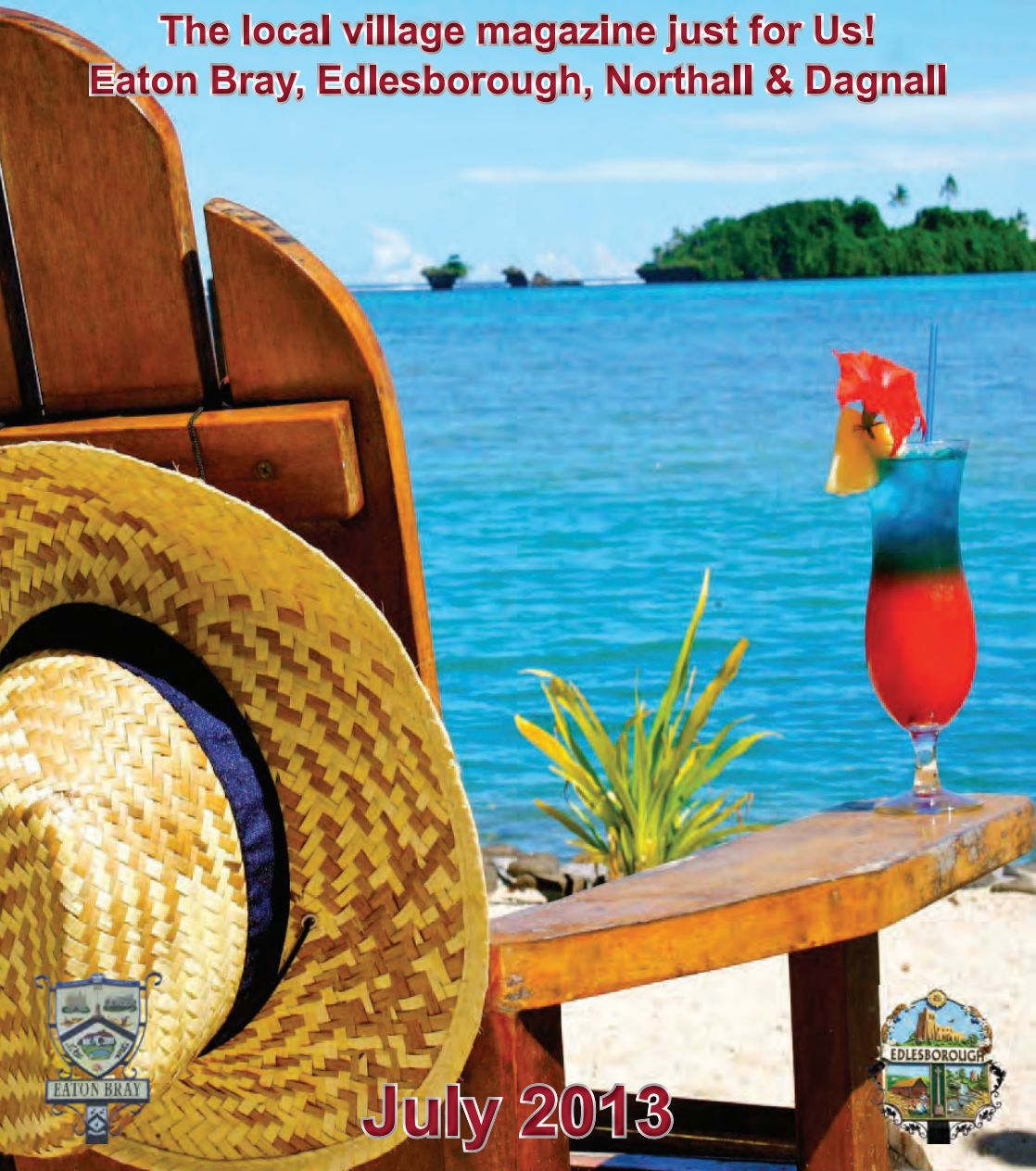




# focus



**The local village magazine just for Us!  
Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall**



**July 2013**



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# Focus Magazine Committee

**Joint Editor:** George Crutcher

7 Summerleys, Edlesborough 221637

**Email:** [george.crutcher@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:george.crutcher@tiscali.co.uk)

**Joint Editor:** Sally Siddons

34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

**Email:** [sallysid@hotmail.com](mailto:sallysid@hotmail.com)

**Dagnall Representative:** Sue Cawdell

10 Deans Meadow, Dagnall 01442 842200

**Circulation Manager:** John Plater

41 Church Lane, Eaton Bray 221095

**Treasurer/Leaflet Enquiries:** Ken Coates

10 The Nurseries, Eaton Bray 220868

**Advertising:** Sally Siddons

34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray 221733

**Design and Layout:** Tracey Moren (Moren Associates Limited) 01525 229695

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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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**August Focus will be a joint issue for August & September. Don't forget to send in your August & September entries by 10th July**

## 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](mailto:LPT.LeightonRural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

### **Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)**

General Assistance: 101

PC Steve Brisley Mobile: 07817 817 562

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile: 07800 703 524

PCSO Natalie Hall Mobile: 07800 702 456

Email: [WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

# Village Diary July 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 Pre-School, Edlesborough School, 01525 229529  
manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk
- 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
- Weds (term time) Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7.30-8.45pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya on 07976 964316 for more details
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153
- Wednesdays 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 Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Fridays

# Village Diary July 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](http://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, St Mary's Church, Edlesborough Open Day, 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

- 7th Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 12th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. Plant bring & Buy
- 13th St. Mary's Eaton Bray Coffee Morning, 10am to noon
- 16th Dagnall Over 60's Garden Party at 1, Chestnut Close, Dagnall

## One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 6th St Mary's Village Carnival, Edlesborough Green
- 13th All Saints' Dagnall, Ploughmans' Lunches, 11.30am-2pm
- 13th Appledown Elvis Night & BBQ, 7.30-11pm, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Tickets: 01525 220383
- 14th Northall Village Trust AGM & BBQ/picnic, 12 noon, Northall Village Hall

## The White Horse

The White Horse is now fully open after being closed for extensive maintenance and considerable refurbishment during part of June. We are of course sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused but hope our customers feel that the result was worth the wait.

# Village Notices

## Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday monthly  
7.30pm Memorial Hall  
Next Meeting: 18th July

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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



## EDaN Community Transport

Peter Williams:  
01442 842506

# All Saints' Church Dagnall

## Services in July 2013



Sun. 7th July	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Service with Holy Communion
Sun. 14th July	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 21st July	10.30 am	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Service
	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 28th July	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.



## EDaN Community Transport

Last month we had very short notice of a villager needing to get to Hammersmith hospital in London and then Harefield Hospital. This has proved again what an exceptional service we are offering and grateful thanks must go to Peter Williams for co-ordinating the drivers and Peter Barrow and Alan Williams for stepping in at very short notice to drive to these locations.

We do not guarantee to be able to take a patient this far afield for their appointment but as this was a special case our drivers rose to the challenge and got our villager

there!

If you would like to join our team of drivers and feel that you too are providing an invaluable service

to the local community, please get in touch with me, Kathy Bovington on 01442 842796 or 0779 0537032.

If you would just like to book a trip, please call Peter Williams on 01442 842506  
EDaN Community Transport



## Virgin London Marathon - John Sayer

As promised, a report on how John did at the London Marathon. He had a great run for his first Marathon and despite pulling up with cramp a couple of times finished in 3 hours 34 minutes. He dyed his hair bright blue, the colour of Mind mental health charity for whom he was running, and was easily spotted in the crowds and was on the TV when they held the silence in memory of the victims of the Boston Marathon. He had numerous friends and relatives along the route and we all had a great time cheering, making noise and

enjoying the incredible atmosphere. He has now raised over £7000.00 for Mind and would like to sincerely thank everyone for being so generous, his friends, family and local businesses who supported him, his sister Zoe's company for holding a 'dress down day', the group Kingfisher, and the Swan at Northall. John enjoyed the run so much he has now entered the Bournemouth Marathon in early October and has just completed the Southend half marathon.

## 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*



## For Goodness Sake - Pay by Credit Card!

*Jonathan Vernon Smith is the Sony Award winning mid-morning show presenter for BBC Three Counties Radio. During his consumer hour he helps listeners with their consumer problems and now shares his advice with you.*

I've been fighting for consumer rights on my radio programme for many years now, and there's one message I have been repeating constantly - PAY BY CREDIT CARD!

Whenever I repeat this mantra, I receive so many calls and emails of complaint from people saying that I'm encouraging debt, I lose the will to live. However, I simply refuse to be silenced.

But why do I get on my high horse? I'll tell you why. If you pay for goods or services by credit card you are protected in so many ways. The woman who paid £1,000 by cheque for a bed that never turned up because the company went bust, the young man who put down a £500 deposit in cash for a new car only to find the dealer had misrepresented the kind of vehicle it was. These consumers could have received all of their money back with one phone call if only they'd paid by credit card.

You see under the Consumer credit act of 1974, the credit card company is equally liable for "for any breach of contract or misrepresentation by a supplier of goods or services on credit".

