

FOCUS

April 2016



Focus is online at
www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

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

The White Horse Inn At Eaton Bray



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worship each week between 11am and
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talk together.

For more information contact:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

There has been a Baptist Chapel in Northall
for more than 200 years. Today we continue
to seek to worship God, serve him in our
daily lives and support and encourage one
another in the difficult and the joyful times.

The Focus Magazine Committee

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10th of the month

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content of any advertising or articles published in 'this'
magazine neither do they reflect the opinion of members of
the Committee. © Articles published in Focus may not be
reproduced without permission.*

**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

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk



invites you to

Eaton Bray
Methodist
Church

Café Community

Saturday 9th April 2016

11.00am to 1.00pm

*Relax & chat with friends,
coffee/light lunch*

*Charity of the month:
The Samaritans*

All ages welcome (inc. activity area).

See you there

food for the body.....
food for thought.....

Village Diary April 2016



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 220431
manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Lower School, Michelle Urbanowicz on 01582 668841
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489
- Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7-10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Contact Sandra Counsell 07979 521900
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- Mondays (term time) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall Village hall 2-3.30. Contact Jan 01442 864271.
- Mondays Curtain Call Youth Theatre 5-7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Gavyn 01525 220525
- Mondays Curtain Call Theatre Group - 7:30-10:30pm Eaton Bray Village Hall, Sheila - sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk
- Mondays KFFPA ISTD Classical Ballet classes, 3+yrs, 4.15pm, Edlesbrough Memorial Hall, www.kfpa.co.uk
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- 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, Ruth Allen, 01525 222468 or 07796 265174 or email ruthallen002@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Northall Baby & Toddler Group, 9:30-11:30am, (open in the Summer School Holidays) Northall Village Hall, Stacey Richmond 01525 222999/07957 607592
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Circuit Training - Edlesborough School Hall, 7-8pm - www.simplesfitness.com
- Tuesdays Buggy Push Fitness Class - Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 10:30 - 11:15am - www.simplesfitness.com
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly
- Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489
- 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 on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays Dynamic Yoga 6.30-7.30pm £5 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936 693696
- Wednesdays (term time) Caterpillars preschool parent and child group 10 to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough £1 per family unit, Rebecca Dennis 07920 062248
- Wednesdays Pilates 6.45-8.45pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Andrea on 07855 138005 or andrea@naturalpilates.co.uk
- Wednesdays Art of Ju Jitsu martial arts class, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 7 - 7.45pm ages 6-15yrs
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- 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 KFFPA Street dance classes 4+yrs 4pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, www.kfpa.co.uk
- Thursdays Box-Fit - 7:30 - 8:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall - www.simplesfitness.com
- Thursdays Tae Kwon-do, Dagnall Village Hall, 5.45-7.30pm 07813 755785
- Fridays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Mermorial Hall 10 - 11am

Village Diary April 2016

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Fridays | Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576 |
| Fridays (term time) | “Little Luvvies” baby ballet classes 10am-11.30am. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124 |
| Fridays (term time) | Kids Club 6:00pm to 7:00pm Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough (across from the post office) Frances King 01525 229610 |
| Saturdays | Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208 |
| Saturdays | KFPA Musical Theatre classes 4+yrs www.kfpa.co.uk, 10am, Edlesborough Memorial Hall |
| Sundays | Sundays Worship at 10:30am and 6pm Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough (across from the post office). Barry King 01525 229610 |
| Last Sunday | Messy Church, 3-5pm at The Salvation Army Booth Place |

Monthly

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1st Monday | Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except January-2nd Monday) |
| 1st Monday | Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Margaret Jones on 01525 220991 |
| 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 Saturday | St. Mary’s Church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10am - 12 noon |
| 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 |
| 2nd Saturday | Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936 693696 |
| 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 |
| Last Saturday | Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church |
| Last Sunday | Messy Church, 3-5pm, Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 07932 057490 |

Other Regular Events

| | |
|------|--|
| 3rd | Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall |
| 8th | Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. All welcome. |
| 9th | Cafe Community, Eaton Bray Methodist Church, 11am to 1pm |
| 19th | Dagnall Over Sixties outing to the Cross Keys at Pulloxhill for lunch. |
| 25th | ELF walk from Eaton Bray church, 9:30am |

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

| | |
|------|--|
| 10th | Deadline for Carnival Queen/Princess entries |
| 14th | ELF meeting, 10:30 The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray |
| 17th | Draw for Carnival Queen, Princess and attendants, 11:15, Eaton Bray Village Hall |
| 23rd | Spring Sale, 12 - 3pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall |
| 30th | Music Night Eaton Bray Methodist Church, 7:30pm, Enquiries 07974 780324 |

Village Notices

St Mary's 100 Club

Congratulations to the following winners:

March 2016

1st prize – John Plater

2nd prize – Peggy Bearton

3rd prize – K. Stoten

If you would like to join the 100 Club please collect a form from www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk/Groups/100-club or from St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray.



Dagnall Church Sunday School

meets between 10.30am and 11.30am on Sunday mornings.

Our team helps children to learn about God and Jesus through bible stories, games, puzzles, drama, craft activities, songs and prayer. We cater for children aged between 5 and 12. Parents are welcome but do not need to stay.

For more information, please call:
Liz Coates 01442 842550
Or Stephanie Ralphs 01442 842402



**EDaN Community
Transport**

Peter Williams:
01442 842506

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

Police Contact Numbers...

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General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile: 07800 703 524

Email: NHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Dear Focus Committee re new colour magazine,

Whilst it's very pleasing to see the colour photo pages, I think that's colour enough. I am elderly as are many in our villages and found it hard to read and colour confusing – too many colours both of backgrounds and fonts.

Ex.

- ‘Village Diary’ printed in pale brown on pale blue –
- ‘Committee Page’ printed in dark brown on pale brown –
- ‘Cheddington Bowls Club’ printed green on green – etc. etc.

And worst of all is ‘Coralie’s letter,’ in confusing Twistly whistly font!
I know I am not the only person finding this new style bewilderingly over the top.

Yours sincerely

P. I. Carter

Dear Reader,

In response to your letter we have removed the background colour from the committee, diary and Coralie’s page. We would like to add that the majority of the adverts and events printed in the magazine are replicated identically (including colour) as submitted.

Coralie’s letter was sent from her study leave and as a one off we printed it as a letter in script for the February issue only. You will have noticed we have reverted to normal font since the March issue.

I would like to add that any other comments received have been of a positive nature.

✍️Focus Committee

A SPECIAL PLACE

Along the Gade valley, not far from Dagnall, lies a spot where the three counties of Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire all come together. Like convoluted jigsaw pieces, the three shires perfectly interlock at the romantically named SP 997152, just past the sewage works on the country road known as Main Road South.

The small rural community of Dagnall lies in Bucks, though Whipsnade Park Golf Club, just a short distance up the hill from the village has as its address... ‘Dagnall, Berkhamsted, Herts’..In fact none of the complex lies in Hertfordshire, it is nowhere near Berkhamsted and a footpath which crosses the course follows the boundary between Beds and Bucks! To find Hertfordshire you have to travel a short way down the road to this special place.

Postal addresses are meant to be helpful aren't they?

Despite all this, on a sunny morning the view down the Gade valley near this unique spot is nothing short of breath-taking.

✍️John Hockey

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



All Saints' Church, Dagnall

Services in April 2016

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun. 3rd April | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| Sun. 10th April | 10.30 am | Morning Service with Holy Communion |
| Sun. 17th April | 10.30 am | Family Communion |
| Sun. 24th April | 10.30 am | Family Service |
| Sun. 1st May | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |

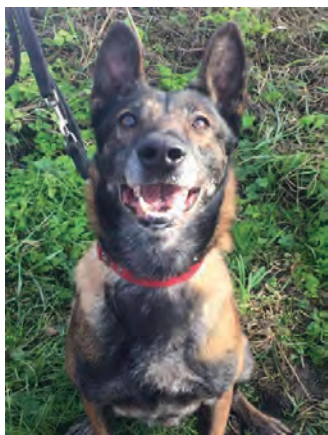


Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service.



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FUN DOG SHOW!

Sunday 8th May

12 Show Classes, Grand Draw,
Tea Tent, BBQ, Stalls

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Judge - Lynne Davies
from TV's Dog Borstal

Entries on the day

Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds LU6 1QY

Tel. No. 01525 220383

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)

Email: admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk



Easter is done and dusted, most of the chocolate has been consumed (probably all of it!) and the children are back at school. January and February flew by and I cannot believe that my Extended Study Leave is over. When I've finished this letter I must settle down to write a report relating to my research into Rural Mission and Ministry in the Diocese of Brecon and Swansea.

It was both an education and a privilege to meet people who minister in villages and communities that seem to be a million miles away from many of the facilities that we sometimes take for granted in our villages which are in such close proximity to Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard.

