

Focus

February 2012



Front Row presents

We'll Always Have Paris

By Jill Hyem

9 - 11 Feb 2012

Eaton Bray Village Hall

Box office 01525 222283

THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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oOo

½ Dozen Oysters
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Asparagus with Hollandaise Mousline

Pan Fried Fois Gras
Cherry Puree, Banana and Hazelnut Foam
oOo

Fillet Steak, Mushroom and Fat Chips
With Mustard Sauce

Grilled Swordfish with Roquet Orange and Fennel Salad
Lemon and Garlic Butter

Roast Mediterranean Vegetable Tartlet
With Mozzarella and Sweet Pepper Coulis
oOo

Chocolate Tart with Strawberry Cream

Fresh Fruit Plate with Champagne Zabion Sponge

Rose Brule with Biscotte

Regular Menu also Available

Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

Joint Editors: George Crutcher - 7 Summerleys, Edlesborough 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): 101

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

P.C. Viv Dady Mobile: 07506 745133

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

Email: LPT.LeightonRural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

General Assistance: 101

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 229358

Village Diaries February 2012



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 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 Baby & Toddler Group, 9:30-11:30am, (open in the Summer School Holidays) Northall Village Hall, Andie 07966437673
- 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 Zumba, Dagnall Village Hall 6.30pm
- Tuesdays Zumba Fitness Class, 8.15-9.15pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's playtime, 1pm - 2.45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact Rachel on 07789 760007
- 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
- Thurs (term time) Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45-2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) £1 child 50p adult. 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, 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 February 2012

- Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Fridays Hartbeeps Multi-sensory pre-school play & music sessions, Northall Village Hall. Bookings and information: Gemma 01525 381196
- 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 07794 615626, 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-4pm. Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Eaton Bray. Knitting, crochet & needlecraft. Tel Wendy 07908 828414. www.wendy-pool.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
- 10th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am
- 11th Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
- 16th ELF Meeting, Coffee Tavern, 10.30am
- 21st Dagnall Over 60's Talk by Sally Thorne on her Amazon adventure 2pm at Village Hall.
- 27th ELF walk. Meet at Eaton Bray Church, 10am

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 3rd Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club Race Night, 7pm, Northall Village Hall, Tickets £10 01525 221154
- 4th St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning, 10.30am - noon
- 9th Dagnall Under Fives Coffee Morning, 9.30am-12.15pm, Dagnall Village Hall
- 9-11th Front Row presents We'll Always Have Paris, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 8pm, Box Office: 01525 222283

Church Humour

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

St Mary's Church, Edlesborough

Options for the residents of Edlesborough. Which shall it be?

Dateline February 2050



The landscape of Edlesborough has changed forever. Following the collapse of the church roof it was determined that the cost of repairs was not justified as hardly anyone has used the church in the past 30 years. Visitors come mainly to trace their ancestors in the churchyard. Visitors to the church itself numbered less than 50 each year. There is no use of the church by the residents other than the school carol service once a year. As a result of the roof collapse the walls and tower of the church were deemed unsafe and were taken down. The church that stood towering over Edlesborough for over 800 years is no more.

Or

Dateline February 2050



Thanks to the 'Friends of St Mary's Church Edlesborough' the church that was declared redundant by the Church of England towards the end of the last century is now a thriving centre for community activities. Since the setting up of the 'Friends' group in 2012 there were significant changes to the church facilities in the years following to make it a more usable space. The installation of toilets, replacing the pews with padded chairs and the provision of background heating has made it a very versatile space for concerts, art exhibitions, dances and other activities requiring a large space. The solutions found for car parking have made it a much more accessible building.

The Heritage Centre in the church attracts a large number of people from all over the country. The opening of the church tower to allow tourists to gain a fantastic view of the surroundings has proved very popular and is another valuable source of income.

The lighting of the church at night makes the church stand out like a beacon over the Vale of Aylesbury and continues to shine and grabs the attention of people far and wide.

The future for St Mary's Edlesborough looks secure for the future. Having stood over Edlesborough for over 800 years it looks set for centuries to come!

Dateline February 2012

To the residents of Edlesborough –What will the future be?

Will you join a 'Friends' group to ensure that the church is there for generations to come? No money is needed from you, just creative and willing people to get things going. If you are interested please contact Alan Williams Tel 01525 221926 email ajrwilliams@hotmail.com

The Chief Executive of The Churches Conservation Trust will attend a public meeting in Edlesborough if enough residents are interested in the future of the church.



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Next
Coffee
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4 February



Future
dates

March 3rd

April 7th

May 5th

July 16th

August 4th

September 1st

October 6th

Music at St Mary's

Handel's

MESSIAH

Performed by The Linsdale Singers

St Mary's Church

7.30pm 19 May

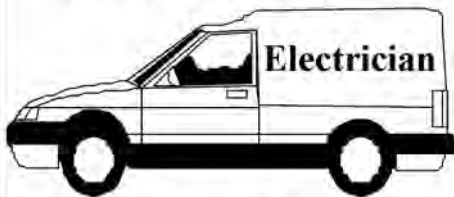
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Tickets: £7.50 & £10 (Numbered seats)



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Northall and District
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Wednesday Club

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Wednesday 7th March

10am-11:30am

Northall Village Hall

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Apologies

from
Eaton Bray Academy
HSA

We would like to say a
BIG THANK YOU
to Penni O'Grady of



for her continued support and
help with regard to the
advertising banners for our
Christmas Fayre back
in November.

Dagnall Under 5's Nursery invite ;

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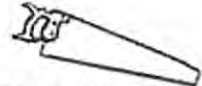
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A Letter from Rev'd Coralie

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Christmas is a distant memory, we've welcomed in 2012 with fireworks, the post Christmas credit card statement has arrived and this year's resolutions to exercise more, reduce alcohol and food consumption are beginning to fail. Let's be positive. The Romans and the Celts considered February the beginning of spring when the days lengthen, snowdrops, primroses and bluebells begin to appear, despite total neglect, brightening the hedgerows. Birds are building their nests and gardeners are planning, sowing or nurturing seedlings. This is a month to look forward and there is much to look forward to. Check the listings in Focus to find out what's going on in the villages and put them in your diary.



What's happening in the Church calendar this month? February marks the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday on 23rd February. Shrove Tuesday, the day before, is a day of penitence and a day of feasting. It gets its name from the ritual of *shriving* that Christians used to undergo in the past. In *shriving* a person confesses their sins and receives absolution (forgiveness) freeing them from the guilt and pain they have caused. It is also a day to use up all the things that you may decide to give up during Lent and a good excuse for making pancakes.

On Ash Wednesday there will be services of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (marking a cross on the forehead with powdered ash made from palm crosses) at 10am and 8pm. Details of the St Albans Diocese and North Chilterns Group Lent courses will be posted on the St Mary's web site.

This year marks the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. From Saturday June 2nd to Tuesday June 5th we have an extended weekend. On Sunday 3rd June there will be a special service of celebration at St Mary's but, more importantly, for the children of the village there will be a traditional children's tea party on the afternoon of Saturday 2nd June organised jointly by St Mary's and the Annual Beer Festival. We all hope that the weather will be fine so that it can be held outdoors but in the event of rain we still have the Hall!! Should you wish to help make this a special day for the children please contact either me (Coralie 220261) or Ross (221411).

Look out for more details in future issues of Focus.

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** TOTS (Tots on Tuesdays) (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Wednesday: **10.00am** Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

Carnival 2012 .. "Kings and Queens"

The time for Carnival cometh once more.

The theme for Carnival 2012 is "Kings and Queens". We are not just talking Elizabeth, Edward, Victoria, George, Henry and Ethelred; there is Cleopatra, Martin Luther ... not to mention Freddie Mercury! Use your imagination for the theme; decorate your house on the Carnival route and join the procession in costume to make this a Carnival to remember in **Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee year.**

The Carnival will also include some superb Olympic-themed events for children from 2 to 92 in the main arena on The Green.

Organisation for the Carnival is underway so is there any way you can help to make this a year to remember?

- **VERY IMPORTANT:** Selection of the Carnival Queen and Princesses will take place in April. Dresses for the Queen and Princesses are very difficult to find this year. Can anyone help with any bridesmaid or similar "fancy" dresses that would be suitable for our stunning young ladies? All help or ideas would be greatly appreciated!
- **Local Groups:** Do you run any group in the Villages that would like to operate a float this year? Perhaps you do not live in the village but operate your events here and would like to take part? All floats are welcome!
- **Transport:** Can you help with transport in any form; flatbed lorry, open truck or van or anything that could provide transport for the procession?
- **Advertising:** Any business that would like to advertise in the Carnival program should have their requests in by mid-April. This is an event that draws thousands of people for the local area so don't miss out.
- **Can you provide any help to the carnival?**
 - Prizes, of any sort, for the various raffle and tombola stalls.
 - Items for the silent auction.
 - 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

My Lords and Ladies the time is coming; prepare yourselves for a "right Regal Carnival" in 2012.