As long as the product or service costs between £100 and £30,000, you are covered for most unfortunate events.

There's also absolutely no need to get into debt when paying by credit card. If you were proposing to pay by cheque, cash or debit card then simply pay by credit card instead and pay the bill off in full the very next day.

So next time you plan to buy that new sofa, car, holiday or conservatory, FOR GOODNESS SAKE – PAY BY CREDIT CARD!

✍ Jonathan Vernon Smith

*You can listen to The JVS show every weekday morning from 9am on BBC Three Counties Radio.*



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# 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**

It's June 10th and I'm amazed that there are still bluebells flowering in the garden. There are also three elegant pale pink tulips that have survived the winds of the last few weeks. The delayed spring coupled with, I hope, a blissful late summer may have vegetable gardeners, allotment holders and farmers harvesting good crops later this year.

Can we learn something from our somewhat unpredictable weather this year?

I believe we need to acknowledge that however well we plan, the hours spent researching, writing lists and seeking perfection - nature is greater than us. Despite scientific advancement, fertiliser, weed control, pesticides, and an increasing number of fascinating technological developments we still fail. The human race has tried to take control but exploitation of the world's natural resources has merely succeeded in destroying vast areas - reducing them to wasteland with the result that millions of people are hungry and have no clean water.

Is there anything we can do?

- Enjoy your garden, allotment, greenhouse, window box or patch of grass covered in daisies or dandelions.
- Good enough is fine, trying to achieve perfection can leave you too exhausted to make the most of what you have.
- If you use the internet look up The Observer, June 8th 2013 and read the Global Development section on eight ways to solve world hunger.
- Recycle or compost waste, many will say that it's a waste of time but it must be better than burning it and I do feel that I'm doing something positive.
- Please don't waste food especially if it's suitable for the **FOODBANK**. We all have tins and packets in the back of a cupboard that seemed like a good offer. Check the date before you dump it and donate it if the date has not expired.
- Summer is coming, enjoy the carnival and all the other community events listed in Focus.
- On August 4th we will be celebrating Lammastide, at St Mary's Eaton Bray (8am & 10am) and at Dagnall (9am), giving thanks for the first fruits, grains and vegetables of the season.

Thought for the month: *Nature never taught me that there exists a God of glory and infinite majesty. I had to learn that in other ways. But nature gave the word glory a meaning for me. I still do not know where else I could have found one.*

C S Lewis (1889-1963)

# Alf Encourages Edlesborough Children to Walk to School

Hello from Edlesborough School and The Junior Road Safety officers (JRSOs) Ollie, Georgia, Esme, Bryony, Natalia and Alistair. We are pupils at Edlesborough School and with our Safer Routes to School team we are always looking for ways to encourage families to walk to school. Over the last year we have thought of all sorts of fun ways to help us do this.

## Walk to School week

Every year we have two walk to school weeks where we ask people to leave their car at home, or a further distance from school, and walk instead. We believe this is a good thing as it makes the road safer to cross, it's a healthy way to start the day and it helps the environment cutting CO2 emissions. Alf, always attends walk to school week and he can be found walking through the village with the children or welcoming us at the school gate.

During walk to school week we collect data on how many children walk to school and there is no doubt when we are all thinking about this more children walk. During our last week we saw a 30% - 35% increase on the number of children walking.

We understand not everyone can walk, as some children live a long way from school, so we added a 'Crocodile Walk' to the last Walk to School week. It's fun to walk with your friends and the crocodiles are led by parents who have been trained to walk us safely to school. When we have looked at the feedback we may make it a permanent 'Crocodile Walk.'

## March for March

We decided to extend our walk to school idea for longer than a week so during March we had WoW days. WoW stood for

Walk on Wednesday! If children walked to school on Wednesday they were allowed to wear silly socks! It really worked: usually 70-80 children walk to school but on WoW days up to 93 children walked, a brilliant response!

## Parking Patrollers

We also worked with our Community Police Officer who trained us to be Parking Patrollers. We wore special jackets and caps and patrolled the parking area outside school. If anyone was parking incorrectly we placed a note asking them to think about parking properly next time. We enjoy being JRSOs, with Alf and all our other helpers we are sure more children will continue to walk to school.

Photo on page 46



*St Mary's Church,  
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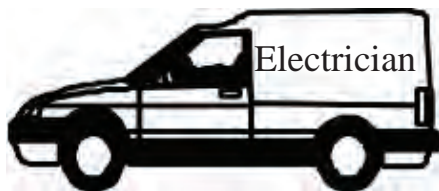
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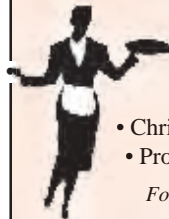
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# St Mary's Ladies Guild Meeting

Members were welcomed by Deirdrea who handed out birthday cards to June Thorne, June Howard, Thelma and Marie.

**Notices** Future Mission Projects were discussed and the aim is to support the smaller groups that work to save lives, a decision will be made and announced at the next meeting.

£500 has been sent to the RNLI to buy a pager and a specialist lifejacket.

Outing to Stratford on 13th August, Deirdrea said friends of members are welcome to join us, the coach will leave St.Marys Church at 9.00am.

Next month's meeting is on July 10th, speaker Amanda Shipman on Japanese Garden Design.

A cream tea to be arranged.

Deirdrea welcomed and introduced John Cornwall who gave a very interesting talk on Amnesty International; their symbol is a candle (representing hope) with wire wrapped around (representing prison). There are over three million members and supporters, ordinary people from around the world standing up for humanity and human rights, whose purpose is to protect individuals wherever justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied. John told of several instances/cases where he

had personally been involved, where individuals had been imprisoned and tortured for their beliefs, and where they had been released by his intervention and he never gave up on any individual being wrongly imprisoned worldwide.

Deirdrea thanked John for this very descriptive insight into the important and worthwhile work Amnesty International do.

The theme for today was "The Coronation", with flags decorating parts of the church and cups and serviettes also decorated with the Union Jack. Glasses of sherry were served before members helped themselves to the food which was a very appetising 'bring and share' tea. After the raffle had been drawn it was time to depart.

New members will be given a very warm welcome, why not come and see for yourselves.

<b>Eaton Bray Cricket Club</b>		
<b>100 Club Winners</b>		
<b>June 2013</b>		
£25	Keith Blackburn	No. 60
£10	Michael Jarrett	No.1
Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins Transport Ltd & M&M Properties		

# Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!

... it's that time of year when the Edlesbray Players think about the January pantomime.

The Pantomime Guild of Baddies think they have come up with the ultimate plan to ensure

they dominate the world. They pitch representatives of each Panto against one another in a series of bizarre and entertaining games. It looks like only one Panto will survive! Will our heroes work out that by joining together, the Guild of Baddies can be defeated?



If you'd like to join in The Panto Games, auditions will take place locally on the evening of Monday, 16th September. Please email [bekkap@gmail.com](mailto:bekkap@gmail.com) for more information.

And if you don't want to act, you can still play your part and join in the fun. Help is always needed behind the scenes – design, carpentry, painting, sewing, admin, etc – as much or as little as you can commit. Call 01525 221583 to find out more.



## Edlesborough Book Group

### The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes

The winner of the 2011 Man Booker Prize, *The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes is short, but quite elegantly written. Its beauty lies in its brevity and a complicated plot, covering many themes, is told concisely and with great precision. The story is told in the first person by Anthony Webster, retired, divorced, but still in contact with his ex wife and daughter and resigned to living a single life. One day, he receives a solicitor's letter telling him of a bequest from someone he barely knew, fifty years ago, when at college. She was the mother of his first serious girl friend, Veronica, who when their relationship ended, began seeing one of his closest friends.

Intrigued by this unexpected legacy, he starts to recollect his youth and his friends of those days. As the memories flood

back, he realises that with the passage of time the memory can become blurred, sometimes blocking the reality of what really happened. As we learn more about Tony, his schooldays and his adult life, we realise that he has made many mistakes and misjudgements of which he seems unaware.

Julian Barnes feeds us information very gradually and builds a mystery, which is solved only in the final pages of the book. This is a fine piece of story telling which is beautifully written and easy to read. It questions mainly the validity of memory and how, sometimes, our actions, long forgotten, can have serious repercussions on other peoples' lives.

A another very good book for discussion, it was received well by the book group members.



# Appledown's Dog of the Month

Meet Olive Hornby, a nice-looking German Shepherd cross aged about 2-3 years. She is good with other dogs but

not with cats or other small animals.

Olive is a very affectionate dog and loves human company. She can be bouncy and would enjoy a home where she gets a reasonable amount of exercise. She would also benefit from some training.

If you feel you could offer Olive, 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.

## Events

**Elvis Night & BBQ, Saturday 13th July**  
– ‘Elvis’ and sixties music band ‘Carnaby

Street’ will be providing the entertainment at Totternhoe Memorial Hall. 7.30 -11p.m. Barbecue, licensed bar and raffle. Tickets £10 available from Appledown and the Memorial Hall.

