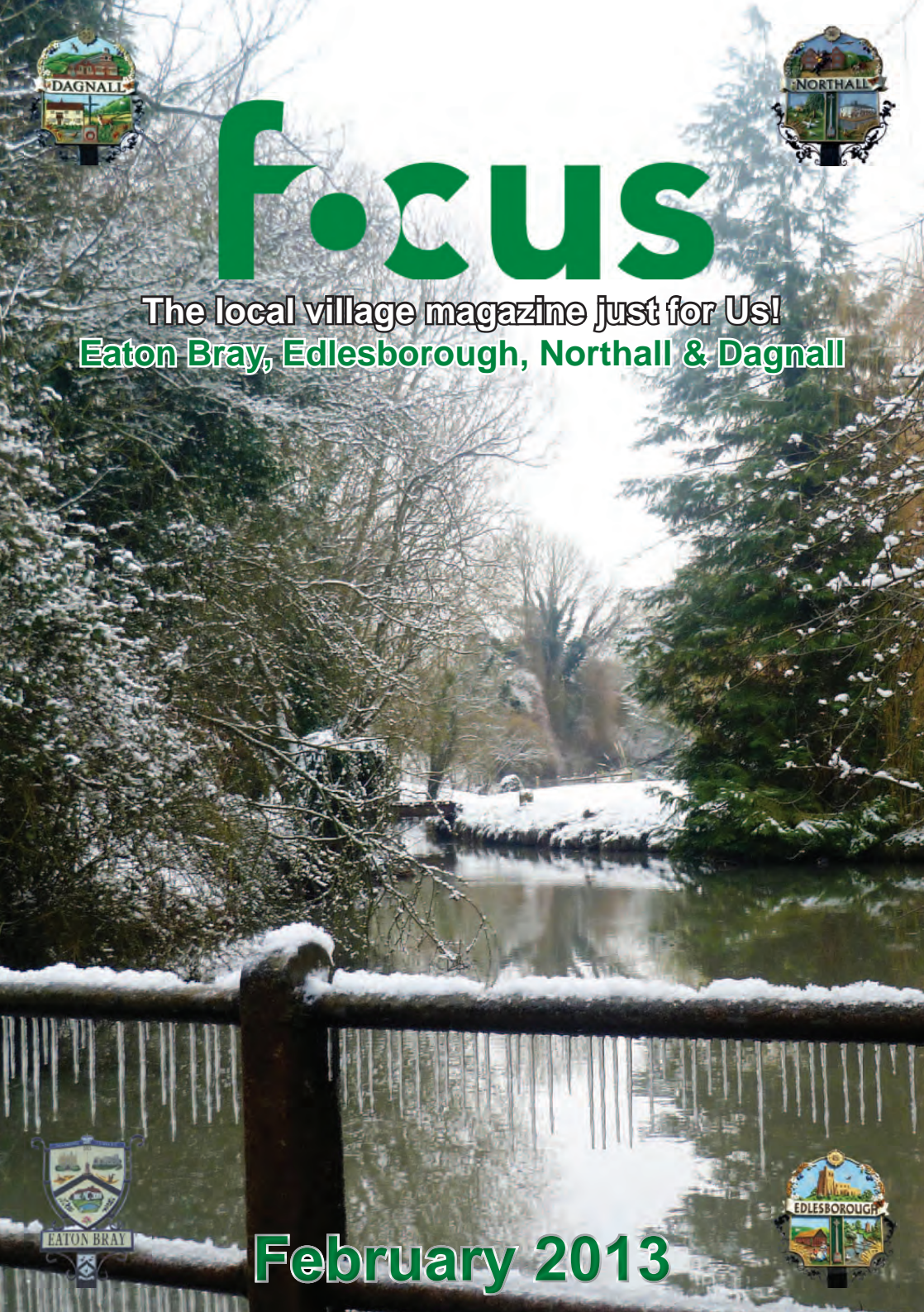




focus

The local village magazine just for Us!

Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall



February 2013

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Focus 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

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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

Kindly Note...

If the event you wish to advertise falls in the first week of the month, it is advisable to get the details into Focus a month earlier. The magazines are not delivered from the printers until the first of the month, therefore it takes a few days for them all to be circulated throughout the village.

✉ Editors

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together **Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)**

General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473418

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 Diary February 2013



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 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 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 Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Fridays

Village Diary February 2013



- 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 Tuesday Bingo, 7pm, Dagnall Village Hall
- 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 Wednesday Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions Club, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
- 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

- 2nd St. Mary's Eaton Bray Coffee Morning, 10am to noon
- 3rd Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 8th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am.
- 9th Cafe Community, 11am - 1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
- 19th Dagnall Over 60's. Lunch at Dagnall Red Lion. Quiz & Raffle
- 25th ELF walk, 10am, Eaton Bray Church

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 9th 2.30pm, CHILDREN'S PROM, St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray. The concert will delight adults and hopefully inspire children and encourage them to hear and enjoy live music. It's on your doorstep and tickets for accompanied children are FREE, so come and enjoy some tremendous music and bring your children/grand-children.
- 10th Dagnall Gardeners' Society hut reopens 10am
- 21st - 23rd Front Row presents Steel Magnolias at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Box Office: 01525 222283

Village Notices



EDaN Community Transport

Peter Williams:
01442 842506

GARAGE SPACE REQUIRED

Does anyone on or near Summerleys (Edlesborough) have a garage or lock up I could keep a motorbike in: I'm happy to pay a monthly charge. I've had a couple of bikes stolen off the road, so would really appreciate any help. My contact number is 07912 550279.

Thanks, Phil

Julie Jones

The many friends in Dagnall of Mrs Julie Jones would like to congratulate her on recently obtaining her BA honours degree from Luton University in Social Work after 3 years of hard graft! Well done Julie!



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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: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Village Notices

STOP PRESS LUTON AIRPORT

Luton Airport's Planning Application has been published on the Luton Borough Council Web site www.eplan.luton.gov.uk <<http://www.eplan.luton.gov.uk/>> and the application number is 12/01400/FUL. Please note that the consultation period is just six weeks, until mid February.



Dagnall Village Hall 100 Club Winners – December 2012

108	Mr and Mrs Foale	£50
121	Tracey Stokes	£25
103	Robert Wood	£25

Drawn on 1st December at Dagnall Christmas Fete. Please call Sharon Quinn on 01442 842129 if you would like to join and help the Village Hall Funds.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners January 2013

200	Tanya Watkin	£100
189	Sonia Dean	£25
46	Neil Hines	£25
39	Norman Lee	£25

Drawn on 13 December 2012 at Eaton Bray Academy. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni 71 Bower Lane Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire LU6 1RB Telephone: 01525 221411.



EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL



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

The Parish Council is nine members of the public

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

At present we have vacancies – will YOU come and join us?

If yes, please contact the Parish Clerk

You can also look at our website for more details

Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

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

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk - Telephone/Fax: 01525 221464 - Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms – “Brought to new birth in the family of the Church”

25th November: Maisy Bethany PEARCE

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

12th December: James Noble and Vassilisa LEPEKHOVA

5th January 2013: Emma MORGAN and Matthew JUDD

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

22nd November: Spencer BUTLER

29th November: Bruce Augustus OSBORN (Dagnall)

10th December: Terence Edward CARLISLE

28th December: Baby Elliot Harris

14th January: Honora BATTLE

15th January: Adele Delia DAVEY

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

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



Dunstable & District Orbit Club

Happy New Year! Are you sad the celebrations are over for another year? Why not make a New Year's resolution and join a new club? And make new friends along the way?

Dunstable & District Orbit Club is a social and charitable club and has raised thousands of pounds in the last 25 years.

We ran a quiz in October and have just helped Rotary with their Christmas float.

Why not give it a try? We meet every first and third Tuesday at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm, where you will receive a warm welcome. For more details please contact 01525 222441 or 01582 535761 or visit our website www.orbitclub.org.uk/dunstable

✉ Jill Richards, Publicity officer

A Letter from Rev'd Coralie



Vicar: Coralie McCluskey
The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261
Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd John Heffer
Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)
Church Warden: Catherine Hayden (220527)
Parish Administrator: Elisabeth Ryder (07890 718117)
Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com

Making sense of Ash Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent in Western Christianity. Lent ends at the ninth hour of Maundy Thursday or on Easter Saturday. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days because each Sunday represents a 'mini-Easter', a celebration of Jesus's victory over sin and death. Ash Wednesday is a day of penitence to clean the soul before the Lenten fast.