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Last - But No Means Least – Dagnall’s Village Sign is Unveiled



The Rt. Hon John Bercow MP was once again welcomed by the EDaN Beautification Team to unveil their third village sign in the parish of Edlesborough, this time in the picturesque village of Dagnall, nestling at the foot of the downs. This last sign, designed by team member Megan Howells and again crafted by Signs of the Times in Tebworth and RS Engineering in Stanbridge, depicts the Edlesborough rose brass - originating from 1412 - plums and straw plaiting, overlooked by a red kite and the Whipsnade lion, all these uniting the three villages.

All Saints Church stands proudly in the top picture and the Red Lion (now, happily, open again!) sits at the bottom, lorded over by a magnificent stag – no doubt escaped from nearby Ashridge woods. Walkers taking a close look at the sign will notice our flying pig, wearing a straw boater – locals will appreciate the significance of this! Front and centre is placed Dagnall’s war memorial, a reminder of the ultimate sacrifices made by our local lads, lest we forget.

The cold December day dawned bright for the small team of helpers involved with placing the very heavy pictorial sign on the post erected a few weeks earlier and the sun continued to shine on the proceedings throughout the day.

Dagnall Community Choir met at the pub where new landlords Ali and Martin provided mulled punch and nibbles and we had a quick rehearsal, led by our charismatic choirmaster Stuart Harding - almost raising the ancient roof with our enthusiasm. Nicely warmed up, we walked over to the new sign, surrounded by a beautiful circular hardwood bench. Villagers (and Father Christmas!) joined in with the choir’s carol singing, then Christine Yates welcomed John Bercow – who was feeling extremely poorly with a bad chest – and invited him to unveil the village sign, promising him that this time it would fall away easily – Northall’s had to be unhitched by the long arm of the law!.

As always John did us proud, determined not to let us down despite feeling so bad and the sign was unveiled in all its glory. There are two brass plaques on the bench, one commemorating a dear man, Michael Price, who farmed 1000 acres in Dagnall for over 50 years, lovingly remembered by his widow, Norma; the other for Anne Thompson, who was chair of Edlesborough Parish Council and sadly missed. Both passed away last year and went to school together. The community held a minute’s silence.

We all made our way to the village hall where John Ralphs accompanied the choir



Villagers (accompanied by Father Christmas) making their way up from the Red Lion to the sign



Dagnall Community Choir, lead by Stuart Harding, belting it out!

on the organ, then Kathy Bovington asked Mr. Speaker to do the honours once again and open the Dagnall School and Under 5's Christmas Fayre. He stayed and enjoyed all the fayre had to offer then made his departure – probably home to bed.

The team have produced notelets depicting all three village signs, again designed by Megan, aided by Jim Wright from the EDaN Steering Group, who replicated it electronically. On the reverse are local places of interest in and around the villages. The inside is left blank for your messages. Profits from the sale of these will help fund future projects. They are on sale in all three village pubs, also Edlesborough Autos and the Post Office - £3.00 for 5 or 75p each. Your support by purchase of these would be much appreciated.

OUR NEXT EVENT IS MAYDAY – SATURDAY 5TH MAY - PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY TO JOIN US ON EDLESBOROUGH GREEN FROM 12.00 FOR ALL THE USUAL FUN AND GAMES - MAYPOLE DANCING, RACES, BBQ, STALLS, ETC. - NOT FORGETTING THE CROWNING OF THIS YEAR'S MAY QUEEN. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HIRE STALL SPACE, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH – ONLY £15.00.

If you would like to help with this event in any way, please telephone Christine on 220739, or email chris@brooklyns.org.uk

A close up colour photo of the Dagnall Village sign is on page 73



Rt. Hon John Bercow with Anne Thompson's family

Photos by Jim Wright of EDaN Steering Group

EDaN Buses and Transportation Group

Community Transport



We would like to wish all our drivers a very Happy New Year and Thank You all once again for contributing so much to your local community. By way of a Thank You to our drivers we invited them along to the Red Lion Public House in Dagnall, on the evening of Monday 19th Dec for a Christmas drink and a nibble or two and to show our appreciation. We were made very welcome by Ali and Martin the landlords and a lovely evening was had by all. If you live in Dagnall, Northall or Edlesborough and would like to use Community Transport because you are disadvantaged by local public transport, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Peter Williams our co-ordinator on 01442 842506 who will be more than happy to take your call.

If you would like to join our scheme as a volunteer driver or have any queries on any of the above please give me a call on 01442 842796.

Kathy Bovington on behalf of EDaN Community Transport



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All Saints' Church, Dagnall Services and Meetings in February 2012

Wed. 1st Feb	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – led by Revd Lucille Rogers
Sun. 5th Feb.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Wed. 8th Feb.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Speaker: Revd Christine Farrington
Sun. 12th Feb.	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
Wed. 15th Feb.	7.45 pm	Mid-week Meeting – Speaker: Simon Heffer
Sun. 19th Feb.	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 26th Feb.	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.00 pm	Lent Course
Wed. 29th Feb.	7.45 pm	A Musical Evening with Revd David Jenkins

Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service.



Church Mouse

The PCC had their first meeting for 2012. All the Christmas Services were well attended by the village community and the feedback was they were all enjoyed very much. Edlesborough Church was packed and all enjoyed singing carols and drinking mulled wine and eating mince pies. The next service in Edlesborough Church will be 'Songs of Praise' on the 15th July. The Sunday School children performed the Nativity on Christmas morning, they all did very well. The Christmas Tree Festival was a great success and our cards and calendars sold well. The £2,000 for charity was distributed and letters of thanks have been received. Ideas for additional charities for 2012 were requested.



The plans for the much needed toilet are progressing well.

Lent courses are being arranged, dates and venues to be advised. Plans for the Jubilee Party for the children in the villages are progressing well. Our monthly coffee mornings in church will resume on Saturday 4th February, and everyone is welcome.

Church Mouse

Edlesborough Parish Council News

including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

The toilets have now been re-decorated and replacement lights fitted

Car Parks

Signs have been erected in the Pebblemoor and Pavilion car parks restricting hours of use between 11pm and 6am

Rubbish on the Green

Due to the excessive amount of rubbish either put into the existing bins or left laying on the ground new larger bins have been erected which will still be emptied by the volunteer litter pickers to whom the Parish Council are extremely grateful.

DOG FOULING

Despite several articles having appeared in 'Focus' the whole of the Parish (Edlesborough Dagnall and Northall) is still continually being plagued by dog fouling not only on recreation areas but also along pavements. The Parish Council or Thames Valley Police would appreciate hearing from anyone who may witness any dog fouling not being picked up. A photograph of the dog/owner could lead to that person being prosecuted. Would dog owners please read and take notice of the following:

NOTICE TO ALL DOG OWNERS

It is an offence if your dog fouls on public land and you fail to remove the faeces.

Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 failure to clean up dog fouling is an offence subject to a maximum fine of £1,000. Local authorities can also give offenders the option of paying a fixed penalty fine of £50 rather than going to court.

What are the health risks associated with dog fouling?

Dog faeces carry harmful infections, the most widely known being Toxocariasis. Human Toxocariasis is potentially a serious infection and is a direct consequence of soil or sand contamination with faeces carrying eggs of the parasite. The parasite can only infect humans if swallowed. Once swallowed, the infection can last between six and 24 months. Frequently the infection is through the hands, but can also be with the dogs themselves or through inanimate objects such as wheels of toys, soles of shoes, etc. Many infected soil samples are found in children's play areas and in the streets and as a result of this, Toxocariasis is mainly found in children between 18 months and five years. Eye disorders are the most commonly reported complaint associated with Toxocariasis, although other symptoms are vague aches, dizziness, nausea, asthma and epileptic fits.



PC Jared Levens, Neighbourhood Specialist
Officer, Wing South

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996

Refuse Collection Service

From September 2012 AVDC will stop collecting garden waste in the green bags. A 240-litre brown bin which can take leaves, weeds, hedge trimmings, grass cuttings, pruned materials and other organic garden waste can be purchased from AVDC at a cost of £36 per year which will be emptied every fortnight between February and November. Any parishioner interested in receiving this service can submit details online at www.aylesburyvalecd.gov.uk/binsaskus or by phoning 01296 585237. The current green garden sacks can be used until September 2012. Other changes due to take place regarding refuse collections will be notified nearer the time.