**Charity Dance, Friday 6th September**  
– at St. John’s Hall, 296 Sundon Park Road, Luton at 7.30 p.m. 60s,70s,80s,90s jive and modern music. Tickets £8 from Appledown.

**Saturday 14th September – Fun Dog Show** – lots of classes, lots of rosettes, lots of stalls! In fact, something for everyone! Enter on the day. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. (classes commence 12 noon).

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# Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Congratulations to the children in our church family for their excellent rendition of the story of Noah at our Sunday School Anniversary. We are so lucky to have such a super group of youngsters who have great confidence and love to perform and be involved in our services. Our special thanks to our Sunday School leaders, Helen, Paul and Mike, and to our young helpers Rona and Jackie for all their commitment to making Sunday School so very special for the children.

Our cooks are to take a break during July, August and September but promise to be back on Saturday October 12th with Cafe Community from 11am to 1pm serving lite bites and beverages.

Cafe Worship will continue on the 2nd Sunday of each month as normal. July 14th led by Rev. Andy Melvin and August 11th led by Rev. Jenny Spouge. Everyone is welcome.

## Dagnall Village Hall 100 Club Winners – June 2013

57	Bev Way	£50
28	Elizabeth Coates	£25
120	Michelle Green	£25

Drawn on 6 June 2013 witnessed by Rosemary Holt. Please call Sharon Quinn on 01442 842129 if you would like to join and help the Village Hall Funds.

# Dunstable Downs Events

Dunstable Downs, Chilterns Gateway Centre, Whipsnade Road, DUNSTABLE, Beds  
LU6 2GY 01582 500920 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dunstabledowns  
Email: dunstabledowns@nationaltrust.org.uk Twitter: @DunstableDwnsNT

## Glow Worm Night Walks

Discover these magical creatures.

**Dates: Saturdays 13th (Sharpenhoe) & 20th (Whipsnade) July 2013 - 10 pm**

Come and observe these fascinating little creatures at night. Your children will be so excited about this event. Your own torch for viewing would be essential. So bring a little sparkle into your lives and witness this miracle of nature. Each walk will be lead by one of our Ranger team.

Tickets £2 per person Booking essential.

Car parking charge of £2 applies.

13th July we'll be meeting at Sharpenhoe car park. 20th July we'll meet at the

Chilterns Gateway Centre.

Telephone and to book: 01582 500920

## Kite Festival

Come fly your kite!


**Dates: Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July 2013 - 11.00 until 16.00.**

Join us over this fantastic fun filled weekend. There will be kids activities, face painting, entertainers, market stalls and plenty more. Be amazed as giant kites in the shape of bears, tigers and stars float across the sky and world famous display teams fly kites in breathtaking patterns.

No additional charges. Booking not needed. Car parking charge of £2 applies.

## So Near and Yet so Far...

Hello all,



You may recall from April's Focus that I was canvassing for votes in an attempt to become "Eaton Bray's first astronaut" as part of the Lynx Space Academy Programme. This was a national competition in which entrants were required to gain as many votes as possible, and the top 200 would then go onto a second stage where 4 would be chosen to go to Florida for astronaut training. After a rigorous 4 month campaign, I was still in 148th position with only 1 hours voting left. But I checked again with only 20 minutes to go, and due to aggressive last-gasp tactical voting of some considerable magnitude, I had already slipped down to 191st. I knew at that moment I wasn't going to make it. At close of voting, I came in 221st with 1,117 votes. To say I was devastated to snatch defeat from

the jaws of victory in that manner is an understatement of epic proportions. It may only be "one small step for man" but in the end it was one small step too far. However, I have since been informed that over 87,000 applicants took part, so I don't feel quite so bad now. More importantly, in an attempt to encourage people to vote for me, I did promise to donate 50p of my own money for every vote that I received to Cancer Research. As a result, £558.50 has been raised, and this will be presented as a cheque in the White Horse on August Bank Holiday Monday as part of their Cancer charity day being held that day. It only remains for me to thank all of you that voted for me, especially those that didn't even know me.

Oh well, never mind, there's always next year I guess...

✍️ Adrian Roberts



# 10th Eaton Bray Beer Festival

31st May and June 1st 2013

So, at the start of that week we looked at the sunny Bank Holiday and thought, that won't help the beer to settle, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were cool and wet. What miserable weather for the Beer Festival, but great for the beer! Then come Friday, the sun came out and as they often say "the rest is history!"

We do seem to be some very lucky people as we have only had one really bad year when it was wet and cold, so someone must be smiling on us.

There is one thing we could not control. Despite having 28 barrels of beer this year, rather than the 23 last year and the same amount of Perry and cider; we could not cope with all our loyal followers and by 8 pm on Saturday we had sold out. We really are sorry for those that came down on Saturday evening but unfortunately you cannot just rustle up more real ale. The odd thing is that last year we still had quite a lot of beer left over. If only we could have a crystal ball.

So we tried and can assure you that we, well the CAMRA boys, will try to get to the magical 30 barrels next year. This is as much as we can get onto the racks in the hall.

More people came along and more burgers were eaten, more sausages, pies, chips and everything was devoured. Above all more real ale was consumed, whilst a good time was had by all.

The Village Hall trustees would like to thank Roy Chatto and his helpers, who organised the beer, looked after it prior to the event, sold it to you and then tidied up afterwards. Without these people and their hard work there wouldn't be a Beer Festival.

I would also like to thank the members of

Lions International who came along on mass on Saturday and helped the usual suspects out on the door, in the kitchen, doing runs to supermarkets for extra supplies.

The trustees helped out as usual, as that is what we do, but a special thankyou must go to Katrina, who 6 months ago broke her ankle and after complications only came out of plaster a few weeks ago. She is the main person at the Beer Festival and her efforts whilst in considerable pain where beyond the call of duty. Her consolation is that we had a record year to put to good use within the hall.

Again thanks for coming and see you all next year.

✍️ Ross

<b>The Salvation Army, 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>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	
Champions Challenge Club (term time)		
(Ages 5-10 years)	5.45-6.45pm	
<b>Thursday</b>		
Parent and Toddler Group		
(Term time)	9.30-11.30am	
Haberdashers' night		
2nd Thursday of month	7.45 pm	
Ladies Fellowship		
(Last week of month)	7.45pm	
<i>For further details please contact Captain Jenny Dibs dall T:01525 221156/07717 813682 E: <a href="mailto:jenny.dibsdall@salvationarmy.org.uk">jenny.dibsdall@salvationarmy.org.uk</a> W: <a href="http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray">www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray</a></i>		

# Edlesborough Festival - 7th-9th June

What a wonderful weekend of fun, music and laughter. Friends of the Church on the Hill, together with the EDaN Beautification Team and so many other friends and family all helped to make our first Festival certainly one to remember.

Budding, as well as quite capable, artists spent a blissful day in the glorious sunshine painting pictures of the church under the excellent tuition of Megan Howells, from the Beautification Team. We had a wonderful time and even the more experienced artists picked up some valuable tips – thanks so much Megan. Those with the stamina then carried on to the Flower Arranging Workshop where we joined many other volunteers who had gathered material from their gardens to adorn our church with the most magnificent arrangements – you don't know what you can do till you try. Wendy, from Edlesborough Flowers, gave a demo, inspiring us with what could be achieved, then we all got stuck in. The results were amazing, we surprised ourselves and very soon the church was filled with the most beautiful perfume. We very much appreciate your time and expertise Wendy.

Friday night was devoted to the South Beds Concert Band. Regina Whyatt heralded in our audience with bagpipes at the war memorial and probably surprised a few passing motorists in her fantastic regalia! The band excelled themselves – the sound of familiar and well-loved tunes bounced off the ancient rafters, the experience all washed down with the best Pimm's I've had for a long time (thanks Pat!). This, together with great company, contributed to a good evening's entertainment.

The Choirfest on Saturday afternoon was a complete joy. Our beautiful church was

bulging at the seams with school choirs from three counties, plus our own Dagnall Community Choir lead by 'entertainer-in-chief' Stuart Harding and accompanied by Joe Leslie, who kicked off the acts and warmed up the schools with 'Sing'. Rt.Hon. John Bercow M.P. then officially opened the first Edlesborough Festival in his own charismatic way and was asked to pose with each choir for a photoshoot, which I'm sure will be a wonderful keepsake for them all. John thoroughly enjoyed his visit with us and asked to be invited again next year. Edlesborough, Linslade, Francis House and Beechwood Park schools did us proud. We then enjoyed cream teas (and some alcohol) on the 'lawn'.

Our children's entertainment tent was very popular. Thanks to Sarah Green, who set to work on little ones who wanted their faces painted. The best model of the church was won by Fionnuala, and Scarlet Carrie won the best colouring-in picture of the church. Both were presented with trophies at the end of the Festival by Chair of the Friends, Theresa McClosky.