Ash Wednesday services:

Roman Catholic, Anglican and other Western Christian denominations may hold services at which worshippers are marked with ashes as a symbol of penitence. Ashes were used in ancient times, according to the Bible, to express mourning. Dusting oneself with ashes was the penitent's way of expressing sorrow for sins and faults and was sometimes accompanied by the wearing of sackcloth and of fasting.

The mark of ashes:

On Ash Wednesday people are marked on the forehead with a cross of ashes. The use of ashes, made by burning palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday is symbolic. The palms were blessed on Palm Sunday the previous year to celebrate Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the ash symbolises His death on the cross. The ash is sometimes mixed with anointing oil, this leaves a good mark but the use of oil also reminds us of God's blessing and of the anointing or marking with a cross at Baptism.

Traditional Ash Wednesday prayer:

As each person is marked with the cross on the forehead the Minister says, '*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.*' This prayer is based on God's sentence on Adam in Genesis 3:19.

Keeping the mark:

At some churches the worshippers leave with the mark still on their forehead so that they carry the sign of the cross out into the world. At other churches the service ends with the ashes being washed off as a sign that the participants have been cleansed of their sin.

There are Services of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at St Mary's on Ash Wednesday at 10am and 8pm.

Details of Lent courses will be on the St Mary's web site and on posters in the local churches.

Coralie



Appledown's Dog of the Month

Introducing Hurricane, a 4-year-old lurcher. He is fully vaccinated, neutered and microchipped.

Hurricane is house-trained and has been living with a family for two years but sadly, due to a change in family circumstances, he has been returned to us. He has an impeccable temperament and has done nothing wrong. We would love to see him happily settled again.

If you feel you could offer Hurricane, 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.

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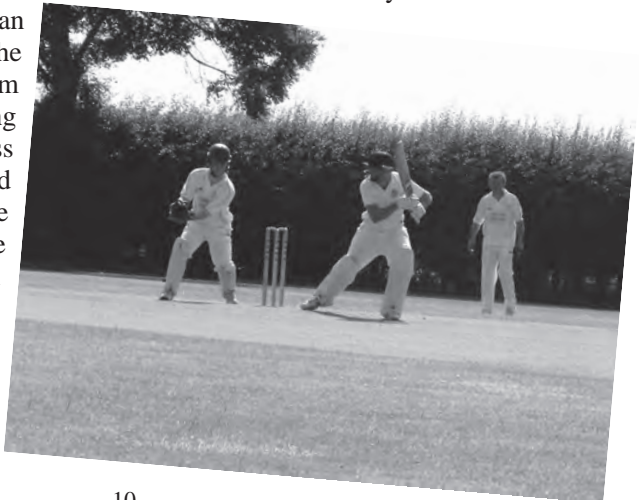
Eaton Bray Cricket Club

The 2013 season promises to be a successful one for Eaton Bray Cricket Club as it continues to grow its junior section and further establish its 3 adult sides. The club would like to invite players of all ages and abilities to join its enthusiastic, friendly village cricket club. From a picturesque ground on the outskirts of the village, the club runs 3 adult and 4 junior sides with an Under 8's team being added for the coming season. The youth system has quickly grown since being formed in 2011, with in excess of 40 junior players registered in 2012! The adult teams are also seeking players, with the Saturday 1st XI competing in the FCCL division 1, Saturday 2nd XI playing in Division 4 of the league and a Sunday XI who play friendly cricket, with the emphasis on developing both young and inexperienced

cricketers!

Winter nets run on Wednesday nights, so please get in touch for all information on when and where training is for each age group!

Check out our website www.eatonbray.play-cricket.com, e-mail us at ebccenquiries@hotmail.com or follow us on Twitter @EatonBrayCC



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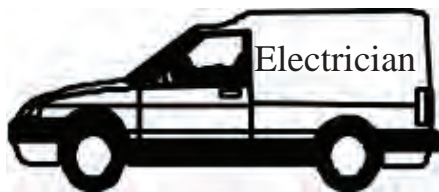
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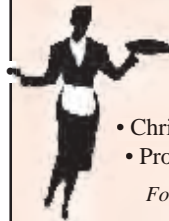
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Village Hall Car Park, Quiz and Beer Festival!

Well, the Quiz held in the Village Hall on the 17th November by the Village Hall Fund Raisers and the Eaton Bray Tennis Club was the usual exciting stuff, with two teams vying for the lead, Keith's Best Mates and Muck and Bullets, until the newcomers, Muck and Bullets, came through strongly at the end to win by the smallest of margins and claim the excellent first prize of 8 bottles of (ordinary) wine. Obviously the attraction is not the prize! Another sell out that made in excess of £1100 to be split equally between the two groups. Foolishly I said that anyone needing a table for the next one, on **13th April 2013**, should give me a ring on the Monday. To my astonishment I have over 130 places booked for then! So if you want to come let me know soon.

As you may have read in my last missive, we had a few differences of opinion with the contractor over the car park. The excellent news is, that as I write this piece (on 7th January) the original contractors are on site completing the job to the original specification.

We appreciate that the car park has not

been looking its best for the last few months, but we hope that you will be happy with the finished job. We know we will be!

Our next big event after the Quiz in April will be the **10th BEER FESTIVAL on Friday May 31st and Saturday June 1st.**

We will be adding new attractions along with slightly longer opening hours, so this will be the best ever. I have just been looking out my T shirt from the first Festival, back in 2004 and if it hasn't too many holes in it, I will be wearing it on one of the days. Do you still have an original 2004 T shirt, we did sell quite a few? If you do come along and show it off!

For more information on the Village Hall or any of these events give me a call. Ross 221411





Bletchley Park's Secret Sisters

Bletchley Park's Secret Sisters
Psychological Warfare in World War II

John A. Taylor

Bletchley Park will be forever associated with the secret intelligence activities of World War

Two. Yet in addition to the incredible achievements of the code breakers, only a few miles away several other secret organisations were also achieving clandestine success, with operations that were conducted from centres hidden in the local countryside. This region had been chosen by the Government because it was remote from the London Blitz yet still maintained good road and rail communications with the Capital - but what did these secret organisations do?

In a highly subversive campaign, propaganda played an early and effective role, selecting recruits from amongst the refugees fleeing Nazi oppression. Gathered in large, local houses, there they would write and rehearse propaganda scripts for radio broadcasts to enemy territory. At a secret studio, these broadcasts were then recorded onto discs and taken by the Secret Service to radio transmitting stations, hidden in the local

countryside.

Under the control of the Communications Section of the Secret Intelligence Service, another radio station transmitted decoded information from Bletchley Park to Allied military commanders overseas. Further radio stations maintained contact with secret agents, sent on missions deep inside Occupied Europe. In hidden workshops, advanced radio equipment for their use was designed and manufactured and in various country houses specialised training schools were set up.

Later in the war, not far from Woburn Abbey an ultra modern recording and broadcast studio was then built which, when linked to the most powerful radio transmitter in Europe, began use in sophisticated operations that would completely deceive and confuse the Germans.

This book now tells the little known story of all these other secret activities, the fascinating story of Bletchley Park's 'Secret Sisters'.

Copies available from Sally Siddons
01525 221733.

Beechwood Park School - Next Open Morning - February 15th

Patrick Atkinson, Headmaster of Beechwood Park School, Pickford Road, Markyate, is always happy to meet prospective parents individually. To see the school in action, Open Mornings are held each term. This year they take place on February 15th, May 24th and October 18th. Grandparents, as well as prospective parents and their children are all always

welcome. Beechwood Park also has a Montessori Nursery nearby at Little Cheverells and visits can be arranged by Beechwood Park's Registrar.

Please look at the website - www.beechwoodpark.net - or phone the Registrar on 01582 840333 to register for an Open Morning or to make an appointment.

Did you know...

World famous racing driver John Surtees OBE had his first solo bike meeting in EATON BRAY.

John was born in Tatsfield Surrey in 1934, the eldest of three children. Their father, Jack, owned a motor cycle shop in Tamworth Rd, West Croydon. Close to their home was Monks Orchard Primary school, which John attended before moving on to Ashbourne Senior School in Addiscombe. John was a talented and keen competitor in whichever sport he was participating. He was captain of the football team, a competent cross-country runner and also liked a bout in the boxing ring.