Full details of all General Purpose Committee Meeting and Parish Council Meeting minutes are available on the parish website www.edlesborough.gov.uk after they have been approved and signed at the following meeting.

Lin Sargeant – Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council - Tel. 01525 220859

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

Beverly Sage – Assistant Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council – 01525 229358

E-mail: assistant.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk

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Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday monthly

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next Meetings: 16th Feb

15th Mch

February Events at Dunstable Downs

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Telephone: 01582 500920 **Website:** <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-dunstable-downs-country-side-centre-whipsnade-estate>

Story Telling and Craft Week 13th – 17th February 2012

Half hour storytelling sessions throughout the day 13th to 17th February 2012. £2 per child. Join us this half term for a week of story telling from professional story tellers. Let the children escape into a world of imagination as they join our Story tellers for a magical journey. ALSO Craft Workshops including Kite Making, Puppet Making and Cake Decorating. Details to be confirmed. Booking advisable

Valentine Dinner for Two **Date: Friday 17th February 2012**

The perfect place to take your loved one to celebrate Valentine's. Enjoy the sunset and a glorious night time food while enjoying fabulous food in a romantic atmosphere.

Details to be confirmed. dunstable-downs@nationaltrust.org.uk

Booking required. 01582 500920. Normal Admission Charges Apply

Make A Nest Box - Family Fun **Date: Saturday 18th February 2012**

Help our feathered friends and make a nest box for your garden. Bring the whole family and build a nest box to take home. 11 am to 4 pm.

All tickets £7. Cost includes materials and tuition. Booking not needed.

Pancake Racing **Date: Tuesday 21st February 2012**

Come and have lots of fun at the pancake racing on the Downs. Local chefs and cooks all competing for the prize for the best and fastest pancakes. Budding Jamie Oliver? Do you want to take part! Book a slot and compete with the best. £1 for materials. Booking required. 01582 500920. Details to be confirmed. Normal Admission Charges Apply.

Money Matters!

The congregation at St Mary's has the pleasure of worshipping in a beautiful, medieval, Grade 1 listed building, which will be 800 years old in seven years' time. This building however belongs not just to people who go to church but to all parishioners of the four villages of Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall for whom it is their parish church. It is steeped in history and it is yours to marvel at and enjoy whenever you wish; it is amazing how many people do come into the church for various reasons during any ordinary day.

The down-side of owning such an ancient building however, is that it is very expensive to maintain. The stonework, a soft chalk-like stone originally mined in Totternhoe, requires tens of thousands of pounds to be spent on it every 20-30 years just to stop the building crumbling away. In addition, we have to finance an annual budget of around £80,000 which includes paying a diocesan quota to cover among other things, clergy salaries and pensions.

To meet these commitments, it does mean that we have to think about money rather more than we would wish and to run many fund-raising events throughout the year to pay our bills and save for future renovations; you will no doubt have attended some of them – Carnival, Open Gardens, concerts, Christmas Fayre, to name a few. But what you may not realise is that St Mary's also tries hard to be a generous church. In 2011, for example, St Mary's donated almost £15,000 to charity through events such as Carnival, collections at Christmas Services, Christian Aid concert, Harvest Auction, Poppy Prom, Gordon's Christmas Puzzle and response to natural disasters, plus also the PCC's annual budgeted charitable giving.

If you would like to help decide which charities St Mary's supports in 2012, there will be regular opportunities presented in Focus for you to make recommendations, so in addition to supporting our events, look out for these occasions during the coming year and make your suggestions to the Vicar, Churchwarden or Gordon Gray or via St Mary's website www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk.

Gordon Gray & Catherine Hayden

Edlesborough Women's Institute

In November, 54 members greatly enjoyed a stunning talk on the Fabulous Falkland Islands by Richard Revels – What an eye opener! 420 very beautiful and remote islands in total, of which only 2 or 3 are inhabited by humans. However, the wildlife thrives in vast numbers, quite undisturbed and unafraid of human beings. The slides illustrating Richard's talk were absolutely fabulous and truly inspirational. What an unexpected joy this evening turned out to be.



Our Annual Meeting in December was speedily dispatched and forgotten, once our usual, noisy, happy Christmas celebrations began. Les and Dave once again played "OUR" kind of music and 70 ladies joined in heartily, in whatever way they could, with the general melee of the evening. Jollity, laughter, fun, quirky entertainment shared with our friends. Can't get better than that folks. Its called belonging to a WI. (Val, our usual Focus correspondent has broken her writing arm). Get well soon Val, don't want to do this anymore.

Sue Parker

Hold a Fish and Chip Supper

to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives
Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 18th May 2012

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 18th May 2012 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services. You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Last year we had over 100 suppers taking part in England and Wales and we raised £6,000. In the three years we have been running the event we have raised £20,000 to support spinal cord injured people.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, "The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives."

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips



Little Gaddesden's Drama Club

Little Gaddesden's Drama Club Spring production is 'Humble Boy' by Charlotte Jones. There is much to laugh about in this funny but touching play about a dysfunctional family who live in the fictional village of Moreton in the Mold. It is a genuinely sensitive and moving play about a son and mother relationship and a story of bees, so important in our world today. **Auditions are to be held on Sunday, February 12th at 5pm in the Village Hall, Little Gaddesden**, performance dates May 17, 18 and 19. 'Humble Boy' has a small but colourful cast and we shall particularly be seeking our 'Boy' who is actually not a 'boy' - probably around 40. Directors of the play are Patsy Blackmore and Paul Woods. If you wish to learn more about the Club or the audition procedure please ring **Kathy Fry on 01525 229635**. New members are always welcome.

Dagnall News

Over 60's

On January 17th we had our Birthday tea and AGM. We were entertained by the school children first, and then a brief AGM, an amusing Quiz, followed by tea and the raffle. Our February meeting is at the village hall (builders permitting). We have again invited Sally Thorne to talk to us about her Amazon adventure. Sally and her brother experienced some difficulties, so it should be a fascinating talk. I won't spoil it by giving away any details!

We will have tea and raffle as usual after the talk.

Dagnall School

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 wrote thank you letters to Father Christmas. They also had a few questions they wanted to ask.

Tuesday 3rd January 2012
Dear Santa, Thank you for
my Moxi stalling head.
Thank you for my chocolate angel
and my Santa book.
I hope the reindeers
liked the magic reindeer food
and I hope you come next year!
Love Amiee

Amiee Scorer

Tuesday 3rd January 2012
Dear Santa
Thank-you for my bike on
christmas day. I am learning
to ^{change} chain gears. Thank-you
for my big box of half bo sweets
I eat them every day.
Thank-you for my new top
I wear it every day
Was your reindeer hungry?
Love from Toby

Toby Bennett

Tuesday 3rd January 2012
Dear Father Christmas
and reindeers. Thank-you
for my air hog sharp shaver
and my 3 player and
my experient articles. I hope
you ^{enjoyed} your Mince pie
and your watre. I hope your
the reindeers ^{liked their} carrots and
milk. How do you go so fast
I hope you are snug
in home. Love Annabel

Annabel Carillo

Tuesday 3rd January 2012
Dear Santa, Thank you for my iPod.
Thank-you for my Star Wars game.
Thank - You for my Lego.
I hope your reindeer liked Cain
cannons, and I hope you liked your records
How long did your journey take?
Love Kian

Kian Bright

Community Choir

NEW YEAR - NEW CHALLENGES

Having safely negotiated our way through a hectic Autumn programme, including an appearance in "Dunstable Sings" at The Grove Theatre and the splendid "Poppy Proms" in Eaton Bray, Dagnall Community Choir enter the New Year ready to expand our repertoire.

We are working on music from "Guys & Dolls" and there will be other new stuff to give a variety of enjoyable music for this year's series of concerts now being contemplated. We are planning a Spring Concert and appearance at Edlesborough Mayday celebrations.

Then we are hoping that there will be an early Summer EDaN Concert at "The Church on the Hill" and we have been invited again to be part of "The Poppy Proms" celebration in Eaton Bray in November.

Doubtless there will be other opportunities to demonstrate our progress to our local communities so there is much work to be getting on with. More information will appear in future publications of Focus.