As I travelled around the rural areas my 'satnav' went into meltdown on more than one occasion. I put it down to the narrow, winding, hilly roads and a dearth of signs in some places. The scenery was beautiful, rounded hills in all directions and lots of sheep, of which I am very fond. On a sunny day driving over the moors between Builth Wells and Brecon with the Beacons beyond was glorious. The road was excellent and with very little traffic and no potholes there was a sense of peace. This rural scene took me back to the poetry I studied for A Level English Literature, particularly some verses from William Wordsworth's *Ode (Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood)*. Here are some excerpts with my apologies to Mr Wordsworth – it is a very long poem...

*There was a time when meadow, grove and stream,
The earth, and every common sight,
To me did seem
Apparelled in celestial light.....*

*The Rainbow comes and goes,
And lovely is the Rose,
The Moon doth with delight
Look round her when the heavens are bare,
Waters on a starry night
Are beautiful and fair;
The sunshine is a glorious birth,*

Coralie

Carnival Queen & Princess

St Mary's Village Carnival

Would you like to lead the Carnival Procession and open the Fete on Saturday 2nd July?

Are you aged between 8 and 13 years?

If so you could be the Carnival Queen or Princess we are looking for.

To take part all you have to do is complete and return an entry form (details below) and come along to Eaton Bray Village Hall on **Sunday 17 April at 11.15am** when the Queen, Princess and two Attendants will be chosen.

How to Enter

Entry forms are available from www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com or from Kathy Ellison at 9 High Street, Eaton Bray. To find out more call Kathy on 01525 222406

Entry forms should be returned to Kathy by 10th April



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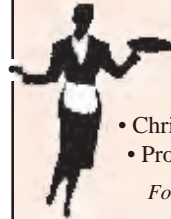
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 Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 2DP

Telephone: 01525 222174

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St Mary's Village Carnival 2016



Carnival is now 3 months away. If you want to be involved now is the time to do it!

Carnival Queen 2016

A reminder that this year's Carnival Queen, Princess and attendants will be chosen by draw on **Sunday 17th April** at 11:15am in Eaton Bray village hall ... behind the church .. If you are aged between 8 and 13 years and live in Dagnall, Eaton Bray, Edlesborough or Northall you could be leading this year's procession in the Carnival Queen carriage. The contact for Carnival Queen is Kathy Ellison on 01525 222406; see separate page in this Focus for full details. Entries must be with Kathy by **Sunday 10th April**.

Carnival Procession

This year there will be a new category in the procession; FAMILIES. Decorate your car, van and/or trailer or for that matter your tandem. This will open up the carnival procession to anyone with imaginative flair. Good luck!

An Appeal to Local Businesses and Organisations

One again this is an appeal to local businesses as well as schools, youth groups, and organisations to get involved in the Carnival and have your organisation promoted during this event. The ever increasing foot print of the Carnival, with visitors from Aylesbury, Milton Keynes, Dunstable, Luton and Hemel Hempstead, is an ideal vehicle for promoting your business. As an organising committee we can work with you to find the best means of advertising your businesses to the crowds who attend the Carnival if you give us a chance to do so. Here are a few ways that the Carnival could work for you:

- Advertising in the Carnival Programme – delivered to all the households in Dagnall, Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall. Your adverts need to be submitted before the end of April!
- Advertising in the arena.
- Have a float in the Carnival procession.
- Have a stall at the Carnival.
- Donating a prize for the Grand Draw.
- Donating a prize for the Silent Auction.

All details of Carnival 2016 including how to book a stall, arrange advertising, offer prizes and much more can be found on the Carnival website:



www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com



Carnival, what Carnival?

Carnivals used to be common events around the country with thousands of villagers or towns-folk following and welcoming a procession of floats to a patch of local land and then indulging in all the rides, antics and foods that only a carnival can offer. Sadly, their number is in rapid decline. As an aside, our local estate agents have said that St. Mary's Village Carnival is a significant draw to people thinking of moving to the area and as such the value they see in living in our villages.

It is surprising therefore, to learn during February, about the demise of some major carnivals in the south of England:

Reading Carnival, Chorley Carnival and the Worthing International Birdman Festival. Brazil (the one in South America, don't start searching in the Home Counties) which as you will know is famous for its carnivals, is cancelling events in many cities, and this is an Olympics year!

However, our Carnival is NOT threatened by lack of Council funding; there is no Council funding. Our Carnival's success depends on a huge number of local volunteers. The Carnival Committee is always looking for people who can help in a variety of ways:

- Manning stalls
- Helping in the tea tent
- Driving a vehicle
- Acting as a marshal for the procession
- Supervising the car parking
- Picking up litter
- Baking cakes
- Tossing a sausage at the BBQ

There are other ways of supporting the Carnival by donating equipment, money or prizes for our Grand Draw, Silent Auction and Tombola. For those with green fingers perhaps you could take a few cuttings and donate to the successful plant stall.

As vital as these activities is help with bringing equipment to and from the Green before and after the event. It's never too late to offer your help for this year. Whether you can spare an hour or all day to help we can find something for you to do and I can assure it's as much of a hoot spending an hour or two at a stall or meeting new people setting up the carnival as it is attending the event itself!

For any specific questions or if you would like to get involved with organisation of the carnival either by helping for a few hours on the day or providing assistance in the months before July contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136 or through the carnival website above.





MARTIN SIMPSON TO HEADLINE 2016 FESTIVAL LINE-UP

TWO NIGHTS OF FANTASTIC MUSIC AND A CHOIRFEST



This year we welcome one of the world's greatest acoustic guitarists to the Church on the Hill. Martin Simpson, renowned singer, songwriter and fingerstyle guitar and banjo player brings his intimate solo performance of traditional British and American folk and blues and his own compositions to the Festival on Saturday night.

Martin, twice winner of Musician of the Year at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, has been playing to rapt audiences in venues around Britain and beyond for 40 years. He is universally acknowledged to be one of the finest ever acoustic guitar players and his performances are a spellbinding masterclass of his talent. **DON'T MISS THIS!**

Supporting Martin on Saturday night we have Edlesborough Festival favourites Tinlin – a songwriting partnership of two brothers who perform their particular

brand of acoustic music displaying classical and contemporary influences. Guitar, mandolin, percussion and bold vocal harmonies combine to striking effect in performances of their distinctive compositions.

Friday night headliners are the formidable Kimber's Men. The five strong unit sing sea shanties and traditional sea-songs from around Europe and beyond. Close harmony vocals and a range of instruments - guitar, banjo, bandolin, whistles and pipes - combine to generate a fantastic sound. **NOT TO BE MISSED!**



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Watch out for more information about events at the Festival, who's performing, and how to get your tickets, in **Focus**; on our facebook page: Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough; and on our website: www.edlesboroughchurch.org



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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday – 09:30-13:30hrs (messages can be left on answer phone)

Following the Parish Council becoming aware of the recent development application on land off Totternhoe Road, the Council unanimously agreed that Eaton Bray does not have any requirement for a development of this size and nature, and the following letter has been submitted to CBC in objection to the application ...

8th March 2016

Peter Vosper
Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House, Monks Walk
Chicksands, Shefford
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

Dear Peter,

PLANNING APPLICATION CB/16/00717/OUT

LAND OFF TOTTERNHOE ROAD, EATON BRAY, DUNSTABLE BEDS LU6 2BD

With reference to the proposed development made under the planning application as detailed above, having reviewed all aspects of the documentation publicly available at the Parish Council meeting held on 7th March 2016 in respect to the application it was agreed by all councillors that we strongly object to the application.

After thorough consideration of the proposal it is for the following reasons with which Eaton Bray Parish Council OBJECT to the planning application:

- 1) The land of the proposed development is designated Green Belt and that, according to Government guidelines, only in 'exceptional circumstances' can developments be approved on Green Belt land and that this is NOT considered an exceptional circumstance.
- 2) There has been no identified need for a development of such magnitude in Eaton Bray and the surrounding areas.
- 3) The recent affordable housing survey identified, across the whole of the parish, an interest for up to 12 small properties of the 'affordable' housing designation but that the scheme developers (Grand Union) have struggled since then to really identify any suitable location or real interest for a small development.
- 4) The area identified suffers heavily from flooding that is not accurately reflected in the environment agency's flood plain area map. A recent correspondence from Anglian Water and the Environment Agency have confirmed in writing to us that they do not recommend or support the development in this area given the flood risk and additional pressure it will put on the water courses.
- 5) The existing road network could not support the increase in the additional traffic 145

homes would bring. The property size proposed suggests that each one will average 3-4 people. Given that there is little or no public transport network in Eaton Bray that would be suitable for those who would need to use it to get to and from work, each property will almost certainly bring with it 2 cars – which then increases the road usage significantly to an additional 300+ vehicles.

New build residential requires one parking space per bedroom, up to and including 4 bedrooms, plus 0.25 visitors' parking spaces per property. The proposed development at The Rye/Totternhoe Road clearly contravenes CBC's own parking policy.

The Highways Working Group of the Parish Council have already identified that the road network is already heavily under strain with the high level of HGV and 'rat run' traffic using the village as a cut through to avoid the Dunstable gridlock. The main carriageway through the village is breaking up and in many places (Totternhoe Road entry into Eaton Bray and Bower Lane) the carriageway is simply not wide enough. This, in addition to both the construction traffic and the additional resident vehicles, would mean that it is only a matter of time before a serious and possible fatal accident were to occur on roads that are simply not big enough for the present volume.

