

# Focus

August/September 2012



THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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EDLESBOROUGH

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DAGNALL

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## Focus - The Four Village Magazine

### Magazine Committee

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**Printed by:** Priory Press, Dunstable 01582 699851

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Douglas, Tel: 01525 229358

### **EDaN Community Transport**

Peter Williams: 01442 842506

## Village Diaries Aug/Sep 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 Lower School, 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, Dagnall Village Hall 6.30pm
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, Nadine Morgan 07823 447362
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 Fitness Class, 8.15-9.15pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
Tuesdays	Circuit Training Edlesborough - Edlesborough School Hall - 7-8pm - £5 per class
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, 1pm - 2.45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact Rachel on 07789 760007
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
Wednesdays	Zumba Fitness Class, 9.30am, St Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Zoey 07595 986892
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	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	Central Bedfordshire Children's Centres' Toy Library, 9-9.45am, Eaton Bray (School Lane) Public Car Park
Fortnightly	
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576

## Village Diaries Aug/Sep 2012

- Fridays Hartbeeps Multi-sensory pre-school play & music sessions, Northall Village Hall. Bookings and information: Gemma 01525 381196
- Fridays Zumba Fitness Class, 9.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
- 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-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
- 1st Sunday May to September, Edlesborough Church Open, 2-5pm
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday TOTS, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2pm
- 2nd Tuesday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable (opposite Wilkinson)
- 2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 2nd Wednesday St.Mary's Ladies Guild, 2pm, St.Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

### Other Regular Events

- 10th Aug Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am.
- 11th Aug St Mary's Eaton Bray Coffee Morning 10-12 noon
- 20th Aug, 24th Sep ELF Walk
- 21st Aug Dagnall Over 60's. Speaker Darly Carr from Sportspace. 2pm village hall
- 2nd Sep Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 18th Sep Dagnall Over 60's coach to Bishop Stortford and Finchfield

### One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 8th Aug NSPCC Cream Tea, Edlesborough Village Hall, 2-3pm, £6 01525 221829
- 11th Aug St Mary's Eaton Bray Afternoon Cream Tea, 2-4pm
- 11th Aug Ben Treacher Jazz Quartet, 7.30pm, Pitstone Hall, £8.50 01296 668094
- 16th Aug ELF Cream Tea
- 18th Aug Manor House String Quartet, 7.30pm, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray, Tickets: £7.50 01525 222283
- 13th Sep ELF Coffee Morning
- 14th Sep Northall Age Concern Harvest Festival Auction, 7.30pm, The Swan, Northall
- 15th Sep Edlesborough Area Open Day, 10am-1pm, Edlesborough School
- 21st Sep World's Biggest Coffee Morning, 9am-noon, St Mary's Eaton Bray
- 28th Sep POW Escape talk by Geoff Spence, Dagnall VH, 7pm, Tickets £4 01442 842473
- 29th Sep Bedford Salvation Army Concert, 7.30pm, St Mary's Eaton Bray
- 29th Sep Eaton Bray Tennis Club 25th Anniversary Dinner & Dance, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tickets: £24, 01525 222531

## British Legion Poppy Appeal 2012

Would you like to be a Poppy Appeal collector in Eaton Bray this coming November? We already have a brilliant team of house to house collectors in Eaton Bray, but we need a few more to replace those who have moved etc. It means going out and door knocking for a designated road or small area, either in the evening or on a Saturday during daylight. It can be cold and wet in November, so warm waterproof clothes are sometimes essential. A thick skin can help too – we know a few houses where nobody answers when Poppy Appeal collectors knock!

If you'd like to join the team, please phone us on 221137

Roger and Helen Wilkinson – Poppy Appeal organisers for Eaton Bray

## EDaN Buses & Transportation

### Community Transport

I am pleased to say that this month I have heard from a number of local residents who have said how brilliant the Community Transport Service is.

When you get feed back like this it makes the whole job worthwhile. Well done to all our drivers and particularly Peter Williams who expertly matches drivers to passengers and to Viv Hill, our treasurer and Peter's deputy. Feedback is very important to us, good or bad. If we don't know about it we can't sort it!!!

If you think you might like to volunteer to do some driving for the Community Transport Service we would love to hear from you. Even if you can only manage the odd trip now and again it would still be very worthwhile having you on our books.

During the summer months, with holidays etc. it can become quite tricky for Peter, our co-ordinator, to find drivers for all the trips required. Very many of these trips are medical, to the local hospitals or Doctors surgeries and are really very necessary.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer driver or have any other queries, please call Kathy Bovington on 01442 842796.

If you would like to book a trip, please call Peter Williams on 01442 842506.

Kathy Bovington, On behalf of EDaN Buses and Transportation Team



## Edlesborough School Tearooms



As part of their learning this year to extend their enterprise skills, three groups of Year 5/6 children have been taking it in turns in running their own tea rooms. Each team appointed their own manager, buyer and accountant who were responsible for researching and buying their products, working out costs, advertising their tea room, selling their products and working out their profits.

The tea rooms have proven to be popular with both parents and pupils, and all the children involved have worked incredibly hard not only in their preparation, but also during 'opening hours'. I would like to thank all of the children who have taken part this year I am incredibly proud of them all. I am also grateful to the parents who have supported the tea rooms by attending and purchasing cups of tea and cake, and who have helped make this an invaluable learning experience for the children.

Mrs Peel



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## *THE EATON BRAY VILLAGE SIGN*

Designed to commemorate the Queens Diamond Jubilee 2012, it is a shield based on the Bray family's Coat of Arms and depicts scenes from Eaton Brays past. It is topped off with a crown as a mark of respect for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second in her Diamond Jubilee year.

In the top left hand side is an image of the last Manor House in Eaton Park which was pulled down circa 1790. Before this, there had previously been a Manor House of Sir Reginald Bray that had been built on the site of the castle of William Cantelupe which stood here in 1221 surrounded by the moats.

Top right is St. Marys Parish Church, a 13th century example of Parish Church craftsmanship with magnificent arcades built with local Totternhoe stone (clunch). A 13th century font survives as does the famous Thomas-De-Leighton door hinge. A short walk back to the church you will find a brief history and guide book on sale and your chance to bide-a-while in this historic place of worship.

Centre is the War Memorial with the names of the local lads who gave their all for us in the two World Wars. Dedicated in July 1923 by S. Howard Whitbread.

Lower left, shows a device for breaking down Hemp (Flax) for the making of rope. It was used as a symbol by the Bray family known as "the Hemp Bray" or Brake.

Lower right. A device called a Plait Mill, it was used to flatten the plait much like a mangle. Our village was once famous for its straw plait, indeed, I doubt it could have survived in the 18th and 19th centuries without it. Straw was plaited into lengths of 20 yards – or a "score" as it was known, and sold to the hat manufacturers in Luton.

The Chevron shown here comes from the Coat of Arms of the Bray Family (seen below on the post).

Lower centre. Moat Farm in the High Street. Once the home of the Henley's, they were one of the larger duck breeders in the village. It was said that you could smell the ducks as you came down Lancot Hill. The Henley's also manufactured bricks and tiles form the area now covered by bungalows in Church Lane. The clay dug in these pits contains no iron and as a result the bricks produced were a yellow colour. There are plenty about in the village, see if you can spot them.

The Bray Coat of Arms.

The shield is divided by a chevron and depicts three Eagles feet showing their claws. These were said to be "armed", that is to say the Brays were fighting men or Knights. We know that Reginald Bray was fighting at Bosworth Field as it was reputed to be he who found the fallen crown on a thorn bush and handed it to Lord Stanley who, in turn, placed it upon the head of Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond proclaiming him Henry V11 in 1485. Five weeks later Reginald was knighted by the king, and granted the manor of Eyton for his services, hence the modern name Eaton Bray.

Lower right. Carnations represent W.E.Wallace and Son Ltd. one time Eaton Bray's largest employers. Starting up in Eaton Bray in 1886, they went from strength to strength producing thousands of blooms a day right up to the mid 1970's. The range of colours was wide and included numerous varieties that were grown only by this company. Some of the names live on like Wivelsfield, Northcliffe. Coral and Saffron Rise as road names on the Wallace Drive Estate.

Lower left. Prunes, this unique variety of plums grow only on the Vale of Aylesbury from Hockliffe in the north to Western Turville. All the villages in between grew the crop and on a good year could fetch £80 per ton. A small orchard could produce enough fruit in a season that, when sold, would pay the rent on a cottage for a year.



# *EATON BRAY A CENTURY OF CHANGE*

*A slide show by Peter Mayne*

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*EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL*

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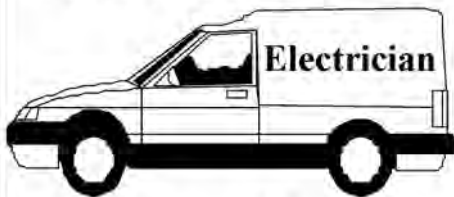
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## Invitation to the dance!