We hope that many of you will be able to come along to some of the concerts and see and hear for yourselves the results of our regular Monday evening practice sessions at Dagnall Church under the watchful eye of our revered conductor Stuart Harding. If you feel in need of the uplift that singing in a choir can provide, (and who doesn't these days?) please contact Val Lumley 01442 842214 or Geoff Ward 01442 843515.

25 Years of South Beds Dial-a-Ride

South Beds Dial-a-Ride was founded on December 1986 and has just celebrated its 25th Anniversary of transporting the elderly and disabled in Luton, Dunstable, Houghton Regis and neighbouring villages. Over 34,000 passenger journeys were undertaken in the last year alone.

Bob Mumford MBE founded the charity after becoming blind and finding it difficult to get out and about. He thought others may be having similar problems. Bob used his experience in the running of a haulage company near Markyate, and followed the model of Guildford Dial-a-Ride which had just been set up. Bob obtained money from local councils which enabled him to buy a second hand minibus and take on a part time driver, and the rest as they say, is history. In 1996 HM the Queen awarded Bob the MBE for services to the disabled.

South Beds Dial-a-Ride runs two Coffee Mornings per year which are attended by up to 60 of its grateful members. At the last one just a few weeks ago, a huge cake was baked and decorated in the shape of a minibus as part of this special celebration. It can be seen here being cut by Coordinator, Dave Barratt, Brenda Boatwright, Chairman of South Beds Dial-a-Ride for 20 years (a former Dunstable Town Councillor), and Christine Perkins, still Vice-Chairman and daughter of Bob Mumford who has been a committee member since the earliest days and continues to ensure the preservation of her father's memory and ethics.





By kind permission of Josef Weinberger

Front Row presents

We'll Always Have Paris

Thursday – Saturday

9 – 11 February 2012

Eaton Bray Village Hall

8pm

Licensed bar from 7.00 pm

Three ladies of a 'certain age' gravitate to Paris.

A retired headmistress, a recently widowed – and liberated – lady, and a divorcee in search of eternal youth indulge in activities which lead to some real comedy as well as pathos. This play will leave you charmed, amused, thoughtful – and singing!

Box office 01525 222283

Letter to the Editors

Village Bookends

I don't suppose it has gone un-noticed that certain changes have recently taken place in our locality. After 20 + years David & Janet Sparrow have left the White Horse public house whilst at the other end of our village(s) Alan and family have moved from the Edlesborough shop & Post Office.

Having supped in the White Horse on several occasions throughout the Sparrow era I suppose that I could be classified as a regular if not "a local" Also in recent years Eaton Bray Tennis Club has made every effort to support the pub be it mob-handed in the garden in summer months or on regular Thursday nights throughout winter & summer when a quartet of finely honed athletes would occupy the bar around 9 p.m. as a reward for their sporting endeavours.

In daily visits to Edlesborough I enjoyed the brief conversations with Alan as I made my purchases. I believe that I gave him a snapshot of life as the owner of a small company in the big bad construction industry. He listened to tales of non-payment, late payment, labour tribunals, lack of work etc. sometimes with total incredulity that any industry could exist with such practices. I always left the shop feeling better than when I went in.

What both teams had in common was dedication, hard work & longevity and I wish them all the very best in their respective futures.

I will miss the Two Bookends to our villages but I wish Tom & team in the White Horse every success & similar success to the family who has taken on the shop in Edlesborough. Both have hard acts to follow.

We need to support both entities as well as all of the other local shops & businesses.

Use or lose !

Peter Hale, Yew Tree Close.



EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Use of the Rye Recreation Ground

Eaton Bray Parish Council has been approached by EB Lions, our local junior Football Club, about the possibility of enclosing a small part of the Rye Recreation Ground to build an all-weather training pitch. This would be paid for by EB Lions; the Parish Council would not provide any funding. We need your views on this proposal.



On the plan shown, the proposed location of the proposed facility is to the right of the main football pitch on the Totternhoe Road side (the green is already used for grass football matches and will continue to be so). A larger plan of this design can be found on the parish notice board (Knights Close) and the parish website - www.ebpc.co.uk. Although not shown, the playground area will remain in its current position.

The proposed development is being put forward with the view that the project offers the following benefits to the local community:

- (1) An all-weather facility is important for the local youth football players to allow their training/ coaching to take place throughout the year.
- (2) The facility would be available to the local primary schools to use during the week to support the delivery of the PE curriculum and extra-curricular activities. The shared use of the facility would also strengthen school-club links.
- (3) The provision of an all-weather pitch would reduce wear on the current grass pitches which are being used for training and matches.
- (4) Without a local all-weather pitch facility it is considered that the club's continued development would be hindered.

This is where you come in ...

To have your say regarding this facility, its proposed location and its benefit to the local community/children; please write to/email the Parish Clerk at Eaton Bray Parish Council. *Please ensure you include your postcode/village where you live, to enable the council to collate comments into areas of response.*

Thank you

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

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk

All responses MUST be received by the Parish Clerk NO LATER than Friday 24th February 2012.

New Year, New Belongings!



The new year is an ideal time to property mark your belongings, particularly new presents. Property mark your valuables by using a UV pen. By doing this you will increase the chances that should something get stolen and recovered it may be identified and returned to you. Get a free UV pen from AVDC by emailing: communitysafety@aylesburyvaledv.gov.uk

Another way you can keep your home safe in the new year is to keep any boxes out of sight. Your new 50" TV may be amazing but don't tell everyone about it. Either dispose of the box or keep it out of sight until it can be disposed of. Burglars will look for easy opportunities, don't give them an easy option.

- Property mark your valuable items
- Don't leave valuable items on display.

Your new years resolution: Join Community Messaging!

To hear information on crime issues related to your area, community messaging (also known as Ringmaster) provides free alerts to your inbox or telephone.

By joining you will receive information about crimes and crime reduction advice, appeals for witnesses, police information and meetings all specific to the neighbourhood in which you live or work. You can choose to receive this by email, fax, text or by voice message to your mobile or landline telephone.

It involves the Police, Community Safety departments of local authorities, other voluntary organisations and, above all, individuals and families who want to make their neighbourhoods better places to live.

For more information on Community Messaging and to sign up to alerts visit:

www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org

It is important to be aware of a number of incidents in the district where satellite navigation systems (sat nav) have been stolen from unattended cars. It is important that people are aware that opportunists are out there and how to prevent being a victim of this crime.

Points to consider before leaving your vehicle:

- Never leave a sat nav unattended in your car, always take it with you. This includes taking the cradle attached to the windscreen as thieves will break in to search for the device. If you are in a situation where you are unable to bring the device with you, securely lock the device and cradle out of sight.
- The suction on the cradle often leaves a mark on the windscreen and due to this thieves have been known to break into cars in the hope that there is a sat-nav in the glove box. Due to this it is important to wipe away any suction marks. These devices are still highly desirable items among thieves and they will not hesitate to break into your car.
- Be conscious to park your vehicle in a car park which is well lit, has CCTV surveillance and is a busier area for the public. Quieter, darker and less populated areas are more likely to be an area for thieves to operate.
- Property mark your sat nav with a UV pen and also register the device on www.immobilise.com.



SSAFA Forces Help is Number 1 for the Military Wives Choir!

As we start a new year and look forward to HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games let's not forget those who serve and have served our country in our Armed Forces.

The deaths, at Christmas, of military personnel on operations in Afghanistan, remind us all that the conflict in that region is still claiming lives and leaving widows and children growing up without a father. Injuries, both physical and mental, are still being sustained which impact for ever the lives of the victim and their loved-ones.

We in SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) Forces Help were so excited and grateful to the military wives of Chivenor and Plymouth, together with Gareth Malone, when their single, "Wherever you are", made the Christmas Number 1 as it has raised the public's awareness of our charity. We aim to meet the needs of those who serve and have served our country, so the recognition by the military wives is marvellous.

There are elderly people for example, who served during the Second World War and other later conflicts and who are deprived of appropriate wheelchairs or other aids to help them with their disabilities because of financial constraints in the public sector. One day's service is all that is required; whether as a regular, reservist, TA, national or wartime service, SSAFA can assist someone in need whether the need is financial, practical or emotional. Our role is to support the family, both young and old.

We have fully trained volunteer caseworkers throughout the County who are able to make home visits and, in strict confidence, assess an individual's needs. If you, or any member of your family, have served in our Armed Forces and are in need, please call, in confidence, 01494 583256 (24hr answerphone) or email: Buckinghamshire@ssafa.org.uk. Should you wish to make a donation to help us in our work, please send your cheque (payable to SSAFA Bucks) to John Stevens, Branch Chairman, Burcott Cottage, Bierton, Aylesbury, HP22 5AU.