Saturday evening's entertainment was 'A Bit of a Do'. The saxophone quartet (Unsafe Sax) got us all in the festive mood, carried on by Tinlin – our Simon & Garfunkle-type duo of talented brothers who delighted the audience with both haunting melodies and rock, taking time out from their busy schedule supporting The Zombies on tour then gigging around Australia. Jack Carrack, son of Paul, accompanied them on percussion. Jess Bergman (mezzo soprano) just stunned everyone into silence. She was magnificent and I saw many a jaw drop when she simply filled the church with the most beautiful melodies. The power of



her voice was skin-tingling and our M.C., Mark Wilson, voiced all our feelings when he said we were privileged to hear her sing at the start of her career in our lovely church on the hill in Edlesborough – watch your back Ms.Jenkins! Jess is only 18 years old. What a future she has ahead of her. We all wish her every success! All of the Saturday night acts were kindly sponsored by Edlesborough Surgery.

Sunday's sessions started with the Chiltern West Gallery Quire, singing and dancing in 18th Century costumes from an enthusiastic group of performers who delighted us with their joyful music, followed by The Dicemen and their teenage children, Starlight Barking; local vocalists performing folk and traditional music with guitar, fiddle and mandolin who got us all rockin' in the aisles. We were lucky to get the unexpected bonus of a visiting quartet, The Badders Boys, who were brilliant and once again the church was filled with great music and fun.

After much scurrying about from Friends, and friends of Friends, the area below the bell tower was cleared of refreshment and bar debris to allow the bell ringing team, lead by Mike Pearson, to demonstrate their expertise with The Bells, The Bells! So lovely to hear the wonderful bells of St. Mary the Virgin, Edlesborough. Thank you Mike and his team.

Rev'd Coralie McCluskey welcomed her congregation to Songs of Praise, which was enjoyed by many from a wide area, who had come to experience one of the few services held each year at our now redundant church cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust. Friends of the Church on the Hill are endeavouring to improve the facilities in the church – toilets and a small kitchen would enable the church to be used more efficiently for

events such as this and we need both help and money to enable us to carry this out. If you would like to donate to our cause or assist us in any way, please fill in the leaflet delivered to you in June or visit our website – [www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk](http://www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk)

We would like to thank John Pratt for allowing us to park in Sparrowhall Farm and Dagnall Community Choir for the loan of their portable keyboard for use at the Choirfest; also London Gliding Club, Ian Waldron Photography, Cafe Masala, The Travellers' Rest, The Rex in Berkhamsted, Edlesborough P.O., Janes, Silver Arrow Archery and Maggi Brabanec for raffle prizes. The marquee was kindly loaned, erected, then dismantled again by members of Northall Village Hall committee – Kevin and Mike – with assistance from Friends. We are grateful to our ticket agent, Christopher Pallet. Edlesborough Parish Council continue to be a valuable support to us and we thank you all very much!

We have had a fantastic weekend! If you didn't join us – why not? If not, we'll do it all again for you next year, so make sure you don't miss it in 2014. We do hope everyone who navigated the hill was rewarded with a great time – we'd like to hear your ideas for next year – after all, this first Festival has been a learning curve and we would like your input for improvements for our 2014 Festival. We need to know what you would enjoy, so please give us some feedback. Email: [info@edlesboroughchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@edlesboroughchurch.org.uk)

Heartfelt thanks to all our supporters!

Christine

p.p. Friends of the Church on the Hill

Photos on pages 42 & 43

# News from the Lions Den...

Last month we told you about the Measles Initiative that Lions around the world are supporting and our belief that this fund raising will help protect young people in this country on an enormous scale.

This month, we want to tell you about our global work on something you will all have heard about.

We are all very saddened by the tragic tornado disaster in Moore, Oklahoma. Rest assured, the Lions are doing their part with the recovery efforts and will be there as members of the community for the long-term rebuilding efforts.

There are several thousand Lions in eastern Oklahoma, and the Lions of the world will be there to support them in this time of great need.

Right now, Lions International are sending a Major Catastrophe Grant of US\$100,000 from our disaster relief fund. This grant will support Lions in affected areas to immediately begin providing aid to those in need, such as food, water, clothing and medical supplies.

We are also providing emergency grants to assist with other destructive storms that have impacted parts of the USA in recent days.

Lions around the world are united by a great spirit of giving and dedication to helping others. As the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) supports Lions' compassionate works by providing grant funding for their local and global humanitarian efforts.

## **We help Lions serve**

LCIF helps Lions improve peoples' lives around the world, from combating vision problems to responding to major catastrophes to providing valuable life skills to youth. Because LCIF helps Lions

carry out large-scale projects through our grant programs, Lions increase their impact in their local and global communities and serve even more people in need around the world.

## **Our funds come from individuals**

LCIF grants, on average, US\$30 million annually. Donations from 1.35 million Lions in 206 countries provide the vast majority of the revenue received by LCIF, making the Foundation a global leader in humanitarian service.

## **We form lasting and successful partnerships**

LCIF leverages the donations we receive through effective partnerships with other foundations, corporations and governments on the local, national and international level. We are proud that LCIF was named the #1 non-governmental organization worldwide with which to partner, according to a 2007 *Financial Times* independent survey.

We are proud to confirm that the Lions of Eaton Bray & Edlesborough also makes contributions of LCIF so in some small way, we too are helping those in distress at this time.

To find out more about the work we undertake the other projects we support, please contact me in the usual way, by calling 01525 229 656 or by emailing me at [president@ebelions.org.uk](mailto:president@ebelions.org.uk). I sincerely look forward to hearing from you ....

✍️ Rachel

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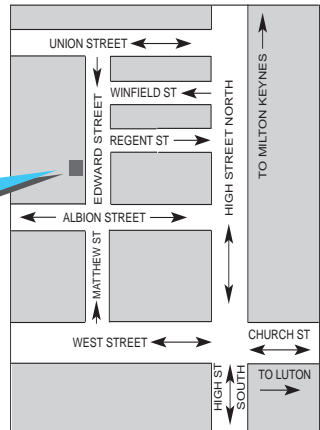
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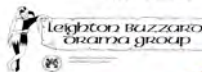
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# Edlesborough Festival

*Photos by Jim Wright*



*Above: The choirs warming up on Saturday afternoon  
Right: The piper performs at the war memorial on Saturday evening.*



*Left: Two members of the "Unsafe Sax"  
Below: "Tinlin" and Jack Carrack getting ready to perform on Saturday night.*





*Rt Hon. John Bercow, Bernadette Freed and the Edlesborough School choir at the Festival*

*Art at the Festival, the workshop artists display their pictures*



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# Your Village Photos



*Above: Friends of Edlesborough School Barn Dance (see page 63) - courtesy of Parisa Darling at Darling photography: <https://www.facebook.com/ParisaDarlingPhotography>*

*Left: Moon from Jackson Close by John Hockey*

*Below: Edlesborough School's Junior Road Safety Officers with Alf during Walk to School week. (See page 10)*





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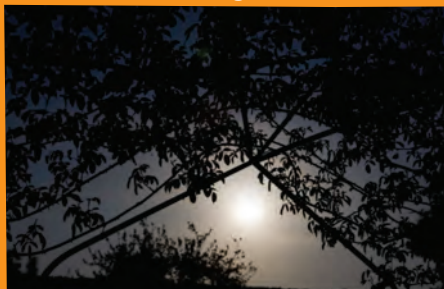
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- **a school that has excellent community links**

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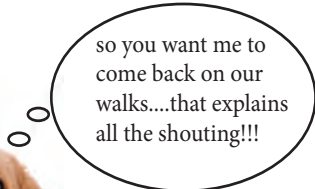
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# Dagnall Village Hall



## Chairman's Report 2013

Another year and a lot achieved. We now have a separate fund-raising committee and a new recreation committee starting up.

Christmas time in Dagnall last year will be remembered as a Christmas when the whole village came together – with the choir, Christmas Fair and of course, Santa on tour and for the lighting of the Christmas tree. We will be doing this every year so well done Pascale and the fund raising team.

We have now been granted some money from the Lottery fund again so we will be making good use of it to improve the Village Hall.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has given up their time in the last year, the fund raising team helpers and the Village Hall Committee and of course, the elected members – Sharon, Liz and Brian for all of their hard work every month.

Let's hope that during the next twelve months, we can go from strength to strength.

✍ Gary Holloway, Chairman, Dagnall Village Hall Committee

## Treasurers Report 2013 AGM

We have not had any project work during this last Village Hall year, nor have we had any significant maintenance work. However, if you look at the balance sheet you will see that we have only just held 'our own' with regard to income over expenditure i.e. income £9463 expenditure £9233 a surplus of £230. Whilst a surplus is better than a loss this is nothing to be proud of. There is no margin for error nor is there any chance of building up a 'sinking fund' to cover any future

significant maintenance items or any self funded capital projects.

Looking at these numbers in percentage terms compared with the previous year shows income DOWN 11.09% and expenditure UP 11.12% i.e. a 22% spread this is very significant and alarming.

Hall hire was down 4.73% and fund raising was down by 26.87%. Expenditure on utilities has gone up significantly with oil up 21.57%, electricity up 21.80% and water up 18.37%

We now have an active fund raising committee and hopefully this coming year should see some financial benefits from this.