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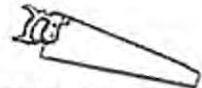
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The weather is an important factor when planning events especially during the summer months. Fortunately the British are able to cope admirably with whatever the sky hurls at them. Many carnivals, fetes, agricultural shows and picnics, as well as a host of other things have been a washout this year but it has not dampened the local spirit. The carnival on Edlesborough Green was a great community event despite some torrential rain. Congratulations must go to the organising committee, those who ran stalls and the many who turned up for this annual afternoon of fun and fund raising.



As you read this the holiday season will be in full swing and the Olympics well and truly up and running. The Olympic Games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, in southwest Greece. The Games were part of a religious festival and are thought to have inspired the modern Olympic Games (began in 1896). The ancient Games were held in honour of Zeus, king of the gods, and were staged every four years at Olympia, a valley near a city called Elis. People from all over the Greek world came to watch and take part. The city-states of Greece were often at war and this made travel between them dangerous. So messengers sent out from Elis announced a 'sacred truce' (peace) lasting one month before the Games began. This meant people could travel to Olympia in safety. The Olympic Games were more important than wars because they were a religious festival.

Talking of religion the Bible is full of images that relate to those qualities that are necessary both for the Christian and the Olympian. My favourite compares the Christian life to running a race. *Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you might win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one....* (1 Cor.9:24-end).

If the Olympics are not your thing there will be many other events going on in the villages to while away your time, holidays at home can be as exciting as those in other parts of the country or across the world. At St Mary's we will be running two Messy Church sessions on the 31st July and 23rd August from 2-4pm before we launch on 2nd September a monthly service. Parents and young children are all welcome. Please check the church web site for more information. The regular TOTS session on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month will still be running from 2-3pm.

I pray that all who are going away will have a relaxing and refreshing time and if you are staying at home enjoy the freedom and a break from the work routine.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Coralie". The signature is written in black ink on a white background. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that serves as a decorative flourish or underline.

## From the Parish Registers

**Weddings** – “To love and to cherish till death us do part”

June:

Dean Goodman and Charlotte Davies

Jack Rollings and Jennifer Tarbard

Matthew Arnold and Sarah Jane Burman

July:

Robert Holmes and Kirsty Collins

Simon Woulds and Borbala Bogan-Gati



**Funerals** – “Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest”

Michael Warner, July 11th

Diana Glibbery, July 16th

Derek Pook, July 19th

Parishioners may, if they wish, enter the names of loved ones who have died in the Years Mind book. The Book can be found on the Bookcase in Church. Names are read out at the 10 o'clock Sunday service that is immediately before the anniversary of their death.

### Services at St Mary's Church

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**10.00am**     **PARISH SUNG HOLY COMMUNION**

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**WEEK-DAYS:**

**Tuesday:**     **2.00pm**     **TOTS (Tots on Tuesdays) (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)**

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Brandy adores people and would really enjoy being part of family life but it would be best for her to be an only pet. She copes with being left for a few hours and is house-trained. We know that she travels well because she came to us from Lancashire. In the right home Brandy would make a really affectionate and rewarding companion



If you feel you could offer Brandy, or any of our other dogs, a loving and secure home please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Our staff will be happy to offer advice and information. Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years of age, so please ask for details.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!! Saturday 8th September – Fun Dog Show and Open Day** – lots of classes, lots of rosettes, lots of stalls, lots of cake! In fact, something for everyone! Enter on the day. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. (classes commence at mid-day).

**Friday 12th October – Quiz Night, 7.30 p.m.** at Northall Village Hall. Tickets £8 (to include light supper) are available from Appledown.

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kennels@btinternet.com

(Reg Charity No. 1116848)

Would you like to learn to play Bridge?  
**Wardown Bridge Club** will begin its next series of classes on:

**Wednesday 3 October 2012 7.30pm**  
at the Luton Town Cricket Pavilion,  
Wardown Park

For more details please contact Brian Edwards **01525 860428** or  
**brian.edwards60@btinternet.com**

## Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (ELF)

Our June 14th Coffee Morning at the Coffee Tavern was, as usual, a happy meeting. Our next Coffee morning will be on September 13th at 10.30am. By then we will have reports of the visit on July 12th to the Shuttleworth Collection. The report will be in the October Focus.

The monthly walk on 25th June went ahead in reasonable weather. The group was led by Brian Westwood and started at Gt. Gaddesden. It continued through Nettleden, Frithsden village and Copse and returned through St. Margarets to Gt. Gaddesden.

We look forward to the Cream Tea in Alan and Val's garden on August 16th and hope for good weather. Because of the August Bank Holiday, the monthly walk will take place on Monday August 20th.

In September there is to be a visit to Bletchley Park. Confirmation of details will be displayed in the North Porch of Eaton Bray Church.

### AUGUST DATES

Thurs 16th. Cream Tea in Alan and Val's garden

Mon 20th. Walk - Start at Eaton Bray Church at 10.00am

### SEPTEMBER DATES

Thurs 13th. Coffee morning at The Coffee Tavern 10.30am

Mon 24th. Walk Start Eaton Bray Church 10.00am

Undecided Date. Bletchley Park



## The Focus on Film Society



Why not treat yourself to an afternoon out once a month to watch a film and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat? The Focus on Film Society will be starting their eighth season on Monday 10th September. We meet in Eaton Bray Hall at 2pm on the second Monday of each month between September and the following May. Membership only costs £32 payable in two instalments in September and January. Films are chosen by the members.

This season's films will include:

The Iron Lady, The Help, Midnight in Paris, The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, Young Victoria, My Week With Marilyn, Dear John, Bucket List & War Horse.

New members are always welcome and can be assured of a warm welcome, if you think you might like to join us, you can come for a trial visit for £4 which will be deducted from your membership fee if you join us. More information and a brochure can be obtained from Graham Chappell on 220883 or visit our website at <http://www.eatonbray.com/cinema/> or just come along to one of our films.

## Events at the Red Lion, Dagnall

We had a very successful evening recently with our 'Food From the Fields' themed three course meal using ingredients sourced from the fields including rabbit and partridge dishes. We will hold another of these evenings in November using seasonal game. Following on from that we had a Tapas Night which proved very popular and with sangria flowing we could have been in Spain (apart from the rain)!

In August we plan to have a quiz purely for football fans! This is to raise funds for the local EB Lions football club so all questions and prizes will be football related. Please see adverts for the date as at the time of going to press we do not have this confirmed. Depending on the weather we will be having barbeques on Sundays in August with food served from 12.30 until 4pm, there will be a choice of meats and a salad selection. On the bank holiday weekend at the end of August we will be having a South African themed barbeque (brai) with traditional dishes. Remember every Friday we serve fresh cod and chips made with Hoegarden beer batter and handcut crinkle chips. We take bookings and also serve this is a takeaway.

We also now have a function room which can be hired for meetings, private parties or bands. If anyone has a band or wants to have an event at the pub please pop in or give us a ring on 01442 843020.

## All Saints' Church, Dagnall Services in August & September 2012

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



Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service. For services in September please see the notice board by the Church door.



# Eaton Bray Academy



Please come and visit our friendly village school.  
Phone 01525 220468 or email [admin@eba.ec](mailto:admin@eba.ec)





# EDLESBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB

Website by [Jupiterwill](#)

[www.etctennis.org](http://www.etctennis.org)

Play tennis    Have fun    Socialise    Feel good    Join our club

Join via the website, or call Iona McLean-Hall on 01525 220562 for details



## 2012-13 CHILDRENS FOOTBALL NEW PLAYERS REQUIRED

**.....to join our successful CHILDRENS FOOTBALL club, based within Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Dagnall, Kensworth and the surrounding villages. We are specifically recruiting for the following current school year (2011-12) age groups, in readiness for this coming new season 2012-13;-**

**PRE RECEPTION** – keen boys & girls starting Reception in Sept 12 New U5's

**RECEPTION** – boys/girls, for our U6's squad next season

**YEAR 3 & 4 Girls** – to join our brand new U10 Girls team next season

**YEAR 5 & 6 Girls** – enthusiastic girls, for our U12 Girls squad next season

**YEAR 6** – keen boys for our fantastic U12 team next season

**YEAR 8** – 1 or maybe 2 Boys for our U13's team (U14's next season).

**We have teams at virtually every age group, so if your son/daughter is interested in playing football, please do get in touch even if not one of the above age groups.**

**Our Coaches are FA Qualified and CRB checked.**

**Contact us at [enquiries@eblions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eblions.co.uk) or [www.eblions.co.uk](http://www.eblions.co.uk)**



# EB Lions AFC

## The Rye - All-weather Training Pitch



Following the public consultation period earlier this year, Eaton Bray Parish Council gave their approval for the All-weather training pitch at The Rye and detailed plans have now been submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council. This application was discussed at a lively Parish Council meeting in July and an

objector initiated an article in the Dunstable Gazette that was thankfully balanced in its reporting, highlighting the benefits that the pitch will ring to the Parish.