Northall Wednesday Club Update

Well, we were very busy during December, with visits to both Dagnall and Eaton Bray schools to enjoy the children's Christmas performances, which we love. The children are all so friendly, and love to chat to our members, whilst serving refreshments, which we very much appreciate. Thank you to both schools for inviting us again each year. Another highlight was our Christmas meal, with all the trimmings cooked for us by a very capable team who work hard to ensure everything is perfect. All the Committee joined us too, so we were a full house and with sherry, crackers, hats, music for a party atmosphere. Special thanks should go to 1st Aston Clinton Guides who kindly made lots of Christmas tree table decorations, complete with hidden chocolates for us all to find.

We have a full programme of events for the New Year, including music sessions, armchair keep fit, a Race Night on 3rd February to fund raise for the Club and our next Coffee Morning will be on 7th March - please put the date in your diary and join us.

We would love to welcome more new members, so if you would like further details of our weekly Club, please contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153.

Quiz, Beer Festival and The Diamond Jubilee!

You may wonder about the heading, well let me tell you a little more about the events of 2012.

Firstly on 21st April the Village Hall and Eaton Bray Tennis Club are holding their twice yearly Quiz. This will follow our usual pattern with questions from the undisputed king of question masters, the one and only Keith Blackburn. The price will be £9 and this will include your supper which will be even better than usual, not sure how, but I have been assured that it will!

Following on from that, we will be holding our 9th Annual Beer Festival on Friday 1st June and Saturday 2nd June. We will be having all the usual features plus even more Beers plus Ciders and Perrys. Again this is becoming a part of Village life and we are now into our 9th year. As soon as we finish this one, we will be putting our thinking caps on see what we can do to celebrate the 10th one in 2013.

But what of the Diamond Jubilee? You may have noticed that the Beer Festival is the same weekend as the Jubilee celebrations when the whole country will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. So we had a chat with Coralie, the vicar, to see what we could do to celebrate this event. Together we have come up with the idea of a traditional children's tea party! We hope that this can held outdoors on the Saturday afternoon (2nd June) with lots of good food and fun and games, including a children's entertainer. If it rains we still have the Hall!

As you may have seen from previous pieces I have written, volunteers are few on the ground but by combining the Village Hall crowd and the Church members together, we can offer a wonderful treat to local children. Coralie will be expanding on this part of the festivities in her own piece elsewhere in Focus.

Should you wish to help make this a special day for the children please feel free to call either myself, Ross 221411 or Coralie 220261

We will both be keeping you up to date in further issues of Focus. Just put the dates in your diary now!

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our Saturday Cafe Community will start again on February 11th from 11-00 am until 1-00pm, when we offer you the opportunity to pop in and enjoy a cup of coffee, a light hot lunch, newspapers to look through and friends old and new to catch up with. We have an Activity Area available so all ages are welcome, if you are free come along and join us, we can promise you a warm welcome. The Charity we are supporting for the next 3 months will be Luton Women's Aid Centre.

Christmas Tree Festival December 3rd and 4th December

The Christmas Tree Festival was a great success and thank you to all those who exhibited a tree, they were all so well done. There was a total of 43 exhibits which was amazing and all so different. I would like to thank all those who supported me over the two days, from making tea, taking money, placing posters and printing and producing wonderful flower arrangements and checking all the lighting. I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you so much and I hope you will all be there in 2013! The event raised £1.058.

News from the Lions Den ...

As I sit here writing this report in early January, it is hard to believe that by the time you are reading this report in February, the Lions Club of Eaton Bray and Edlesborough will be 6 months old ! On the one hand, I am thinking 'where did the time go?' but on the other hand, haven't we achieved a lot !!

Following on from our press releases early last summer, we held an information evening in Eaton Bray where several of you came along to meet existing Lions from other clubs to find out more about the work that we do. We were present at the carnival in July and our club officially 'formed in August'. Since then we have gone from strength to strength holding first, a presentation evening for Medical Detection dogs, a local charity, where we handed over £300 that we raised during the carnival. Following this we assisted with marshalling an equestrian event for disabled horse riders, we held our own race night and just last month we held a Christmas, crafts and second hand book sale in Dagnall. In between all of this we have taken a group of local special needs teenagers to their first football match at StadiumMK to watch the MK Dons, we have helped Santa in his grotto on numerous occasions and have donated books and jigsaw puzzles to local age concern groups.

We will be running the bar at the Eaton Bray panto at the end of January and hope we get the opportunity to meet with a lot of you during the three nights.

We have raised almost £1800 since our formation – every penny of these funds gets distributed to local causes so you can be sure that any donations you make or support you offer to your local Lions club will be well spent. Our members have donated a combined 320 man hours to the community with our events in the last 6 months and all of this has been done with a common goal - to support those less fortunate than ourselves.

However, it isn't just about raising money (although this is vital to our existence). We are also keen to make a difference to our community in other ways, this might be by reading a newspaper to someone loosing their sight, collecting litter from the streets, repainting a sports hut or simply taking the time to talk to someone who hasn't had a visitor for days. These are all activities that Lions relish and you can be sure your local club is no different.

So, six months on, are we making a difference? We certainly hope we are and we look forward to serving this community for many years to come. As always, we are looking for more members so if any of you have a couple of hours to spare, please do get in touch. We are a young (ish) diverse group of male and female members who have already formed some great friendships through their involvement with this organisation– we ask for no more than you are prepared or able to give and we guarantee you satisfaction and friendship in return.



Ordinary people doing amazing things

Kim's Just A Snip Away

Please call for a consultant or any enquiries

Kim Mooney
Mobile Hairdresser
07894319556

Ladies Cut and Blowdrys
Mens Cuts
Colours, Tints, Perms
Blowdrys, Sets, Hair up



Edlesborough Book Group

Alone in Berlin by Hans Fallada

The novel opens with the delivery of a letter, which proves to be not only a catalyst for its recipients, but the start of a sequence of events which tells the story. It is 1940 and France has surrendered to the German forces; a cause for great rejoicing in the city of Berlin and a reinforcement to the Nazi regime. But the letter, delivered to Otto and Anna Quangel, tells them of the death of their beloved son in that battle. The Quangels live quietly in an apartment block and their lives hitherto have been unremarkable. Otto is a carpenter who having lost his furniture business, now works as a supervisor in a factory which produces coffins. Up until now he has been a loyal supporter of Hitler and has not questioned the actions of the regime: but his wife's cry, "Oh, your Hitler" on learning that her son is dead, galvanises him. He begins to think deeply about what is happening around him and the atmosphere of fear and dread surrounding law abiding citizens such as he. Freedom of expression is a thing of the past and everyone is aware that almost anyone of their neighbours or colleagues could be a Nazi spy, and once reported to the authorities, the repercussions are swift and deadly.

Otto devises a scheme, thinking that if he drops cards bearing subversive messages about Hitler and his regime anonymously around the city, people will pick them up and pass them on. He believes this way, gradually, the dissidents will outnumber the Nazis, and a revolution will be born. Alas his scheme is doomed. Most of the cards are handed in to the authorities, the fear of being thought disloyal to the Nazi party is so great.

Even so, the cards begin to worry the police department and Inspector Escherich is given the task of discovering the identity of the "Hobgoblin", as he is nicknamed. Starting out with great confidence, the Inspector finds his own position in danger as he fails to bring the writer of the cards to justice. Although the fate of the Quangels is inevitable, the author has involved us very cleverly with all the characters, and we are anxious to find out how their stories end.

Hans Fallada, is the nom de plume of Rudolf Ditzen, whose own story makes fascinating reading. His troubled life, with his addictions and mental problems, led him to numerous incarcerations; but his ability as a writer is beyond question. *Alone in Berlin* gives us an insight into the moral dilemmas faced by ordinary people in extraordinary times. A very powerful and involving book, that stays in the mind long after reading.

Table Corner – and the Month of Love?

Welcome back to your Table Corner! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and a well deserved rest in January.

Is February the month of love? Well certainly. Some might be cynical and describe St Valentine's day as commercial exploitation rather than a traditionally romantic event, but how many times a year are we given

an opportunity to express our affections? Just in case you are now cringing with discomfort thinking "oh no, not again" or "this definitely does not apply to me", I shall quickly add that in some countries, such as Finland, Cupid is left in the cupboard on Valentine's Day. Rather than lovers' day, it is Friends' Day, so close friends send each other cards and exchange gifts. So why not celebrate true friendship instead of the hoo-ha of romance, if no bows and arrows are flying in your sky?