As you can see from the balance sheet we currently have end of year funds of Bank general a/c £5678.99, Cash box £150.93, Sports & Recreation £986.87, 100 Club £176.00, Fete a/c £3.93.

This makes our funds down on the year by £505.83.

✍ Brian D Holt, Treasurer, Dagnall Village Hall Committee

Dagnall Village Hall

Registered Charity: 300251

## Officers:

Chairman Gary Holloway

Treasurer Brian Holt

Secretary Sharon Quinn

Bookings Liz Coates

Address: c/o 9 Dunstable Road, Dagnall, Buckinghamshire. HP4 1RG



# Dagnall News

## Over 60's

This month the Over Sixties have their annual Garden Party at the Yorke's, 1 Chestnut Close, at 2pm.

In August there is a speaker from the Ark Wildlife Rescue Centre. Meeting in the Village Hall with tea and raffle as usual.

In September some of us pay a return visit to Kensworth for a fish and chip lunch and those who were not on the list for Kensworth are meeting up at the Red Lion in Dagnall for fish and chips there.

I will need final numbers for both venues at the August meeting. Telephone Rosemary on 01442843202 if you need any further information.

A date for your diaries for next March is a WEEKEND AWAY on 7th-10th in Llandudno. The hotel is on the front with wonderful sea views and the cost is a very reasonable £115!! Shearings have reserved 20 places for us and will pick us up from the village on the Friday morning. Please let Roy Castledine know if you are interested on 01442842048. Many of you have requested another 'away break' so do support this if you can.

## Community Choir

### NEARLY AS GOOD AS IT GETS

On June 8th, the Church on the Hill in Edlesborough resounded to the singing of our choir and four school choirs as part of The Edlesborough Arts Festival.

On a beautiful afternoon in a beautiful venue our Community Choir played their part in producing some beautiful music. Which, in ethereal terms, is about as good as it gets.

We have received many, much appreciated, compliments on our performance. There is no doubt about the therapeutic qualities of spending time singing with such a pleasant bunch of individuals every

Monday evening, but to have our public performances so warmly received is "the icing on the cake".

Thank you to all those who came along, including The Right Honourable John Bercow, our M P, to fill the Church and to enjoy the idiosyncratic approach to the role of M C of Stuart Harding, our mentor and conductor. If you liked what you heard please look out for details in Focus of our October 26th concert in Eaton Bray Village Hall. Meantime we will continue to beaver away on additions to our repertoire.

We are always pleased to welcome newcomers, so if you feel that you would like to be part of our choir please contact Val Lumley on 01442 842214 or Geoff Ward on 01442 843515.

## Morris Dancers at the Red Lion, Dagnall

Now that spring/summer has finally arrived we are looking forward to some outside events. We have the Morris Dancers here on Monday 15th July dancing in the garden from 8.30 p.m. and then afterwards a few snacks and some singing so come along and join in. Another date for the diary is our American night with ribs, sliders and slaw! on Saturday 6th July.

## Dagnall School

This half term we have had lots of fun thinking about "growing". We have been amazed at some of the things we have thought about that grow!

Mountains and glaciers grow. *Ash*

The foam/mousse grows when you squirt it. *Charles*

Train lines grow when people make them longer to go further. *Alfie*

Houses grow when you build them with bricks and cement until they are really high. *Alex*

Babies grow into children and then they grow into adults. *Jake*  
Chocolate mug cake grows when it gets hot in the microwave oven. *Erin*  
A tiny egg grows into a caterpillar and then into a butterfly. *Dylan*  
Puppies grow into big dogs. *Emma*  
If you blow into a balloon really hard it

will grow into a big balloon. *Cody*  
Mrs Heath looked back into the history of Dagnall School and discovered the school has been growing and had three extensions!  
By the Chaffinch class  
Dagnall School

## Carnival 6th July - Science Fiction



**St Mary's Village  
Carnival 2013**

[www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com](http://www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com)

July has arrived and the Carnival is upon us!

If you receive focus before Saturday it is still not too late to lend a hand with the Friday evening/Saturday morning organisation. On Friday evening there will be a fleet of lorries and vans crisscrossing the villages collecting tables, chairs, tents and all manner of equipment ready for the Saturday. On Saturday morning this equipment descends on Edlesborough Green to be unloaded and maneuvered around the Green by volunteers; without this help the Carnival does not happen. If you can lend a hand on Friday evening or Saturday morning call either of the numbers at the end of this article. There are egg and bacon rolls and tea/coffee waiting for all those who can help out on the Green on Saturday morning from about 7 a.m. onwards.

If you receive Focus after Saturday then I hope you had a fine time and that the weather was fair for all of us!

Whether you were able to lend a hand or not make sure you have a great day and best wishes to all those involved in decorating and participating in carnival floats, dressing up for the day and to all families decorating their houses in the

village.

And finally here are some last minute ideas for science fiction possibilities when decorating your house or choosing personal costumes on the day.

Star Wars, Alien, The Matrix, 2001 A Space Odyssey, The Terminator, Back to the Future, The Day the Earth Stood Still, Star Trek, Jurassic Park, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Planet of the Apes, The Thing, Predator, ET, The Abyss, Star Ship Troopers, District 9 (The Prawns), I Robot, Avatar, Mad Max, The War of the Worlds, Men in Black, X-Men, Tron, Invasion of the Body Snatchers, Space 1999, Iron Man, The Fly, Spiderman, Superman, Frankenstein, Westworld, Sean of the Dead, My Auntie is a Zombie, 20 000 Leagues Under the Sea, The X-Files, Dr. Who, Futurama, The Invisible Man (I look forward to seeing him!), Red Dwarf, Dark Angel, UFO, Thunderbirds, Batman, Incredible Hulk, Knight Rider, Captain Scarlet.

Think... Robots, Lasers, Darleks, Cybermen, Vampires and Zombies,

For any last second enquiries on how you can get involved with this year's "out of this world" Carnival contact:

Gordon (Flash) Gray : 01525 220136 OR  
Richard Evans : 01525 222512

**See you on the Green!**

# Fab Fit for Physical Tips from St Judes

Now to get you into serious summer mood take a peek at our fret free summer tips.

**Gardening** – The first part of the year didn't allow such time for one of the nations favourite past times. So when faced with the mountainous back log of jobs just remember not to do in haste and repent at leisure.

**Break up tasks and take breaks** - Tackle some jobs like weeding at a low height and cutting back of plants at a higher height. Take regular complete breaks, your joints will thank you for it.

**Happy Feet** – We see a definite increase in plantar fasciitis cases in the summer and we often put this down to summer footwear. The ordinary flip flop affords no support and little shock absorbency and so the fascia under the foot, it's a bit like a piece of gristle that acts like a bow string to lift the arch of the foot, unsupported can experience too much load and tear. It can feel like you're walking on sharp stones and if not treated properly can take ages to

clear once established – so flip those flip flops in the bin!

**Avoid Sunbathers back** – Too much of a good thing lazing around is not necessarily good for you you know. Try to support your spine when trying to get that all over tan! If your back hollows out when lying on the sunbed on your tummy, put a rolled towel or cushion under you to prevent this as it can otherwise lead to backache and watch the position of your neck. Better to keep your neck straight and place your hands on a rolled towel under your forehead than turn your head to the side so that your neck resembles a wrung out dish cloth!

Here's to a super summer!

For further information, contact

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## Edlesborough W.I.

At our last meeting we heard a very detailed and interesting report from Elizabeth Braiden on the recent Bucks. Federation Annual Council meeting attended by a number of our members. On that occasion Phrena, our President, was presented with a certificate for our 85th anniversary and, on behalf of Ann Brinklow, the winner's cup for the recent Bucks. Federation Golf Tournament. We also heard that new chairs would be delivered to the Memorial Hall that week. Our Institute had contributed to the cost of these. Christine Yates reported that over £800 had been raised by the recent car boot sale organised by the EDaN Beautification Team, and she reminded us

of the Edlesborough Festival to be held at Edlesborough Church from 7th-9th June. During the birthday good wishes Faye Smith and Anne Hunt received a mention for their 'special' days.

Discussion followed next on the resolution to be put forward at the A.G.M. of National W.I. Elizabeth outlined this resolution regarding the continuing decline of the 'High Street' and ways of curing this. It is an extremely complex subject, and varied views were expressed. A representative attending the A.G.M. would vote on our behalf.

Our guest for the evening was Martyn Jones, our recently retired village doctor.

He gave us very useful information on the subject of strokes, and how to cope should such an emergency occur. He spoke of the FAST test (Face, Arms, Speech and Time). Signs of a stroke are: facial weakness, arm weakness and speech disturbance. Should this happen, time is all important in getting the stroke victim to hospital. Martyn

answered members' questions after his talk, and we all gained a considerable amount of important information. Thank you, Martyn, for your expertise.

The evening finished with supper organised by Ann, Jenny and Kathy, and our thanks to them for a very enjoyable meal.