The main objections seem to be with the planning and consultation process and the existing traffic and parking issues rather than the facility itself!! Needless to say, the relevant Agencies are making their representations to assist us in making sure that no archaeological burial site will be desecrated, more and improved parking facilities are provided and all living trees are properly preserved.

Our vision is to see The Rye once again become a vibrant part of village life with modern facilities that will draw villagers and enable the whole village to make use of their “village green” alongside the small number of dog-walkers that currently use the site. Plans have been carefully drawn to ensure that the facility will not restrict use of The Rye to any existing or future group of users and it preserves its open space, grass area.

One consideration is the appearance of The Rye, which is currently scarred by a condemned clubhouse and a number of dead trees surrounded by nettles and weeds. The proposed scheme will be of a similar nature to the Tennis courts on Edlesborough Green and School Lane, Eaton Bray and will in time blend in as the re-planting and replacement trees mature. Would Andy Murray be such an outstanding representative of Great Britain if the authorities of Dunblane weren't able or willing to provide the right facilities?

We are very mindful of all neighbours and the impact the all weather pitch will have, as we are both local parishioners ourselves and keen to work with all the local community, not just those supportive of children's football. In particular the all weather pitch has been designed in full consultation with the planners to ensure;-

- Minimal visual impact,
- Landscaping to ensure those close by have attractive views unspoilt,
- High end expensive floodlighting to ensure no adverse light spill,
- Set back from the boundary to ensure hedgerows and trees are unaffected and landscaping to further reduce any impact,
- Improved and more efficient car parking, with several additional spaces found to avoid car parking in the Rye itself,
- High cost fencing which is visually acceptable given the green open space,
- Controlled hours of use,
- A careful sensible financial operation to ensure the site is well maintained and funded without need to seek users from outside the villages.

We are often told how wonderful it is to see all of the village children regularly playing organised sport in the village rather than ‘hanging around’ and this development is essential for the continued well-being of EB Lions, the village children's football club.

The training pitch will provide state-of-the-art facilities for our youngsters to train during the winter months and being a multi-use surface it will also be available to other organised village groups for any number of leisure activities. - if your Eaton Bray based club or organisation would be interested in using the pitch please contact us to discuss the suitability of the surface.

To forge an even stronger Club in the years ahead, the committee of EB Lions AFC and local schools need this all weather training floodlight facility. It embraces community involvement, child health and fitness, legacies for our children, outreach to new and more diverse audiences, experience and volunteer support. It is needed for our future, one that clearly reflects the vitality of the Club and the considerable commitment of our committee and coaches (of which there are almost 50).

This will enable us to position EB Lions to be:

- One of the Regions most dynamic, modern and thriving Clubs because of our outstanding focus on management, efficiency, youth experience and development;
- A vital cultural gathering place and an indispensable community educational resource;
- A major contributor to the village's youth well being by serving as a magnet attraction for a growing local audience.

We look forward to the exciting opportunities this training facility could bring to the Parish.

E B LIONS AFC

## Letters to the Editors

*Dear Editor*

*We are writing to complain about the way the Parish Council of Eaton Bray have represented the community and their belief that they can 'give' the Village Green – given to the villagers for everyone to use - away without a full representation of the facts.*

*The public consultation document that was printed in the February issue of The Focus asked for parishioners views on 'enclosing a small part of the Rye Recreation Ground to build an all weather training pitch'. However this omitted key facts such as the 4.5 metre high fence surrounding six goal areas, with a 3 metre fence in-between, the use of the facility until 10pm at night seven days a week, and the erection of six 8 metre high floodlights. In addition only positive reasons for this development were given. In addition to this the Parish Council consulted, in November 2011, with Defra about the two acts that protect this Village Green. The implication, that 'this enclosure will benefit the community' agreed by Defra and PC' (The Eaton Bray Lions Astro Project) and therefore meets the requirement of the acts to allow an area to be enclosed, is grossly misleading. When we consulted Defra about this they assured me that they are not at liberty to make such a decision. Finally it is planned that the Village Green should be leased to Eaton Bray Lions for twenty one years. To date the villagers have no idea what the terms of the lease would be; it is planned that these terms would be agreed AFTER the planning permission has been gained.*

*In addition the majority of people using this facility would come from outside the village which would undoubtedly lead to more traffic and noise for those who actually live here.*

We fully respect the council's right to support this development but we strongly object to the distinct lack of clarity and openness that has been shown by them; the council have obviously supported the venture to such an extent that they have ensured an agenda that will make the development appear more favourable to the community and to planners.

We believe that the Parish Council should represent all the community and represent all the facts clearly and honestly. This has undoubtedly not been the case with this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Friends of the Village Green

\*\*\*\*\*

### Young Lad Saves the Day

Dear Editor, Quite often the youngsters these days get a lot of bad press for the negative things they get up to, so imagine my utmost delight when a young lad in the village reported a major leak at my property to my neighbours in The Green.

Recently we had a new kitchen floor laid with new hot & cold pipes embedded in it. On 8/6 the cold water supply decided to pop an isolator & spray mains pressure onto the kitchen floor via the windows and walls. A young lad (I do not know his name) was passing on his bike and noticed the water spaying up at the window inside & immediately reported this to my neighbours Peter & Christina. Peter located the stopcock outside & turned the mains water off before finding a way to contact me so I could rush home.

The situation could have been a lot worse. The water that leaked was mainly in the kitchen thus saving the rest of the house & a very expensive insurance claim.

It warms my heart that there are public spirited people about that are thinking of others & the community especially in the young. Once again many many thanks for the young lad that first reported this leak & of course to Peter & Christina.

Maybe a section in your magazine 'Good deed for the month'?

Regards

Steve Bousted & Tessa Forsey

## Congratulations Mrs Bennett!!!



Back on 29th June 1987, a young secretary started work at Edlesborough School. Little did she know, that 25 years later she would still be answering our phones and helping to run and organise everyday life in our school.

To commemorate this milestone, the children hosted a special surprise assembly in honour of Mrs Bennett's achievement which was also attended

by past teaching staff. Celebratory songs were sung and some of the children shared their own special memories.

On behalf of the past and present staff and children of Edlesborough School, we



would like to thank Mrs Bennett for 25 years of continued service in our school and look forward to many more!

### Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners July 2012

£100	Joan	No.89
£25	Graham Coughtrey	No. 118
£10	Tierny Spence	No. 106

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins, M&M Properties & Meadow Marquees

### **Bucks County Councillor for Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall Transport to Cottesloe School**

My faith in Bucks County Council hit another low point when, after not only introducing charges for school transport, they failed to apply the policy correctly causing unnecessary additional stress, anxiety and confusion for parents affected.

Having previously negotiated with the cabinet member that, despite the consultation implying Bedfordshire schools would have to be considered 'nearest school', they would not be included when the County came to apply the policy. Instead they went ahead with Tring School as the nearest school to pupils living in not only in Dagnall, Edlesborough, Northall, but also Cheddington, Slapton, Ivinghoe, Pitstone and Marsworth, and therefore the only school to which free transport would be provided.

Letters were sent out to all pupils attending or about to attend the Cottesloe School that, as not the nearest school, payment would be required before being allocated a seat on a bus. After many emails and telephone conversations between myself, the lead officer, and the cabinet member, this was eventually rectified and the letters were reissued with the Cottesloe correctly identified as the nearest school for all villages except Pitstone where Tring is officially still the nearest school attended by 60% of secondary school children. However, when Tring is full, free transport to Cottesloe should be provided. I have been told that a straightforward appeal on the grounds that there was no place at Tring School, should secure free transport to the Cottesloe for those already going there, or going in September. If this has not been happening I need to know as this is a bit of a 'grey' area.

This leaves three matters still unresolved.

Pupils selected for the grammar schools under the Bucks system are having to pay. Not as much as proposed last year, but payment none the less, which as Buckinghamshire has a selective school policy cannot be just.

Worse still, pupils eligible for means tested financial assistance are not eligible for help with travel costs as the Aylesbury grammar schools are more than 6 miles away. This is one of the national regulations and I am appealing in every case for the cabinet member to apply natural justice to those in rural areas subject to the Bucks school system. In the worst case scenario pupils are having to contemplate leaving a school they were selected for by Bucks in mid career because the fares are unaffordable.

