguignon, to tingle your cosmopolitan taste buds.

Carnival 2011 will be a day out for the whole family to look forward to; free entry, free entertainment, and free parking. Various hot and cold foods and drinks will be available throughout the day on the Green, from the early hours until close down with non-stop entertainment. Make this a date in your diary!

Would you like to help at the carnival? - Contact Gordon on 01525 220136

For example:

- Can you provide prizes, of any sort, for the various raffles 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?
- Can you provide help with the early morning crew setting up tents and facilities on the Green? Egg and bacon rolls are served from about 7am!!

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.

Notes from the Chairman

1. The event relies on hundreds of people volunteering to help in various ways in the period from 6pm on Friday 1st July to 8pm on Saturday 2nd July. Please consider offering your services and if you can help please contact me on 220136.
2. Many families have children who are participating in the Carnival Procession. If your child is joining a float **please do not attempt to drive a vehicle into The Orchards**. Instead, please park in Northall Road and walk to the Orchards via The Comp. We will arrange for the children's floats to be conveniently positioned so that the walk is not a long one.
3. If your organisation / good cause could benefit from a donation from the Carnival Committee then please send a request via the Carnival website – www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.
4. Four members of the Carnival Committee will be standing down this year; they share around 50 years of experience in running the Carnival and will be greatly missed. However, this may be an opportunity for you. Do you have good organising skills that could be put to good use on behalf of our village community next year? If so please get in touch with me on 220136.

I look forward to sharing another wonderful day with you all. See you at the Carnival.
Gordon

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Pitstone Green Museum

Pitstone Green Museum, in Vicarage Road, was established over 30 years ago. Since then it has grown and now offers a huge range of displays on local farming and trades. There is a working blacksmiths forge, an operating gas engine, a working saw bench as well as many static displays about local industries, trades and businesses. You can make a pot and fire it in an on site kiln. There is even the front section of a Lancaster bomber to inspect - and much much more. We have tractor & trailer rides for the children and two miniature railway layouts.

The museum is famous for the excellence of its refreshments and you can enjoy a cream tea whilst you watch a display of Morris or country dancing. Or you can bring a picnic and consume it in our beautiful orchard.

We are open from 11 - 5pm on the following dates. We look forward to seeing you, and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Sunday, 12 June 2011

Sunday, 10 July 2011

Sunday, 14 August 2011

Bank Holiday Monday, 29 August 2011

Sunday, 11 September 2011



World Challenge – Argentina 2012

World Challenge is an organisation giving groups of young people in the 6th form the opportunity to travel to distant developing countries. The expeditions are intended to teach life skills, expand minds outside the classroom and build team spirit and leadership skills.

Next July we shall be flying to Argentina as part of a group from our school. We shall spend four weeks there helping with a charitable community project in a remote village and also trekking and camping in the Andes.

But first we must each raise £3,700 to pay the expenses. To achieve this, we are:

- Recycling mobile phones which are no longer used
- Recycling empty printer cartridges, laser toners and laser drum units
- Planning a collection of clothes and textiles
- Doing odd jobs, such as car washing and gardening
- Babysitting
- Organising a stall at the Carnival

If you have items to donate for recycling or would like us to do a job for you, please ring Stuart on 220943 or Alex on 223185.

Stuart Ranson and Alexander Nilsen



Alex



Stuart

Tales from the Riverbank

Ratty and Mole spend most of the year lazing on the riverbank and fishing from their small boats on a summer's afternoon – an idyllic time spend on a sleepy backwater on the scenic Bedfordshire-Buckinghamshire border. Well that's what they do most of the year – but as Spring turns to Summer the gossip on the riverbank turns from fishing and lazing and the joys of the English countryside to ducks, racing tactics and who is the duck to beat this year!

They are of course, like the rest of the country, becoming obsessed with the Grand St. Mary's Duck Race MMXI.

Who could forget the excitement of Duck Race MMX when Duck 143 dominated the race as decisively as Lionel Messi dominates the footballing world!

Sadly Duck 124 has allowed the fame and adulation to go to her head with a string of unsuitable relationships with gold-digging Drakes and scandalous headlines in the more down-market papers (the Super Injunctions came just too late to dam the flow!). Such has been her dissolute lifestyle over the last twelve months that the international bookmakers have pushed her odds right out to 50-1 for this year's race.

There are though 199 other ducks who have spent the year in training for the Big Race who are just hitting their peak – and you could own any one of them!

For a mere £1 you can purchase one of these prime racing ducks – and should they cross the line a winner you could earn big money! (the owners of last years winners each collected £33 – and £132 was distributed in prize money all together!) Even more importantly the Race raised over £300 for the carnival charities.

Ducks can be purchased right up to day of the race from race headquarters at 96a High St, Eaton Bray – from a race stall at the carnival – or from any of the organisers who may accost you in the street!



Grand St Mary's Duck Race MMXI **Saturday - 9th July 2011 - 1pm prompt start** **The stream between Eaton Bray and Edlesborough**



6th Annual Open Gardens Art & Music Festival

12 June, Eaton Bray Village Hall

Those of you who have attended St Mary's Open Gardens in the past will know what a delightful event this is; and this year, the beautiful gardens will be complemented by an exhibition of Art and Music extending into the marquee next to the Village Hall.

Come along and enjoy the beauty of our village gardens on the afternoon of Sunday 12 June – 12 to 5pm. Tickets for adults, price £5 covering admission to all the gardens, will be available from 11.45am on the day from Eaton Bray Village Hall; admission for accompanied children is free.

The gardens, including a number that have not been open to the public before, are located in Eaton Bray and Edlesborough. They range in size from small plots to plots of several acres and garden features including traditional herbaceous and perennial borders, water gardens, and the occasional 'secret' garden. Wheelchair access is available at many of the gardens and some gardens offer parking. Thanks must go to the gardeners who will have worked so hard to make them beautiful in preparation for the day.

The focus for the event will be at Eaton Bray Village Hall where there will be an art exhibition– if you would like to exhibit please contact Kay Griffiths on 222849 – and musical entertainment will be provided by Joe Ashman, Claire Marie, Piers Nolan and other musicians. We hope many of you will enjoy a Cream Tea listening to their music. Toilets and plant sales are also located at the Village Hall.

We would be grateful for donations of plants or cakes, brought to the Hall on the day. Do come along and support us and pray for good weather.





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Dagnall News

Over 60's

Our April meeting, lunch out at 'The Cock' at Wing, was as usual a great success. It was followed by a trip through the countryside to Frost's Garden Centre at Woburn Sands, where many people came away with purchases.

The meeting on May 17th is our Ploughman's Lunch at 1.30pm in the village hall followed by a Beetle Drive.

In June we are looking forward to the Garden Party (with ice-cream) in Rosemary & Brian's garden at 6 Dunstable Road. Hopefully the weather will be an improvement on last year and we will be able to enjoy the garden fully.

Community Choir

Dagnall Community Choir Deals With Discomfort Of Wind

Despite the best efforts of the wind we managed to complete a short programme of songs at the splendid May Day/ Royal Wedding Celebrations on Edlesborough Green. Luckily our audience were downwind and our efforts blew towards them. This was by way of being a "taster" for our Concert at Totternhoe Church a week later.

A picture of the choir dealing with the wind is on page 68!