The proposed development estimates that 50% of the residents of the development would use public transport and walk to/from the bus stops. The recent cancellation of a bus service through Eaton Bray at critical commuting times would make it almost impossible for these new residents to travel using the proposed method of public transport.

7) The proposed site location is on an already dangerous junction, particularly at the weekends when the Rye playing field is heavily used by children playing football. This has historically been a dangerous and difficult junction but with the addition of an additional 300+ cars using the junction would increase the level of congestion and danger.

8) The village's drainage and sewer system is already under threat. The past few years have seen unprecedented levels of flooding in that exact area of the proposed development with some residents of Totternhoe Road being flooded out of their homes for many months owing to the proximity to the flood plain region. Inadequate drainage and sewerage mean that without significant investment in the village's entire drain and sewer system raw sewerage would make its way out and into the open. This is supported by Anglian Water's response to us in respect to the application (copy attached).

9) There is only one small junior school in the village and this is already also at capacity and would not support the increase in the number of young children in the area. For the older children, it is our understanding that the vast majority go to Leighton Buzzard for school. However, there is little or no bus route with regular provision that would support such an increase in the number of children. The Transport statement is inaccurate and we suggest that the TRICS data bears no correlation to our current rural public transport service.

In addition, correspondence received from the Head Teacher of Edlesborough School had confirmed that they would not accept any additional volume of intake from a proposed development given their already high-usage.

10) There is one, small food shop that would struggle to cope with an increase in the number

of residents and the next nearest shops of any size would require those to use their car to travel there.

- 11) The Section 106 contributions are wholly inadequate for the reasons stated thus far.
- 12) The proposed size of the development would be one that increases our rural village by 10%+/- and this would have a significant and damaging impact on the village's character.
- 12) The development is in an unacceptable and dangerous proximity to our historical and scheduled ancient monument (the 900+ year old moat and castle).
- 13) The green curtilage of this site borders that of the proposed development.
- 14) Given CBC's ownership of the land, we would seek their (CBC) assurance that, clearly given the uplift in the value that CBC would receive from the scale of the development, this is not merely a commercial development. The application is unnecessary and overdevelopment in an area that has no demand for the property.

Finally, it is also worth noting that the supporting scheme documents of the proposal contain many inaccuracies, such as the A41 going through Eaton Bray and this, in our opinion, supports the fact that this is simply an ill-thought-out planning application that is not needed or wanted by any of the 4,200+ residents of Eaton Bray.

To reiterate, it is for the above reasons, but not limited to, that we object to the proposed large scale development in Eaton Bray.

Yours sincerely,

Heidi R. Head
Clerk to Eaton Bray Parish Council
For and on behalf of Eaton Bray Parish Council

Ju Jitsu

There is a New Martial Art Class for children at the Eaton Bray Village Hall. The martial art that is being taught is the Art of Ju Jitsu which is not only an excellent form of self defence but also a great way for them to develop mentally and physically, giving them the life skills that they will require later on.

Some of the attributes that your child will get from this class is being more confident and not worried about trying new things, being able to interact with anyone and able to make new friends and becoming fitter and healthier. Drills and techniques are taught at a gradual pace so that your child can learn them more easily.

The Class is at Eaton Bray Village Hall every Wednesday From 7pm -7.45pm ages from 6-15yrs

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A TIMELY REMINDER FOR DOG WALKERS



Spring is upon us and hopefully summer not far away so this is a reminder to all dog walkers in and around the villages. In last years May addition of the Focus an article was written about advice from The kennel Club and NFU regarding grazing cattle /sheep and keeping dogs under control and in particular the picking up of dog faeces on farmland as it can cause abortion in cattle and brain damage and death in sheep.

This is an increasing problem all over the country as the vast majority of dog owners are not aware of the problems that can be caused and assume because it is not on a public area they can just leave it lying around.

For those who “Escape to the Country” and purchase a dog/bitch please remember it is your responsibility to pick up after your dog and more importantly take it home and bin it. There have been several incidences where faeces have not been picked up and then when it has been picked up the bags have been left “hanging” on gates and trees and even discarded into the bushes. Most of these bags are not biodegradable and therefore will never rot down. Like all living creatures dogs do have to empty once or twice a day and it is the responsibility of the owners/dog walkers to NOT leave dog faeces anywhere. It has been noted that dog walkers do not keep to designated footpaths and still allow their dogs to empty in that area. Please keep to the footpaths unless specific permission has been given by the landowner/farmer. It has been noted that people are climbing over barbed wire fences, damaging the fence and leaving the wire trailing on the ground which is dangerous for wildlife and walkers.

Whilst owing a dog/bitch is a wonderful healthy experience and to walk in the fresh air and fields to take away the stresses of everyday life but whilst out thinking about the next job to do or texting or problems that have to be overcome in daily life dogs/bitches have to be watched as to what they are up to either worrying livestock and where they chose to empty.

From puppyhood to old age get in the habit of bagging your dog’s faeces. I am sure you would not like Tom, Dick or Harry allowing their dog to defecate in your garden and not pick up **SO PICKUP AND BIN IT** responsibly, if you cannot do that then you should not be the owner of a dog/bitch.

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A Good Neighbour Scheme is a voluntary group run by local residents who recognise the value in having ‘good neighbours’, particularly where public transport and other local services can be limited and where people’s family may not live close by.

Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer, how much and when. They do not undertake

jobs best left to qualified professionals but can help with things like occasional lifts, befriending or shopping. All volunteers are fully insured for extra peace of mind. Anyone who needs a bit of extra help can ring the group’s phone number. Calls are answered by a volunteer phone-handler, who matches the request for assistance with an available volunteer.

There are currently over 40 towns and villages across Bedfordshire with Good Neighbour groups supported by Beds Rural Communities Charity (BRCC).

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) is looking to work with local residents to set up a Good Neighbour group (Care Scheme) to help people living in the village. We would be very grateful if you could please let us know if you might like to join us or if there is any way in which we might be able to help you.

In the next few months a survey and information will be circulated throughout the village. We would be very grateful if you would complete it. Your replies will help us decide whether a scheme might work in Eaton Bray and we look forward to receiving your completed survey. Thank you for your assistance.

If you would like the assistance now or in the future we have listed below the services we think a Good Neighbour scheme could offer that might be useful to people in the area.

- Occasional lifts to doctors, lunch clubs, shops, etc.
- Befriending – popping round for a chat over a cup of tea
- Form filling / letter writing / help with using a computer
- Collecting prescriptions, pensions, / Occasional help with shopping
- Small household repairs/practical tasks (such as changing a light bulb)
- Pet-care / dog-walking etc. / Indoor plant watering / light gardening

If you think you might like to help, the amount of time you volunteer is entirely up to you - even a couple of hours a month helps! Volunteer expenses are reimbursed and all volunteers are fully insured and DBS checked, (formerly CRB). You could be

- part of the organising group – helping with publicity, fundraising, etc. Or
- part of the phone rota, to answer callers and match them to a suitable volunteer

For more information or copies of the survey please contact Simon Patterson on 01582 419 487 or email simonp@bedsrcc.org.uk

St Mary's Eaton Bray



Spring Sale

Saturday 23 April 2016

12 noon - 3pm

Eaton Bray Village Hall

Church Lane, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DJ

Book a table for just £10 - crafts or bric-a-brac.

Cakes, books, raffle and delicious lunchtime refreshments available,
including our legendary bacon butties!

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at barbara.morton1@gmail.com for more information



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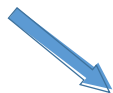
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Booth Place, Eaton Bray

For more details please contact:
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hilary.chadwick@salvationarmy.org.uk

RESIDENTS of NORTHALL

Save The Date!



Sunday 12th June 2016



Northall Village Trust
(Northall Village Hall)



AGM 2016 and Family Fun Day

Celebrating The Queen's 90th Birthday!!
(Further Details to Follow in MAY Edition of FOCUS)

OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL 24 July 2016 Wanted - Gardens

In Eaton Bray, Edlesborough or Northall

Would you be willing to open your garden for the day to help raise money for charity?

If so, or you would like more information, please contact Kay Griffiths on 222849 or Gordon Gray on 220136.

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| Hour - £10 | Hour - £15 |

Contact Lucy on
07977711350



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Music Night

at

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

In celebration of the refurbishment of the organ

Stephen Turner, Organist

and

Dunstable U3A Choir

With Elaine Trevor and Fred Thomas

Saturday 30th April at 7.30pm

Refreshments served

Free entry but donations welcomed

towards the Organ Fund

Enquiries: 07974780324



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on Mayday morning!

MAYDAY MONDAY : 2nd MAY EDLESBOROUGH VILLAGE GREEN

Come for Coffee at St Mary's

For a warm welcome and
a cheering cuppa
on the first Saturday
each month in
St Mary's Church
Eaton Bray
10.30am - midday

Next Coffee Mornings -
with Plant & Seed Sales:
Saturday 2nd April
Saturday 7th May



Music at St Mary's



Caduceus Brass Quintet

Saturday 7 May, 7.30pm

This promises to be one of the best concerts seen at St Mary's, featuring:

Principal trombonist in the Scots Guards

Principal trumpeter in the Scots Guards

Principal Horn in the RAF Band

Tickets priced £7.50 (children free) from the Box Office on 01525 222283.