Finally charges for sixth form travel remain from between £600 to £900 per pupil per annum to any school, Wing, Tring or Aylesbury. This is a double blow after the removal of the government Educational Maintenance Allowance which helped pupils from families with low incomes. That is an area I continue to challenge as in my opinion I do not believe the charging policy, which subsidises other school travel, is legally based.

More news can be found on <http://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/davies> on

- vehicle activated signs to tackle speeding in the villages,
- Local Area Forum investment in footpaths,
- the energy from waste plant at Calvert,
- major housing developments in Aylesbury Vale

## The Salvation Army BIG COLLECTION



Within this issue of Focus you will find a Salvation Army Big Collection envelope. Last year you very kindly raised nearly £500 for us for which we were very grateful. The local Salvation Army congregation has already raised £2000 towards our target for 2012.

Once again, with the co-operation of businesses in the four villages, we have set up collection centres for this year's appeal rather than come knocking on your door. If you would like to use the enclosed envelope to give to our appeal you can leave it at one of these businesses during August:

Munns in Dagnall

The Post Office/Stores in Edlesborough

The Swan Inn at Northall

Nisa Convenience store Eaton Bray

I am very grateful to these businesses for agreeing to help us with this appeal. I will be collecting in the boxes on Saturday 18th August 2012.

The proceeds from the appeal go to the Salvation Army's social service work in the UK. We are the biggest provider of social care in the UK after the Government. This involves providing support for people in hostels; homelessness, community and disability services; family tracing; detox units; major incident support units; chaplaincy to the emergency services, prisons, armed forces, airports, and waterways; support for the defence services in the UK, Germany and Falklands; work to stop human trafficking including refugees, and much much more.

Along with Government funding we provide funds for an anti human trafficking service. Last year trafficked people in this area were cared for by The Salvation Army and every week in the UK people are rescued, taken to The Salvation Army, cared for and helped to return to normal life. Your contribution will make a difference in someone's life. If you would like to donate but don't want the bother of dropping off an envelope, you can also donate by post, phone or text.

Some of you will know that Rev Coralie McCluskey at St Mary's in Eaton Bray is also a Rural Chaplain, just as I am also a Waterways Chaplain. We both deal with those in need in specialised communities, as well as serving in our own respective roles as ministers. **On Saturday 29th September at 7.30 pm there will be a concert at St Mary's church by Bedford Congress Hall Salvation Army Band.** There will be a collection during this concert, which will go towards the work of the two



chaplains. We hope you will come and join us!

If you would like further information then please do contact me:

E: [jenny.dibsall@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:jenny.dibsall@salvationarmy.org.uk) or M: 07717 813682.

Captain Jenny Dibsall, The Salvation Army/Eaton Bray

### NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on the road towards 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](mailto: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.



## Diamond Jubilee Garden Party

I thought I would like to share with anyone who is interested our lovely day out recently on 25th June 2012 at a Diamond Jubilee Garden Party in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh in Henley-On-Thames. We were lucky to get picked from a Ballot of 1200 people in the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire areas and also even luckier was the fact that my son Richie and his wife Hayley Kiely who also entered the Ballot and live in the village had their names selected as well so we were able to enjoy a day out altogether at this lovely location. I am not sure how many people from our villages were selected but we were more than happy and proud to accept the invitation due to this special year for our Queen.

The weather was good and after the rain we have had recently it was nice to be able to enjoy some sunshine. Tea with sandwiches and cakes were served all afternoon from the various tea tents which was very nice indeed and enjoyed by everyone. We watched and listened to various entertainment throughout the afternoon and just mingled with the people who attended.

Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh arrived by boat with a pageant and then they walked along the small paths to the house for their own tea & cakes. We were just so lucky in that where we stood Her Majesty stopped to talk to some important people and members of the public and believe me I was so near and so excited that I could have just reached out and touched her arm she just seemed so approachable and so very lovely. It was a brilliant day and enjoyed by all of us.

Thank you The Lord-Lieutenants of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire for your invitation to this event.

Rita & Ed Kiely, Hayley & Richie Kiely

## Friends of Ashridge News

Despite the weather, Ashridge is still a wonderful place to go for a walk and there are two volunteer-led organised options to choose from. Brian and Siân Barton lead the Gentle Strolls, up-to-2 hour informal walks observing the wildlife in different parts of the National Trust Ashridge Estate. Dates for the remainder of the season follow:

Mon 20 Aug 2.30pm Meet Steps Hill grass car park off Beacon Road Map ref SP 963 159

Wed 19 Sep 10.30am Meet B4506 road end of Monument Drive Map ref SP 979 127

Tues 16 Oct 10.30am Meet B4506 road end of Monument Drive Map ref SP 979 127

Stout waterproof footwear recommended. All welcome - no booking required. £2 per person on the day. More information: 01442 823 727

Kath Hardy will lead longer walks on the following Saturdays: 8th Sep & 13th Oct. All start from the Visitor Centre at 10am and are about 5-6 miles. There's a charge of £3 on the day, no need to book. National Trust staff also organise a full programme of walks, which you can find on the newly-revamped website: [nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge).

And now to really cheer you up, it's never too early to start thinking about Christmas! - the 'Ashridge at Christmas' fair is on Sunday 2 December this year, with a great variety of local craftworkers and producers already booked to attend. It all happens around the Visitor Centre by Monument Green, Monument Drive, Ringshall from 10am to 4pm. Enjoy the summer!

**Churches Together would like to invite you to  
An evening with creative Christian communicator**

***Tim Saiet***

**who uses illusions to illustrate the message of the Gospel  
at Eaton Bray Village Hall**

**on Wednesday, 3rd October at 7 pm**

**The evening will include music and light refreshments**

***For further details see posters, which will be displayed around the villages  
in September***

***or contact: Chriss (01525 222288) or Dorothy (01442 843237)***

***[www.philotrust.com/timsaiet](http://www.philotrust.com/timsaiet)***

**My Escape Attempt From A Pow Camp At Dresden  
By Mr Geoff Spencer  
All profits to Dagnall School**

**Follow up talk of my two year grand tour of 6 of  
Europe's Prisoner of War Camps in Italy, Germany  
and Czechoslovakia**

**To be held at Dagnall Village Hall on  
Friday 28th September at 7pm  
Refreshments available  
£4 before the day or £5 on the door**

**Tickets available from Kathy at  
Dagnall School 01442 842473 or 01442 842796**

**Want to know what's going on in the local area?**

Come to the

# **Edlesborough Area Open Day**

**Saturday, 15th September 2012, 10am - 1pm  
at Edlesborough School**

Come find out about all the clubs, groups, classes and other activities happening in our villages. This is your chance to meet the organisers and find out more information.

*If you would like to have a (free) table to advertise your club or activity, please phone Marlene Bennett on (01525) 220431. We want to have a wide range of activities for people of all ages.*

**St Mary's Church,  
Eaton Bray**

**Saturday  
29th September 2012  
7.30 pm**

**Concert by  
Bedford Salvation  
Army Band**

**FREE ADMISSION - BUT  
A collection will be taken to raise  
funds for the work of the Farm  
Crisis line and the Waterways  
Chaplaincy**

**SATURDAY 20th  
OCTOBER 2012**

**Note the date in your diary  
now to ensure you do not  
miss**

**DAGNALL COMMUNITY  
CHOIR**

**and other talented  
performers at**

**EATON BRAY  
VILLAGE HALL**

**Further details of time,  
programme, etc. to follow**

## St Mary's Village Carnival 2012

“Severe flood warnings have been issued in the north and east of England, the Midlands and much of Wales, with non-stop torrential rain expected for the next 24 hours and into Saturday in what forecasters are predicting could be the most serious weather conditions yet this year.” So said the doom merchants 24 hours before this year’s Carnival. 60 flood warnings and nearly 160 flood alerts had been issued for the UK for Carnival weekend with up to 40mm of rain expected in some parts of the country. Not surprising, then, that the Organising Committee had to review their wet weather plans with the Parish Council.

But, miraculously, the rain stopped late on Friday afternoon and it stayed dry through the night and, thanks to its excellent drainage properties, when we got onto the Green the next morning we able to drive cars and lorries onto the Green without apparent damage. So, while many parts of the rest of the country were underwater, St Mary’s Village Carnival got on with doing what it does best and by late morning the Green was filled with the colour of the Carnival.

That colour was echoed at The Orchards where one of the best parades we have seen for some time was forming up. Ben and Jane Wright had a really difficult task selecting winners – they were all winners, though the official results were:

Young peoples’ organisations: 1st: Edlesborough Under 5s, 2nd: Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Scouts, 3rd: Street Art

Schools: 1st: Eaton Bray Academy, 2nd: Edlesborough School, 3rd: Totternhoe Lower School

Other organisations: 1st: GIFT, 2nd: Janes, 3rd: Eaton Bray Lions

And, in the villages, hours of effort had gone in to decorating the houses; Eaton Bray appeared particularly colourful. The awards, this year, went to 9 High St, Eaton Bray and 23 The Green, Edlesborough.