Some of you must have liked what you heard because the Church was packed on Saturday 7th May. So we would like to thank everybody who came along and we hoped that you enjoyed listening as much as we enjoyed singing.

This sort of evening cannot happen without major effort and thanks are due to the energies and good nature of many of the choir members. Thanks also must go to our tremendous pianists James Burden and John Ralphs and to Margaret Johnstone, our solo Soprano.

However, none of this could have happened without the leadership of our conductor Stuart Harding who, through sheer perseverance and occasional sorely tested tolerance of some of our musical shortcomings, has managed to bring us to this stage in only 16 months.

We will now spend Monday evenings through the Summer at Dagnall Church expanding our repertoire, including more of the beautiful songs from "Les Miserables", for our Autumn programme. More details will appear as plans are formulated.

Thanks once again to all involved.

A letter from Rev'd Coralie

Vicar: Coralie McCluskey

The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261

Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

Church Warden: Catherine Hayden (220527)

Parish Administrator: Elisabeth Ryder (07890 718117)

Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com

In a world where conflict and confrontation are increasingly prevalent; where the innocent are often victims of man's inhumanity, greed and desire for power and where sometimes we ask, *where is it all going to end*, it is in the lives of the saints I often find the support, inspiration and strength I need. I have always been passionate about the Saints particularly St Mary, the mother of Jesus, St David because I'm Welsh and all those people I have known in my life, who will never get into the calendar of saints, but have dedicated their lives to helping others, fund raising and just loving people who are in the greatest need.



This month we celebrate Britain's first martyr, St Alban, at the Alban Pilgrimage as giant carnival puppets retrace the last steps of St Alban and his remarkable story. Roman chariots, centurions, lions, roses and executioners all take their place in the spectacular procession from Roman Verulamium to St Albans Cathedral.

Alban, a citizen of Verulamium (St Albans), was executed for sheltering a Christian priest fleeing Roman persecution. Originally a worshipper of Roman gods, Alban was so influenced by the priest's prayer and teaching that he converted to Christianity. When the authorities discovered the priest's hiding place Alban exchanged clothes with him. The priest escaped and Alban was arrested. He was taken to the Imperial Basilica (the area where the Roman Museum and St Michael's church now stand) and ordered to renounce his Christian faith. Instead Alban declared his Christian faith using words that are still used as a prayer, "*I worship and adore the living God who created all things*". He was executed on a hill outside the city walls and the Cathedral and Abbey church of St Alban stands on the site of his grave.

This year's **Festival Pilgrimage, Saturday 18th June**, begins at **10.30am** with a procession from Roman Verulamium (site of Alban's trial) to the Abbey with an enactment of the martyrdom. This will be followed at 11.30am by a Festival Eucharist at which The Very Revd June Osborne, Dean of Salisbury will preach. During the afternoon there will be family activities and refreshments available at the Roman Quest outside St Albans and at 4pm the Revd Dr Leslie Griffiths, Superintendent of Wesley's Chapel will preach at the Festival Evensong.

If you do decide to go along, Pilgrims traditionally wear a rose to symbolise the blood of Alban and the roses that according to legend, sprung up on the route to his execution.

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

Open Church Sunday

On Sunday, June 26th St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray will be open from 2 - 5pm.

Refreshments will be available.

All the Church registers have now been photographed and these will be on show.

All the Churches in the Archdeaconry of Bedford will be open on this afternoon.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners - May 2011

38	Pru Hardy	£100
124	Madeline Matteo	£25
81	Ann Worley	£25
150	Frank Alston	£25

Drawn on 11th May 2011 at Eaton Bray Academy. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.

AVDC Elections May 2011

I would like to thank everyone in Edlesborough, Dagnall, Northall and Ivinghoe Aston who supported me in the election on 5th May. I was delighted that so many of you welcomed the prospect of an Independent, local and experienced candidate as your District Councillor. However, Chris Poll, the Conservative candidate from Cheddington, won the election, and I extend to him my congratulations.

As Chairman of Edlesborough Parish Council, I now look forward to working closely with him for the benefit of all parishioners.

Kevin Cabbage

Elections 2011

Thank you for electing me to serve you on Central Bedfordshire Council for the next 4 years.

I have an apology to make to a number of people in Eaton Bray. For the first time I employed and entrusted a leaflet distribution company to deliver my literature. Unfortunately, this was not done in several areas and I only found out when it was too late to rectify this.

As ever, I am available at all times to deal with your problems and concerns. My telephone number is 0300 300 8547 (local rate) and email marion.mustoe@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk .

Marion Mustoe

EB Lions AFC



THE childrens village football club

www.eblions.co.uk



CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

Season 2010 - 11

We are THE village children's football Club – serving Edlesborough, Eaton Bray, Dagnall, Northall, Studham and Kensworth too. We provide village based safe, friendly, competitive and fun football for boys and girls of all ages, from 4 to 17.

This season has seen a record breaking 19 teams – that's over 270 children who have played team sport in our villages every week, over 90% of whom come from our rural villages. Furthermore the quality and skill of our players and teams just gets better and better.

Season 2011-12 - New Players Required

Whilst we have been hugely successful in stimulating huge demand for childrens football, particularly from the youngest age groups upwards, we do have a small number of opportunities still available in certain teams.

This Summer we are keen to attract new players for the following teams;-

Boys and Girls – Pre Reception year – those children starting School (Reception) in September to form our new U5's.

YEAR 2 – Boys or Girls – 2 extra players to join next seasons U8 Reds,

YEAR 3 – Boys and girls required to complete a new 3rd U9 team next season.

YEAR 4 – Boys required to complete a second U10 team next season.

YEAR 9 – 2 extra players to join our vibrant U14's squad (U15 next season).

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

Winning ways!!

We have enjoyed particularly good success this season on the pitch as well as off it, most notably;-

U10 GIRLS – brilliantly coached by Michelle Ferguson and Zoe Sykes. In their first season they have done well in the league and reached the League Cup final, sadly losing but very proud to be there! Well done to our girls – Morgan Davis, Tia Fry, Madison Maxwell, Harmony Moulding, Polly French, Anais Bunyan, Ella Messetter, Darcy Collins, Bryony Sweeby, Madison Ferguson, Katie Pratt & Lydia Sykes.

U10 Boys – last seasons U9 league champions division 2, this year they also reached the U10 League Cup Trophy Final, coached by Becky McGee and Nick Bramston, losing agonisingly on penalties after extra time. Well done to our amazing U10Blues players – Joe Thorne, Joseph Rabey, Oliver West, James Glover, Sam Carter, Cameron Burchell, Toby McGee, Sam Bramston, Myles Frederick and Bill Moynes.

U15 – our stunning U15's, coached by Tim Sanders and Lee Pearce and playing high level County Football in the Bedfordshire Division 2 U15 league. Not only have they achieved promotion to the highest level – division 1 U16's next season, but they won the league as Champions in a nail biting final game against 2nd placed Brickhill Wanderers, winning 3-2 after a brace from super striker James Pearce and another from

Will Sanders. Our 16 boys have been just fantastic this season, winning 17, drawing 1 and losing just twice. Our players include the following village based boys who have played for the club since 7 years old;- defenders Luke Dunstan, Robert Moseley and Tom Nevitt, midfielders Declan Tomlinson (captain), Nathan Sears, Jake Higgs and strikers Will Sanders and James Pearce (who is just 7 goals away from 300 club goals since U8's).