13th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer and Cider Festival

Friday 10th June/Saturday 11th June



30 Real Ales + 2 ciders and 2 perrys
Soft drinks, lager and wine available

Hot food and BBQ available
All day

Live entertainment: Friday night - Jerome Chance
Saturday afternoon, 2.30pm, Family Magic Show
Saturday evening - Freight Train Riders
Fri - mid-day till 11pm, Saturday mid-day till 11pm

Entrance £3 by raffle ticket

Free to CAMRA members with card proof



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINUTES

A full/detailed copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website.
A hard copy of the minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council's notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council (PC)

Held on Monday 1st February 2016 from 7:30pm at the Coffee Tavern

Central Beds Council (CBC) – Councillor Ken Janes

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk - Customer Services: 0300 300 8302 /
Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

- Cllr. Janes confirmed that the HGV Weight Restrictions are now in force. In the first instance and in these early days, vehicles breaking this restriction should be reported to CBC Highways who will review and write to the owner of the vehicle highlighting the new restrictions. It's important to get the registration mark of the vehicle and if possible the branding of the vehicle owner. A photo of the offending vehicle can also be submitted. Contact details for reporting an offence: CBC Highways team on 0300 300 8049 or email highways@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk .
- Greenways parking – CBC confirmed that they are working on a revised drawing for this area; waiting for further updates on this matter.

Bedfordshire Police

- PCSO Peklivanas was in attendance; he informed the Council that the PCSO support for Bedfordshire is being reduced. The Council asked if he could find out what support/cover Eaton Bray and surrounding villages are expected to receive, awaiting further details.
- News from the team: If you wish to contact your Local Policing Team then please call 01582 473411,

Non-emergency call 101/All emergencies 999.

Email: LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

CRIME REPORT – JANUARY 2016

| Crime Type | 01/01/15-31/01/15 | 01/01/16-31/01/16 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Violence against the Person | 1 | 8 |
| Sexual Offences | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 1 |
| Domestic Burglary | 0 | 1 |
| Burglary Other | 1 | 2 |
| Vehicle Crime | 0 | 11 |
| Other Theft | 0 | 0 |
| Criminal Damage | 0 | 3 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 |
| Other Notifiable Offences | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 2 | 26 |

| Anti-Social Behaviour | 01/01/15-31/01/15 | 01/01/16-31/01/16 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anti-Social Behaviour Total | 4 | 8 |
| 4 x Abandoned vehicles, 2x Rowdy/Inconsiderate behaviour, 2x Malicious/ Nuisance communications | | |

Speedwatch

Speedwatch are looking for volunteers to help with the speed checks. If you would like to get involved in trying to slow down traffic in the village and are concerned about road safety please contact Cllr. Mark Tomkins, on 07819-753878 or email councillormarktomkins@gmail.com expressing your interest.



Vacancy - Parish Councillor

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

Problem Trees/Hedging/Parking

Residents can report problem trees/hedging and parking causing obstruction/overhanging public footpaths by going onto the CBC website:

(1) Hedging/trees: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning/trees-and-landscaping/guidance.aspx>

(2) Parking: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/travelling/parking/parking-on.aspx>

Next Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings Date

- Monday 4th April 2016; from 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern (1st floor)

Parish Council Website: www.ebpc.co.uk



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

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

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answerphone]

Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter

Keep up to date with what is going on in the parish



Eaton Bray Methodist Church

We have recently shared several joyful services with other churches: we had a warm welcome from the Salvation Army on the last Sunday in January and joined in the lively Circuit Celebrations on the first Sunday in February. Our Cafe Worship on the second Sunday was a delightful event led by Rev Jenny Spouge who helped us to think about confronting our

prejudices and not judging others. Joan Gregory made a welcome return to our pulpit on the third Sunday, telling us that life is a journey and we need to follow God's way with faith. On our last Sunday in February Rev Nigel Wright led our Communion service and in his sermon addressed the difficult issue of loving our enemy, urging us show God's caring love in words, actions and prayers to those who have treated us badly.

Dates for your Diary:

Café Community

Saturday 9th April 2016, 11.00am – 1.00pm

We will be delighted to see you if you come to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and/or a light lunch.

An Evening of Music

Saturday 30th April 2016 at 7.30pm.

To celebrate the restoration of our organ. There will be an organ recital by Stephen Turner and choral singing by Dunstable U3A Choir.



ROLL UP, ROLL UP FOR THE SPRING PLANT FAIR EXTRAVAGANZA



Come along and support the Ashridge Estate! How?... By buying top quality plants at the Ashridge Spring Plant Fair on 15th May 2016. The volunteers at the Friends of Ashridge run a Plant Fair on behalf of the National Trust at Ashridge taking place on the Green at the foot of the Bridgewater monument. This will be our 20th consecutive Spring Plant Fair - the idea for the first plant fair was formed in 1997 by the then Chairman, Trevor Marwood. The Fair has since grown from strength to strength, in reach and revenue, and we now regularly raise circa £7000 each year to help the National Trust maintain the Ashridge Estate. This is a very important event for the Friends of Ashridge and forms the basis of our financial support to the National Trust at the Estate, so please be generous! There is free parking and no entry fee. There is also a tea room available and the National Trust shop to visit. Please come and browse amongst the thousands of plants that will be on display and the plant stock available from small visiting nurseries on a commercial basis. These nurseries kindly donate a percentage of their earnings to the National Trust Plant Fair.

The majority of our plants are from volunteer growers and private gardens. If you have any plants to donate to the Fair then we would love to hear from you. We are especially interested in vegetable plants, border plants and perennials, roses, climbers and herbs. The estate perimeter straddles three counties so plant enthusiasts come from far and wide to purchase the high quality plants on offer. To donate any plants, please contact the organiser, John Cartwright on 01442 864 984. The Plant Fair is on Sunday 15 May 2016, 11am till 4pm at the National Trust Ashridge Visitor Centre, Monument Drive, Ringshall HP4 1LX. We look forward to seeing you.



BRINGING IN THE MAY



ART SHOW

UPSTAIRS GALLERY
Painting & Printmaking Show
May 10th - 21st 2016, Tues - Sat, 10am - 4pm
Upstairs Gallery, 268 High St., Berkhamsted HP4 1AQ
www.upstairsgallery.co.uk

'Bringing in the May' Art Show will host 'Art and Coffee' 11th, 18th and 21st May 11am-4pm at the Upstairs Gallery (above the Post Office), 268 Berkhamsted High Street, HP4 1AQ



Better Backs for Gardeners

Spring has finally sprung and the sunshine has sent us into our gardens in droves. Although gardening can be good for the mind, it can play havoc with your body. Follow our tips for

better backs and don't let an injury spoil your fun.

- Before doing any physical exercise, warm up first with a walk and some gentle stretching.
- Take regular breaks and change position between jobs to avoid tiredness, overuse and injury.
- Keep your back straight when lifting and use your knees, thighs and arms to help. Don't try to lift too much at one time – particularly those bags of compost!
- When digging, avoid twisting and straining and don't forget to take regular breaks.
- Use kneeler seats or mats when planting and don't overstretch by working too far in front

of you.

- Mow a little at a time, keeping upright.
- Avoid overstretching when pruning by using long-handled shears and use secateurs with a cut and hold action.
- If using electric hedge trimmers don't hold them too far in front of you.
- Consider the planning of your garden – raised flower beds may save you twinges in the long run.

If you have any aches or pains consult a Chartered Physiotherapist for treatment and advice.

Happy Gardening!



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☎ 01525 377751

🌐 www.stjudesclinic.com

enquiries@stjudesclinic.com

Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (ELF)

Hello Everyone,

2016 has, so far, been a quiet time regarding activities for the group. However, time still passes by very quickly - even the 29th February. Snowdrops have begun to fade away but primroses and grape hyacinths are alive and beginning to bloom. Daffodils are beginning to make a show but the strong winds, rain, snow and sleet are not helping them.

Our lunch out at the Bridgewater Arms on February 11th was attended by a happy group and we all enjoyed being together again.

The walk on February 22nd was led by Martin in fine weather. The group began the walk in Church Road, Lt. Gaddesden and followed the footpath to The Bridgewater Arms, they crossed the road, went through the car park and followed the footpath into Ashridge and towards Ringshall, crossing the Ringshall Road. They then walked towards Ivinghoe Common,

turning left to the Monument and the Café where they enjoyed refreshments. The group then continued along Princes Ride to Ashridge House, passing along the front of the building and joining the Nettleden Road, turning left back to the start.

Thanks to Martin for this pleasant walk of approximately 5 miles.

Our next meeting at The Coffee Tavern is on April 14th when refreshments will be enjoyed and further discussions take place regarding intended activities for the Group in 2016.

Hope you enjoyed Easter and were aware of the reason why we celebrate this event.

APRIL DATES

THUR.14th

Meeting at the Coffee Tavern 10.30 a.m.