✍ Val Harris

## **Friends of Edlesborough School Barn Dance**

The 18th May saw Eaton Bray Village Hall transform itself into a barn for the Friends of Edlesborough School latest fundraising social event. Dancing to live music by Pinkers Spinney, laser shooting for those competitive men, enjoying wonderful themed food provided by The Village Tea Shop and finishing off with a disco by LeOn a wonderful night was

had by all. It was fantastic that this event was again supported by villagers and parents from Eaton Bray School as well as parents at Edlesborough School, this gave it a wonderful community feel. A massive thank you to everyone who supported this event and here's to the next one!

Photo on page 46



## **Dunstable and District Orbit Club**

Dunstable and District Orbit Club held a quiz night at Dunstable Rugby Club on 1st June. 9 teams took part and £650 was raised for Orbit charities. Everyone seemed to enjoy it and had a good time. Orbit is a social and charitable club and we

meet every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. New members are always welcome. For more information contact 01525 222441 or visit our website: [www.orbitclub.org.uk/dunstable](http://www.orbitclub.org.uk/dunstable).

✍ Jill Richards



## **Ashridge Estate Events**

**01442 851227 [ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk)**

*All events start at Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre unless stated otherwise*

**Ashridge Summer Trail** £1 per child  
Everyday July - September, 10am -4pm

**Gentle Stroll** £2.50 per adult  
Thursday 11/07/2013, 2.30pm

**Creatures of the Night** Adult £10, FoA £8, Child £6 booking required  
Friday 12/07/2013 9pm - midnight

**Butterfly Walk with Matthew Oates**  
Adult £8, FoA £7, Child £5 booking required  
Sunday 14/07/2013 10am

Start: Steps Hill Car Park

**Purple Emperor Hunt** Donation of £2  
Sunday 14/7/13 1.30am

**Explore Ashridge** Adult £7, FoA £6, Child £5 booking required  
Saturday 20/07/2013 7-8.30pm

**Totally Batty** Adult £10, FoA £8, Child £6 booking required  
Wednesday 24/07/2013 9-11pm

Start: Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre

**Discover Ashridge Walk** Adult £3  
Saturday 27/07/2013 10am - 1pm

# Edlesborough Parish Council

## Chairman's Report - continued from the June issue of Focus

Turning now to some of the amenities provided by the Parish Council:

- Following the U5s move to Edlesborough School last summer, some progress has been made in finding new hirers for **Edlesborough Memorial Hall** (EMH). However, these efforts should be enhanced by the planned replacement of the existing chairs with new, more comfortable upholstered chairs in May 2013. The Council is very grateful for generous donations from the Burghope Trust and Edlesborough WI to pay for 50 and 10 of these new chairs respectively, leaving just the balance of 20 chairs to be funded by the Council.

The total gross cost of operating the Hall during the year was £9,279; the total income was £7,358, leaving a net cost of £1,921 for 2012/13.

- **Edlesborough Green:** in addition to the normal meticulous cutting of the grass and hedges, the Parish Council, for the first time in many years, invested additional money in a programme of aerating, feeding and 'community friendly' weed treatment of the grass. Despite an extremely wet summer, the grass and ground conditions were much improved, and the Council has arranged for a similar programme for 2013.
- In view of some damage to the Green caused by the 2012 Carnival, the **Carnival** Committee has worked very hard over recent months to develop a 'Bad Weather Contingency Plan', a new 'Green sensitive' layout of stalls and Vehicular Movement Plans which vary according to the weather and ground conditions. All of these plans should avoid any similar problems in 2013.

The Council is currently investigating the costs and benefits of replacing the bark chippings in the existing play ground with a 'wet pour safety surface', similar to that used at the Northall Village Hall Play area.

A great deal of the Council's time over the year was spent in preparing the **Commons Act 2006 Section 38 Application** to Defra for approval to extend the children's play ground, and for retrospective approval of the basket ball stand and tarmac pad, and the pedestrian entry/exit and facilitating strip extension to the Memorial Hall car park. The Application was processed by The Planning Inspectorate on behalf of Defra, and their responses will be considered by the Council immediately following this Annual Parish Meeting.

In any event, the Parish Council will continue its investigations into the validity of the original **1965 common land registration** of the Peblemoor end of the Green. This registration also included all the land now occupied by The Pastures. The fact that this registration was shown to be invalid and The Pastures area was subsequently cancelled, suggests that the registration of Peblemoor end of the Green was also incorrect. The Council is keen to have the whole of the Green registered as 'Village Green', which provides all the necessary safeguards without the bureaucracy of the Commons Act.

The total cost of maintaining the Green during the year was £10,434 (including £1,773 cost of maintaining and insuring the play ground). This was offset by some income of £1,100, leaving a net cost of £9,334.



- Some of the other amenity costs in 2012/13 were:
  - **Street lighting:** £9,293
  - **Dog Hygiene bin emptying:** £3,862
  - **Cemetery:** £3,294, offset by income of £1,110, leaving a net cost of £2,184
  - **Churchyard maintenance:** £3,383
  - **Pavilion:** £2,789, offset by income of £1,309, leaving a net cost of £1,480
  - **Allotments:** £2,166, offset by income of £1,548, leaving a net cost of £618
  - **War Memorial** regular clearing & tidying-up: £551
- The Parish Council also gave its normal annual donations of £1,500 to each of the Hall Management Committees at Dagnall and Northall to help them with the running and maintenance of their halls and play grounds.

Those Parishioners who have attended Council meetings over the past few years have realised the difficult task the Council has in trying to find the money to pay for all these day to day costs, as well as endeavouring to fund new and improved amenities. The Council is very keen to spend more of its time on future improvements to amenities/facilities rather than just coping with the day to day maintenance issues.

So, the **Budget and Precept for 2013/14** was the subject of much discussion by the Council over recent months due to a number of factors.

- the cumulative adverse impact of having held its Council Tax Precept at £64,000 for the past 3 years
- the Council's continuing aim of trying to keep the Precept as low as possible, compatible with providing Parishioners with well maintained – and where possible, improving – amenities

- bench-marking with other local AVDC parishes
- the uncertainty of the Government's proposals concerning fundamental changes in its 'Localised Council Tax Support (LCTS)
- the complicated relationship which was likely to emerge, from 2013 onwards, between what used to be called 'Precept' and the total Council Tax income for parish and town councils, as a result of changes in LCTS
- every possibility that the Government might cap any increase in Precept as from 2014
- the Parish Council's Budget for 2013/14 requiring a total Council Tax income of £74,109

At its meeting on 17th January 2013, the Council finally agreed to set its Precept at £68,000.00 for 2013/14 on the understanding that this would be topped-up in 2013/14 by £5,803 of LCTS and £306 from AVDC. It was understood that the Government's LCTS would probably be reduced in future years, and that the top-up from AVDC was for one year only. The total of £74,109 in 2013/14 is the equivalent to £58.25 per year of Council Tax for a Band D property, compared with £49.85 in 2012. The new Band D rate of £58.25 is still lower than that payable in all but one of the other seven AVDC local parishes. (Cheddington £74.37; Ivinghoe £72.58; Slapton £66.34; Wing £65.11; Mentmore £63.48; Pitstone £61.39; and Marsworth £49.17).

After all those figures, I am pleased to report that the Rural Exception Scheme for eight **affordable homes** in Edlesborough has now reached the stage where the owners of several possible sites are being approached to determine if one of them would be prepared to sell some of their land. This would have to be at

a price which would be higher than its agricultural value, but substantially lower than the free market price for commercial housing.

My thanks and those of the whole Council and, I am sure, of all Parishioners, continue to go to all the Wing South Neighbourhood team of **Thames Valley Police** whose work in the Parish has become so much more visible and effective over recent years. In October the Parish Council was delighted to congratulate our own PCSO, Jackie Dodson, on having received the award for Police Community Support Officer of the Year for the whole of Buckinghamshire.

Your Parish Council continues to take a very active interest in the proposals to expand operations at **Luton Airport**. These proposals could considerably worsen the noise disturbance experienced by parishioners, especially if the flight paths have to be modified to accommodate the additional traffic and if there was any increase in night time flights.

I am also very grateful for the tremendous time and input from Chris Poll, our District Councillor who attends every Council meeting and who has kept it well informed of AVDC matters, and who is always on hand to offer real help, advice and experience.

I would also like to place on record our appreciation of the help and support we receive from Mrs Avril Davies, our County Councillor.

As I mentioned in my Report last year, the Council is literally inundated on a weekly basis with **policy and consultative papers** from the Government, AVDC, BCC and a myriad of other organisations which have, or could have, a bearing on the lives of parishioners. Much unseen work is therefore undertaken by Councillors in reviewing these documents

and submitting the Council's views and comments.

I would like to remind all parishioners that, in working tirelessly for the benefit of the local community, all the Councillors do so completely on a voluntary basis. If anyone feels that they would like to contribute to the development of the parish, may I suggest they stand as a candidate at the next Parish Council election in 2015. In the meantime however, we are currently short of the second councillor for Dagnall and the Council would welcome any nominations for co-option on to the Council to cover this vacancy.