With his father in the motor cycle business, there was no shortage of encouragement for John to pursue a career connected in some way. John's first ride on a motorcycle was in 1947 aged 13. This was a Wallace-Blackburne speedway bike which he rode on a cinder footpath on the outside of the Brands Hatch circuit and according to his father, Jack, went round and round until he ran out of petrol.

His parents were both involved in motorcycle sport throughout the year. During the summer Jack would be at a grass track or road race meeting with a variety of 'ballast' in the sidecar, including his son, John.

Hence came John's first solo meeting in 1949, a grass track meeting at EATON BRAY. He wore a pair of his fathers' leathers, which were enormous on a fifteen year old. The bike was too big and heavy, a B14 Excelsior JAP, from his father's shop, now in Forest Hill. It proved to be difficult for the young novice to handle and he apparently fell off on more than one occasion, but did have the satisfaction of finishing the race!



John's road racing debut was at Brands Hatch in 1950, with a Triumph Tiger 70. He came third, but fell off whilst in second place on the last lap. He began his apprenticeship at the Vincent motorcycle factory in Stevenage in 1951, but had already acquired a Vincent Grey Flash bike. At the end of 1951, John had entered sixteen races, won five, come second in five and third place in two.

The next year, having a hard time on his Grey Flash, he decided to purchase a Featherbed Manx Norton. He was sold it on condition he entered a world championship event; this he did and came sixth, earning his first World Championship points.

During the next three years (1953-55), John entered 192 races, he won 147, came second in 13 and third in 7. By the end of 1960 he had won seven World Championships, won Sportsman of the Year Award from the Sports Writers Association and most famously, the BBC Sportsview Personality of the Year.

After some persuasion from the car racing fraternity, he then turned his full attention to cars, and in 1963 he won a Motor Racing World Championship. John Surtees then became the only man in history to win World Championships on both two and four wheels. During his motor racing career, he drove in several classes and models until his retirement in a Surtees Cosworth in October 1972.

News from the Lions Den

Happy New Year to you all from the Lions of Eaton Bray & Edlesborough – we do hope you all had a wonderful festive season !!

Firstly, I must say a huge ‘thank you’ to each and everyone of you who supported us during a very busy December. From our craft fair and Santa’s grotto right through the month – your support and generosity was overwhelming.

I must apologise for any confusion caused by the Dunstable Round Table collections ahead of our own. We were unaware of their schedule and were unable to change our collection dates due to licensing regulations. In addition to this, the bad weather meant that we were unable to get out with our sleigh on Friday 14th December so apologies to anyone we missed on our rounds.

Lots of you came to talk to us on Christmas Eve when we accompanied Santa outside Hines butchers shop. It was so pleasing to discover how many of you read our articles and are aware of our projects.

The money you donated enabled us to provide Christmas hampers to a selection of residents within our villages which were all gratefully received. In addition to this, we made donations to the ‘Food Cupboard’ and provided toys for 65

children who would otherwise have not received a present this year. Once again your support has been astounding.

We continued with our fish and chip deliveries throughout December and thank the ‘Happy Valley’ fish shop for its continued support with this project.

You may have seen us at the panto in Eaton Bray busy running the bar. All of these opportunities help us to continue to support local causes.

We continue with our monthly fish and chip deliveries and welcome anyone who wants to join this scheme to get in touch by calling 01525 229 656. The next big event for us is taking place in March when we are teaming up once more with local group Paradox for a night of live music and dancing. There will be a full bar facility available along with light snacks for you to enjoy. Full details can be found on the advert within this magazine or by calling on the number given above.

We look forward to continuing to serve our local community through 2013 and beyond.

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St Mary's Village Carnival 2013

A few weeks ago I was invited to attend a gathering of the National Carnival Arts Sector. It was fascinating to hear from other Carnival organisations around the country and it became clear listening to their experiences that our event is, as many of us think, very, very special.

Most Carnivals are run by town or city councils often with the support of organisations such as Round Table, and are designed to bring in visitors; many organising groups allocate substantial budgets to bring in attractions from elsewhere and, even in good weather, most Carnivals make a loss.

St Mary's Village Carnival – our Carnival – is quite different. It is one of a very few Carnival events run entirely by volunteers to raise money for local good causes. It has raised just under £116,000 for our community in the past ten years.

Our Carnival is put on **for the local community, by the local community and with the support of the local community.**

We have positive support from the Parish Councils and cooperation from official bodies; but basically the event is one that is totally dependent on people from this community for its success.

We all enjoy living in our lovely villages,

and one of the main reasons for this is that there is a strong sense of community here – and our Carnival is one of the main events that brings everyone together and helps give us that sense of belonging. Maybe it's something we take for granted, but look at the news and you soon realise that most people have little community spirit where they live.

We are very lucky; but our Carnival relies on volunteer helpers to come forward and help. You don't have to commit huge amounts of time but if you could only give up 2 or 3 hours at Carnival time it would be a huge help. There are lots of things you could do to help in advance of the event and on the day and the Carnival website lists them – www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com. Do get in touch with me by phone or via the website and tell us how you can help.

I am really looking forward to this year's event, which will be my 25th since joining the Carnival Committee. It is on 6th July, with the theme 'SciFi' - we hope it will give you great scope for dressing up.

Don't forget to visit the website and offer your help.

✉ Gordon Gray 01525 220136

Dagnall Christmas Bingo in Memory of Basil Thorne

An evening of festive bingo fun was enjoyed by 60 people at the beginning of December. £81.10 was raised for Dagnall Village Hall and it was just the kind of evening Basil would have thoroughly enjoyed. Sheila and family would like to thank the helpers Claire, Eric and Dave

and also everyone who came along and made it a great evening.

A blue and white china dish was left behind from the buffet, please contact Sheila on 01442 842404 if you're missing one!

Hold a Fish and Chip Supper

to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”
Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 17th May 2013

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 17th May 2013 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.

Since 2009 we have raised over £20,000 and it has become our flagship community

fundraising event. We want to raise £10,000 from this event in 2013 we can provide more support to 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 Manager,

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 fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk



Dagnall News

Over 60's

The Over Sixties had their AGM on 15th January, and welcomed in their 42nd year as a club. The committee remains the same apart from one resignation for family reasons.

The programme for 2013 is published with a good mix of activities.

Our February 19th meeting will be lunch at the newly refurbished Dagnall Red Lion.

We are still hoping for new members to join us. Please contact Rosemary Holt (Allan) on 01442 843 202 and we will be delighted to welcome you to the club

Dagnall Gardeners' Society

The trading Hut will re-open on 10th February 2013.

The society's AGM took place on 25th January 2013 in Dagnall Village Hall 7.30pm.

Community Choir

NEW YEAR - NEW MUSIC

We always seem to enter the New Year, after the Christmas break, with some apprehension, hoping that much valued members have not dropped out of the routine over the break. However we should have learned by now that our fellow singers are made of sterner stuff and when we re-started early in January, our little Church in Dagnall was, once again filled with beautiful music with a pretty well full attendance plus new members. We will now press on with adding new items to our repertoire for our concerts later in the year.

In many ways and for many members, the meetings together on Monday evenings and working together on new music under the inspirational leadership of Stuart Harding and with Joe Leslie, our accomplished accompanist, is fulfilling

enough in itself. However there is no doubt that having something to aim at gives an extra buzz.

More details of Concerts and other appearances will be published in Focus as the year progresses.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. All you need to do is turn up for 7:45 pm. at Dagnall Church on a Monday evening.

Dagnall School

New Year – New Head at Dagnall School

At the end of December Mrs Marriner-Kyle retired as head teacher at Dagnall School. Everyone would like to thank her for all her efforts and support of the school and village over the last ten years and wish her well for the future.

Mrs Heath has taken over the reins and is really looking forward to working with everybody to keep the school a hub in the village and helping the children have lots of fun and achieve during their time at Dagnall School. Mrs Heath hopes to meet lots of people in the village in the next few months.



Dunstable & District Local History Society Tuesday 12 February, 7.45pm

Rise and Fall (and Rise?) of Cardington Airships

David Fowler tells the story of the airships built and flown from those massive hangers which dominate the skyline south of Bedford. There'll be news, too, of future flights.

Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
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Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (ELF)

A very happy New Year to you all. We hope that everyone enjoyed the Festive Season and look forward to a good 2013. Our meeting on November 8th at The Coffee Tavern was very lively and the future meetings and events were discussed, with members agreeing to organise their own personal choices. The events suggested range from lunch outings, organ museum and lunch; Stately Homes and gardens, theatre outings; museums. It should be a very interesting year. We look forward to 2013 and hope that all the ideas come to fruition.

The walks will still take place on the fourth Monday of each month apart from Bank Holidays when dates will be notified.

Unfortunately, the Music afternoon had to be postponed and, hopefully, it will be rearranged in the Spring. The walk scheduled for November 26th was abandoned, once again, because of the

weather and the conditions underfoot.

Our Christmas Lunch on 13th December held at the Cock Inn, Wing was enjoyed by all members who attended. The venue and the food were excellent. Thanks to Val T. for organising the event.

The sherry and mince-pie meeting held at The Coffee Tavern on December 18th was well attended and a happy time had by all. Thanks again to Alan and Val T for the arrangements.

When you read this message, we will have had our first meeting at The Coffee Tavern on January 10th for refreshments a chat and an update on the ideas put forward in November. Hopefully, the walk on January 28th will have taken place, as will the lunch out on January 24th.

FEBRUARY DATES

MONDAY 25th walk 10.00 from Eaton Bray Church

Doc Martyn's Thanks to all

Dr Martyn Jones wishes to tender his sincere and warmest thanks to the many kind folk – patients and staff – who gave him presents, cards and well wishes for his retirement, including the two books of written kind thoughts.

I have spent the major part – 28 years' worth - of my professional career in Edlesborough – and this chapter of my life has been thoroughly rewarding. I have met very many wonderful people, and shared the odd joke when time allowed.

My wife Jane and I would like also to express our sincerest thanks to Dr Richard Bell – my partner in crime in Harpenden from 1980 to 1985 and then in Edlesborough from 1993, and to all the staff at the Surgery, especially Vicki

Stump, Practice Boss for arranging the fantastic retirement party in November at the Parish Hall.

We enjoyed chewing the cud with the many familiar faces from over the years.

I wish to thank and praise Jane for her support for me in the project of creating a new Surgery in Edlesborough in 1984. Without this support I I do not think Edlesborough and Pitstone Surgeries would exist.

We began with zero patients and zero income – not good for retail therapy !

A million thanks once again – I miss you all, but am thoroughly enjoying my new lifestyle.

☞ Doc Martyn



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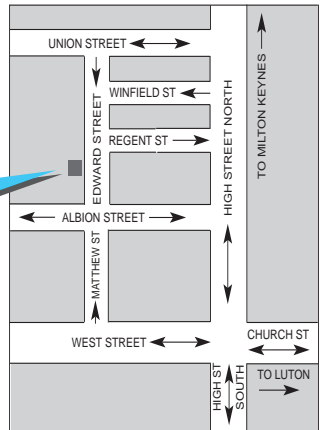
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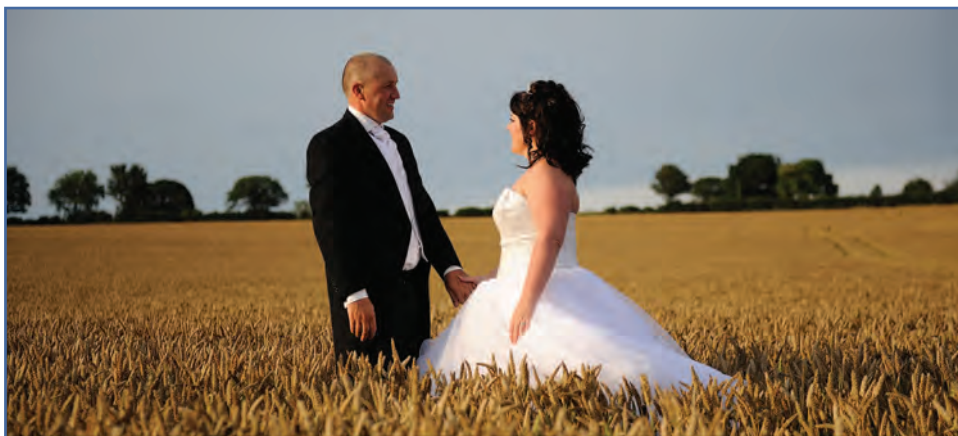
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dates

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2nd March
6th April
11th May



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*Front cover photo:
Edlesborough Ford
by Christine Yates*



*Top left: A Christmas Robin by
Adrian Lewis*

*Left: Totternhoe Church
from Eaton Bray by Richard
Woodhead*



*Right: Pitstone Windmill on a
winter's evening by Andy Cross
Below: New Years Day Northall
by Adrian Lewis*





*Top left: Horserider on
Dunstable Downs by Andy Cross
Top right: Eaton Bray Ford by
Richard Woodhead*

*Above: Sunset at
Totterhoe Knolls by
Andy Cross
Right: From Eaton Bray
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Right: Dawn Thurgood (pole dancer) and other members of the EDaN Beautification Team installing the planter around Edlesborough's sign - taken by Christine Yates.

Below: All done and dusted - will look lovely in the spring when the bulbs come through. Picture taken of some of the Beautification team and husbands by Dawn Thurgood



Above: Slicketts Lane by Adrian Lewis

Left: Frosty day from Northhall looking at Edlesborough Church by Adrian Lewis



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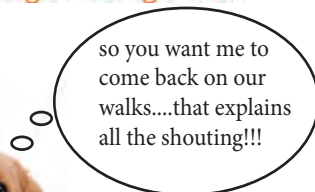
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Richard Hunt



We would like to welcome Richard Hunt who has recently moved to Eaton Bray.

A well-established musician composer and experienced drum teacher, Richard has extensive experience as a performer both on stage and in the recording studio. He is now able to offer drum lessons from his fully equipped home studio in Eaton Bray. Whether you have just started learning drums or already an advanced drummer, Richard has the ability to teach any style and experience level at his private drum studio in a relaxed and friendly environment. He can teach you to read music and gain the skills to become a successful drummer in a band or in the studio. He will work with you to get you through the Rock School Grades with fun and enthusiasm.

Perhaps you're looking for a way to interest your child in music? Drum lessons can be an exciting option. Drumming teaches rhythm and hand-eye coordination. Drumming teaches high levels of concentration and communication. Drummers must constantly be listening, aware of others and responding to those playing around them. These are valuable skills, which can be carried forward into other areas of life. Drumming is a great stress reliever, making it a popular choice for teenagers and adults as well.

Richard can appreciate the importance of starting an instrument as a child. From a very early age he was surrounded in music of many differing styles. His father was a professional musician who also spent many years playing and touring. As a result there were many instruments to be found around the family home. It is not surprising that with so much influence and the support of his parents he should end up sat behind a drum set at the age of twelve.

Very quickly he was taken on by a renowned teacher, session drummer and percussionist who taught Richard the fundamentals of playing drums including grades with The Guild School of Music and Drama, plus the Trinity College of Music in London, all passed with Merit or Distinction. He was introduced to one of the finest Jazz musicians in England, Mike Carr, on numerous occasions he was lucky enough to sit in with his band, which often included legendary jazz guitarist Jim Mullen. Richard turned professional aged eighteen and straight away was snapped up by American soul singer Phinesta Taylor with whom he toured the UK with for two years. He has spent numerous years performing with many bands including the UK's top theatre group, The Tribute Show. Over the years Richard has been influenced by many wonderful players of the instrument and reflects this in his own playing. From Jazz greats such as Mel Lewis, Louie Bellson or Peter Erskine to the fusion masters Dave Weckl, Jeff Porcaro and Steve Gadd. Richards teaching methods are fun and relaxed he inspires his pupils, which in turn produces enthusiasm. Give him a call. This could be the start of a new and exciting adventure. Richard is also available for hire as a session player for both live and studio work. So if you need a drummer for dep work or perhaps you require percussion for your own recordings he would be happy to hear from you.

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Avril Davies

District Councillor for Pitstone and Ivinghoe County Councillor for Pitstone, Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston, Slapton, Horton, Northall, Dagnall, Edlesborough, Cheddington and Marsworth.