MON.25th

Walk, meet Eaton Bray Church 9.30 a.m.

PEAR AND GINGER TIRAMISU TRIFLE

I've long said that the best home cooking needn't be in any way complicated. In fact, the simpler the better as far as I am concerned. Also, there is no need to come up with revolutionary creations. Often the tastiest recipes are just simple twists on much-loved classics. This pear and ginger tiramisu recipe, created by food writer and blogger Ren Behan, meets all of these criteria. Easy to prepare, it looks great and tastes wonderful. It also misses out the coffee which is a bonus for anyone who has to avoid caffeine. A lovely treat to serve at a relaxed family meal, a posh dinner party or after a barbecue (if and when the weather improves!).

Makes 4-6 tumblers (dependent on size) or one medium-sized trifle bowl

Ingredients:

3 large free-range eggs – yolks and whites separated

100g caster sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla bean paste or extract

250g tub Mascarpone

2 very ripe pears

250ml sherry

½ packet Ginger Snap Biscuits or Ginger Cake

100g grated dark or white chocolate for sprinkling on top

A dusting of cocoa powder (optional)

The ingredients will combine better at room temperature. Whisk the egg yolks, caster sugar and vanilla



together with an electric whisk for around 5 minutes until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Add in the tub of Mascarpone and mix until smooth.

In a second, clean bowl, beat your egg whites until soft peaks form. With a metal spoon, fold the egg whites into your egg and Mascarpone mixture.

Have a large trifle bowl or six small glasses/tumblers ready.

Peel, core and finely slice the pears.

Pour the sherry into a small bowl, dip six ginger biscuits into the sherry and then place one in each glass, or lay them all flat across one bowl, working quickly so that the biscuits don't get too soggy.

Add a few slices of pear on top of the ginger biscuits. Next, spoon some of your creamy mixture into the bottom of your tumblers/bowl.

Repeat until all the mixture is used up.

Cover with clingfilm and refrigerate, preferably overnight. Just before eating, sprinkle with grated dark or white chocolate, dust with a little cocoa powder if you wish and then serve.

Hear wonderful recipes on Nick Coffey's Weekend Kitchen every Sunday morning on BBC Three Counties radio at 11am. You can also join Nick every weekday afternoon at midday for brilliant local guests with great stories to tell and all the music you want for your early afternoon.

Photos: Ren Behan.



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13th Eaton Bray Village Hall Beer Festival Friday 10th and Saturday 11th June

Yes Eaton Bray's oldest, biggest and (we believe) best Beer Festival is back for the 13th time!

Our logo continues our usual sporting theme, this year we are celebrating the Rio Olympic Games. It is just that we think we have a better chance of getting some glory there, rather than the

European Football Championships, but you never know!

What we do know is that 30 barrels of Beer, various Ciders and Perrys will be in tip top condition. This will all be down to Roy Chatto and his band of MERRY helpers from CAMRA who work tirelessly for your enjoyment. You should see the effort they make into checking that each barrel is ready for you!!!!

Again we have superb entertainment for you on both Friday and Saturday nights and the Entertaining Smartie Artie on Saturday afternoon at 2.30pm.

We will also be serving lager and wine along with a large variety of soft drinks and a full catering service to satisfy the most discerning palate.

We have tried over the years to give you an excellent event and this year will be no exception, so come along and have a great time, the only thing we cannot promise is the weather but over the previous 12 Beer Festivals, it has only rained on one day, someone must think kindly of all you folk!

For complete details see our advert elsewhere in Focus and don't worry, our usual campaign of promotion will begin about 3 weeks in advance. See you all there.

Should you wish to help in the running of the event, or need any further information, please call Ross on 221411.

Edlesborough School



Edlesborough School celebrates World Book Day

On Thursday 3rd March the staff and pupils of Edlesborough School celebrated World Book Day.

To get the day started, FOES kindly organised a "Books for Breakfast". The purpose of the event is to enjoy breakfast with your child and then share a favourite book with them, or a small group of their friends, in their classroom. This was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all – thank you FOES.

The whole school used "We're going on a bear hunt" as an inspiration for reading and writing activities. These activities ranged from: going on a dinosaur hunt in KS1, to creating a play script, acting out and filming in Upper KS2.

As always, the children came in a vast array of costumes - as did all the staff. I'm not sure if we've found Wally yet, or those pesky dinosaurs!!

We would like to thank all the parents, children, staff and FOES for making this a very special day and helping to inspire our children to love reading!

✉ Mrs. Lucy Kent



Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Litter Bins & Dog Bins

Edlesborough Parish Council are responsible for maintaining the green litter bins inside Edlesborough Green.

The Green bins outside the Edlesborough Green are emptied by AVDC. Recently some of these bins have been damaged; Edlesborough Parish Council has replaced these bins with more substantial bins.

Dog bins in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall are maintained by the Parish Council and are emptied by AVDC at considerable expense to EPC.

The dog bin inside the main gate to Dagnall allotments will shortly be relocated to Main Road North near Hog Hall Lane. A new dog bin is also being installed at the start of the footpath on Eaton Bray Road, Northall.

Reporting Pavement, Pothole, Fly Tipping & Rights of Way Issues

Please report any pavement issues, potholes, and Rights of Way issues to <http://www.transportforbucks.net/Tell-us.aspx> If possible please take a photo of the problem and upload it when making the report.

Please report fly tipping to <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/environment/waste,-recycling-and-treatment/fly-tipping/report-fly-tipping/> or call 01296 480771 or 0845 330 1856.

Allotments

Edlesborough Parish Council currently has vacant allotments. Anyone wishing to take on an allotment should contact the Parish Clerk. Fees are £1:80 per pole and plots range in size from 5 – 20 poles.

Streetlights

At the time of writing this report the installation of the new street lights in the Parish is complete with the exception of two lights, which require further attention.

Please remember to report faulty lights to the Parish Clerk.

Extracts from County Councillor Report January/February 2016

County Council grant settlement means higher taxes and fewer services.

On 17 December councils were notified by government of their grant allocation for 2016/17. It is not good news. The cuts have been far greater than expected and come on top of year on year reductions since 2010. Instead of the anticipated 30% cut for this coming financial year 2016/17, Bucks County Council suffered a grant cut in excess of 40%, being allocated only £23.7 million instead of the £28 million expected. Next year it will receive £8.1 million and grants will cease from then on. This should be offset to an extent by the council receiving a portion of the business rate previously retained entirely by central government, and permission to raise council tax by 2% over and above the 1.9% previous limit, specifically to meet adult social care costs.

However the government applies a funding formula called a top up grant adjustment which has reduced Bucks' funding this year by a further £1.6 million, and up to a total of minus £52.7 million in the next four years. This negative grant settlement is achieved by holding back the business rate and re allocating it to poorer authorities.

Although the County Council budget is still £335 million, excluding schools, there are continuing new costs to meet for additional duties in health and social care, children

services, flood prevention, and more, as well as increasing numbers of people needing care and the introduction of the national minimum wage.

The following link is for the Draft Budget Report: <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/documents/b22893/Draft%20Budget%20Report%20and%20Appendices%2011th-Jan-2016%2010.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=9>

I could continue, but you get the overall gloomy picture of reduced budgets and services and increased taxes. The conservative administration are vociferously blaming the very government they helped to elect. My group, while equally angry, will face up to the realities of the situation, and challenge them on every priority and 'difficult choice' they have to make to try to prevent the baby going out with the bath water, and protect those most reliant on services.

Tring Station and the London Midland rail franchise renewal

Aldbury parish council have written to me and others about the need to have a plan for Tring Station to improve the parking and reduce the impact on local residents, which I fully support. Although the use of Cheddington station has remained about the same since 1997, Tring station usage has increased by 72%. The West Midlands rail franchise document published on 15 December is now out for consultation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/west-midlands-rail-franchise>

It is vital that Bucks and Herts, Dacorum and Aylesbury Vale Councils work together to put their views into this consultation and include in their own local plans of the needs of local residents and the impact of future development. The head of Transport strategy and growth Joan Hancox is attending the next Local Area Forum in Wing on 21st January at Wing.

I have added to the case made by Aldbury Parish Council by reminding them that Hertfordshire is still sitting on money to construct a cycleway along Northfield Road, and that Tring Station is restricted by Green Belt and Chilterns AONB designations which led to the restoration to farmland of the temporary car park created 10 years ago during the West Coast Main Line improvement programme. The bus from Castlemead to Tring Station was withdrawn when funds run out as only about seven commuters used the service regularly at that time.

Ivinghoe conservation area

Gladman Developments lost their Station Road appeal because the proposal failed to meet one of the Government's criteria for sustainable development - the environment. The deciding factor was the high quality of the revised Ivinghoe Conservation Area policy and associated document. It was worth waiting for this to be completed and adopted by the new District Council. It might be obvious to all who live in Ivinghoe that the open aspect from the lawn to Mentmore is unique, but the documentation shows that it is recognised by the whole district, distinguishing Ivinghoe's case from many others.