U8's – in their first season, our wonderful U8's coached by Paul Young and Jim Gregory won the Chiltern Junior Sevens League Fair Play award!! This is the 3rd year in a row E B Lions has won this at U8 level. In second place was none other than our U8 Reds coached by Tim Summers and Claire Swales. Well done to both teams and their brilliant players.

Training Pitch – Project 'E B Astro'

We are working on an exciting project to build an all weather 3rd Generation pitch within the village envelope. This is at an early stage, but would, if successful mean we can provide all weather all year around facilities on an artificial surface to all our teams. Clearly this will be subject to funding (this is a highly expensive investment) and planning, both of which are detailed and complex, but would transform our facilities and vastly expand opportunities for our local children, improve their fitness and skills. It would also reduce both travelling to training and be provided at only a minimal cost to parents.

Thank you to all our dedicated coaches, parents and most importantly children for making us the fantastic Club we are and aspire to be. We look forward to more success on and off the pitch in season 2011-2.

Dunstable District Scouts

St George's Day parade and service – 8th May 2011

1st Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Scout group were out in force for the annual St George's Day parade and service which had been postponed by the Easter weekend and bank holidays. (Please see page 69 for photo)

We had a fantastic turnout from all sections, many thanks to all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, leaders and parents who made the effort to be part of this very public event at the heart of Scouting in our District.

We marched with standards, south along the A5 and along West Street (apologies if you were one of those caught in the temporary road closure) to St Mary's Catholic Church. The different groups from the District were accompanied by the Glen-Trew Pipe Band and the Salvation Army Band for a service lead by Brian Huke of the Salvation Army and our District Commissioner Ray Penberthy. Our flag bearers were James Tate for the Scouts, Sam Carter and Adam Hurley for the Cubs and Finley Carter for the Beaver Scouts. This year's service theme celebrated 25 years of Beaver Scouts and each Beaver Colony participated.

For the third year running, we were delighted that 1st Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Scouts won the District Scout Trophy, which was presented at the ceremony. The trophy was hard earned as a result of a series of activities and challenges over the last year. Well done you Scouts! For more information about all sections contact the Group Scout Leader, ng.evans@btconnect.com



Dagnall School Royal Wedding Celebrations



The Royal wedding on Thursday we walked around the village. We saw play group and our mums and dads, Brothers and Sisters.

Ben main

mummy made me a crown. I liked waving my flag.

max Reception

Photos of the wedding procession and reception are on page 69.

the Royal wedding
We all saw our dads and mump. my sister Cat took photos as me and dad gave me a hug. I waved my flag. When we got back to school I gave my dad another hug. Matthew

Royal Wedding

We had a walk around the village to celebrate the Royal wedding. I waved my Union Jack at my Mummy. Ryan Boyes

The Royal wedding

We were dressed up to celebrate the Royal wedding. We walked around the village. My mummy waved when we went past play group. Charlie

All Saints Church, Dagnall - Services in June 2011

Sun. 5th June	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sun. 12th June	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
Sun. 19th June	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 26th June	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
	Sun. 3rd July	9.00 am
Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service



Christian Aid

A big thank you to all our collectors – who really try to cover all of our streets and roads. However, if you are missed and would like to contribute please contact **Catherine Hayden** EB 220527, or **Richard Stroud** EB 221086, who will be happy to collect any envelopes.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 8th Beer Festival

Friday 3rd June and Saturday 4th June 2011

It is hard to believe that we, the Trustees of Eaton Bray Village Hall are going to be running our 8th Beer Festival, What started out as 10 barrels of beer and a few local beer lovers has now become a major event with over 25 Beers plus 2 ciders and a perry, not to mention the 500 visitors over the two days! We will have Festival T shirts to buy and the chance to own (or at least drink out of) one of our specially printed Beer glasses. What more can you ask for!!

This annual event is held to raise funds to improve the Village Hall, which serves our community in so many ways. Nearly £300,000 has been spent on updating this 1960's hall and bringing it into the 21st century.

Along with superb real ale and cider, there will be live music on **Friday night with Bob Thompson** and on **Saturday by Jerome Chance**, both of whom have become regulars over the years. **On Saturday afternoon, Bill Abrams our new family entertainer will give the younger visitors a real treat.**

Just to round it all off, there will be an ongoing BBQ and other food served throughout the event.

For drivers and youngsters there will be soft drinks, along with wine for non beer drinkers. All the Beers have been especially chosen by CAMRA members.

The festival will be open from 6-11pm on Friday and 12noon-11pm on Saturday.

Without your support we cannot carry on improving your hall!

For more information please contact Ross Bagni, Ross.bagni@btinternet.com
Tel 01525 221411 07974 715222

As I wrote this piece I and a lot of others were recovering from the Quiz Night we held on Saturday 30th April. A great thank you must go to all of you for turning up (164 to be precise) and of course Keith Blackburn who creates the quiz for us. We made over £1100 which is a fabulous amount. We sold out on the night I have already got requests from 60 plus people for our next Quiz on October the 8th. You know what to do!!

A poster for 'Cheeky Monkeys under fives play time'. The poster has a black background with white and yellow text. At the top, it says 'Wednesdays 1:00pm to 2:45pm (During term time) Eaton Bray Village Hall'. The main title 'Cheeky monkeys' is in large, stylized white letters, with a cartoon monkey face next to 'monkeys'. Below the title, it says 'under fives play time' and '£1.50 per adult / £1.00 per child / 50p under 1yr'. A list of activities includes 'creative play', 'singing', 'stories', 'baby corner', 'craft', 'julee & biscuit', 'tea or coffee', and 'and more!'. At the bottom, it says 'Come along, make new friends and join in the fun!'. There is a cartoon monkey illustration on the left side of the poster.

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!

Bedfordshire's Open Studios

1st June to the 30th June 2011

Throughout the month of June the Bedfordshire Artists' Network will be holding their annual Open Studios event. Artists countywide will be extending an invitation to the public to visit their studios. A warm welcome awaits you offering the opportunity to pop in, have a chat and look at the variety of work on display. You could have a cup of tea and maybe commission an original piece of artwork for that special occasion.



Local artists Andrea Girling from Eaton Bray and Victoria Johns from Edlesborough will be exhibiting their work at Sparrow Hall Farm in Edlesborough. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm throughout June, if you wish to visit any other time please contact Victoria on 07813 193631 to make an appointment.

Further details of the event will be advertised around the villages in June. If our local artists inspire you, full details of the countywide event can be found at <http://www.artsnetsbeds.org.uk> there you will see what a depth of talent there is in the 'Art World' of Bedfordshire.

If you have any further queries, please feel free to contact Victoria or Andrea.

Why not take a leisurely stroll to Sparrow Hall, we look forward to seeing you!



Edlesborough Parish Council

The

ANNE THOMPSON

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CUP FOR EXCELLENCE

2011

WILL BE A

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

ENTITLED

'A VIEW OF MY VILLAGE'

OPEN TO ALL SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN



Edlesborough Parish Council are opening this competition to commemorate the life and work of Mrs Anne Thompson who was Chairman of the Edlesborough Parish Council for many years. Anne was actively involved with the youth of the Parish during this time and developed a close relationship with both Dagnall and Edlesborough schools.