Who could have expected that soon after the start of the procession about ½ inch of rain would fall in about 20 minutes? The Carnival Queen and her retinue in their open topped car were soon drenched and sitting in water but after the initial shock the parade was quickly back in full swing. To the disappointment of many of those waiting on the Green, a sensible decision was taken by the organisers not to allow the lorries onto the field and it was not long before Ben and Jane Wright were able to declare the Carnival ‘Open’.

Fortunately, the rain had stopped by the time the procession reached the Green and it remained dry in Edlesborough until late in the evening, despite frequent rain showers throughout the afternoon in Eaton Bray. As a result the crowds came out and we had the sort of splendid Carnival afternoon that everyone has come to expect. Magic Dave, as usual, entertained the youngsters and the new event, the Carnival Games, was won, on a deciding race by the cubs. Hopefully, this will become a regular feature of carnival in future years and maybe we will have more teams next year.

As for the big prizes, the trip to Rome was won by Georgina Banks; no doubt they will have a wonderful time at the Quirinale Hotel. Dan Cordell’s lovely ‘Chainsaw sculpture’ was won by a delighted Deborah Calder

So, the 2012 Carnival was memorable, not just for the short downpour, but for all the right reasons. The day passed peacefully, equipment was put away dry for another

year, the Green was left in good order and, as a result of the efforts of an outstanding Organising Committee, many village organisations and good causes will be better off. Finally three key messages:

- **If your organisation can benefit from a donation from the proceeds of this year's Carnival please contact Gordon Gray, on 220136 or via [stmarysvillagecarnival.com](http://stmarysvillagecarnival.com).**
- **If you feel you have something to offer the Carnival Committee and would like to be part of this success story do contact Gordon, as above.**
- **Next year's Carnival will be on Saturday 6th July 2013 when the theme will be Sci Fi. Plenty of scope for robots, aliens, Star Trek, monsters, books etc.**

## Wednesday Club Northall

After a busy June we have less events planned for July and we close as usual for the month of August. We would like to say a big thank you to all those of you who came to support us on our Tombola Stall at the Carnival. We hope you enjoyed your day and didn't get too wet with the heavy showers.

We still have VACANCIES for NEW MEMBERS who would like to join us in SEPTEMBER when we re-open after the summer holidays. So if you know of someone in need of some fun, company and good food each Wednesday then please give us a ring on the numbers below.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ON WEDNESDAYS WE ARE AT THE HALL AND CAN ONLY BE CONTACTED ON 07854 230 243

For the rest of the week, you can contact Anna on 221996 or Julie on 220153. Please leave a message if we are not in so that we can call you back.

We have our own minibus if transport is required, and we also welcome members who arrive independently. So just get in touch if you would like to arrange to come and visit us for a cup of coffee, to see what the Club is all about.

## Church Mouse

After a spectacular Carnival Day where the spirit of all pulling together was felt, take a look at the church website to admire the pictures, check the reports, see the winners and find clues about lost property.

- The PCC met on 13th July and discussed the following:
- **Food bank:** Someone informative to come and speak at Eaton Bray Church about support for Food Bank locally. St Mary's is contributing already.
- **Health and safety:** Several areas were to be made more secure in the church building, (door, boiler house, path and stairs to bell tower).
- **Toilet extension:** The architects are considering an alternative plan, suggestions about layout, cost and ease of access are essential to the decision.
- **Manor House String Quartet:** Buy tickets now to hear Vaughan Jones and musicians August 18th for an exquisite evening on the Weber/Berlioz theme of Invitation to the Dance.
- **Vicar's report:** Eaton Bray church to contribute to the Eaton Bray sign.
- **Messy Church:** To begin in September once a month on Sunday afternoon 3-5 pm
- **Men in the Church:** To meet for breakfast with a speaker once a month for "Church at another time" starting soon.

# **Edlesborough Parish Council News**

## **including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall**

### **Speed Limit Review**

Bucks CC have been requested as a matter of urgency to complete the painting of the 30mph road roundels and activate the VAS sign to 30mph in Northall

### **The Green**

Despite the wet conditions, the Carnival on Saturday 7th July 2012 was a successful and enjoyable day for all. The Carnival Committee did a good job helping to protect the surface of the Green as much as possible by taking various contingency actions. However, some damage was caused and the Parish Council, Carnival Committee and Cricket Club worked together to take action to have repairs carried out as quickly as possible. Accordingly, it is hoped that the Green will soon be back to normal.

### **Allotments**

There are allotments currently available at Cow Lane, Edlesborough and at Northall and Dagnall. For further information please contact the Clerk.

### **Junction with High Street/Leighton Road, Edlesborough**

The weather has hampered the painting of the white line from the bus stop cage to the end of the High Street which will be carried out as soon as possible. A request has been made for bollards to be placed on the adjacent green area to prevent parking and as a traffic safety measure.

### **Overhanging trees**

Bucks CC have been requested to cut back the overhanging branches of trees along the pavement from the top of the High Street to St. Mary's Glebe.

### **Edlesborough Area Open Day**

Parishioners are invited to attend an **EDLESBOROUGH AREA OPEN DAY** on Saturday 15th September 10am – 1pm at Edlesborough School. This event is being held to encourage people to find out about all the clubs, groups, classes and other activities happening in our villages with a wide range of activities for people of all ages, and a chance to meet the organisers and find out more information. If you would like to have a (free) table to advertise your club or activity please phone Marlene Bennett on 01525 220431.

### **ASSISTANT CLERK TO EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

**Edlesborough Parish Council has a vacancy for an Assistant Clerk. Duties will include attending General Purpose Committee meetings and recording the minutes, together with responsibility for the clerical aspects of Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Edlesborough Green, Pavilion and Play Equipment, Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall Allotments and Edlesborough Cemetery. The hours of work will be nominally 10 hours per week and the salary will be in accordance with the national SCP20 pay scale. A copy of the job description is available from the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Lin Sargeant 41 Pebblemoor, Edlesborough Telephone: 01525 220859. Email: [parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk)**

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

E-mail: [parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk)

Beverley Douglas – Manager – **PLEASE NOTE**  
**NEW TELEPHONE NO. 01525 229358.**

e-mail: bluebellbev@gmail.com

**Edlesborough Memorial Hall Booking**

**Secretary: Beverley Douglas – NEW TEL NO:**  
**01525 229358.** e-mail: bluebellbev@gmail.com

Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

## **Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings**

3rd Thursday monthly

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next Meeting: 20th Sep

## **St. Mary's Guild Eaton Bray**

The Guild met for their monthly meeting on July 11th at 2.00pm. Deirdrea welcomed members and extended a warm welcome to Pam, a visitor to the Guild. Birthday cards were handed out to Christine Rogers and Jenny Hewett who was celebrating a special birthday. Devotions were led by Marjorie Mann.

Deirdrea continued with the notices – A cheque for £100 had been sent to Mission to Seafarers in memory of Tom Heffer. Our outreach project is to raise monies for the Royal National Lifeboat Inst. by holding raffles and the bring and buy stall held at every meeting. It was suggested that we would possibly hold a coffee morning to raise funds for this charity in due course. The coach will be leaving outside the church at 9.30am for the outing to Henley on 22nd August. At the next meeting on Wednesday 8th August at 2.00pm Joan Fossey will demonstrate floral table arrangements, some of which will be included as prizes for the raffle.

A quiz followed with clues to places of interest, pictures of London, cockney songs, underground stations etc placed around the church. This was greatly enjoyed by all members. Social time and refreshments followed with a variety of very appetising dishes. New members are always welcome at our meetings to enjoy either a speaker or demonstrator, with time to chat and enjoy fellowship with each other.

## **Eaton Bray Methodist Church**

Our lunches and cream teas in June were a great success, despite the mixed weather, and a cheque for £500 has been sent to the Waterways Chaplaincy and a donation to chapel funds. A huge thank you to everyone who supported us, to all the people who helped before, during and after the day and to James and Jane McFarland for allowing us to take over their lovely home and gardens.

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday September 23rd at 10:30am and be led by Mr Geoff Bocutt. As in previous years, following the service, all fresh produce can be taken away for a donation and the dried and tinned goods will be given to charity. Once again the gentlemen of the chapel have agreed to make and serve a hot lunch after the service. Tickets will be available from chapel members or telephone Graham Carter on 220742.

Cafe Worship: Sunday 9th September led by Greg Obong-Oshotse.