My very small contribution to help declare your feelings is a few culinary ideas that will not cost you much, but are infallible. They range here from the obvious and easy to more subtle ones:

1. Did you say chocolate? In a heart shaped box?
2. Accompany your breakfast or dinner with a heart shaped toast. Extremely simple but bound to get a smile!
3. Much has been written about aphrodisiac food such as oyster and asparagus. But a simpler and modest one is figs, often associated with love in Greek mythology. There are many recipes you can find with figs but one of the most successful combinations is with parma ham and a dash of balsamic vinegar.
4. Cook something that turns into the colour of the day: pink! We were once asked to prepare an all pink buffet for a little girl's christening. What a challenge. I had nightmares of an all strawberry ice cream party rather than a buffet but, after the initial shock, did manage to create a beautiful selection. One of the dishes was a red pepper tart. Simple shortcrust pastry with a red pepper filling. For the full recipe, see our website www.dagnallcatering.co.uk

Hope some of these ideas work for you! Happy Valentine's Day.

Pascale, The Little Dagnall Catering Company, www.dagnallcatering.co.uk
01442 842 857

CALI-R Soul Nights

**Fri Feb 10th & Fri April 13th United Services Club, High St South, Dunstable
8pm-12.30am Tickets £8.50 Tel 01582 475607**

~

**Sat March 17th Luton Rugby Club, Newlands Road, Luton
8pm-1.am Tickets £9 Tel 01582 720355**

~

**Sat May 5th Barton Village Hall, Barton-le-Clay
Tickets £8 Tel 01582 883228**

~

**Fri June 29th The Fancott, Toddington *Open Air*
Featuring Hitsville USA (8 piece Motown Tribute)**

**This is going to be the first open air Cali-R event set in an
ideal location reasonably central for everyone. Don't miss it!
8pm-12 Tickets £12 Tel 01525 872366**

~

**Please note! Tickets for all events can be purchased from
Clowns 01582 699402
or online www.cali-r.com**

**Other phone numbers are for the one event only
Tickets available 5 weeks prior event**

~

**The following event is not a Cali-R but might appeal to some of you
Fri March 2nd United Services Club - Mod & Two Tone Night
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(During term time)
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£1.50 per adult / £1.00 per child / 50p under 1yr

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Highlights of the Meeting for Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held in the Coffee Tavern on Monday 5th December 2011 at 7:30pm

Central Beds Representative

Cllr. Mustoe wished to inform all councillors and residents that the new Central Bedfordshire Website is now up and running. This new site offers better content with an enhanced search capability and new functionality. Central Beds Council are hoping that this new site can be used as an aid to deliver services and customer contact in ways that both saves the Council money and offers a better service to their communities. Please take a look.

Allotments

Allotment renewal payments are now in with one plot being offered out to a new tenant.

Cheeky Monkeys

This is an under 5's play time group which has served the local community for many years, giving a life-line to parents/carers in and around the parish. The group runs from Eaton Bray Village Hall on Wednesday afternoons, 1pm to 2:45pm (term-time) at a cost of £1.50 for adults, £1 children, 50p for children under 1yr and those under 6 months' free.

Parish Byelaws

The Parish Council are in the process of updating the current Byelaws, with the proposed amendments being sent to the Department of Communities & Local Government for provisional approval.

Housing Questionnaire

Questionnaires have been sent to all parish residents to look at the housing needs to the parish. Please do complete these questionnaires and return as stated. Many thanks.

Highlights of the Meeting for Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held in the Coffee Tavern on Monday 9th January 2012 at 7:30pm

Central Beds Representative

Cllr. Mustoe informed the council that the Let's Talk Meeting held on the 6th December in Eaton Bray Village Hall had a good turnout.

Potential Development

The Parish Council was asked if there were any updates regarding potential development within the parish on the land from Bower Lane to Mill End Close. Currently there is no date confirmed when the Development Plan by Central Bedfordshire Council will be discussed. The Parish Council can only speculate that this section of land will be put forward as a potential site. Once the Parish Council has more information from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding the Development Plan, residents will be informed.

Cheeky Monkeys

The Parish Council were presented with a record of expected costs for the running of this local group and agreed to offer a donation of £200 to the group and wished them all the best.

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

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

Next Monthly Meetings: Mon 6th Feb
Mon 5th Mch

Parish Council Meeting Dates For 2012

The following dates were agreed.

- Monday 6th February 2012
- Monday 5th March 2012
- Monday 2nd April 2012
- Monday 14th May 2012 - Annual Parish Meeting
- Tuesday 15th May 2012 - Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council
- No meeting in June
- Monday 2nd July 2012
- No Meeting in August
- Monday 3rd September 2012
- Monday 1st October 2012
- Monday 5th November 2012
- Monday 3rd December 2012

Should any urgent matters arise between meetings; a special meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council will be called.

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:

Cllr. Coulter; tel 01525 229551 - email bobbycoulter@tiscali.co.uk



Dunstable & District Local History Society Tuesday 14th February, 7.45pm Castles in Bedfordshire

Tony Woodhouse presents an illustrated talk about the fortifications at Totternhoe,

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Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners January 2012

£25	Sofie Alder	No.113
£10	Andy Gypps	No.15

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Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners

December 2011

143	Moira D'Arcy	£100
69	Graham Chappell	£25
71	Kate Baldwin	£25
75	Conrad Jepson	£25

Drawn on 8th Dec 2011 at Eaton Bray Academy.

January 2012

69	Graham Chappell	£100
179	Christine Horn	£25
30	Ian Mitchell	£25
129	Julie Killen	£25

Drawn on 6th Jan 2012 at Eaton Bray Academy.

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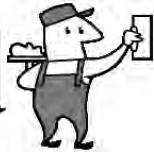
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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

(THE FIRST 25 YEARS 1987 - 2012)

Initially the idea of some forward thinking ladies in 1986, the inaugural meeting to form the Eaton Bray Tennis Club was held in the Coffee Tavern on 13th January 1987.



In March the following year the Chairman's report indicated that 60 households were members of the Tennis Club and affiliation to the Lawn Tennis Association had been requested. To raise the necessary finance a 100 Club had been started and with fund raising, grants, loans & subscriptions, a sufficient level of income was in place to commence the construction of the courts. Work started on the tennis courts in May & in the third week of August 1988 the first ball was hit over the new nets.

On August Bank Holiday 1989 the first ever Club Championships took place. In 2011 we held our 23rd Finals. Our participation in the South Bedfordshire Tennis Leagues, which progressed from the entry of a couple of men's teams in the Bedfordshire league in the 1990ies, has continued to the present time.

In 1998 with the aid of a Lottery Grant we managed to organise the building of a Clubhouse & in 2001, having received planning permission from South Bedfordshire District Council for the erection of floodlights, we set about the daunting task of raising the necessary finance for floodlights to 2 of the courts & for the cleaning & re-painting of all 3 courts.

On Friday 21st March 2003 the floodlights were "christened" just ahead of the advancement of the clocks & with the courts cleaned & painted the expenditure totalled 23K. In this instance we were unable to obtain assistance from the Lottery and the work was predominantly self-financed but we received valued support & financial help from the Eaton Bray Parish Council

In the first complete season following the introduction of floodlights Eaton Bray Men's A Team were First Division Champions in the South Bedfordshire League which was a great achievement considering the size of other clubs in the Luton & Dunstable area. The Ladies team also ended as champions of Division 2.

In 2006 the structure of the courts was disintegrating and major sub strata & re-surfacing work was necessary. Again the ingenuity & dedication of members helped raise the 31K needed to ensure the continued existence of the Club. Every avenue of grant awards was explored and some members parted with 5 years of advance subscriptions to meet the expenditure target.

The following year the 3rd court was resurfaced at a cost of 17K

The constant level of expenditure is a clear indication of the ongoing need for continuous income year after year after year.

Now, 25 years on from the start, members have come & members have gone. Through all of the changes a small number of people, who were either at that Coffee Tavern meeting in 1987 or joined in the following couple of years, remain involved with Eaton Bray Tennis Club. This band has been augmented by new members who have also contributed to the continuing success of the Club - an indication that a solid base giving stability and continuity is required along with the regular transfusion of new blood to keep the Tennis Club as a valuable asset to its members and to the community. Eaton Bray can be justifiably proud of its Tennis Club as the Club is proud to be in

Eaton Bray.