✉ Avril Davies, County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division

Speedwatch

The EDaN Traffic Management team are looking for volunteers to help man their Sentinel device. If you have an interest in slowing down traffic in the villages or are concerned about Road Safety please contact Louise Turner on 01442 834123 or by email at louisefanthorpe@yahoo.co.uk



McCann Planning Application for 57 Houses on land off Edlesborough High Street

The McCann planning application for 57 houses on land off Edlesborough High Street was discussed at AVDC's Strategic Development Management Committee on the 9th March 2016. The Parish Council, several residents and our District Councillor, Chris Poll, all made presentations to the Committee opposing the application, but despite this the Committee agreed to defer and delegate it to the planning officers for approval. This means that the planning officers are authorised to approve the application once they are satisfied that the necessary S106 legal agreement is in place. The webcast of the entire meeting is currently available via the following link http://www.aylesburyvaledc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/215958.

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place in Edlesborough Memorial Hall on:

- Thursday 21st April 2016. This evening will include the Annual Parish Meeting where the council will review the achievements of the past year and set out the plans for the future. Parishioners are invited to raise issues and debate them with the council. The Annual Parish meeting will then be followed by the Ordinary Parish Council meeting.
- Thursday 19th May 2016. This evening will include the AGM and will be followed by the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

All Parishioners are welcome to attend all Ordinary Parish Council meetings and may ask questions, raise issues and give suggestions during the Open Forum before the formal start of the meeting. The full minutes of the Parish Council meetings are normally available to view on the website or from the Parish Clerk.

Bucks CC Devolution, Your Precept and Future Plans

We hope you have kept in touch with what has happened and what is about to happen regarding the pressures on Bucks County Council. For several years their grant from Central Government has been cut steadily. At the same time they have been capped on the amount they can add to the Council Tax each year. Their main budget drivers are roads, social welfare and child welfare. In order to meet the cuts they have looked at every area to find savings.

You will know, we hope, that the grass-cutting service has been reducing steadily each year. Last year it got to the point where Edlesborough Parish Council paid for extra

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners

January 2016

| | | |
|-----|-------------|--------|
| £25 | David Moss | No.129 |
| £10 | Julia Quinn | No.75 |

Feb 2016

| | | |
|-----|--------------|-------|
| £25 | Jack Horne | No.11 |
| £10 | Josh Peacock | No.67 |

March 2016

| | | |
|------|------------------|--------|
| £100 | Ralph Timberlake | No.105 |
| £25 | George French | No.84 |
| £10 | Joe Sweeting | No.81 |

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by Meadow Marquees, Houghton Insurance & Giblin Property.

cuts in certain areas to try to maintain a standard. Other items such as cleaning road signs, clearing weeds, clearing pavements etc. stopped some years ago.

You may also know that the budget for the current financial year is so tight that BCC has stopped all 'discretionary' spending since January.

Faced with falling standards and a virtual promise that in three years grass-cutting except for safety reasons at road junctions would cease, BCC invited Parish Councils to take on some of BCC's activities. Your council has resisted this until now. We believe that the service being provided is now so poor that we decided to take these from BCC. BCC offered to 'sweeten' the deal by giving us some money towards it. However, the amount does not cover the annual cost of the service nor does it cover the 'catch-up' costs of those services they failed to perform in recent years.

We believe that this piece of localism in the long run will prove beneficial to the parish as we are able to respond to the needs of the community and have a better appreciation of the seasonal effects on the grass, hedges etc.

As a consequence, we have had to raise the precept this year, in part, to cover the shortfall between providing the full service and what BCC has offered us to take it on. In addition we have determined that preparing a Neighbourhood Plan is vital to manage developments in the Parish. From April the parish precept will increase by 8%, meaning that the Band D amount will increase from £70.95 to £76.60. This equates to an increase of just under 11p per week.

A team of councillors is working, together with the clerk, to have these local services in place by April 1. Just to add to the challenge our local handyman/gardener, Dave Thompson, who has fixed so many things around the parish for many years and who has lovingly tended the churchyard and the cemetery has had to retire through ill-health. We thank him and wish him well in his battle to return to better health. This has added to the task of providing comprehensive services to the parish.

Also, as we hope most of you know, in January we launched a series of public meetings to announce our intentions and outline the opportunities we believe a Neighbourhood Plan will give us. More information will be shared throughout this year.

April is when the parish council holds the statutory Annual Meeting of the Parish. This will take place in the Memorial Hall, Edlesborough on Thursday 21st April at 7.30 pm when we will review the achievements of the past year, update parishioners on our current projects e.g. Neighbourhood Plan, Devolved Services etc. and outline our projects for the new financial year. We look forward to having the opportunity to share these with you and answer any questions you may have on these and any other topics you may wish to raise. This meeting will be followed by the normal monthly Parish Council meeting.

In the meantime if you wish to know more about any of the above please contact the clerk, Penny Pataky clerk@edlesborough-pc.co.uk.

Thank you

✍️ Edlesborough Parish Council.

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Penny Pataky, 15 Summerleys, EDLESBOROUGH, LU6 2HR
01525 229358 Office hours Monday – Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm

Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

Edlesborough W.I.

Our February meeting on 9th was held in the Memorial Hall as usual but was presided over by Sue Parker who gallantly stepped in at the last minute due to the unavailability of our President and Vice President. Many thanks Sue.

Once the usual formalities were completed, we were entertained by our speaker for the evening, Kat Arney. The title of her talk was "Herding Hemingway's Cats: How Our Genes Work" which is also the title of her recently published book. Kat is a local girl as she grew up in Pitstone. She completed her Degree and PhD at Cambridge and, following a doctorate and subsequent research career in genetics, now works for Cancer Research UK as their Science Communications Officer where she translates science into plain English to help people understand more

about the disease. She also writes for the New Scientist, the Guardian and the BBC and co-presents "The Naked Scientists" which is a BBC5Live radio show and podcast. According to BBC America she is one of the Top 10 Brits who make science sexy!! In her spare time Kat plays the harp and other instruments with the bands Talk in Colour and Sunday Driver. Oh, and she doesn't sleep much!!

As you can probably imagine, the subject of Genes and DNA is quite involved but by drawing on stories ranging from six toed cats and stickleback hips to zombie genes told to her by researchers working at the cutting edge of genetics, Kat explored the mysteries with clarity, flair and wit. I think we all found the talk very interesting judging by the questions asked by our ladies at the end of it.

✍Maggie Hawes

Eaton Bray W.I.

The meeting was well attended and apologies were received from those unable to attend the March meeting.

There was a birthday card for Pamela Richardson.

Margaret Jones read the minutes of the previous meeting and these were signed by Deirdrea.

The matters arising were, there would be a Coffee Morning on Thursday 14th April at the Eaton Bray Methodist Hall from 10-12, with cakes, gifts, bric a brac, raffle and refreshments. A clipboard was passed around for offers of help and contributions on the day.

A Group Meeting at Studham on 20th April, tickets with Linda priced £4. The speaker would bring a selection of owls and other

birds.

Our 95th Birthday Party will be on 17th November, both the Coffee Tavern and the entertainment have been booked. A hot meal will be served.

Various correspondence from Bedford was read out and details displayed on the table for any follow up.

Two WI outings are planned, Jordon's Flour Mill on 14th June, with a demonstration at the mill, lovely gardens and hopefully a cream tea. RHS Wisley on 18th August, again beautiful gardens to look at, a shop and of course a tea room.

Deirdrea introduced the speaker Victoria Poulton from Woburn Abbey. Unfortunately, her computer became 'locked out' and would not function. In spite of only being involved with Woburn for one year, she bravely gave

a most informative talk on the history of Woburn, its occupants and the changes made to the abbey over the years. She was given a well deserved round of applause, cup of tea and refreshments and will come at a later date to show us her pictures. The vote of thanks was given by Margaret.

Next months meeting on 4th April will be the AGM, a speaker secretary was needed, as Wendy Watson who had done an excellent job for the past five years, is coming off the committee and will be missed. The AGM

will be followed by a session of Crazy Bag Whist, led by Helen, each member being asked to bring two £1 wrapped gifts, humorous if possible. The committee will provide savoury nibbles.

Meetings are the first Monday of the month (except for Bank Holiday when it is the second Monday), at Eaton Bray Methodist hall at 7.30pm. Each meeting consists of a speaker or demonstrator, social time, refreshments and a raffle. This is a very friendly and welcoming group.

St Mary's Ladies Guild

Deirdrea welcomed the members and visitors to the Easter themed meeting, there were birthday cards for Joan Fossey, Pamela Richardson and Christina Driscoll. A letter was received from the Children's Air Ambulance thanking the Guild members for the £350 cheque they were presented with last month.

Our Mission Outreach for the next year will be Smile Train, supporting the volunteer medical providers who do so much wonderful work and operate on those children and adults who suffer disfigurements, mainly cleft palates, through tumours and who are outcasts in the regions that they live. They are bullied, taunted and rejected. These operations give them a second chance of life and acceptance back in their villages and communities.

The devotions were taken by Judy Venn. Deirdrea introduced Amanda White from Central Beds Council and Cheryl Riding, the Outreach Support Housing Officer, Social Care and Health Officer. Amanda spoke on the help, facilities and grants that were available for those with health disabilities, difficulties and mobile limitations and gave out leaflets regarding this. The vote of thanks was given by

Cathy Gadd.