Entrants should submit a photograph either electronically to the clerk of the Council (parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk) by post to Mrs L. Sargeant, (41 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough, Nr Dunstable, Beds. LU6 2HZ), or through the collection points at Edlesborough school, Dagnall school or Edlesborough Post Office. Entries should be clearly labelled on the reverse with competitors Name, Age and Contact details.

Competition entries should reach the Parish clerk, Mrs Lin Sargeant by Friday 24th June 2011. Winning photographs will be displayed at the village Carnival on Saturday 2nd July 2011 where Certificates will be awarded in each age category and the overall winner will be presented with the Anne Thompson Cup.

It is anticipated that the cup will be awarded each year but that the theme of the competition will change to appeal to different interests.



Did you know

- Lions Clubs International is the worlds largest volunteer service organisation club
- There are 1 400 000 members across 193 countries and 46 000 communities around the globe – all of whom are dedicated to selfless, effective community service
- In the UK, the organisation has a membership of nearly 20 000 Lions from almost 1000 clubs
- 100% of monies raised is donated to charity

Have you got some time and energy you can offer to support us or do you know of a cause that needs our support ?

To find out more, please contact Rachel at Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Lions 01525 229 656, find us on Facebook (Lions Club of Eaton Bray & Edlesborough) Twitter (Eaton Bray Lions) or come and meet us at Edlesborough carnival on 2nd July

Ploughman's Lunch

Saturday 25th June

12-2pm

Edlesborough

Methodist Church

Cake Stall

Bring & Buy

All Welcome

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

GARDEN PARTY

Saturday June 18th

From 12 noon

Chestnut Lodge

Leighton Rd, Gt. Billington

on A4146 at South End of village

Ploughman's Lunches

Games

Bric-a-brac and Plant Stall

Fun for all ages

To raise funds for Help for Heroes

Christian Aid We Are Back!

See you on the 15th June,
2011, at 7pm

At St Mary's, Eaton Bray

Concert

Highlights of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Minutes

Annual Parish Meeting/Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council Held on Monday 9th/Wednesday 11th May 2011, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

Chairman's Comments: The Chairman wished to thank all the Parish Councillors, Clerk and many others who have worked for/with the Parish Council over the year.

All the work and support that everyone has given is much appreciated.

Cllr. Margret Hawkes, Chairman of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Cemetery: The new Grounds Maintenance Contract has now been agreed, with the additional monthly minor works being continued for 2011. The front hedge of the cemetery is being cut back away from the public footpath and any undergrowth encroaching on the footpath being cleared. Gaps in the hedge are to be filled with temporary fencing to allow for the Whips to grow. Many of the cemetery boundary hedges have encroached into burial land and this is something that the Parish Council will look into this year.

Recreation Ground Improvements: Two new pieces of play equipment have been purchased for the children's play area in School Lane, with fitting to be arranged for later in the year. The Community Payment Scheme has now been agreed by the Parish Council, who will utilise this service for the repainting of all the parish play equipment. The Parish Council are looking into creating a separate entrance to the School Lane Car Park for pedestrians.

Additional projects for the coming year: The Parish Council will be looking at the options available for road safety in the parish, i.e. speed control, safer routes to school. The Parish Council will be looking at the improvements needed to many trees within the parish.

Election of Councillors: Cllr. Piggott was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and the council were pleased to co-opt new councillors to the Parish Council.

Many Thanks – Retiring Parish Councillor Dave Pearson: The Parish Council wished to send a message of thanks to retiring Parish Councillor Dave Pearson. This long standing Councillor has done so much for the community in which he lives and has such wonderful knowledge of this village. His presence on the Parish Council will be greatly missed.

Accounts for year ending 31st March 2011: The Clerk distributed details of the accounts for the Annual Return. It was agreed to approve the annual accounts, the Chairman signed on behalf of the Parish Council.

Central Bedfordshire Council: Ward Cllr. Marion Mustoe attended the meeting who confirmed that Councillor James Jamieson has been elected as Leader of Central Bedfordshire Council's Conservative Group. Councillor Jamieson represents Westoning, Flitton and Greenfield and has lived in Bedfordshire for 25 years. He became a Central Bedfordshire Councillor when the new Unitary Authority was created in 2009. He has been Chairman of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for Customer and Shared Services) for the past two years. He has enjoyed a successful career in business. He worked for several national and multinational companies including Unilever, Whitbread, UBS and Hambros before establishing his own management consultancy firm in 2005. He and his wife have two children and are actively involved in the local community.

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]

**Eaton Bray Parish
Council Meetings**

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

Next Monthly Meetings: Mon 6th Jun
Mon 4th July

All Change – and No Change - at Northall Baptist Church

There have been a lot of changes at Northall Baptist Church in the last 10 years.

The Sunday morning congregation has grown to over thirty, ranging in age from babies to 90+. The inside of the chapel, with its comfortable chairs and warm carpeting, would be unrecognisable to those hardy folks who, in previous centuries, sat on narrow pews and looked upward to a preaching box pulpit. Modern technology with sound system, projector, screen and modern songs mixed in with traditional hymns has brought fresh dimensions to our weekly worship of God.

But other things remain the same. We are still a 'gathered church' drawing its congregation from Northall, Leighton Buzzard and other surrounding communities. We still appreciate the insights brought by a number of visiting speakers, often following a theme. For example

we are currently working through the gospel of Luke. We still seek to give one another prayerful support, as together we experience the ups and downs of life.

And there are more changes afoot as Steve and Helen Orchard, who have led the church for the last 8 years, move on from the area. They have started working with Wycliffe Bible Translators - read more about Wycliffe on www.wycliffe.org.uk - and will shortly be moving to the High Wycombe area.

From within its members the church has again appointed new leaders; this time a team of three – John Hazell, Melvyn Fenton and Roger Smallridge. We expect some more change as they work to their own style and gifting; and yet no change as we continue to pursue our church aim 'To build a strong community of Christian believers, who support and encourage each other in their faith and growth and proclaim the gospel by word and deed in their daily lives.' Do come and check us out on a Sunday morning at 11am if you are not already committed to a church in the area.

Please note for the future that John Hazell will be acting as Church Secretary and main contact point tel no: 01525 218142. There's a new email address too northallchapel@btinternet.com

**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:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

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.

EDaN Celebrates! Mayday & The Royal Wedding



A wonderful turnout from our local villagers to enjoy the crowning of Gabriella Garcia, this year's May Queen, by the Green Man (aka Alan Williams, EDaN Steering Group Chairman). Her attendants danced with her round the Maypole and held bowers of new spring growth aloft to welcome in the beautiful spring sunshine. Children from Edlesborough School then gave a delightful demonstration of "plaiting the Maypole". They were tutored over the preceding

months by Lorna Cabbage, Dawn Thurgood and Val Harris.

The children enjoyed many and varied races, including a spectacular 'cartwheel race' – encouraged with sweets for all entrants and medals for winners. Continuing on from this was the popular Tug-of-War, contested by under 5's through the age groups up to Ladies and Gents.

There were never-ending queues at our 'mammoth' BBQ and refreshment tent, with Royal Cream Teas and home made cakes going down a storm - all stoically manned by the EDaN team plus friends and family – thank you to all our valiant helpers!