Sunday 14th October led by Belinda Freeman.

Sunday 11th November led by Bob Harris.

We are to continue our Cafe Community on Saturday October 13th from 11am until 1pm when we invite friends old and new to join us for coffee, hot lite lunches, fellowship and a chill-out browse through the newspapers. If you have not tried it give it a go, everyone welcome.

## News from the Lions Den ...

Firstly, a sincere thank you to all of you who braved the downpours and came out in force to support the Carnival – in true British style we carried on regardless and hopefully all had a most enjoyable day.

This was our second carnival, although our first time as part of the procession, and we were delighted with how many readers came and introduced themselves and commented on our articles.

Our games on the carnival green seemed to keep you all entertained and as a result we were able to raise a considerable amount of money to put towards the purchase of high visibility waistcoats for local children. Our aim is that by early in the September term all of the 7 – 9 year olds at the Eaton Bray Academy will have been given a waistcoat. The other schools will follow in due course. We are planning some form of presentation event for this and parents will be advised of the details in due course.

We have recently made a cash donation to 'Step Up'. The Limb Fitting Centre provides specialist knowledge and services to lower limb amputee patients throughout the region.

The dedicated staff of the Luton & Dunstable's Limb Fitting team ensure that they provide the highest quality prostheses and offer ongoing support and a maintenance service.

The multidisciplinary team includes a consultant, prosthetist, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist and rehabilitation engineer - all complemented by a team of highly-skilled technicians.

In addition to being the specialist unit, the centre provides physiotherapy sessions to local amputee patients and there are good communication links with other teams in referring hospitals.

We are delighted with the response we have received to our trial fish and chip delivery service – we were taking calls from the very first day that the Focus magazine was circulated. Hopefully this will take off and can become a regular activity for our club to conduct. We are going to run two more trial dates, 31st August and 21st September so get your orders in to avoid disappointment. If we make a positive difference to just one person's life then we can be assured we are doing a good thing.

As we approach our first birthday, we are taking time to reflect on all of our achievements to date. From our national award winning scrapbook to our donations of almost £3000, Santa's grotto in Dagnall, our race night, the high visibility waistcoat project the work with Stoke Manderville and more recently the introduction of the fish and chip delivery service. Individually these are perhaps modest, but combined they display a significant amount of entirely voluntary service designed to support our local area. We sincerely hope that the community is beginning to see the real benefit of having a Lions Club and we hope we can count on your support as we continue with our community service projects in the years to come. Thank you for your generosity this far ....

### **One Shot, One Life**

Whilst we are busy working to support our local community, Lions International is hard at work also and has recently joined the Measles Initiative, founded by the American Red Cross. This initiative plans to vaccinate 157 million children this year at a cost of less than \$1 per child.



A highly contagious virus, and one most of us will have experienced, Measles is spread and spreading quickly. Each day some 450 children die. On a crowded bus of 100 people, if there is just one person with measles, 90 people will become infected if they have not been vaccinated.

Measles vaccinations are among the most cost effective public health interventions today. For just \$1, a person can receive life long immunity. If this vaccination is so cheap, why doesn't everyone get it ?

*Ordinary people doing amazing things*



## Edlesborough School's Olympic Extravaganza!

On Friday 22nd June, the air was electric with excitement and anticipation as all of the children of Edlesborough School prepared themselves for a whole school production with a difference – our very own Olympic opening ceremony!!!

After weeks of preparation and rehearsals the time had come for the children to take centre stage with their classes, to perform songs and dances to a field packed with parents.

The children entered the ceremony like true athletes, flying their own designed class flags which they paraded with pride to the waiting parents. Then in perfect unison, the National Anthem was sung by the entire school. The grey clouds couldn't deter the eagerness of KS1 as they then performed their balloon extravaganza to the song 'Proud'. Y3/4 then delighted the audience with their dance to the Olympic song 'One World, One Dream' and performed with great gusto, despite the rain accompanying their moves. Y5/6 then followed with their Bollywood inspired dance to 'J'ai Ho'.

The rain clouds cleared briefly as KS1 returned to the stage to sing 'We are the Olympians', followed by Y3/4 performing an African drumming routine in perfect unison. After Y5/6 put on a display of karate moves to 'Eye of the Tiger' and sung 'Wave your Flag' came the finale. This was a sight to behold, as the entire school formed the Olympic rings on the school field to draw our opening ceremony to a close.

A fabulous time was had by all and the staff of Edlesborough School are immensely proud of the children for an outstanding performance despite the weather!

We would like to sincerely thank all of our parents in supporting this event by giving up their time to come and watch the ceremony. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Photos on page 73



**KF Performing Arts**  
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Edlesborough Memorial Hall : **Every Thursday**  
**4:00-4:45- 4+yrs 'Mini Movers!'**  
**4:45-5:45pm 5-7yrs**  
**5:45-6:45pm 8-12yrs**  
*Places are limited so please contact Kiri to book your space to avoid disappointment. Classes are taught by a professional dancer with new and exciting dances to current chart hits! Come along and join the fun!*  
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Classes also available Tuesdays in Wing Fridays in Cheddington

**KF Performing Arts**  
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**BALLET**  
Edlesborough Memorial Hall :  
**Every Wednesday**  
**4:45-5.30pm 3-4yrs**  
**5:30-6:30pm 5-8yrs**  
*Places are limited so please contact Kiri to book your space to avoid disappointment.*  
All Abilities Welcome!  
**07988 161043** [kjfperformingarts@aol.co.uk](mailto:kjfperformingarts@aol.co.uk)



### Some comments from our recent Ofsted report:

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.**

[www.dagnallunderfives.co.uk](http://www.dagnallunderfives.co.uk)

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## Dagnall News

### Over 60's

The Over Sixties Garden Party was blessed with a beautiful afternoon at 6 Dunstable Road. For once the sun shone and the wind dropped and everyone had a lovely time eating and chatting and enjoying the garden setting.

On July 24th we planned to visit the Lavender Fields at Hitchin with lunch at the Green Man in Stansford afterwards. We are short of numbers for our coach trips and may well have to discontinue them, as the cost becomes prohibitive for less than 35 participants

In August we have a speaker on Health and Fitness, in the village hall with tea as usual and on September 18th we hope to join a Theobalds' outing by coach to Bishop Stortford and Finchingfield, one of the most photographed villages in Britain.

### Community Choir

#### **Busy Autumn In Prospect - Next Concert, Eaton Bray October 20th.**

You would be forgiven for suspecting that the Summer would be a quiet time for our Community Choir. Not a bit of it, we are busy adding fresh new items to our repertoire for our concert season beginning on October 20th. in Eaton Bray Village Hall. This concert will also feature, amongst others, music from "Memory Lane", the instrumental group, who received such a good reception at our Spring Concert. Ticket prices have not yet been decided but please rest assured that they will not be unreasonable and will represent good value for an evening's entertainment. More detailed information will appear in the next edition of Focus. Soon after this, on November 10th, we will be appearing at The Poppy Prom at St. Mary's Church also in Eaton Bray.

As ever we are indebted to Stuart Harding, our long suffering, conductor and muse, shepherding us through the more challenging passages, and also to our accompanist, Joe Leslie.

We meet every Monday evening at Dagnall Church and it is always a joy to hear our little church filled with beautiful music. So thanks to all members for making it happen. If you feel inclined to join us, particularly men, now would be a good time, before our Summer break, because we are all just starting on new additions to our repertoire.

Please call Val Lumley on 01442 842214 or Geoff Ward on 01442 843515 who will be pleased to assure you that enthusiasm is as much valued as musical ability.

### Dagnall School Olympic Sports Day

All the children in Dagnall School participated in their own Olympic Sports day. The day began with a procession of torch bearers. The children represented four countries from different continents. They all paraded around the school grounds following banners representing the Olympic values of friendship, respect, excellence and determination. The children then joined together for an opening ceremony dance before joining their countries to compete in a variety of sports activities. These included throwing the javelin, tennis, long jump, a triathlon and a torch relay race. Photo on page 73.

'That was the best sports day ever'

'I didn't know I could play tennis'

'I was determined to throw the javelin further'

'I loved watching my dad in the parent's race.

He stood on the ball and nearly fell over'

'We all tried our best. I think everyone did.





### Edlesborough Under 5's

<b>Monday - Friday Morning</b>	<b>9.10 am - 12.10 pm</b>
<b>Lunch Clubs</b>	<b>12.10 pm - 12.45 pm</b>
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday afternoon</b>	<b>12.45 pm - 3.15 pm</b>

We are delighted that after over 15 years operating from Edlesborough Memorial Hall, we will be relocating to a brand new preschool room at Edlesborough School from September 2012 where we will be able to offer a wider range of activities, a larger outdoor play area, extended opening hours from 9am to 3pm every week day (including lunch clubs) and a seamless transition to school. We are very excited to have been awarded a generous grant from AVDC Community Chest awards to equip our new preschool and our dedicated team of trained preschool staff are looking forward to welcoming new children to learn and develop through play at our wonderful new facility.