Finally, I am most grateful to my fellow Councillors for all their tremendous support and hard work during the year:

- **John Wilkinson**, who represents the Edlesborough Ward, who is our **Vice-Chairman**, and who also takes the lead role in assessing all planning applications for Council's responses to AVDC.
- **Marilyn Prys-Jones** (Edlesborough Ward)
- **Alan Williams**, (Edlesborough Ward), who is Chair of the EDaN Steering Group
- **Julie Ratheram** (Edlesborough Ward).
- **Mark Wilson** (Northall Ward)
- **Brian Holt** (Dagnall Ward)
- **Chris Nevard** (Edlesborough Ward)
- As already mentioned, we are still short of the second representative for Dagnall.

and to our very hard working **Clerk**, **Lin Sargeant**, and to **Penny Pataky** our **Assistant Clerk** who began a job-share with Lin last October, and who is also the **Manager** responsible for looking after EMH, the Pavilion and the Green **Kevin Cabbage**, Chairman and Northall Ward Representative, Edlesborough Parish Council 18th April 2013

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# Eaton Bray Parish Council

## Highlights from the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting/Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council on Monday 13th May

### Public Open Forum

Items brought to the Parish Council's attention:

1. Are the grass verges the responsibility of the Parish Council? *No, the Parish Council are responsible for certain areas of grass within the parish, the verges are the responsibility of Central Bedfordshire council.*
2. Village Hall Payments - how many payments are still to be made with regards to the loan taken out by the Parish Council to support the hall's refurbishment? *The loan was taken out in 2004, with a ten year loan period. The final payment to be made in August 2014.*
3. Local demand for allotments? *Currently the demand for plots is small. There are allotment plots at The Meads, off School Lane (Holmans Field) and Bower Lane plot designated as allotments.*
4. All-Weather training pitch – the following concerns were raised with the Parish Council regarding the proposed development:
  - Do not believe residents of the village were informed about this proposal.
  - Believe the notice in Focus did not give enough details about the proposal.
  - Residents living near the area believe they did not receive sufficient communication about these proposals.
  - Residents living near the area did not receive communications from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding the planning application.
  - Concerns with the planning application – details within it.
  - Concerns with the proposed lighting for the pitch.
  - Lack of communication by the Parish

Council with residents.

- Concerned the facilities would not be legal, i.e. cleaning/toilet facilities? And would like the Parish Council to look into this.
  - Do not feel the Parish Council were acting for the community when proposing this development.
  - Would like a meeting to look at the proposals, i.e. Scheme of Use, etc.
5. Pavillion/Sports & Social Club – does the council have the funds/budgeted for the costs towards the demolition of this building? *Yes*
  6. Traffic and Parking Issues? *The Parish council are awaiting details of the speed monitor that was set up in the village. The Parish Council do not have traffic power; this is the responsibility of Central Bedfordshire Council.*
  7. Would like more detail regarding council fixed assets.

### Accounts for Year Ending 31 March 2013

The Clerk, as RFO, reported that parish council year end accounts have been completed, ready for approval at the Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council on 13 May 2013. The final accounts were signed off by the Internal Auditor on the 10 May 2013, once approved by the Parish Council the accounts will be forwarded to the external auditors for 1 July 2013.

---

### Election of Councillors

Cllr. Johns was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and the council were pleased to welcome Cllr. Glenn Wigley to the Parish Council.

### Central Beds Council (CBC)

- **New CBC Chairman:** Councillor

Caroline Maudlin has been elected as the new Chairperson of Central Bedfordshire Council.

- Priory House car park: Following feedback regarding the limited car parking spaces at Priory House, a scheme to add 50 spaces is underway.
- **National Citizen Service (NCS):** This is a service for young people in Year 11 and Year 12, a chance for young people to spend two weeks away from home, learning new skills like abseiling and camping. They also get to hone their business skills, learning movie making, how to start a business and more ... For details on this course and its cost call NCS on 0845 4607410 or visit their website <http://www.ncsytes.co.uk> .

### **Bedfordshire Police**

There have been 2 reported crimes for April: 1x vehicle crime, 1 other theft. In addition there have been incidents of anti-social behavior: 4x transport, 3x anti-social, 13x public safety/welfare.

### **Parish Byelaws**

The proposed new Byelaws notice has been placed in the Leighton Buzzard Observer, w/c 30th April 2013, with the deadline for comments being 30th May 2013.

### **St. Mary's Village Carnival, Saturday 6th July 2013**

Once again, Eaton Bray Parish Council

will be present at the St. Mary's Village Carnival on Saturday 6th July 2012. Please do take the time to visit us.

### **Accounts for Year Ending 31st March 2013**

The Clerk distributed details of the accounts for the Annual Return. It was agreed to approve the annual accounts, the Chairman signed on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **Future Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Dates**

1. Parish Council Meeting: Monday 1st July 2013, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern (1st floor)
2. Parish council Meeting: Monday 2nd September 2013, 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern (1st floor)

**Parish Council Website:** [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.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 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 [messages can be left on answerphone]

### **Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners June 2013**

59	Liz Warby	£100
10	Helen Steel	£25
177	Michelle Young	£25
109	Helen Miller	£25

Drawn on 7th June 2013 at Eaton Bray Academy. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni 71 Bower Lane Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire LU6 1RB Telephone: 01525 221411.

### **Helen Steel**

Does anyone know Helen Steel who used to live in Luton but was a mum at pre school back in 2003/4? She has valiantly kept paying her money into the Village Hall 200 Club and has now won twice in the last two months. Her first cheque has been returned "address unknown".

If anybody can help please call Shelagh or Ross on 221411.



# Salvation Sound



As I sit writing this missive it is a lovely, warm, sunny day. The garden is lush, a beautiful sight! But the flower heads are patterned throughout with grasses and wild flowers. From a distance it looks well maintained, but really a good gardener would weep over it. Nevertheless in the midst of the chaos there is a beautiful red admiral, it is taking time, pausing here and there to sit and spread its wing to the sun on the plants of its choice. It doesn't differentiate between them. It fans its wings with exquisite grace. To think that this stately entity was once a wormlike creature, feeding on leaves, which then built its own coffin and hung in some dark warm space until in time it emerged, transformed into a beautiful butterfly.

Have you ever wondered why God made a particular creature? Butterflies are attractive, but what about slugs and worms. Were they created to feed birds? Well yes, but, worms have another purpose. Their silent and to us invisible activity is essential for they break up the soil. No worms, no vegetation! What then can we learn from them?

In the world of nature and in our own lives there are invisible forces at work. The silent and unseen work of prayer. The work of the Holy Spirit in our lives (remember Pentecost) breaking up the clogged and unproductive 'soil' of our lives so producing the fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Humility, and Self-control (Galations 5v22.) We are not all the same; tall, short, fat, thin, beautiful or ugly, it really does not matter, for we are the crown of God's creation, the human race. Regardless of what we look like there is in each of us something glorious, Remember Paul said that we are transformed by the Holy Spirit, who lives within us and we are becoming more like our Lord Jesus (2Cor.3 v 18). Comforting isn't it?

"Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me, All His wonderful passion and purity;" Our Creator deserves our praise for,

"All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all".

Evolutionists say that our amazing and complex world developed by chance. The reasons people give for not believing in God so often comes down to the fact that they want God to do something for them as proof. Sadly they miss seeing the wonderful things He has already done.

Slugs-Gasteropods-Limax. Nasties to most of us, but have you the courage to examine the living creatures? They are curiously formed. Their back is covered by a black or brown ribbed skin and on the upper part it has a shield which consists of a piece of bone, the only one in the slugs body. Covered with skin, it is designed to protect the air-hole through which it breathes. Its horns, tentacula or feelers are gifted with the sense of touch. The path of slime which marks its route enables it to glide over sand or gravel, which might injure it. UGH! Yet it has power and wisdom.

To look at nature can open our minds to the fact that nothing has been made in vain and that everything has been designed to fulfill a purpose. What purpose are you fulfilling? Why has God put you here? A question I often ask myself. Many people put more value on what we achieve- careers, status, abilities,- rather than loving and valuing us simply for who we are.

Are you a "people pleaser"?, only feeling valued when pleasing others. Let us remind ourselves that Gods love, expressed in Jesus' death, is where we will find our true value; our relationships with other people, our purpose will flow from that.



# Shed and Garage Security



The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) monitors crime to identify any emerging trends in offences across Aylesbury Vale, which with practical advice may reduce. As such, we have seen an increase in break-ins to sheds and garages in areas of Aylesbury Vale. Padlocks on sheds have been cut/garage doors forced open.

We would ask that you are extra vigilant and take simple steps to ensure that your shed or garage is secure and tools inside are security marked.