Three year old Lexie Carrie flew away with the best dressed fairy trophy and Maximus Smith, aged 4, won the super-hero trophy as an amazingly green Incredible Hulk. The fastest large dog in the Showjumping class was won by Apache, attached to Ruth Payne and Sadie Lupson won both the small dog trophy with Tiger in tow and the individual section.

Gladiator jousting, bouncy castle, face & nail painting, children's tombola, William, Kate and cartoon character photo-board, horseshoe pitching and the ever popular EDaN stocks were enjoyed by all to the music of the Great Horwood Silver Band, generously sponsored by Edlesborough Surgery. During their break we were treated to some snippets from the varied repertoire of Dagnall Community Choir, including the Medieval song "Now is the Month of Maying". If you would like to join the choir, do come along to Dagnall Church at 7.45 p.m. on any Monday evening – great for the soul and no audition! Just sing along... enjoyment guaranteed.

We were well supported by our local businesses – lovely raffle prizes from Janes, the Post Office, the Swan at Northall and a voucher from Spa Tickles - the newly opened fish spa above Buds of May, the latter kindly donating our May Queen's crown of fresh flowers; plus many individual's donations. Thank you all!

Apologies to all who missed our spectacular afternoon of fun and celebrations - unfortunately both the local papers printed the wrong date. Hopefully you will join us next year! See ads in Focus, around the villages and on the green.

Congratulations to all our hardworking "Villages Beautification Team" who are raising funds for central village signs in Northall and Dagnall to follow-on from the beautiful Edlesborough sign unveiled on the green last Mayday. Last but not least, we could not succeed without the valuable support of Edlesborough Parish Council, who continue to encourage and support us in all our mad endeavours. Well done everyone! Photos: page 68.

**Edlesborough
Parish Council Meetings**
3rd Thursday monthly
7.30pm Memorial Hall
Next Meeting: 16th June

DITCH THE WORKOUT, JOIN THE PARTY!



Zumba is the latest fitness craze to hit the UK! Dance your way to a fitter you with easy to pick up routines to exciting Latin rhythms. It's so much fun, it's exercise in disguise!

COME AND ZUMBA WITH ZOEY!

Monday's - 9:30 to 10:30am at Eaton Bray Village Hall

- 8:00 to 9:00pm at Priory Church Hall, Dunstable

Wednesday's - 9:15 to 10:15am at Saint Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe

- 7:30 to 8:30pm at Southcott Community Centre, Linslade

£5 a session, no need to book

Energetic & exhilarating, gives you back your mojo!

for more information call Zoey : 07595 986892



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.

Edlesborough Parish Council Chairman's Report - Part 1

Presented to Edlesborough Annual Parish Meeting by Kevin Cabbage
on Thurs 21st April 2011

This is my first report as Chairman and covers the period April 2010 – March 2011.

I am trying hard to continue **Mrs Anne Thompson's** sterling work, who was our Chairman for the past 11 years and who, despite tremendous will power and courage, lost her fight for life on 9th October 2010. She will be greatly missed not only for her concern and input to the Parish as a whole, but especially by the many people and organisations she supported in her village of Dagnall.

Anne always took great pleasure in preparing and presenting her Annual Reports. She was so proud of the work that all the Councillors and Clerks did on behalf of all the parishioners.

A great deal of this work involves looking after the day to day amenities which many of us take for granted. In the past year, for example, over £8,000 was spent on **street lighting**, which after the cost of paying for the Clerk, Hall Manager and Caretaker, was the Council's single biggest item of expenditure.

Your Council takes a special interest in ensuring that **Edlesborough Green** lives up to its reputation as our "jewel in the crown", and which provides so much pleasure and recreational interest for so many parishioners. A net £6,400 was spent on maintaining it and the playground during the year. This included the provision of larger, green litter bins located on the road-side of the Green so that they can be emptied by AVDC's weekly refuse collection. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the small and dedicated group of volunteers who have given so much of their time over the years in emptying the old, small yellow bins, and who still carry out a regular litter-pick on the Green.

Although the **Pavilion** on Edlesborough Green is well used by the Tennis Club and football teams, it continues to be a drain on our limited resources. This is due to excessive maintenance and repairs caused by it being used as a 'kick wall' and some wanton vandalism. In addition to on-going net expenditure of £2,700 during the year, a further £3,500 has been invested in the provision of 3 more seats and paved area. Not only will this provide more seating, but it will also help deter the front of the pavilion being used as a kick wall and the consequent repeated damage to the roof and guttering. I am disappointed that the Council's endeavours to develop a more meaningful and economic future for this facility have yet to generate any real interest with residents – and especially the users of the Pavilion.

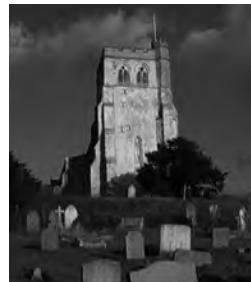
Very much through the endeavours of Beverley Sage, the Hall Manager, **Edlesborough Memorial Hall** enjoyed its highest ever income of £11,000, which went a long way towards covering higher than normal expenditure of £16,000, due to some £5,000 being spent on new boilers and internal redecoration. This net cost of £5,000 should be seen in the context of the annual donations of £1,500 the Council gives to each of the **Hall Management Committees** at **Dagnall** and **Northall** to help them run their Halls and to help towards the cost of maintaining their playgrounds.

During the year the Council and the Police have had many complaints from residents in Edlesborough regarding the antisocial and most unpleasant behaviour of a minority

of dog owners who do not clear-up their dogs' mess. All council tax payers should be aware that £3,400 of their money was spent on the provision and emptying of **dog hygiene bins** through out the Parish during the year. Everyone should help to ensure that this expenditure is worthwhile by encouraging all dog owners to use these bins.

Other significant areas of expenditure during the year included:

- £2,500 on the grass cutting and maintenance of **Edlesborough Churchyard**, helping to make this most important, historic site so attractive. Although the Churches Conservation Trust is responsible for Edlesborough Church, it does not have the funds to look after the grounds.
- £1,900 on the **Parish Cemetery**, which was almost covered by burial fees of £1,750. During the year further progress has been made in developing the lawned cemetery.
- £1,500 on **Allotments**, which was substantially covered by income of £1,100. The Council has previously given Allotment Holders notice of progressive annual increases to ensure that allotment fee income will cover all expenditure within the next 2 - 3 years. The Council is delighted that its 4 areas of allotments continue to be so popular and well used.
- £1,500 to **EDaN** (the Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall Parish Plan) to help towards implementing some of its projects. This brings the total of the Council's contributions to date to £12,745. EDaN itself has been very industrious and successful in raising net funds of a further £11,543.



Before leaving this financial overview I should also mention that the **Precept** (the money that Edlesborough Parish Council receives from the Parish's council tax payers), for next year has been held at the same level of £64,000 as for 2010/11.

Apart from doing everything possible to obtain best value out of its financial expenditure, the Council also spends a great deal of its time on policy matters. No where is this more true than on **traffic calming** where its endeavours to improve safety and quality of life scored a notable success in 2010. After 13 years of campaigning and lobbying, Bucks County Council finally agreed to reduce speed limits in Northall, between Northall and Edlesborough and the entry roads around the Travellers Rest roundabouts. Northall residents are to be congratulated for the way in which they worked together to demonstrate their support to BCC for the proposals, and which no doubt helped to influence the decision makers.