**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](http://www.edlesboroughunder5s.org.uk)**

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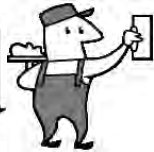
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## Eaton Bray Taverners Bridge Club

### Can I learn to play?

The club secretary will give you information about bridge lessons starting in **September** at the **Northall Village Hall** and also about free software that will enable you to teach yourself.

### Bridge Players

Why not bring a partner and play duplicate bridge on Friday evenings from 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. The club meets at the Eaton Bray Methodist church schoolroom throughout the year. If you need a partner, please phone the club secretary on **01525 221779**.

### What's it all about?

Bridge is a card game of the whist variety and has been played in its present form since 1925. Duplicate whist has been around since 1891 and it was natural for bridge to develop along the same lines.

At the start of the evening players and their partners sit at tables for four and shuffle and deal the cards. The hands of each deck are placed into duplicate boards in positions marked North, East, South and West. Normally 24 to 28 boards will be played during the 3-hour session. After the hands are played they are replaced exactly as received into the duplicate boards and scores are written onto a travelling score card.

The tournament director organises proceedings so that players move to play as many opponents as possible and to play as many of the boards as time allows. The luck of the deal is largely eliminated and the bridge played becomes a satisfactory test of skill. When players first pick up a hand they enter the auction phase in which the nominated dealer makes the first call. Players use silent bidders so that players at other tables do not hear what is happening. On conclusion of the auction one player becomes what is known as declarer. The player on declarer's left makes the opening lead and declarer tries to make the bid contract. The result is entered onto the score sheet. The results are published on the website each week or printed out for the next session.

At the Eaton Bray Taverners Bridge club the bridge played is according to the rules of the World Bridge Federation and the orange book of the English Bridge Union.

### Bridge courses

Please phone the club secretary on **01525 221779** for details or visit website: [www.watson-eaton-bray.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.watson-eaton-bray.freeserve.co.uk)



## EID Festival at Dunstable Downs

Chilterns Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs, Whipsnade Road  
DUNSTABLE Beds LU6 2GY

### Date: Sat 1st Sep 12

Contact: Chilterns Gateway Centre Shop, Telephone: 01582 500925, Email: [dunstabledowns@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:dunstabledowns@nationaltrust.org.uk), Website: <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstable-downs-chilterns-gateway-and-whipsnade-estate/>

A fun filled day for all people of all ages, with a host of activities. Join us for a variety of workshops, children's entertainers, archery, laser quest, face painting, bouncy castle, children's activities, henna artists and art & crafts fun. A fantastic day out for everyone. 11 am to 5 pm.



# Highlights of the Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Held on Monday 2 July 2012 from 7:30pm at the Coffee Tavern

## NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

Eaton Bray Parish Council is pleased to have co-opted a new councillor, Cllr. Carol Willis onto the Parish Council.

## CENTRAL BEDS REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr. Marion Mustoe attended the meeting and informed the Parish Council that Central Bedfordshire Council is launching a new opportunity called Community Games. This is for communities/organisations to come together to take part in Sporting of Cultural Activities in celebration of the London 2012 Olympic/Paralympics Games. If you have an exciting event or planning a community event in the summer; the Community Games Fund can help with access to a small grant of £250. To find out more about the Community go to [communitygames@teambedsandluton.co.uk](mailto:communitygames@teambedsandluton.co.uk), or call 01582 813760.

The consultation on the draft Development Plan for Central Bedfordshire is taking place from 20 June 2012 to 8 August 2012. The consultation documents can be viewed on <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/current-online-consultations.aspx>.

## POLICE REPRESENTATIVE

PCSO Claire Young attended the meeting and went through the crime figures for June. There were 4 incidents; phone theft, iPad theft, domestic incident and damage to a vehicle. There have been vehicles gathering at School Lane car park, the police are aware of this matter and are monitoring the situation.

The police wished to remind all residents, during the summer months, to ensure doors and windows are locked securely when leaving their property.

## THE RYE GROUND – PLANNING APPLICATION CB/12/01812

Members of the public addressed the Parish Council concerning the planning application for The Rye Ground planning application, the council advised residents that they need to lodge their responses to the application direct with Central Bedfordshire Council Planning Department. Full details can be found on <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/PLANTECH/DCWebPages/acolnetcgi.gov?ACTION=UNWRAP&RIPNAME=Root.PgeResultDetail&TheSystemkey=578093>.

## E.B.A.T. (EATON BRAY ACTION TEAM)

The Parish Council's Parish Plan Working Group are looking at developing E.B.A.T. 'Eaton Bray Action Team' to consist of a group of people/residents who can help/volunteer some of their time towards the beautification and improvement of the parish. If you are interested in joining please contact the Parish Clerk.

**PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:** [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk).

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

Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

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

Email: [clerk@ebpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ebpc.co.uk) - Telephone/Fax: 01525

221464 - Website: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-

13:30hrs [message can be left on answerphone]

[emergency contact only: Cllr. J. Conner - Tel 01525

221154 - Email [joan\\_d\\_conner@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joan_d_conner@yahoo.co.uk)]

## Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

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

Next Meetings: Mon 3rd Sep  
Mon 1st Oct

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After a stunningly successful event, Paul Airton from the Air Ambulance Service, handed over a commemorative picture of one of their helicopters, in recognition of our having raised a total of **£4619.74** for the charity, thanks to the extreme generosity of the people of our area, the sponsors, The Cadillac Blues Band & all the people who helped before and during the event. The Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions organised the car parking while Cross Keys farm at Dagnall provided the superb hog roast.

After days of extremely high winds threatened to blow everything in the garden to the other side of Dunstable Downs, the Sunday of the event turned out to be warm and sunny, as the big red '68 Cadillac took it's place in the garden ready for the band to play. The wonderful *Cadillac Blues Band* did not disappoint, keeping everyone entertained most of the afternoon. The Grand Draw raffle with over **£1500** worth of prizes all donated absolutely free of charge, proved very popular and helped greatly towards the final total raised.

Our thanks go to all of you who helped us in any way and to all of you who came and supported such a worthy cause. Many people do not realise that the Air Ambulance receives no money whatsoever from the Government, local authorities or the Lottery, **but costs more than £1000 for each mission !**

We are delighted to be able to announce that the **Cadillac Blues Band** will be playing for us again on **Saturday 24th November** at Eaton Bray Village Hall. There will be a licenced bar, food available & music videos to keep you amused. Cost will be £10 on the night or £8 in advance from **01525221583**

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*Above: Dagnall School  
Olympic Sports Day - see page 52*

*Right & Top Right: Edlesborough School  
Olympic Opening Ceremony  
see page 49*

*Below: Dagnall Under Fives Toddle  
Waddle - see page 81*





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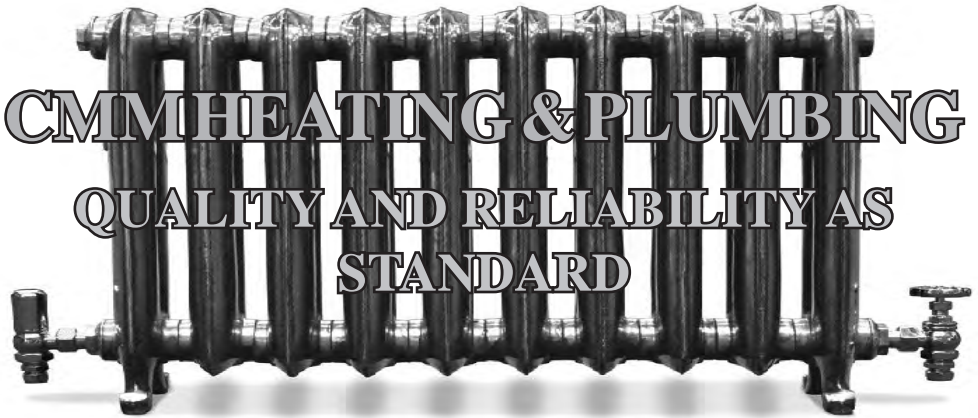
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An Independent Day School for Boys & Girls aged 2 - 11 years  
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*learning creating playing growing*

### OPEN DAY DATES:

**3rd March 2012**  
**12th May 2012**  
**31st May 2012**

Established in 1936

## Salvation Sound - August/September 2012

Today has come the news of the rescue of the British medic who had been captured by the Taliban in Afghanistan, along with another Doctor and Afghani aides. News has come too of the loss of another young soldier. As we watch the spectacle of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations this coming week, there will be many representatives from all three Services who have served in Afghanistan, or will be waiting to be posted there. No matter whether we agree with the campaign in Afghanistan, I wonder whether you, like me, think about the people in Afghanistan: those who have been born there and those who fight there. Here is one person's account.