The deadline for this piece was 8th January. Just in time to wish everyone all the best for 2013, and to make some new year resolutions.

My first resolution was to set up a new website independent of the County Council at <http://avrildavies.mycouncillor.org.uk/> (done) and write something every week as well as carry on tweeting @avrilpitstone. The down side of new year is reviewing the list of 2012 unfinished business. The cycleway to Tring Station being set to hang around for a while longer I think, but still very much a live issue on this side of the County boundary. And the cost of travel to school remains a bone of contention with me and many parents. By perseverance, using formal channels of the scrutiny committee, getting the views of head teachers, and with the help of others I have secured the promise of a complete review of the policy early this year, but I need reassurance it is going to really happen.

It's a bad time of year for potholes. Early in December I spent a morning with the County Council highways technician reviewing all the roads in the Division to prioritise planned maintenance for the next financial year. Since then a lot of unplanned maintenance, ie potholes, created by early frosts and relentless rain, not to mention heavy badly loaded vehicles, poor reinstatement by gas and electric work, and inadequate maintenance in the past, has totally changed the appearance of local roads.

You can report a pothole, see where the gritters are, and all highway information at the Roadworks Centre <http://www.transportforbucks.net/Roadworks-Centre>.

Or follow @tfbalerts and see when the gritters are going out or where there are roadworks.

There is good news. The Beacon road was repaired in 2012, and the Travellers Rest roundabout and B488 are priorities for next year. The County, jointly with Herts, has also achieved funding for a high speed broadband programme. Ivinghoe Library, now the Beacon Community Library, has agreed its funding with Bucks County Council. Ivinghoe Village Centre has done a deal also on very favourable terms with the County Council which has enabled it to successfully apply for a big lottery grant to look after the fabric, money the County Council could neither afford, or gain access to. The Freight Quality Partnership Beacon FQP persuaded the cabinet member for transportation that having a strategy for the movement of freight on the roads was a good idea, and has been acted on.

The Great Brickhill, Wing and Ivinghoe Local Area Forum of which I am joint Chair has been very successful in 2012. The priorities workshop brought people from all the parishes together to join together on projects to reduce speeding, improve footpaths, and facilities for young people. Innovative ways have been found to achieve projects, very often using pooled resources and money from several council services and outside grant giving bodies. The community speedwatch has taken off thanks to dedicated volunteers and shown that as well as speed restrictions, other road safety measures are essential. There are some speeding and danger hotspots, for example in Wing and in Edlesborough, which the speed limit review failed to

address. In 2012 the Local Area Forum is going to tackle these matters through the speeding sub group, and footpaths and cycleways through another working group.

This year I will continue to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee and the Economy and Business Development Scrutiny Committee at Aylesbury Vale District Council where I am deputy group

leader and shadow spokesperson for economic development; and on the County on both the Scrutiny Commissioning Committee and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee where I am also deputy group leader and shadow spokesperson for Health and Wellbeing. All County meetings are webcast at <http://www.buckscc.public-i.tv/core/>.

All Saints' Church Dagnall

Services and Meetings February 2013

- Sun. 3rd Feb. 9.00 am Eucharist
10.30 am Morning Service
6.00 pm Evening Service with Holy Communion
- Wed. 6th Feb. 7.45 pm Wednesday Get-together - Speaker: Revd Coralie McCluskey
- Sun. 10th Feb. 10.30 am Morning Service
6.00 pm Eucharist
- Wed. 13th Feb. 7.45 pm Wednesday Get-together
- Sun. 17th Feb. 10.30 am Family Communion
6.00 pm Evening Service
- Wed. 20th Feb. 7.45 pm A Musical Evening with Revd David Jenkins
- Sun. 24th Feb. 10.30 am Family Service
6.00 pm Eucharist
- Wed. 27th Feb. 7.45 pm Wednesday Get-together - Speaker: Sally Thorne
- Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service.



That's How the Fight Started

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her, "Do you know him?"

"Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?" And then the fight started...

~~~~~

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow

I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer... Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway.."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.



# Edlesborough Parish Council News

## (Including Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

### **Parish Council meetings**

The February meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 21st February at Edlesborough Memorial Hall but it is the intention of the Council to arrange for some of the meetings throughout the year to be held at both Dagnall and Northall. Details will appear in Focus and will also be posted on the parish notice boards and website [www.edlesborough.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough.gov.uk) a week before each meeting.

### **Allotments**

A few whole or half allotment plots at The Green, Cow Lane, Northall and Dagnall are available for letting, If anyone is interested in taking on an allotment would they please contact the Assistant Clerk – Penny Pataky on 01525 220358 or e-mail: [assistant.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:assistant.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk)

### **Litter Bin Stickers**

If any parishioner would like further 30mph or 40mph bin stickers to place on the blue lidded bins or brown garden bins would they please contact the Clerk, details below.

### **Northall VAS**

The machine is now working specifying a speed limit of 30mph as you enter Northall from Leighton Buzzard

### **Council Resolution**

All Councillors have signed a notice to grant dispensations for Councillors to speak and vote on the setting of the parish precept for Edlesborough Parish until the next ordinary election scheduled for May 2015. Due to further information to come from Central Government the setting of the parish precept had to be delayed and will therefore be notified in the March issue of Focus.

### **Code of Conduct**

The latest approved Code of Conduct is

available on both AVDC and the Parish websites.

### **Dagnall**

A request for white lining to be installed on the corner of Nelson Road and Dunstable Road has been sent to Bucks CC. The Parish Council continues to liaise with Bucks CC as to the best way of safely opening up the footpath leading from the Recreation ground to Dunstable Road, with the possibility of installing roadside railings and a self closing gate at the end of the footpath.

### **Northall**

Bucks CC are searching archives to establish whether or not the footpath across Northall Village Green is in the right place and Anglian Water have been contacted regarding the flooding which takes place in Chapel Lane.

### **Pot Holes**

Bucks CC are constantly being pressured by the Parish Council to attend to the pot holes in all the villages. Parishioners are able to phone through their personal concerns to Transport for Buckinghamshire on phone number 0845 230 2882.

### **Streetlights**

If a streetlight in the Parish is not working would parishioners please report this to the Clerk and NOT to Buckinghamshire County Council or AVDC. All the lights in the Parish are the responsibility of the Parish Council – except for those on the roundabouts at Travellers Rest and Dagnall.

### **Thames Valley Police**

Parishioners are able to sign up to receive Neighbourhood Alerts by going to [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) . By signing up you will be able to receive updates from

the Police tailored to your geographical area. Witness appeals, Crime Prevention advice, Community events notifications, times, dates and locations for where the Police will be to speak to you about issues that are important to you and many other important updates. This is an important tool for the Police and the public to speak together to cut crimes and issues that are important.

Several burglaries took place in the Parish during the Christmas/New Year period and parishioners are asked to be particularly aware of anything or anyone acting suspiciously and to contact either 999 or 101 (Thames Valley Police) immediately as officers may already be in the area who are able to make a quick response. Also make sure all doors and windows are locked and leave a light on

when your house is unoccupied.  
Lin Sargeant – Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council - Tel. 01525 220859  
Email: [parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk)  
Penny Pataky – Manager/Assistant Clerk and Edlesborough Memorial Hall Booking Secretary: Tel: 01525 229358,  
Email: [assistant.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk](mailto:assistant.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.edlesborough.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough.gov.uk)

**Edlesborough  
Parish Council Meetings**  
3rd Thursday monthly  
7.30pm Memorial Hall  
Next Meeting: 21st Feb

## **Eaton Bray Methodist Church**

Our thanks to everyone that supported our very successful Christmas Coffee morning. A very special thank you must go to June Jarrett and Celia James who worked so hard for many months, knitting and sewing etc: to produce so many lovely gifts to sell. They raised the magnificent sum of £680 for our Chapel Maintenance Fund, for which we are very grateful.

At the Carol Service our Sunday School delighted us with their interpretation of the Christmas Story. They had each beautifully decorated boxes to tell the story and each box held a special gift inside. Our thanks go to Helen, Rona, Paul and Mike for all the help, time and encouragement they give to the children every week.

Cafe Community will re-start on Saturday February 9th from 11-00am until 1-00pm. We invite you to join us for Friendly Fellowship over Coffee and a Light Bite.

As always we are happy to provide all refreshments without charge. Should you wish we are pleased to accept donations to the Chapel Charity of the month. The Charity chosen for February and March is " Jubilee Action " an Anti Slavery Charity. Cafe Worship on Sunday February 10th will be led by Fiona Arscott-Smith and a warm welcome awaits.



# Highlights of the Minutes of Eaton Bray Parish Council

**Meeting held on Monday 3 December  
2012, from 7:30pm at the Coffee  
Tavern**

## **CENTRAL BEDS REPRESENTATIVE (CBC)**

- Council Tax Reform: Following a consultation on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for Central Beds, the draft scheme is to be presented to the Executive on 08/01/2013. CBC received nearly 1,700 responses to the consultation which ended on 14/11/2012. The new scheme will be implemented from 01/04/2013.
- Superfast Broadband: CBC is considering the implementation of superfast broadband across Central Beds. Approx. £1.8m of public sector funding has been secured for this project.
- Ash dieback: CBC asks people to be aware of this problem and to keep a check on any Ash trees they may have. People are advised not to include Ash tree leaves or branches in their garden waste collection for the time being. The situation in this area is being constantly monitored.
- Residents are advised to check the CBC website for Christmas bin collection dates: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/environment/recycling-rubbish-and-waste/bin-and-bags-collections-recycling-rubbish-waste.aspx>.

## **EB LIONS/THE RYE GROUND**

The Planning Committee at Central Beds Council have approved the planning application for the proposed training pitch in The Rye. The Parish Council have agreed that once the 106 document has

been received from CBC, a draft Lease will be drawn up to include the items from the planning consent and the 106 agreement. Once complete the draft lease will then be made available to comment; after which other concerns and issues would be considered. Full details of this application can be found on the CBC website: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/PLANTECH/DCWebPages/acolnetcgi.gov?ACTION=UNWRAP&RIPNAME=Root.PgeResultDetail&TheSystemkey=578093>.

## **BRASS BAND**

The Parish Council organised for the Brass Band to visit the village for an evening of Christmas music. The band played on Friday 21 December 2012, at two locations, Medley Close/Three Corners & Market Square/White Horse from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. A wonderful way to celebrate Christmas in the parish!

## **EBAT**

The final planting of spring bulbs by the Eaton Bray Bloomers has now been completed. The half-barrel planters for the village shops/facilities are nearing completion. The council wished to express thanks to all those that have volunteered in this work; with a special mention to Cllr. Coulter for his continued work is the beautifying of the village.

**Meeting held on Monday 7 January  
2013, from 7:30pm at the Coffee  
Tavern**

## **BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR**

**There is a vacancy for Parish Councillor on Eaton Bray Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the council please contact the parish clerk or visit our website for more details.**

**CENTRAL BEDS REPRESENTATIVE (CBC)**

- Council Tax Support Scheme: From April 2013, council tax benefit is being replaced with local support; individual councils will decide their own council tax support schemes. For further information visit CBC’s website on: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/money-and-benefits/check-eligibility-for-benefits/local-cts.aspx](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/money-and-benefits/check-eligibility-for-benefits/local-cts.aspx)
- CBC Budget 2013-2014: CBC has published spending plans for next year which are now open to public consultation. To view these proposals and have your say visit CBC’s website on: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/current-online-consultations.aspx](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/current-online-consultations.aspx)

**POLICE**

There was no representative from the police in attendance however a crime report was forwarded to the Parish Council from Leighton Buzzard Police stating that here were 9 reported incidents of anti social behaviour during the months between November - January so far; with 4x Abandoned vehicle, 1 X Vehicle causing an obstruction, 2 x Animal incidents, 2 x Miscellaneous.

**EB LIONS/THE RYE GROUND**

The Parish Council are still awaiting a copy of the 106 document which is currently with CBC’s Solicitors. Full details of this application can still be viewed on the CBC website: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/PLANTECH/DCWebPages/acolnetcgi.gov?ACTION=UNWRAP&RIPNAME=Root.PgeResultDetail&TheSystemkey=578093>

**BUDGET/PRECEPT 2013-2014**

The recommended 2013-2014 precept/budget was agreed and adopted.

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

**ebpc.co.uk**

For full detailed copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council please visit the Parish Council website. A hard copy of the minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council’s notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

**Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO**

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]

**PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING DATES FOR 2013  
put a note in your diary!**

Monday 4th February 2013  
Monday 4th March 2013  
Monday 8th April 2013  
Monday 13th May 2013 – Annual Parish from 7pm & Annual Meeting from 7:30pm  
Monday 3rd June 2013  
Monday 1st July 2013  
August – no meeting  
Monday 2nd September 2013  
Monday 7th October 2013  
Monday 4th November 2013  