I realise that Dagnall residents must still be wondering what has happened to the longed for **build out** at the entrance to the village on the Dunstable Road. This project has stumbled from lack of funding from BCC, to the engineers then finding that there is insufficient road space, then to the possibility of a traffic island, which was also then ruled out because of lack of road space, and then most recently, a proposal for a pedestrian crossing. This latest proposal is still being subjected to various safety audits so that the precise location of the crossing can be established. In the meantime, the good news is that the 'Local Area Forum' of BCC has agreed that this project is a priority and that adequate funding has been made available.

This report will be continued in the July issue of Focus

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Eaton Bray WI

Members met for the May meeting, little realising that it would be quite such a busy evening. Deirdrea welcomed the members, two visitors and Christine Forder, a past, very enthusiastic member who had moved to Devon but visits Eaton Bray WI when staying locally.

The business matters and correspondence were dealt with and then it was time to discuss the resolutions, which had been shortlisted by WI members nationwide, to be taken forward as a National campaign and were due to be debated at the national AGM in Liverpool in June. The outcome to be presented to Central Government.

The first resolution to be discussed, was with regard to factory farming and the permission being sought for the building of Mega Farms. "WI urges HM Government to ensure that planning permission is not granted for such projects". After discussion in groups and with the very limited information available, a small proportion of members voted in favour of this resolution, with authority given to the Delegate at the AGM, to vote with discretion should there be any amendments on the day.

The second resolution was with regard to financial cuts and closures of libraries and their services. "WI urges HM Government to maintain the Libraries locally in all areas of the Country, as an essential education and information resource". Again in group discussions, the members were supportive of this resolution, with authority being given to the delegate at the AGM to vote with discretion.

A hilarious Beetle Drive followed organised by Helen Wilkinson, who kept her cool whilst we dropped our dice, could not remember if it was a feeler, leg, or other part of the beetle's anatomy and forgot to shout "beetle". Prizes were won by Dorothy and Ann. Savouries, tea and coffee followed.

The meeting ended with the presentation of a plant to Helen, and Helen and Sheila were thanked for providing the 'eats'. Next months meeting is on Monday 6th June at Eaton Bray Methodist Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Derek Hart with slides, on his Icelandic Holiday. Visitors will be given a warm welcome. Come and join us.

St Mary's Ladies Guild

Members and two visitors were welcomed to the May meeting. Dorothy led the devotions for the afternoon and birthday cards were presented to Deirdrea, Fay, Barbara I, Dorothy, Wendy, Jean and Anne Hunt.

A very special "thank you" was extended to the members for the wonderful sum of £400 that had been raised by holding a raffle and bring and buy stall each month, as part of their 'outreach'. £200 would be sent to Smile Train, enabling children from extremely poor families, with very severe cleft palate disfigurements which isolate both them and their families, to have the life changing operations and follow up medical care. In as little as 45 minutes (the time surgery usually takes), their lives can be changed forever, giving the children new smiles, a second chance at life and acceptance into their community at last.

In September Mercy Ships have arranged for one of their speakers, with a slide presentation, to speak to the Guild. A cheque for £200 will be presented to them. Mercy Ships is committed to alleviating human suffering and distress by bringing world-class medical services to the world's forgotten poor, by operating on cleft lip and palate, cataract, crossed-eyes, orthopaedic and facial reconstruction. They also

complete projects including construction of schools, health clinics, orphanages and water wells.

Deirdrea then introduced Revd Coralie McClusky as the speaker on "my life before ordination". Coralie spoke movingly of her childhood, family, schooling and community in Wales and the people who had helped to fashion her life. The years at Cardiff University plus studying for a degree. The influences which had been instrumental in leading her from her background in Wales, to other challenges and pastures new teaching in Hertfordshire schools and colleges for 26 years. One theme which recurred was the recognition that God was guiding and directing her pathways, leading her to be ordained in 2001.

Moving to St Mary's Eaton Bray in 2011 marked the beginning of a new phase in her calling to serve God and all God's people. Coralie's farming background equips her to fully relate to the Bible verse "Feed my sheep", serving God and all the people that she comes in contact with, as God continues to guide and direct her life. Joan Horne thanked Coralie, presenting her with a goody bag and thank you card.

Tea followed with the raffle and bring and buy stall. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th June at 2.00pm, when Joan Fossey will be demonstrating 'making table arrangements', Joan makes these afternoons so enjoyable. Why not come and join us, enjoying the friendships, fellowship, laughter and a super tea.

Ashridge Dog Watch



Do you walk your dog on Ivinghoe Beacon, Pitstone Hill, Dockey wood or anywhere else on the Ashridge estate?



Hertfordshire and Thames Valley Police are working together to form Dog Watch, a scheme that has been successful in Stevenage, St Albans and Milton Keynes. Dog walkers register their details and those of their dog and they are then issued with a card. The card will give instructions on whom to contact if you come across persons or vehicles acting suspiciously, flytippers, hare coursers etc.

The majority of our countryside is quiet and tranquil and although crime occurs far less in rural areas it does still exist and you can help us to combat this crime by becoming part of Dog Watch. We are not asking you to put yourselves at risk but just report what you see when you are out and about with your dog to the appropriate authority.

Ashridge Dog Watch will be launched on Sunday 3rd July at the visitors centre. The RSPCA, PDSA, Cats Protection League and the Dacorum Dog Warden will all be there. Come along, sign up for Dog Watch and receive a goodie bag. Micro chipping, grooming and flea treatment will also be available for your dog at reduced prices.

Aylesbury Vale Community Safety Update

Recorded serious acquisitive crime in the district during April 2010 and March 2011 has fallen by 21.4 per cent against the previous year, a reduction of 341 crimes, according to the latest statistics. There were large reductions in theft from a motor vehicle, from 797 to 595 (25.3 per cent fall) and robbery from 89 to 65 (27 per cent). Theft of a motor vehicle dropped from 194 to 191 (1.5 per cent). There was also a significant decrease in domestic burglaries, down from 511 to 399 (21.9 per cent) from 2009/2010.

All crime, which incorporates every single recorded crime in Aylesbury Vale was reduced by 8.7 per cent.



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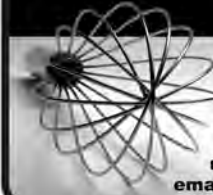
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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club!



Oh....'Didn't we have, a loverly time, the night we went to the Hall quiz. Questions galore, but a fairly low score, and all for just eight quid you know. Pate and Cheese, who's butler was Jeeves, and what's a first class stamp cost, ranidaphobia fooled us all as the points went round'.

Yes a fabulous night was had last week at the Quiz, held jointly with the Hall committee, with around 160 eager contestants cramming the hall awaiting their chance to demonstrate their prowess at answering the impossible. The questions seemed even more off-beat this time, as quizmaster Keith Blackburn challenged our knowledge on the prescription charge, 19th century literature and Russian spaceships. My team, the Magnificent Seven, turned out to be not quite as magnificent as we'd hoped, principally due to the lack of any questions on aircraft or submarines. I'd spent the holiday week at the air museum at Duxford and the submarine museum at Gosport fully convinced in my assertion that these topics would be virulent tonight, due to their total lack of mention in any prior quiz, Needless to say Keith kept up the tradition, as did I of not getting any questions right. Next year I'm going to go to the same places again as it can't happen 10 years in a row, can it? So the Seven finished a not quite so magnificent fourth, with a team worryingly called 'Keith's Best mates' taking first place and hence all the wine. Now call me suspicious, but I'm convinced there's a compliance issue there somewhere. Equally dubious was the team in last place, the 'Hopeless' somethings, who not only won the chocolate consolation prizes (enough to feed a polar expedition team for a month) but all had an uncanny resemblance to the 'Mary's Ladies' team of last year, who also came last. In fact they've come last in every quiz I've been to under a variety of coded names; they must have more chocolate than Cadburys back in their larders.