### The US Chaplain's story

I wept for a soldier who told me last month he was worried he'd grown used to killing insurgents. His eyes moistened as he told me how his parents saw him as a hero. "They wouldn't call me a hero if they knew what I do," he declared. "Is it normal to see killing as routine?" he asked. I assured him that he wasn't crazy, or he wouldn't have come to me. While some of my tears were for him, I likely was thinking of my son, who joined the Marines two years ago. "Dad, we're learning to kill from 500 yards," he wrote from boot camp, "Is it wrong to kill?"

I answered him with an ancient scripture: "There is a time to kill." (Ecclesiastes 3) Sometimes, we are compelled to eradicate evil with deadly force. In so doing, we run a risk of destroying our own moral fibre. In the process, tears will come. They are a way of protecting our core being. If we didn't shed tears for such horrendous losses, we wouldn't be human. That's the simple difference between the good guys and the bad guys — we cry when we are forced to use violence; they don't. As I considered my tears, it occurred to me that maybe they were proud tears. We were asking so much of our young heroes. Most of them knew the price they'd pay, and many of them had overpaid.

"You going to be all right?" my chaplain assistant asked as the office phone rang. It was the ICU. The soldier who asked about the purpose of all this wanted to see me again. "I want you to pray, chaplain," he said. "I want you to pray for the insurgents that did this." "What should I pray?" I asked. The soldier responded by telling me to pray the prayer that Jesus prayed from the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." I'm not sure I've finished crying.

<b>The Salvation Army,</b>		
<b>Booth Place - Weekly Activities</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>		
Footprints (Sunday School)	9.45-10.45am	
Morning Worship	11.00am	
<b>Songs of Praise</b>	<b>4.00pm</b>	
3rd Sunday of the month May to December		
<b>Monday (term time)</b>		
Champions Challenge Club		
(Ages 5-10 years)	5.30-6.30pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>		
Coffee Morning		
(alternate weeks)	10.00-11.30am	
Music practices (all welcome)	7.30-9.00pm	
<b>Wednesday</b>		
Home League		
(Ladies Mtg but all welcome)	2.30-3.30pm	
<b>Thursday</b>		
Parent and Toddler Group		
(Term time)	9.30-11.30am	
Ladies Fellowship		
(Last week of month)	7.45pm	
<i>For further details please contact Captain Jenny Dibsall</i>		
<i>T: 01525 221156/07717 813682</i>		
<i>E: <a href="mailto:jenny.dibsall@salvationarmy.org.uk">jenny.dibsall@salvationarmy.org.uk</a></i>		
<i>W: <a href="http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray">www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray</a></i>		

## Abbot's Hill School Celebrates Centenary

Abbot's Hill School in Hemel Hempstead celebrates its Centenary this year with an exciting programme of events covering all aspects of school life including a performance of *The Tempest*, a Gym and Dance Display and a Service of Thanksgiving at St Albans Cathedral.



Abbot's Hill was founded in 1912 by sisters Katrine and Mary Baird in the house originally owned by local paper manufacturer John Dickinson. The school expanded and developed with the times and is now a thriving independent day school for girls 3-16 and boys 3-5. Former pupils include BBC Young Apprentice 2011 Zara Brownless and Olympic Athlete Marilyn Okoro.

Headmistress Mrs Kerstin Lewis said: "We are extremely proud to be celebrating one hundred years of educating girls at Abbot's Hill. Although the school has changed immensely, the founding values of teamwork, co-operation and partnership, where everyone is encouraged to discover their unique talents and reach for the stars continue to be our strength. I am sure that the School will continue to thrive and be successful for the next one hundred years."

Abbot's Hill will be holding Open Days on Saturday 6 October 2pm-4pm and Saturday 17 November 10am – 12 noon. For more information visit the website: [www.abbotshill.herts.sch.uk](http://www.abbotshill.herts.sch.uk).

### Ford End Water Mill

Ivinghoe, Bucks

#### Open Days

Afternoons 2.00–5.00pm

12th August - Sunday (M)

27th August - Bank Holiday Monday (M)

9th September - Sunday

30th September - Sunday (M)

**MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS** (water level permitting) on dates marked with an (M) 2.30pm-4.30pm approx

**Admission: Adults: £2 children (5–15) 50p**

**Last admission 4.30pm**



### Dunstable & District Local History Society Tuesday 11th September, 7.45pm English Heritage

Katie Carmichael, part of the team which has been studying the hat industry in this area, talks about the work of English Heritage.

**Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable**  
Visitors always welcome

### Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners July 2012

143	Moira D'Arcy	£100
22	Sally Siddons	£25
136	Jane Hosey	£25
173	Margaret Roberts	£25

Drawn on 9 July 2012 at Eaton Bray Academy. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni 71 Bower Lane Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire LU6 1RB Telephone: 01525 221411.

### Beacon Villages Community Library

*Ivinghoe High Street*

#### Opening Hours

**Tuesday/Thursday 2-5pm**

**Friday 2-7pm**

**Saturday 10am-1pm**

*Tel: 01296 387890*

*[www.bvcl.org.uk](http://www.bvcl.org.uk)*



## **Edlesborough Book Group**

### **Buddha Da by Anne Donovan**

This novel is set in Glasgow and is written in the Glaswegian vernacular. This is at first quite daunting, but Anne Donovan writes very clearly and phonetically, making the words form a rhythm that soon becomes easy to read and gives the book an authentic ring.

The story is told by three narrators, each one taking a chapter in turn to tell their view of the situation. They are Jimmy McKenna, his wife Liz and their daughter Anne Marie. Jimmy is a self employed painter and decorator and as the book opens seems to be a happily married working man, content to spend his leisure time drinking with his mates, or with his extended family. His life and that of his family changes when, after a chance meeting with a Buddhist monk, he becomes curious about the Buddhist religion.

Impressed by the peacefulness and tranquillity he encounters when he visits his local Buddhist centre, he begins to question the lack of faith in his own life. He goes to a weekend retreat and what had started as curiosity becomes firm belief. Liz, who at first watched Jimmy with benign amusement, becomes more and more exasperated by her husband's outlandish behaviour. Things finally come to a head when Jimmy decides to become a celibate in accordance with Buddhist belief. Liz cannot understand her husband's apparent selfishness and lack of consideration for her and their daughter. For her it appears that Jimmy no longer wants a normal marriage and she forces him to make a choice.

Anne Marie appears to be a very bright little girl and quite mature in her observation of her parents' dilemma. Hers is the voice of reason, she reports the peculiar things that are happening within her family, but without prejudice or blame.

The book group was very divided in its opinion of Buddha Da. This is always a good thing as it generates discussion. Some people found the phonetic writing difficult to assimilate and were put off. Others found the story not well enough constructed, saying that Anne Donovan raised interesting points but did not carry them through. The ending was rather rushed and unsatisfactory, but there were some group members that enjoyed the book and felt that the Glaswegian argot lent weight to the book.

## **Dagnall Under Fives**

In July the children, Staff & Parents of Dagnall Under Fives Play Group completed a Toddle Waddle around Dagnall Green in aid of Barnados. Despite blustery conditions the children donned their superhero costumes to take part in this year's Big Toddle for Barnados. Raising in excess of £150 to help Britain's most vulnerable toddlers, the children (pictured on page 73) completed two laps of Dagnall Village recreation ground before returning to pre-school to be rewarded with stickers and badges.

The staff at playgroup would like to wish their little leavers all the best with their continued education as they all leave for 'big school'. They also extend a warm welcome to all those who will be hoping to join them in September!

Happy Holidays! from Ann Tobin & All the Staff x

If you are interested in joining Dagnall Under Fives - contact Ann Tobin on 07816358342 - thank you to all those involved.

# Come for coffee at St Mary's

For a warm welcome and a cheering cuppa  
In St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

Next Coffee  
Morning

10am – noon  
11 August

Afternoon  
Cream  
Teas

August 5<sup>th</sup>  
2 – 4pm



Celebrating another amazing year  
of

## WORLDS BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Come and join us on Friday 21st September  
from 9.00 a.m. until 12.00 noon  
In St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

Last year we raised over £700, each year gets better  
and better so please help us to make 2012 another record  
breaker!

Cakes, Bring and Buy, Book stall, Cards, etc. etc.

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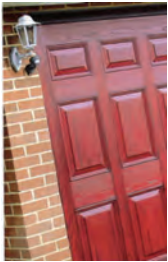


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