Please take a minute to read the following crime reduction tips:

- Use a hasp and staple padlock to secure doors and windows, replacing ordinary screws on outbuilding doors with non-return screws or coach bolts (the latter have smooth heads that cannot be undone with a screwdriver or spanner and increase security).
- Secure up-and-over garage doors with padlocks through the inside runners, or fit a padlock (with hasp and staple) on either side of the door.
- Fit a padlock alarm. These are available in many hardware shops.
- Thorny shrubs growing under windows or against access routes such as drainpipes, walls and fences create an effective natural barrier. Berberis, blackthorn, rubus and pyracantha are all good for this and are readily available from your garden centre.
- Fix a grill to steel plates inside garage and shed windows.
- Keep your outbuildings in good condition. Burglars looking for an easy way in will target split, rotten or warped doors and window frames.
- Mark all your property with your postcode and house number or name.

Make a note of serial numbers.

This will help prove ownership if your property is stolen and then recovered.

- Please be vigilant in your neighbourhood and report any suspicious activity straight away to your local neighbourhood team on 101 or if you believe a crime is in progress call 999. If you would like to pass on information but wish to remain anonymous then call Crimestoppers on **0800 500 111**.

## CALLING ALL VAN OWNERS

### FREE “No tools or valuables left in vehicle” stickers

Take the opportunity to claim your free van security sticker. Visit one of the following locations to get yours:

- Aylesbury Vale District Council, Reception, High Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1SD
- Kings Langley Building Supplies, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8EH
- B&Q, Vale Hundreds Retail Park, Aylesbury, HP20 1EA
- Perry’s, Unit 7, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, HP19 8DB.
- Aylesbury Buildbase, 1 Rimmington Way, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 8AW
- Buckingham Buildbase, Wharf House Yard, Stratford Rd, Buckingham, MK18 1TD
- Buckingham Van Centre, Unit 1, Gawcott Road Industrial Park, Buckingham, MK18 1DR





# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

## Weather Conditions for May 2013

It was an unusually cold and dull month for May, with 12 days when the temperature dropped to below 5°C with a month low of -0.1°C. Although the dominant wind for the month was from the west there were many days when it was blowing from the north bringing the cold air directly over the UK making it feel more like a winter's day. I have tried to show in the plot below the worst day which was the 24th when the temperature low was 4.7°C and only rose by 4.6 degrees all day, and with 10mm of rain it could have been November

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

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	23.1°C	7 May 15.00	0.3°C	16 May 05.30
Mean Temperature	10.7°C			
Dewpoint:	15.0°C	31 May 14.30	-4.0°C	2 May 19.00
Humidity:	97%	15 May 07.30	23%	2 May 15.30
Barometer:	1026.1 hPa	1 May 00.30	989.4 hPa	15 May 01.30
Wind Speed	41 mph SW	9 May 14.00	Months avg.	6.0 mph
Wind Chill:	23.1°C	7 May 16.00	-0.1°C	1 May 00.30
Dominant Wind:	W			
<b>Rainfall</b> * <i>T</i> = total rain days and moisture. <i>R</i> = Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 11 (T), 11(R)	Wettest Day 28 May		14.20 mm	0.559 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	May 2013	62.00 mm	2.44 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Months	267.6 mm	10.53 ins

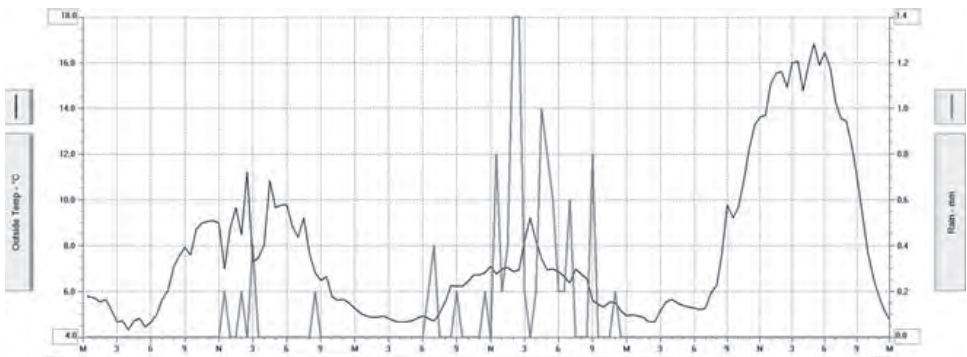
23rd



24th May cold and wet



25th





# Eaton Bray W.I.

Deirdrea welcomed 23 members to the June meeting with two members being absent. An update was given on Barbara Collier and her injury. Edwin and Pamela Rye were welcomed as the speakers. There was a Coronation theme to the evening, with decorations, food and raffle prizes.

Birthday cards were given to Vera along with good wishes. The minutes of the previous meeting which were taken by Deirdrea, were read but not signed.

## **Matters arising**

Cream Tea at Frosts with a flower demonstration; nine persons had booked so far, final names needed next month, cost £12.50.

Outing to the Cotswolds; Wednesday 7th August. Envelopes were given out and should be returned with the monies at the next meeting to Linda.

There were various pieces of correspondence from Beds Federation, consisting of notices of future events, which were given out.

Deirdrea and Linda would be going to Houghton Regis WI's birthday party on Tuesday.

Birthday meal; November 18th at the Plough at Wingfield. Deirdrea to confirm the date and choice of menus.

Christmas evening; guests would be invited from the other five group WIs.

Helen had offered to have a coffee morning on 25th July 10-12, for which she was thanked.

Deirdrea then introduced the speaker Edwin Rye and his wife Pamela, who open their garden each Summer in Wendover.

Edwin spoke and showed photographs of his beautiful garden and then relayed details of how his garden was taken over by the film crew and Alan Tichmarsh for a TV programme. He had photos to illustrate

each phase of the filming.

Edwin showed different shrubs and demonstrated a new type of plastic hanging basket, which would make planting up easier. After many questions were answered, Margaret Jones gave the vote of thanks.

Pamela Rye then spoke of the work that they had been doing each year in South Africa, supporting a centre for young children who have nothing. Living with little food or clothing and with no water or sanitation in some of their homes.

If they were not provided with food at the centre, they would go hungry. Pamela and Edwin each year visit for three months and provide the centre with much needed goods, chairs, tables, play area toys and now after twelve years of visiting, they now have electricity at the centre, so they can provide much needed fans to cool the building. Her photographs of the children were heart rendering but the children who attended the centre were now happy, clean and well fed. It is a mission very close to their hearts.

Social time followed where the committee had provided a most enjoyable Coronation Tea. Joan Horne and Joan Thorne made the teas and coffees. The raffle was drawn and 7 members won a Coronation pen.

The next meeting is on Monday 1st July when the speaker will be Hilary Percival on Islands of Samoa and Johannesburg.

Our meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at Eaton Bray Methodist Hall 7.30pm (except for Bank Holidays), which are held on the following Monday.

Each meeting consists of a short business update of events, a speaker or demonstrator, then social time with refreshments. Our WI is small but very welcoming and friendly and we welcome visitors.

# Local Art Dealers Launch Showcase for Artists from Around the World

Two local Art entrepreneurs have recently joined forces to provide both a showcase and marketplace for an array of Artists and Designers from around the globe. In its first month [www.artistsinfo.co.uk](http://www.artistsinfo.co.uk) has become the most searched online art gallery on the world's second largest search engine, YouTube.

Starting out with just a handful of local Artists, the site has already grown to include talented Artists from five continents. The selection of work on offer includes paintings, pottery, jewellery, sculpture and much more. The site is easy to navigate and has advanced search software, enabling visitors to select Art by style, location, names and keywords.

Commenting on their new venture, Melanie Burnell (from Bedfordshire) and Jean Dennis (from Hertfordshire) explained that Artists are finding less and less opportunity to exhibit their work as

Galleries struggle to survive. Individually most Artists cannot afford the costs to market themselves. By showcasing their work to the World 24/7 on [www.artistsinfo.co.uk](http://www.artistsinfo.co.uk) each Artist has a much greater chance of selling direct as the trend for online shopping continues to grow.

For the consumer, they are now just one click away from discovering a great new selection of Art to purchase or commission and when they buy direct they get 'True Value for Art.'

Artists Info are soon going to be offering Virtual Exhibitions where artists can exhibit their work on a fantastic 3D Virtual Gallery on their No 1 rated YouTube Channel.

Any Artists who are looking to promote their work can contact either Melanie or Jean by Telephone +44 (0)1582 638178 or email [admin@artistsinfo.co.uk](mailto:admin@artistsinfo.co.uk)

## London Luton Airport

With an increase in aircraft in the area and in particular when the wind is from the East, we are getting some aircraft flying directly over the village to join the flight path into the airport. If you are disturbed by the traffic flying over the village, there is a complaints hotline number: 01582395382. This is an airport number where you can register your concerns. It is important to do this if we are to reduce these disturbances over our village.



## 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.

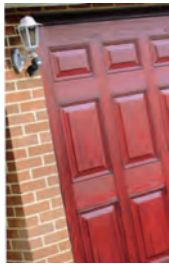


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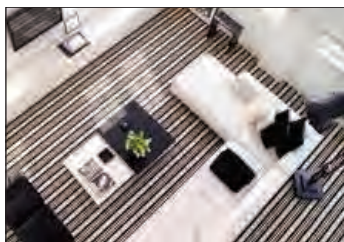
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