Our various teams competing in the South Beds summer league have had a mixed start to the season; despite some sterling efforts and performances, the quality of the opposition this year is at a premium. Our fault for doing so well last year and getting several teams promoted into higher leagues! As of mid April, our Men's A team have taken an excellent victory away at Luton & Vauxhall, one of the best teams in Bedfordshire, and our Mixed team won at home against Studham, before losing a close derby match against Edlesborough (or was that a close edlesborough match against Derby)? Our Men's C, Ladies and Girls under 16s await their first victories, whilst our Men's B team are evidently so intensely feared across the county, that they've had both their fixtures postponed by the opposition! We'll keep you up to date as the season progresses, with the occasional special report on the quality of the teas afterwards (although we couldn't find any chocolate biscuits for the last match - I wonder why? I'll tell you why. Every single morsel of chocolate this side of Timbuktu is securely secreted in several steel-clad alarm-protected nuclear bunkers across eight back gardens in Eaton Bray, guarded by a mob of retired, but dangerous, highly trained and heavily armed female quiz attendees, who'll stop at nothing to maintain exclusivity to all chocolate supplies on planet Earth). Not that I'm bitter or anything. I'm off to get a spade and a torch.

For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our

social tennis sessions up at the School Lane courts, or our various activities, you can visit our website at www.ebltc.org.uk; Alternatively please call Chairman Bernadette Hillman on 01525 222531, Coach Sara Leavy on 07561 571578, or if they're all out and I'm not digging a tunnel under someone's garden, me, Andy Cross on 01582 477114.

Edlesborough Book Group

The Hand That First Held Mine by Maggie O'Farrell

It is very rarely the case, that when our group meets to discuss the book we have been reading, we all agree that we have enjoyed it. April's selection was such a book. The Hand That First Held Mine tells the stories of two women, separated by fifty years.

Lexie Sinclair is a rebellious young graduate, who has been propelled by a chance meeting into the bohemian world of 1950's Soho. She is mentored by Innes Kent, an arts magazine editor, with whom she falls in love and who encourages her to write.

Lexie's story is told simultaneously with that of Elina, a young Finnish artist living in London in the present day. An emergency Caesarian section has left her traumatised and disoriented, with no family in England to support her. Ted, her partner, is a film editor and is finding the new experience of fatherhood very daunting. Gradually, as the stories unfold clues are given and, we realise that there is a connection between them. Maggie O'Farrell is a very talented writer. We all appreciated how well the story had been constructed. The descriptions of 1950's London and Lexie's story were particularly appreciated. London in 2010 seemed a world away and it was interesting to note how much had changed. Her detailed observations of everyday life, its sounds and tastes were exceptional. We would all recommend this author and look forward to reading more of her work.

Your Dad Deserves a bit of 'Footie' on Father's Day

Mother's Day is that special time of year when we celebrate our mums and show them how much they mean to us, but what about Father's Day? It seems to me that when it comes around to Father's Day it all falls a little flat? I'm sure a lot of Dads reading this will agree with me. Anyway with Father's Day fast approaching it will soon be time to start thinking about what to buy him. There's the obvious such as, socks, a DVD or maybe his favourite CD, however, this year why not treat him to something completely different?

Well here at Spa-Tickles Fish Spa in Edlesborough we think we have the perfect pressie. Your Dad may not admit it, however, we bet he'd love the idea of being pampered a little on his special day. After all, looking after yourself is not an exclusive club to the female species only!

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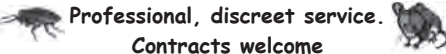
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YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



*EDaN Mayday Festival
Left: Tug of war by Christine Yates
Below: May Queen Gabriella Garcia
with her attendants
by Steve Thurgood*



Left: Maypole dancing by Steve Thurgood

Below: Mayday stocks by Christine Yates

See page 46 for Mayday article



*Left: Dagnall Community Choir
singing at the May Day Festival.
See article on page 35*

YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



*Left: Dagnall School Royal
Wedding procession
Below: Dagnall School Royal
Wedding Reception Feast
See article on page 40*

*Below: Dagnall Street Party
by Geoff Spencer*



*Right: Tulips grown by Dagnall School
Gardening Club*



*Left: 1st Eaton Bray and
Edlesborough Scout group on
the St George's Day parade,
Dunstable. Photo supplied by
Wendy Poynter
See page 39 for article*

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YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



Above: Edlesborough Church by Mavis Hignell



Below: A female chaffinch by Adrian Lewis



Above: A wasps nest found in my garage! by Adrian Lewis

Below: A male chaffinch by Adrian Lewis



Left: A female blackbird by Adrian Lewis

YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



Left: Daisy Duck and family exploring our garden by David Tearle

Below: Doolittle Mill Pond Eaton Bray by Richard Woodhead

Below: The Whipsnade Lion by Richard Woodhead



Below: The Old Farm Inn Totternhoe by Caroline Hamilton



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

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Salvation Sound - June 2011

Every year when it comes to June I say to myself “that we are half-way through already, where has the time gone?”

Each year after the strain of a cold, long winter our whole self begins to ache for what summer means. Quiet afternoons, for instance, spent with a book, resting on the lawn, grass newly cut, white clouds drifting across a blue sky, sunshine, silence only shattered by a passing bumble bee intent on finding a perfect flower, and the song of birds. Peace, serenity. Others may think of running, jogging, practising for marathons, or tennis, or cricket, sporting pursuits; aches and pains! maybe winning the prize.

In the spring the gardener digs and weeds his plot; plants his seeds; waits for the sunshine and showers, to make the seedlings grow; then comes summer and he sees the miraculous outcome of his labours as he begins to harvest the produce. Satisfaction.

Nothing much changes, most of us yearn for something different. We look back to the past when we imagine that our lives were quiet, peaceful and untroubled; but it really wasn't like that and we have to live in the ‘now’ time. We are not ‘half-way’. Today is where we begin! And what we have, we have to work and live with. Day dreaming is all very well but we can only come to terms with the tumult of our world by facing it, not by wishing.

Matthew 6:34, says, “Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today”.

When someone sighs and says “life is hard”; ask them “compared to what?”. David said, “Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom”. Psalm 90:12.

To realise the value of that think not of being half-way; think of the value of the whole year; of your life and your goals and just “make the most of every chance you get” Eph.5:16.

“Never miss an opportunity to make others happy;

Even if you have to leave them alone in order to do it.” Anon.

Half-way? To being full or to being empty? Has the increasing complexity of your life today robbed you of the peace and tranquillity that a summer afternoon can bring?

“Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Forgive our foolish ways!

Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.”