By the time this article is printed we will have held our Annual General Meeting at Dunstable Cricket Club, with a new Chair-person to guide the Club, hopefully, on our journey toward our Golden Anniversary.

Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship - ELF

A Happy New Year to everyone from the ELF Group. We hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. Let us hope that 2012 brings Happiness and Cheer to us all. Our last meeting on 17th November was well attended and several topics, both old and new were discussed, especially future events being planned. Walks will continue to be held on the 4th Monday in the month meeting at Eaton Bray Church at 10.00a.m. Possible outings include;- St Albans Organ Museum plus a lunch;- College Lakes with coffee and lunch;- Stondon Transport Museum and perhaps a lunch;- Bletchley Park;- Shuttleworth Museum;- Theatre visits;- and Worlds End Garden Centre with lunch. We are hoping that at least some of these will take place.

We have, once again, been invited to a cream tea in Val and Alan's garden in August. On October 27th, we enjoyed a lunch out at one of our favourite venues - The Bridgewater Arms. The meal was enjoyed by all present.

The walk scheduled for November 28th was cancelled but the one on December 23rd was well attended. It was followed by a very nice Pub lunch at The Hunters Lodge.

December 2nd saw the National Trust members visit Waddesden Manor to see and admire the Christmas decorations. This Year, the theme was Italy. A special attraction this year was the story of Pinocchio, many rooms were decorated illustrating the story. Thanks go to Vivienne for arranging the visit.

Thanks to Pauline, Val W. and Audrey, the Elf group had a very nicely decorated Christmas Tree "Elf and Safety" in the Eaton Bray Church Christmas Tree Festival.

On December 8th, a large group of members gathered for Christmas lunch at The Gary Cooper Restaurant in Dunstable. It was generally agreed that the venue - new to the Elf group- and the meal were both very good. Thanks to Val and Alan for arranging this.

The meeting on December 15th at the Coffee Tavern for sherry, mince pies, tea, coffee and a chat was well attended and Christmas Cheer abounded. A nice start to Christmastime.

The walking group were unable to hold a walk on December 29th as the weather was not very nice and the arrangements were cancelled at the last minute. However, January 23rd 2012 saw the 2012 schedule begin. Thanks to everyone who helped to make 2011 such a happy year, especially Val and Alan.

FEBRUARY DATES:-

Thursday 16th Coffee Tavern Meeting 10.30 a.m.

Monday 27th Walk 10.00 a.m. meet at Eaton Bray Church.

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Edlesborough School Contributions



On November 14th Years 3 and 4 were visited by some Romans from Legion XIII. We all dressed up as Romans so that we could immerse ourselves in our Roman experience. We spent the morning learning about Roman daily life, Roman history and about Roman Britain. The children had the opportunity to handle Roman artefacts and to role-play being slaves, rich Romans, Roman soldiers and Celts.

In the afternoon the Centurion arrived. He put our Roman legions through their paces, marching in formation, following Latin instructions;

Sinistratum means left and dextrosum means right.

We also had a demonstration of some of the most effective Roman weapons, including slings, javelins and bows and arrows

We had a great day, which really enriched our Romans in Britain topic. The children learned many new facts in a fun and original way.



Edlesborough launch their new topic in Reception with a bang!

The children in the Reception class at Edlesborough school arrived back after their Christmas break to a big shock.....

Whilst they had been enjoying their holiday a giant rocket had crash landed in their classroom! The furniture and equipment in the room had been blasted all over the place; tables, chairs and other objects were left lying all over the floor, whilst strange white footprints were found leading from the rocket into the cupboard, which then appeared to disappear through the wall!

The children cleared the room and have been searching for evidence of an alien visitor ever since. Then one Friday morning they discovered their book area covered in strange purple hand prints and a book about rockets had clearly been tampered with, as a thick sticky purple liquid had been left all over the cover.

Where is the alien now? Is he or she friendly? Will the children find any more evidence to help them track down this strange creature?



This mystery will provide a wealth of opportunities for the children in their creative writing and Knowledge and Understanding. Letters are being written to the alien to encourage him or her to join them in class. Alien designs are being drawn and a diary of alien events being kept. The rocket soon needs to return to space and the children have created mission control in class, planning amazing journeys whilst learning about the solar system and space travel.

This creative start to the new year has been embraced in other classrooms at school, with Year 2 arriving back to an Arctic world, including snow, frozen treasure and a well-deserved hot chocolate at the end of a very cold day. The children are currently building a full sized igloo from plastic milk bottles as part of their Arctic topic!

A great and exciting start to 2012 at Edlesborough school!

The Birthday Party

The Birthday Party is one of Harold Pinter's earliest, most mysterious, well known and beautifully written plays. It is a play with an interesting mix of comedy, absurdity & menace.

Petey and Meg run a tired seaside boarding house on the south coast. They have just one boarder, Stanley Webber, an erstwhile piano player. Their lives are disrupted when mysterious Mr Goldberg and Mr McCann arrive. They seem to know Stanley and to have dangerous intentions regarding him. Stanley is in a near panic when he learns that Meg has planned a birthday party for him, and that Goldberg and McCann are invited.

It's not your ordinary birthday party with candles and cake...

Tickets £9.50 Adults & £8.50 Concessions.

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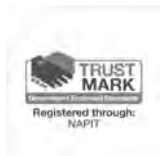
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RECEPTION

- boys and girls at our entry level U5's.

YEAR 5

- 2 boys for 11 a side team

YEAR 5 & 6 Girls

- 2 girls for our brilliant U11 girl's team

YEAR 7 boys

- 2 boys for our u13 team

YEAR 11 Girls

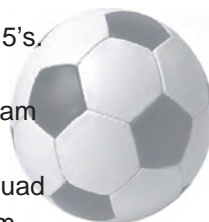
- Girls to complete our U16 girls squad

YEAR 9 Boys

- 1 player to complete our U15 team

YEAR 3&4 Girls

- to start a new U10 Girls squad next year.



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Working towards a new all weather training pitch facility in the corner of the Rye, Eaton Bray.

Our Club, Our Pride!

YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



*January Daisy on a walk
from Edlesborough Church to
Ivinghoe Aston
by Charles Gamble age 12*

YOUR VILLAGE PHOTOS



*Baby elephant at Whipsnade Zoo last year
by Adrian Lewis*

Dagnall Village sign by Jim Wright

*Holly, the springer spaniel
by Jonathan Pratt*



*Bottom left: A freegrange egg worker.
This is one of the ladies who provide
eggs sold in Edlesborough and
Eaton Bray shops
by Caroline Hamilton*

*Below: Daffodils checked with frost
by John Hockey*



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



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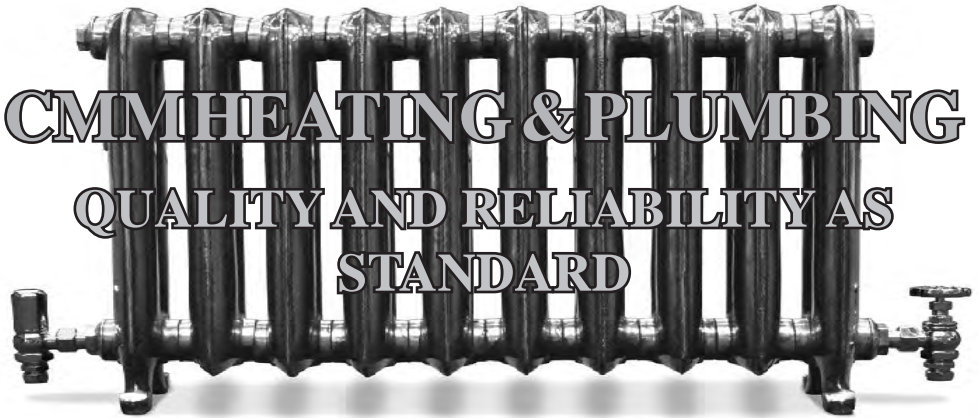
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12th May 2012

31st May 2012

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Salvation Sound - February 2012

Tired of Manna? Gluttony? Over Indulgence?

Writes Anne Hughes - Farmer's wife:

"Feb. ye 8 1796. This morn John in with the newes that Parson Willum Ellis will preche at our church cum Sunday, and will ette with us, for which I be sorrie for he do ette so much mete, it do give me much work cooken. We hav to set a goodly store for them; there be pyes and tartes and pastries, roast pigge meat and a great ham and apple pudden; with a goose with a goodly stuffin in his insyde to give a flavour and chese fresh from the vatte. John hav put a tap to the new barrel of beer, and there will be cyder and sherrie wine and a bottel of my cowslip wine as well!!!" Not bad for Sunday lunch is it?