Social time followed, with an Easter tea prepared by Jenny and Deirdrea. An Easter chick was given to each member, (reserving one for Coralie). The plentiful raffle consisted of boxed Easter eggs, biscuits and pretty crackers.

There will be a Coffee Morning in aid of Smile Train in May and an outing to Stratford on Avon in August.

New members are always welcome, it is a friendly atmosphere and welcoming environment. The meetings are the second Wednesday of the month, 2.00pm at St Mary's Church, followed by social time, a tea, raffle and a sales table.



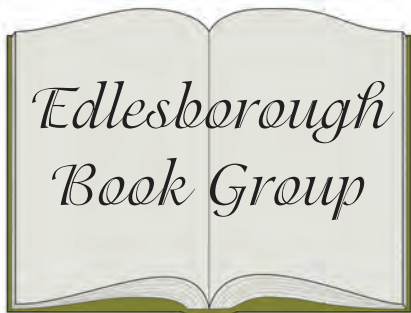
Dunstable & District Local History Society

Tuesday 12 April, 7.45pm

More Poems with a Local Twist

By popular request, a welcome return by local author *Frank Batt* with more skilful and amusing rhymes based on local characters and places.

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Home by Marilynne Robinson

In her Pulitzer prize winning novel *Gilead*, published in 2004, Marilynne Robinson tells the story of John Ames, a Congregationalist minister living in the small town of that name in rural Iowa. Written as a letter to his small son, born to him late in life, it charts his own family history and that of the town.

Four years later, Marilynne Robinson wrote the novel *Home*, which also won many literary prizes, including the Orange prize in Britain. *Home* is a retelling of the story of *Gilead*.

Written at the same time as the letter to John Ames's son, this is from the point of view of Glory, spinster daughter of John Ames's best friend, the Presbyterian minister. Reverend Boughton is dying and Glory has come home to care for her father. Although the family is large, all of Glory's siblings have families of their own and although they love their father, they only visit occasionally. The exception is Jack, the black sheep of the family, who left the

From Carpet to the Green

Having enjoyed Indoor and Short Mat bowls through the winter, and been inspired by the World Bowls on BBC2 in January, our bowlers eagerly await a return to bowling in the sunshine on their beautiful green at Cheddington's Recreation Ground on the High Street.

The outdoor season starts on April 24th. The Green is open for new bowlers to **Give Bowls A Go** each Tuesday (2pm) and Friday (6pm) from May to September.

Wayne Rooney may be on £350,000 a week, but it cost a new bowler less than a £1 a week to become a member of **Cheddington Bowls Club**.

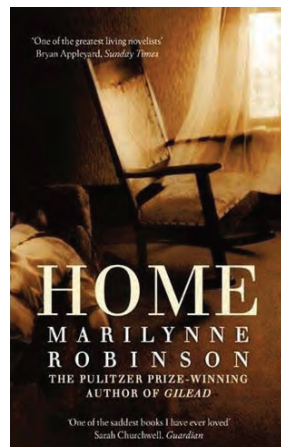
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town twenty years ago in mysterious circumstances. Now, he writes to his father wishing to return home. After weeks of anticipation and preparation, Jack returns home, obviously troubled but unwilling to confide in his sister.

Gradually, Glory and Jack become closer and try to understand one another. The two books *Gilead* and *Home* take place during the same time span, examining the same events from the Ames and Boughton families experiences. The story takes place in the mid 1950's and both books question Christianity, its views, particularly those regarding segregation and family loyalties.

Home is a complete novel, but to understand the stories of the two families fully, I would recommend reading both books. Our book group was divided in its opinions. The majority found the domestic detail tedious and the novel overlong, some enjoyed the detail and the various themes that were explored. We all thought the writing excellent and the division of opinions made for stimulating discussion.



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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for February 2016



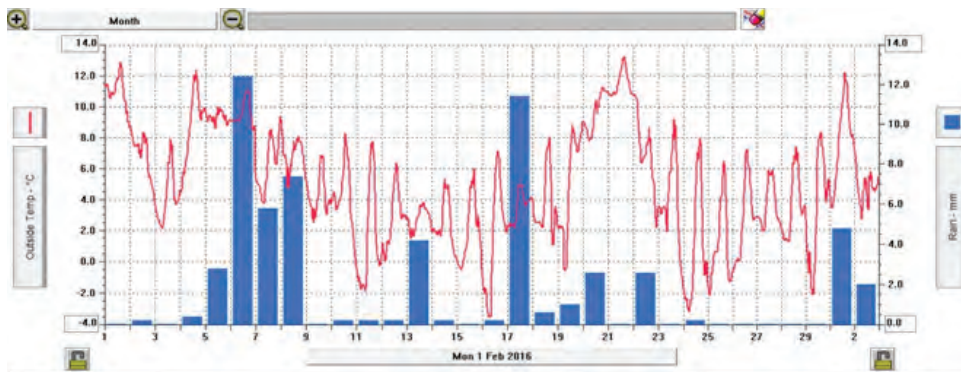
Elevation: 450 ft - Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West

We started the month with a mild and unsettled period with rain showers from the 5th -8th. On the 8th this was accompanied with strong winds reaching 49mph, the effects of storm Imogen. Then at last we had a touch of winter weather with the temperature dropping to -3.7°C on the 16th, with this came bright sunny periods. Then by the last week of the month we were back to frosty mornings.

There were 9 days when the temperature dropped below zero and 4 days when it reached above 12°C .

| | High | Date/Time | Low | Date/Time |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Temperature: | 13.3°C | 21 Feb 15.00 | - 3.7°C | 16Feb 08.00 |
| Mean Temperature | 5°C | | | |
| Dewpoint: | 11.3°C | 21 Feb 15.30 | - 4.5°C | 16 Feb 07.30 |
| Humidity: | 98% | 6 Feb 03.00 | 52% | 24 Feb 16.30 |
| Barometer: | 1035.1 mb | 16 Feb 07.30 | 981.1 mb | 8 Feb 09.00 |
| Wind Speed | 49 mph ssw | 6 Feb 16.30 | Months avg. | 7.4 mph |
| Wind Chill: | 11.4°C | 25 Feb 15.30 | -6.0°C | 2 Feb 07.30 |
| Dominant Wind: | W | | | |
| *Rain Days: 18(T), 14(R) | | Wettest Day 6 Feb | 11.40 mm | 12.40 mm |
| Monthly Rain: | Total | February 2015 | 52.6 mm | 2.471 ins |
| Yearly Rain: | Total | 2 Month | 137.8 mm | 5.425 ins |

Chart shows the temperature and rain for the month



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall this site forecast and much more.

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

Dagnall weather now has an app for your ipad & iphone! Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.



What's On in April at the Grove Theatre

The Illegal Eagles

Sat 2 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £24.50, £22.50

The world's official no.1 Eagles tribute continues to amaze crowds everywhere with their extremely tight harmonies and acute attention to detail. This latest production features all the classics – Hotel California, Take It Easy, Lyin' Eyes, Desperado, Life in the Fast Lane, Take it to the Limit, and a whole lot more!

Easter Workshop: Makeup for the Stage

Mon 4 – Thurs 7 April 10.30am – 3.30pm

Places: £60 per person, Age: 11 - 15 years

Learn all about different types of stage make-up and how to apply it. You could become anything from a sparkly princess to a squirrel or even someone with an injury. Please bring a packed lunch with plenty to drink.

Russell Kane

Tues 5 April 8pm, Tickets: £16, Age 15+

In this brand new show, Russell Kane unleashes another blisteringly-funny, award-winning stand-up performance about growing up, growing down, and why farts will always be funny.

Giselle

Wed 6 April 7.15pm, Tickets: £15

Broadcast live from the Royal Opera House. Giselle is the quintessential Romantic classic, a love affair that begins in the real world and continues beyond the grave. The ballet's title role also offers one of the great challenges of the ballet repertory, as Giselle transforms from an innocent peasant girl, duped into love, to a forgiving spirit who saves her lover from death.

The Orbison Story

Fri 8 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £20.50

2016 marks Roy Orbison's 80th Birthday, and to mark this special year we are proud to present our brand new production across the UK. This celebration of The Big O's musical legacy is quite simply unmissable as Barry Steele takes you on this specially revamped musical journey in time from the early sun years right through to

the late 80s.

Pinocchio

Sat 9 April 7.30pm, Adults £19, Children £10
Join Ballet Theatre UK as we tell the tale of a wooden puppet carved from pine with but only one wish...to become a real boy. Follow Pinocchio, the cheeky marionette puppet with an unruly nose, on his epic quest as he overcomes obstacles, faces consequences and even ends up in the belly of a whale yet proves to all that dreams really do come true.

Pop Factor: The Concert

Sun 10 April 3pm, Adults £15, Children £13
The number 1 pop show touring the UK right now. Pop Factor: The Concert is a celebration of the biggest popstars and current chart hits! From Taylor Swift to Ed Sheeran, Katy Perry to Olly Murs we've squeezed in smash hits from all your favourite pop stars to create your very own pop concert!