The Salvation Army,	
Booth Place - Weekly Activities	
	
Sunday	
Footprints (Sunday School)	9.45-10.45am
Morning Worship	11.00am
3rd Sunday of the month	
No footprints	
Family Worship	11.00am
Songs of Praise	4.00pm
Monday (term time)	
Champions Challenge Club	
(Ages 5-9 years)	5.30-6.30pm
Tuesday	
Coffee Morning (alternate weeks)	10.00 - 11.30am
Music practices (all welcome)	7.30 - 9.00pm
Wednesday	
Home League	
(Ladies Mtg but all welcome)	2.30-3.30pm
Thursday	
Parent and Toddler Group	
(Term time)	9.30-11.30am
Bible Study (1st & 3rd weeks)	
May to July	7.30pm
Ladies Fellowship	
(Last week of month)	7.45pm
<i>For further details please telephone Captain Jenny Dibsdall T:01525 221156/07717 813682 E: jenny.dibsdall@salvationarmy.org.uk</i>	

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for April 2011

The Met Office has recorded the warmest April on record and, here in the Dagnall area, we can certainly confirm that. The “mean temperature” was 12.2°C, which is almost 4 degrees higher than the average of the last few years (8.9°C). The lowest temperature was only 0.7°C; it was a very unusual month. It was, again, very dry with only 16.4 mm (0.65 ins) of rain, which makes the total rainfall for the months of March and April, 22.8 mm (0.9 ins); which compares to a recent average of 89.8 mm (3.54 ins). To show you how warm it was, the plot below looks at the week beginning 19th April 2011, and the corresponding week in April 2010,

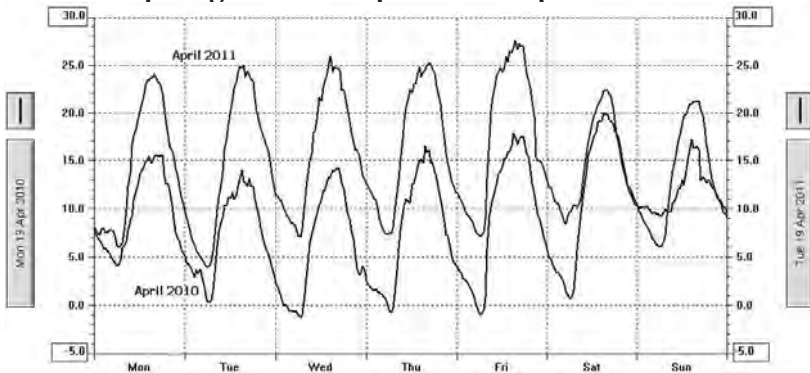
The Dagnall weather station is now live on the web with 15 mins updates from approx 0800-2200 hours each day. <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/dagnallweather>.

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

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	27.6°C	23 April 15.30	0.7°C	13 April 03.30
Mean Temperature	12.2°C			
Dewpoint:	15.0°C	24 April 16.00	-1.6°C	13 April 03.30
Humidity:	98%	8 April 06.30	31%	22 April 16.30
Barometer:	1029.8 hPa	12 April 12.00	1006.1 hPa	2 April 09.30
Wind Speed	30 mph W	2 April 09.30	Months avg.	5.3 mph
Wind Chill:	27.2 °C	23 April 06.30	-0.6°C	12 April 06.30
Dominant Wind:	SSE			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 7 (T), 5(R)	Wettest Day 23 April		8.0 mm	0.31 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April	16.4 mm	0.65 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Months	151.4 mm	5.96 ins

Comparing a weeks temperature in April 2010 v 2011



Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Cafe Community Cooks and Helpers will be taking a short break on Saturdays during the Summer months but we will be back in the Autumn. (Watch Focus for re-start dates.) Our Sunday Cafe Worship will continue un-changed on the 2nd Sunday of each month throughout the Summer. If you have not tried it and wonder what is all about, do join us, a Warm Welcome Awaits.

Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (ELF)

Our April 14th meeting at the Coffee Tavern in Eaton Bray, was enjoyed. The usual refreshments of tea, coffee and biscuits were available.

Several possible outings were discussed including a visit to the Frogmore Paper Mill at Apsley. This visit sounds very interesting and will include a boat trip on the Canal; refreshments; a presentation; demonstration and a tour of the Mill. There is also the possibility of having a lunch out at the local pub.

If you are interested you can contact Alan on 01525 220972. The cost will be £12. We hope as many as possible can join us. Transport is available.

The date for this interesting trip is **TUESDAY 19th JULY** and details will be displayed in the **NORTH PORCH of EATON BRAY CHURCH**, together with a list to be signed by those interested.

On April 28th, a few members of our walking group gathered at Gaddesden Row and, in fine weather enjoyed walks in two woods in the vicinity to admire spectacular displays of bluebells. The walkers agreed that the walks were good and the change of scenery this year, from Ashridge, was worth it.

A good lunch at The Old Chequers Pub was also enjoyed.

Please come to our next meeting at the Coffee Tavern on **JUNE 9th**. Everyone will be welcome from 10.30 a.m.

JULY Dates

Thursday 14th. Lunch out. Details to be displayed when arranged.

Tuesday 19th. Outing to Frogmore Mill, Apsley.

Monday 25th. Walk.

Table Corner & St. Mary's Village Carnival

With just a few weeks away from the Carnival on the 2nd of July, I wanted to write to say how much I am looking forward to seeing and meeting many of you this year. We will be at the corner of the tennis courts near the Tea Tent. This year for a reasonable price you will be able to buy Coq au vin and Boeuf Bourguignon with baguette. Not lah-di-da French cuisine, but two good basic dishes that have been part of home cooking for such a long time that - for the English - the first French cuisine dish that comes to mind is probably Boeuf Bourguignon.

I am sure that we will come to the coq au vin details soon but in the meantime, although you can find many Boeuf Bourguignon recipes, what many of them do not mention (but that all good French cooks know) is that the two paramount tricks for this dish are:

1. Use good quality **full bodied** red wine – preferably French of course. It need not cost the earth. You can find a bottle for roughly £5 to £6.
2. Resist the temptation to use diced beef from the meat shelf. Go to your local butcher and ask for **chuck beef**. Not only is it more appropriate for a long stew, but also its higher fat content will add extra flavour to your dish.

Et voilà!

Looking forward to seeing you on the 2nd of July, for all of us to have some Bon Temps, and to a successful carnival.

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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.**

For registration details, please phone Angela Paine on 01525 229529

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- YEAR 2** – 1 or 2 extra boys/girls, for our U8's Reds team next season
- YEAR 3** – keen boys & girls, for a new 3rd U9 team next season
- YEAR 4** – keen boys for a new second U10 team next season
- YEAR 9** – 1 or maybe 2 Boys for our U14's team (U15's next season).

Three exciting new teams, detailed above, will be forming – come and play fun team football within our village community. Plus we need a couple more year 9 boys to join our fantastic U14's team ahead of next season and our U8 Reds are keen to recruit one or two more players to boost their great squad.

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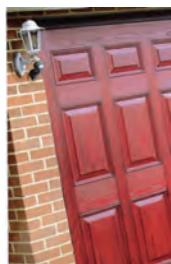


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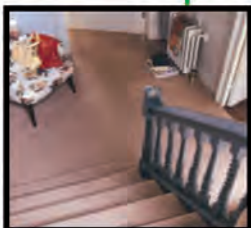
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