Monday 2nd December 2013

**Meetings held on 1st Monday of each month at 7:30pm in The Coffee Tavern**



# Personal Robbery in Aylesbury Vale

The Community Safety Partnership traditionally see an increase in personal robbery offences during the winter months.

Aylesbury Vale is a low crime area and Thames Valley Police and AVDC are working to prevent future offences. The partnership would like to remind residents of the following crime prevention tips:

- Don't advertise expensive belongings such as mobile phones and mp3 players.
- Always be aware of your surroundings - turn off iPods & mp3s so you're more alert.
- Property mark your valuables with a UV Pen - if your belongings are stolen and later recovered your valuables can be returned to you.
- Register your phone/mp3 for free at Immobilise.com - this helps the police to recover your phone if it's stolen and capture thieves.
- Use cash machines during the daytime if possible. It is best to use a well-lit cash point. Avoid dimly-lit and deserted areas.
- Make sure that you put your card and cash away quickly - don't keep them on display. If you are carrying money, carry only what you need.
- Try and avoid isolated areas such as dark pathways, alleyways and avoid walking alone.
- If someone is trying to snatch your bag, let it go. You may get hurt holding on to it. Try to get a description of the attacker and tell the police immediately - call 999. It is an emergency when: a crime is being committed, there is a risk of injury, or there is a risk of serious damage to property. In a non-emergency, call

101.

## **Top tip: Join Thames Valley Alert!**

**If you live in Buckinghamshire you are invited to sign up to Thames Valley Alert. This free service enables subscribers to be sent crime prevention messages and alerts as well as witness appeals local to the area in which you live. You can opt to have the information sent by phone, email or text. This service was previously known as Community Messaging.**

**To join, visit [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) to sign up and be in the know!**



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**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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**For further details please telephone 01525 220957 evenings and weekends**

At our last but one meeting we listened to a talk by John Tyler on the Ridgeway. With the use of slides, John took us on the 87 mile walk from Ivinghoe to Avebury in Wiltshire. The Ridgeway is reputed to date back 10,000 years, and has been travelled for many different reasons. The area has been used in a great number of ways, including burials and the building of forts. Legend has it that Alfred the Great used the Ridgeway and that St. George slew the dragon in the region. Man-made mounds contain chambers of dried out human bones. In fact, Silbury Hill near Avebury is the largest such mound in Europe. The Ridgeway area has a diversity of wildlife, including fungi, monkey orchids, butterflies and barn owls. It has many famous sights, such as the 3,000 year old White Horse of Uffington.

John estimated that the complete Ridgeway walk takes four days, and walkers can stay at bed and breakfast accommodation along the way. It certainly provides an extremely interesting four days for anyone attempting it.

In between our last two meetings we

enjoyed a coffee morning at Jane Jones' home. Our thanks go to Jane for once again acting as hostess on a popular occasion.

Our last meeting for the year was our A.G.M. and Christmas party. After the business part of the evening, we settled down to a supper organised by Ann Brinklow, followed by monologues performed by Diane Cox, Megan Howells, Brenda Shields and Christine Yates - very entertaining as usual. Once again, we were musically entertained by Les and Dave, who always make such a lovely contribution to our celebrations. It was a really happy evening, enjoyed by members and guests alike.

Finally we wish a Happy New Year to everyone, including Margaret Putnam an ex-Edlesborough W.I. member. Margaret and her husband, Bob, who are remembered by many of us, moved to Scotland a number of years ago. According to reports from them, they love their life there. Margaret still reads Focus as a friend sends a copy to her each month, so we take this opportunity to send them our very best wishes.

✍️Val Harris

## Dagnall School & Dagnall Under Fives Christmas Fayre

The fayre which took place on the 1st December raised £1200 which will be split between the school and Under Fives. A big thank you to everyone who came along on the day, to the Dagnall community choir who provided a festive welcome, to all those who gave their time and helped out, for all the donations, to the Red Lion Dagnall for hosting the raffle draw in the evening and to the following local

business who kindly donated prizes for our raffle, Luton Hoo, The Red Lion Dagnall, Cafe Masala, The White Horse, Janes, D & E Hines, The Travellers Rest, The Red Lion Water End, Harpers of Studham, The Old Palace Lodge, Aquavale, The London Gliding Club, Bekonscot Model Village, Bluebells Tea Room, Kidzone, Willows Farm, Mead Open Farm, Snakes & Ladders & Edlesborough Stores.

# Edlesborough Book Group

## The Pursuit of Love by Nancy Mitford

The Pursuit of Love by Nancy Mitford, was first published in 1945 and describes the hopes and fears of young adolescents soon to enter the adult world and become independent, in an atmosphere experienced just before the outbreak of a world war. It is narrated in the first person by Fanny who, having been abandoned by her feckless mother, is being brought up by her Aunt Emily. She spends most of her school holidays with her cousins, the Radletts, a very large aristocratic family, at their country estate.

Fanny is quieter than her boisterous cousins and she tells the story more from an observer's point of view rather than being the main character. Her focus is on her cousin Linda, who is beautiful, impulsive, extremely romantic and is obsessed with finding her Prince Charming. We follow her adventures in the pursuit of love through the wise eyes of Fanny who, although fearful for her cousin, is never judgmental.

There is a lot of humour in the book, mainly from the characterisation of the eccentric Radlett family. The patriarch, Uncle Matthew is a curmudgeonly joy as he blusters and shouts his un p.c. opinions and rules his family with a Victorian rod of iron. As Linda proceeds helter skelter through her multiple marriages and liaisons one hopes that someday her life will become more ordered and she will find happiness.

Nancy Mitford was born into a privileged background herself and her family life has been well documented. In this book she satirises her own background, with a lightness of touch which leaves the reader to appreciate the darker aspects of its humour. We found the book enjoyable and easy to read. It gave us an insight into a world that is now lost to us and also showed how ambivalent feelings were about Germany in the 1930's.



## Dagnall Christmas Extravaganza!

The celebrations in Dagnall on the 7th of December were a great success and brought the whole village - young and not so young - together.

The Christmassy feeling in the air was created by Dagnall Community Choir. The Christmassy feeling in the stomach was created by plenty of mulled wine, and all had a good time. Our superb tree has remained splendid throughout the Christmas period and the countdown to its illumination by Father Christmas was great fun.

The only glitch on the day was the speed with which Father Christmas toured

the village. Whilst some very good children were patiently waiting for him at the appointed time, Father Christmas travelled at the speed of light through Dagnall streets. Our apologies for that. It clearly shows that we are not yet reindeer experts – we think they knew about the mulled wine ahead of them!

Thanks are due to Tony, Bev, Ann, Roy and all the little elves that helped on the night.

It might need some fine tuning but, based on your response, this might become an annual event!



# Salvation Sound



How many times have you intended to do something and failed to do it? Are you carrying out your New Year resolutions?

Sometimes we really forget... or are just too busy. Sometimes we find that we have taken on more than we bargained for; we were perhaps swept along by our enthusiasm for a project, then in the cold light of day find that it appeared less attractive than we first thought. Or perhaps we are guilty of sheer old fashioned laziness!!! Whatever, we have missed the opportunity, and it is not likely to come our way again, and then when we look back we start to say: "Oh I wish I'd done that", or "I wish I'd called to see them", or "I wish I'd just written a few lines".

When God prompts you to do something, don't put it off. Act now before it is too late. Remember the saying, "Time and tide wait for no man". Proverbs 3 v 27 in the Good News Bible says: "whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it".

Good Intentions.... yes we all have them. Ask God to save you from being a person of unfulfilled intentions. Turn your thoughts into actions, your good intentions into good deeds, to love your neighbour as yourself. James 4 v 17: "So then, the person who does not do the good he knows he should do is guilty of sin."

Two little words come haunting when we live the past again. Time blunts the edge of sorrows, but regrets remain;

For all the good intentions that were never carried through. The many things we might have said; the things we meant

to do!

Too late... The only thing that we can do is try to do our best, for those we love...and thus put the mind at rest. Then when come the partings and we stand at memory's gate our hearts will not be tortured by those little words...

**TOO LATE...**

As we stand on the threshold of another year, forgive us, Lord, for failures past, then help us start anew with strength and courage to obey and closely follow you...



## The Salvation Army, Booth Place - Weekly Activities



### Sunday

Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45-10.45am  
Morning Worship 11.00am

**Songs of Praise 4.00pm**

3rd Sunday of the month May to December

### 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

Ladies Fellowship  
(Last week of month) 7.45pm

*For further details please contact Captain  
Jenny Dibs dall*

*T:01525 221156/07717 813682*

*E: jenny.dibs dall@salvationarmy.org.uk*

*W: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray*

# St. Mary's Ladies Guild

The December meeting started with members singing 'In The Bleak Mid Winter' to get into the Christmas spirit. Deirdrea handed out a birthday card for Joan Horne. The charity the Guild will support next year, by holding coffee mornings and the monthly raffle and bring and buy events, will be the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Devotions were led by Deirdrea.

The committee members put on a brilliant play 'A Victorian Christmas' using a variety of very amusing props to explain the theme. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, finishing with members being asked to sing 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' and the finale was pulling a very large cracker that was filled with sweets for all.

Members then made their way to the bring and share Christmas tea and as usual a delicious variety of food was enjoyed, followed by the raffle.

The January meeting – Deirdrea wished members a very happy new year and birthday cards were given to Pearl Ginn,

Barbara Collier and Chris Holloway.