Now did you indulge over the Christmas and New Year period? Have you by now given up on your resolution to cut down on the calories?

When we stop to think of the poverty in some countries of our world or indeed even in the streets of our own cities and towns, poverty, not only that of food deprivation but of clothing or housing; we realise that we are indeed an affluent society. We sadly, soon become bored with our own possessions or surroundings and then the familiar doesn't excite us anymore. We begin to hanker after what we consider is something better. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. Admittedly when confronted with the abundance of foods and goodies in the stores over the festive season I gave in to temptation; but after a while I grew tired of the rich food day after day, and now the freezer has a quantity of leftovers to be used up; and fish and chips has a great appeal.

This all reminds me of the Israelites. After escaping from Egypt into the wilderness, they ran out of food; but God heard their prayers and fed them supernaturally with a daily supply of manna. At first they were awed by this but after a while, like me, they grew tired of the same food. It became commomplace. Read the story for yourself in Numbers ch.11. Don't take the blessings God showers on you every day for granted. Thank Him for your daily manna, of life and strength and all the other countless good things He provides. For, yes! it's good to be alive, and yes! deep feelings of appreciation sometimes do well up within us. So centre your thoughts on the One who not only provides for our daily needs but also gives us eternal life through our faith in Him.

Wind and water, light and sod
 Speak with faithful lips for God.
 May we give to Him our praise
 For the goodness He displays.

A thankful person enjoys a blessing twice,
 When it is received and when it is
 remembered...

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 5-10 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)	7.30pm
Ladies Fellowship	
(Last week of month)	7.45pm
<i>See website for updates:</i>	
<i>www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray</i>	
<i>Captain Jenny Dibsall 07717 813682</i>	
<i>E: jenny.dibsall@salvationarmy.org.uk</i>	

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

2011 Weather Conditions Yearly Summary

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

Temperature in °c

Rain in mm

Wind in MPH

	Hi Temp	Date	Low Temp	Date	Mean Temp	Day Max	Date	Month Total		Hi	Date	Avg	Dom Dir
Jan	12.0°	13 th	-4.9°	31 th	3.6°	14.8	17 th	76.7		36.0	16 th	5.7	NNE
Feb	13.6°	25 th	-2.2°	1 st	6.1°	11.6	19 th	51.8		42.0	26 th	7.6	SSE
Mar	19.4°	23 th	-4.7°	19 th	6.5°	2.6	31 st	6.4		41.0	25 th	5.0	SSE
Apr	27.6°	23 th	0.7°	13 th	12.2°	8.0	23 th	16.4		30.0	2 nd	5.3	NNE
May	24.2°	6 rd	2.2	4 th	12.3°	13.8	8 th	33.6		39.0	3 rd	7.0	W
Jun	29.9°	27 th	3.5°	12 th	14.2°	12.6	17 th	83.0		32.0	10 th	5.8	W
Jul	25.9°	28 th	5.3°	30 th	15.3°	14.2	16 th	49.8		32.0	15 th	4.6	NNE
Aug	28.4°	1 st	6.7°	10 th	15.4°	22.4	26 th	76.8		28.0	24 th	4.6	WNW
Sep	27.7°	29 nd	4.4°	15 th	14.9°	22.6	4 th	59.6		37.0	6 th	6.6	W
Oct	27.7°	1 st	0.2°	16 th	12.2°	5.2°	27 th	26.6		35.0	1 st	7.1	S
Nov	16.3°	13 th	-2.1°	28 th	9.1°	13.2	4 th	30.0		35.0	11 th	6.9	SSE
Dec	12.1°	22 nd	-3.2°	20 th	5.5°	12.0	12 th	88.8		41.0	27 th	8.2	W
Lows /Max	29.6°	Jun	-4.9	Jan	10.6°	Sept	22.6	Year	599.7				Year avg
									23.61in			6.2	W

November 2011

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature	16.3°C	13 Nov 13.30	-2.1°C	28 Nov 00.00
Mean Temp	9.1°C	Dominant Wind:		SSE
Humidity:	98%	Nov for 6 Days	62%	27 Nov 13.00
Barometer:	1028.3hPa	13 - 25 Nov 00.00	988.4 hPa	4 Nov 04.00
Wind Speed	35 mph W	29 Nov 13.00	Months avg.	6.9 mph
Wettest Day	4 Nov		13.21 mm	0.52 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Nov	30.00 mm	1.18 ins

December 2011

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature	12.1°C	22 Dec 14.00	-3.2°C	18 Dec 22.30
Mean Temp	5.5°C	Dominant Wind:		W
Humidity:	97%	21 Dec 07.30-15.30	62%	7 Dec 14.00
Barometer:	1033.6 hPa	27 Dec 09.30	980.4 hPa	16 Dec 03.30
Wind Speed	41 mph SW	8 Dec 18.00	Months avg.	8.2 mph W
Wettest Day	12 Dec		11.99 mm	0.47 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Dec	88.8 mm	3.50 ins

November was another dry month with only 30mm of rain. Temperature were again above average, taking the "mean temperature" to 9.9°C, a big increase on the November 2010 average of 4.4°C.

December was the wettest month of the year but we were still down 15% on the five-year average. It was also an unusually mild month. The temperature only dropped to below zero on three days and then only briefly. The mean temperature was 4.9°C for Dagnall, and the Met Office confirmed December 2011 was the second warmest December on record. This contrasts to the previous year when December saw a daily mean temperature of -5.5°C and, on the coldest day (20/12/10), temperatures dropped to -13.5.

2011 was an overall dry and mild year with no very low or very high temperatures, but generally but warmer than average with a mean temperature rising from 8.8°C to 10.6°C

The Dagnall weather station can now bring you weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins via the web: <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/dagnallweather> and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall

If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: davidgkillick@tiscali.co.uk or 01442 843883

**Comparison: week beginning 17th Dec 2010 and the week beginning 17th Dec 2011
Maximum temperature difference 18.6°C**



Moving to the Red Lion

I must admit when I first heard about the opportunity to take over the Red Lion in Dagnall I wasn't sure where Dagnall was! Despite the fact that I was born in Aylesbury, (although we moved to Harpenden when I was one), and also my mum ran the Montessori nursery school in Markyate for 34 years.

When we arrived at the beginning of December everything was quite hectic, the new sign was being unveiled the weekend we opened and even the local MP came in as one of our first customers as well as Father Christmas!

Then we had Christmas and New Year and I think quite a number of the village have been visiting us, so it has been a good way to meet people over a Christmas drink.

Martin and I have been living in St Albans for the past ten years, where Martin was the landlord of the White Hart Tap and I have been doing the cooking. We fancied a change, a more rural lifestyle, and I think we have found just that at the Red Lion. It is certainly lovely to look out over green hills and herds of deer and we might even spot a wallaby apparently!

We are currently open every evening from 5pm til close, Thursday and Friday 12pm to 2.30pm and Saturday & Sunday 12pm til close.

We are starting our food menu, on Fridays with fresh cod, beer batter and homemade chips, and on Sundays with roast dinners. As we get a bit more into the spring we will increase the food and will also be putting on some music nights and food special nights. I will advertise in the pub and also on the notice board in the village.

If anyone has any requirements to use the pub for an event please let us know. Our telephone number is 01442 843020, or pop in and see us sometime!

Ali & Martin



Edlesborough Under 5's

Monday - Friday Morning **9.10 am - 12.10 pm**
Lunch Clubs **12.10 pm - 12.45 pm**
Tuesday & Thursday afternoon **12.45 pm - 3.15 pm**

"The quality of teaching and learning is good. Children are actively involved in their learning, play independently and are assisted by staff to develop their confidence." "Group times at all sessions were very positive experiences for all the children and enjoyed by all present." "Children of all ages have the opportunity to develop their skills in all areas, supported by a dedicated staff team." "Children are encouraged to make choices and decisions throughout the day, supported by a staff team that know them well."

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

"We are an Equal Opportunities Employer" www.edlesboroughunder5s.org.uk



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Dagnall Village Hall 100 Club Winners – December 2011

83	M Dyson	£50
111	Roger and Lorna Kingham	£25
13	Margaret Coates	£25

Drawn on 1st Dec 2011. We are still open for new members. Please contact Sharon Quinn, 01442 842129



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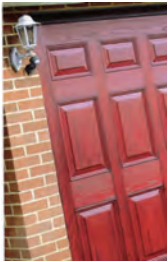


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