Coralie led the Devotions and spoke about the meaning of joy, prayers were said and candles lit by members and Coralie remembered the sick and deceased members. Joan Chappell thanked Coralie and presented her with a gift.

The AGM followed with agreement that the committee members would remain in office. Deirdrea thanked them for all their hard work and support and said membership had risen to 35-36.

Marjorie Mann organises the speakers and handed out the program for the next five months and asked members to make suggestions for the remaining 6 months. Mrs Mary Maine speaking on the history of quilting will be the speaker for the February 13th meeting.

Jenny Hewett is Treasurer and said the charity fund stood at £138 and the general fund £234. Jenny wished her thanks be extended to David Mann who had audited the accounts.

Social time followed with refreshments and raffle.

## The Parish Nurse Charity

### Registration No = 204752

Although not a large amount, the Charity still receives an annual income from the original source, whereby the Trustees are able to make grants to individuals (not groups or organisations) providing the applications come within the current tenet of the Charity.

The Trustees are all local people and are therefore aware of the needs of those living within the community. Every request we receive is considered on its

own merits and in the strictest confidence. Grants can only be awarded to individual residents of the villages of Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall, for a specific medical purpose, who are disabled or elderly or frail in some way. The Charity can sometimes assist with medical equipment which cannot be provided from any other source e.g. the NHS.

Can we help you?

✉ Sue Parker

Correspondent 01525 221416



# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

## 2012 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       | 11.9°   | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | -4.8°    | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 5.0°      | 12.0            | 3 <sup>th</sup>  | 47.7               |  | 43.0 | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.1 | W             |
| Feb       | 15.7°   | 23 <sup>th</sup> | -13.4°   | 11 <sup>st</sup> | 2.9°      | 7.2             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 20.6               |  | 34.0 | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 4.9 | W             |
| Mar       | 22.1°   | 28 <sup>th</sup> | -2.4°    | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.8°      | 21.4            | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 27.2               |  | 37.0 | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 4.6 | NW            |
| Apr       | 18.7°   | 30 <sup>th</sup> | -4.4°    | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.2°      | 21.0            | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 142.2              |  | 35.0 | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 6.1 | NW            |
| May       | 27.8°   | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 0.2°     | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 12.2°     | 12.8            | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 60.8               |  | 31.0 | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 5.4 | NNE           |
| Jun       | 33.3°   | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 3.3°     | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 13.7°     | Corrupt         | reading          | 154.0              |  | 37.0 | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.2 | SSW           |
| Jul       | 31.2°   | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 7.7°     | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 16.1°     | 15.4            | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 112                |  | 33.0 | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 5.0 | W             |
| Aug       | 29.8°   | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 1.9°     | 31 <sup>st</sup> | 17.0°     | 11.0            | 23 <sup>th</sup> | 37.8               |  | 31.0 | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 5.3 | S             |
| Sep       | 27.4°   | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 1.7°     | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 13.3°     | 16.6            | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 44.4               |  | 32.0 | 24 <sup>th</sup> | 5.3 | W             |
| Oct       | 17.7°   | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | -0.7°    | 28 <sup>th</sup> | 9.7°      | 22.4            | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 103.2              |  | 33.0 | 16 <sup>th</sup> | 5.2 | S             |
| Nov       | 14.9°   | 13 <sup>th</sup> | -3.2°    | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 6.4°      | 17.2            | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 109.2              |  | 41.0 | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 5.9 | S             |
| Dec       | 13.3°   | 23 <sup>th</sup> | -6.4°    | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 4.9°      | 17.6            | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 108.5              |  | 40.0 | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 7.4 | WNW           |
| Lows /Max | 33.3°   | Jun              | -13.4    | Feb              | 9.6°      | Corrupt reading | Year             | 967.3mm<br>38.08in |  | 43.0 | Jan              | 5.8 | Year avg<br>W |

### November 2012

|               | High       | Date/Time      | Low         | Date/Time    |
|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Temperature   | 14.9°C     | 13 Nov 13.00   | -3.2°C      | 30 Nov 06.30 |
| Mean Temp     | 6.4°C      | Dominant Wind: |             | S            |
| Humidity:     | 98%        | Nov for 8 Days | 68%         | 18 Nov 14.30 |
| Barometer:    | 1026.6 hPa | 13 Nov 21.30   | 974.8 hPa   | 1 Nov 04.30  |
| Wind Speed    | 41 mph W   | Nov 17.30      | Months avg. | 5.6 mph      |
| Wettest Day   | 4 Nov      |                | 17.20 mm    | 0.68 ins     |
| Monthly Rain: | Total      | Nov            | 109.2 mm    | 4.30 ins     |

### December 2012

|               | High       | Date/Time        | Low         | Date/Time    |
|---------------|------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Temperature   | 13.3°C     | 23 Dec 04.00     | -6.4°C      | 12 Dec 05.30 |
| Mean Temp     | 4.9°C      | Dominant Wind:   |             | WNW          |
| Humidity:     | 98%        | Many days in Dec | 73%         | 7 Dec 13.30  |
| Barometer:    | 1030.6 hPa | 11 Dec 10.30     | 972.9 hPa   | 14 Dec 16.30 |
| Wind Speed    | 40 mph ssw | 29 Dec 07.30     | Months avg. | 7.4 mph W    |
| Wettest Day   | 22 Dec     |                  | 17.6 mm     | 0.69 ins     |
| Monthly Rain: | Total      | Dec              | 108.5 mm    | 4.27 ins     |

**November** started on the cooler side with some frosts. The 4th was a particularly wet day with 17.22 mm of rain. After the first week the pressure rose, bringing us into a milder period, but this was followed by even more rain totalling 109.2mm — that's up 34% on the five year average.

More striking is that in November 2011, we only had 30mm of rain, so on that figure represents a 270% increase, year on year.

**December** was mild and very wet, slightly less rain than last month but it seemed much more due to the fact that it rained

almost every day: I recorded rain on 25 days. All this and little sunshine made it a dull damp affair.

**2012** was a year of contrasts with the first three months being very dry and warmer than normal, with temperatures in May being only 2 degrees down on the maximum in August. That was followed by a wet summer and an even wetter autumn, with a total of 967.3 mm of rain (38.08ins), 35% above our normal amount.

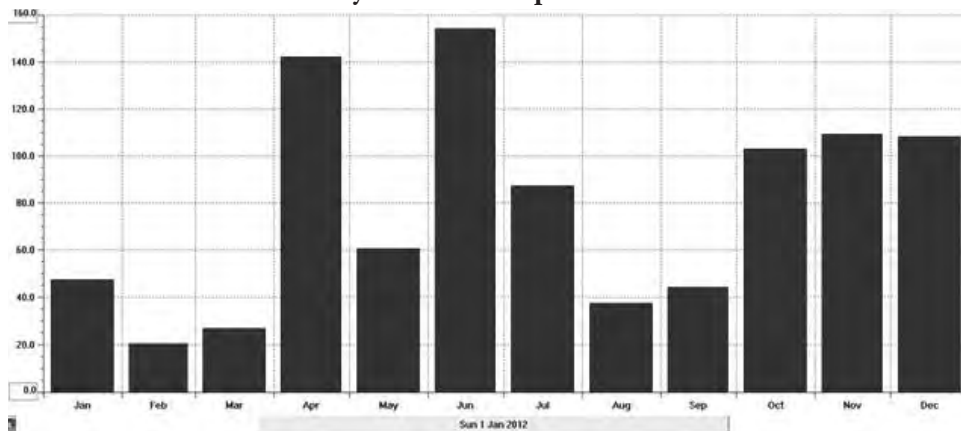
Here, in Dagnall, we should think ourselves lucky that we had a lot lower

rainfall than the average for the country. As we sit on a chalk bed, the water seeps away quickly, but by the end of the year, the ground was saturated meaning the puddles and flooded areas were not draining as they usually do.

I have a **\*\*NEW WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESS\*\***. For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: [www.dagnallweather.co.uk](http://www.dagnallweather.co.uk)

If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: [david@dagnallweather.co.uk](mailto:david@dagnallweather.co.uk) or telephone: 01442 843883

### Story of 2012 Rain per Month



### Jo Jingles

Jo Jingles are music and movement sessions for 3 months to 5 years of age children and runs for 45 minutes every week mainly during term time. We sing and play lots of nursery rhymes and action songs. Some which you will be familiar with and introduce props and visuals at the same time. Each week the children get to play two musical instruments. Parents are asked to join in as well and work with their children to play with the instruments - this helps build co-ordination and motor skills and a sense of rhythm as well as being huge fun for them, as well as their mental skills! Singing to children is fantastic for their development, encourages early speech development, not to mention many other benefits - our classes are relaxed but we do follow a structure each week to give the children some familiarity.

**Classes at St Giles Hall, Totternhoe on Fridays at 9.30am.**



# Join Thames Valley Alert

Here's a new year resolution that is easy:  
Join Thames Valley Alert!

To hear information on crime issues related to your area, Thames Valley Alert (previously known as Community Messaging/Thames Valley Alert) 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.

Messages come from the Police, Community Safety departments of local authorities and other voluntary organisations. For more information on Thames Valley Alert and to sign up visit:

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

## Key tips to prevent items being stolen from your vehicle:

1. Never leave items on show. Take belongings with you, including sat navs, mobile phones and tools.
2. Don't leave your car unlocked and unattended whilst defrosting in the morning.
3. Park your vehicle in a well lit car park which has CCTV surveillance and is a busy area for the public.



## fitness 4 fun

Get those muscles working! Tone and strengthen arms, legs, bums and tums – you'll look and feel great.

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Come along and join our friendly group.  
Everyone welcome.

No need to book – just show up.

What: Fitness4Fun with Kay  
Where: Edlesborough Memorial Hall  
When: Every Friday, 10:00-11:00 am



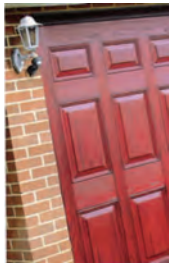


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# Edlesborough

## Flowers



**Any Important dates approaching?.....**

**Looking for a present and don't know what to buy?.....**



Come and visit your local village florist. We stock a great selection of contemporary gifts including

jewellery, candles, bath products, cards, scarves and handbags. And of course, we also have a beautiful range of seasonal flowers for all occasions whether it be a birthday, an anniversary or even possibly.....



**Valentines Day! ...and Mother's Day!**

Pop in and see us, we're sure we can help.

And don't forget, we can also provide Fruit Baskets, chocolates to go with bouquets, floral tributes, wedding flowers and corporate arrangements.



Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you soon.

**2 High Street, Edlesborough, LU6 2HS Tel: 01525 221920**

Flowers, Gifts, Jewellery & more....