An Evening with Pam Ayres

Wed 13 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £22.50

Pam Ayres has been making the nation laugh for over 40 years. Her work is funny, and approachable. Her hair-trigger timing, her eye for the detail of everyday life, and for the absurdity therein, makes for an art that hides art.

Some Guys Have All The Luck

Thurs 14 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £18.50
Marking Rod's 70th birthday year in 2015 a brand new theatrical production celebrating his career is set to go on tour for the first time in the UK. The brand new 'Some Guys Have All the Luck' theatrical production featuring Paul Metcalfe will tell the story of Rod from street busker through to international superstar.

One Night of Elvis

Fri 15 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £24, £21
Lee Memphis King, Europe's most successful



Elvis Presley tribute artist, recreates the essence of the King; 'The '68 Comeback Special' and The 'Vegas' years with consummate ease and an almost unbelievable combination of stunningly accurate vocals and incredible passion in every performance.

Tell Me on a Sunday

Sat 16 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £27, £25

Tell Me on a Sunday charts the romantic misadventures of a young English girl in New York in the heady days of the 1980s. Brimming with optimism, she seeks success and love. But as she weaves her way through the maze of the city and her own anxieties, frustrations and heartaches she begins to wonder whether she's been looking for love in all the wrong places. This iconic musical, with a wonderful original score, features Unexpected Song, the chart-topping Take That Look Off Your Face and title track Tell Me On A Sunday.

GD1 Auditions

Tuesday 19 April

GD^o1 is a yearly event that showcases the superb talent of local performing dancers. From street to ballet, contemporary to ballroom, GD^o1 will entertain with a fantastic range of dance styles all performed by local artistes. Support your local talent and join us for what always promises to be an evening of pure dance magnificence. For a chance to be in this year's show or for more information, contact Karen Windley by telephone on 01582 884 195 or email groveeducation2@1Life.co.uk

80s Mania

Sat 23 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £23

Europe's official 1980s multi-tribute concert featuring 25 chart topping pop icons authentically recreated with live band and awesome dancers. Performing over 35 chart topping smash-hits live in concert, with tributes to Duran Duran, The Human League, Kim Wilde, Culture Club, Madonna, Wham! and many, many more!

Carmen. Maquia and Club Havana

Sun 24 April 2pm, Tickets: £10

Encore broadcast from the Mesa Arts Centre. Ballet Hispanico will "whisk us away to contemporary dance's hottest spot" (Washington Post) in this imaginative and theatrical showcase of Latin-inspired dancing at its best. In Club Havana, the intoxicating rhythms of the conga, rumba, mambo and cha cha are brought to life by choreographer Pedro Ruiz, himself a native of Cuba.

Pasha Kovalev

Wed 27 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £25, £23

After his successful UK Tour – Life Through Dance, Pasha Kovalev, the winner of Strictly Come Dancing 2014, welcomes you to his new and exciting dance spectacular – It's all about you. On his fifth UK tour you can expect another evening of your favourite music, spectacular dancing, energy, lights and sparkling costumes filled with positive emotions and great entertainment for the entire family.

Ireland's Call

Thurs 28 April 7.30pm, Tickets: £23.50, £21.50

Critically acclaimed show Essence of Ireland takes on a new lease of theatrical life with Ireland's Call, a new and exciting musical adaptation of the show – direct from Ireland. Inspired by true events and spanning three decades, Ireland's Call follows the extraordinary journey of the strong-headed Sean Dempsey, who at the end of WW2 leaves behind his childhood sweetheart Cora and his beloved homeland Ireland, in search of a better life in the Big Apple.

Tosca

Sat 30 April 7.30pm, £30.50, £26.50, £17.50
Opera & Ballet International proudly presents an Ellen Kent production with international soloists, highly praised chorus and full orchestra. This traditional production is a heady mixture of true love, torture and treachery, with two of the best roles for tenor and soprano, plus a truly blood curdling villain.





Extra-large delivery for Mother's Day

Baby giraffe born at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Zookeepers are welcoming a new baby giraffe to their neck of the woods at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo after mum Savannah gave birth just in time for Mother's Day.

Fourth-time mum Savannah kept zookeepers guessing for weeks after her expected due-date, finally giving birth to a female calf on Wednesday 24 February. Keepers named her Nuru, the Swahili word for light.

Nuru the baby giraffe already measures 5ft 6in, and is a fluffy, miniature picture of her 16-foot tall mum. Keeper Cassie Taylor said: "Savannah is a fantastic mum, so it was particularly lovely

to have the calf arrive in time for Mother's Day. We were lucky enough to be there to observe the birth, and watched Nuru as mum Savannah gently helped her stand up and delicately cleaned her new arrival. Savannah is attentive and protective, but also relaxed enough to let dad Bashu and the other members of the group play their roles in childcare too."

The baby giraffe was born at 9am and after less than an hour of wobbly attempts, soon figured out how to use her long legs to stand up to her full height. At just eight days old, Nuru has already been spotted exploring her surroundings and interacting with other members of the herd, showing similar personality traits to her bold and inquisitive parents. Keeper Cassie Taylor continued: "Calves don't usually wean from their mothers' milk until they are a few months old but Nuru is already showing an interest in leaves, and at one point dunked her whole head in the water bowl! She's a really wonderful addition to the group and will make a great playmate for 18 month old Luna and two year old Willow."

The new calf is part of the European Endangered Species Programme (EEP), which helps ensure the survival of endangered species in Zoos across Europe. Book a visit now to see Nuru and the rest of the giraffe herd, as well as ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's other 2,500 animals, at www.zsl.org





Wildlife Photography Exhibition Opens at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo



Elephants, rhinos and lions won't be the only thing entrancing visitors at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo this spring, as the winning images from the 2015 ZSL Animal Photography Prize are unveiled in a beautiful new exhibition.

From Saturday 27 February, visitors to ZSL Whipsnade Zoo will be able to admire the stunning shots entered into the international conservation charity's fourth annual photography competition, in a striking display.

Attracting hundreds of entries from around the world, the winners were selected by a panel of expert judges including ZSL Honorary Conservation Fellow and television presenter Kate Humble, and renowned ornithologist Bill Oddie.



With six thought-provoking categories including "Last chance to see" and "The perfect moment", the competition sought to inspire wonder in the animal kingdom.

A contemplative picture of a shaggy-haired grizzly bear, silhouetted against a mountain-lined horizon was the Adult Judges' Choice winner. The mesmerising image, captured by photographer Andy Skillen, went on to beat fierce competition to take home the coveted Judges' Choice award.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's General Manager Owen Craft said: "It's wonderful to be able to welcome this year's prize-winning photographs to Whipsnade. This year's winning photographs are stunning, and offer another perspective on the natural world."

The ZSL Animal Photography Prize Exhibition is free with every standard admission ticket to ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. With more than 2500 incredible animals to see and a packed schedule of talks and demonstrations, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo makes the perfect day out. Find out more and book tickets now at www.zsl.org

For aspiring and inspired photographers, the 2016 ZSL Animal Photography Prize competition is now open for entries. As well as the opportunity to win a share of the prize fund, the competition gives photographers the chance to have their image displayed

in stunning exhibitions at ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. Photographers can enter for free at <https://www.zsl.org/about-us/zsl-animal-photography-prize>



Salvation Sound



The Salvation Army in its wisdom has published a new Hymn Book-I have found hymn books in my possession and now at services the words of the songs are also shown on a large screen. So my thoughts turned this day towards some of my favourites and their writers; for we often sing the words but never think past them.

A poem “The Brewing of Soma” was published many, many years ago; twelve years after this event the final verses of it were being used as a Christian hymn; few people now remember their origin. The poem describes at first how ‘Soma’, an intoxicating drink was made to prepare Indian worshippers for their frenzied Vedic (Hindu) rites. In contrast at the end of the poem John Greenleaf Whittier, who was a Quaker, turned his thoughts to God and wrote:

‘Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.’

The second half of the twentieth century saw an upsurge of “modern” hymn writing coinciding with new versions of the Bible. A man, named Timothy Dudley-Smith was sent a review copy of the 1961 New English Bible. He was very taken with the beginning of St. Luke's Gospel; the magnificat or the song of Mary as it is known, which inspired him to write a paraphrase, which became a very popular hymn which we know as:

‘Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my saviour shall my heart rejoice.’

Francesco Bernardone was the son of a wealthy merchant draper, and as a young man spent a frivolous, empty life, but sickness and civil war steadied him down. One day in the church of San Damiano, he seemed to hear a voice saying, “Francis repair my falling house!” He took the words literally, sold a bale of goods from his father's warehouse and with the proceeds, paid for the repair of the church. Subsequently, his father disinherited and disowned him. Francis was now penniless! Three years later Pope Innocent III authorised him and eleven others to be roving preachers of Christ in ‘simplicity and lowliness’. Thus began the Friars Minor - He never became a priest, and died in 1226 bearing the scars of stigmatization, the five wounds of Jesus Christ. Francis wrote his Canticle of the sun, which we sing as:

‘All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, Alleluia’

He was canonized in app. 1228 and hence known as St. Francis of Assisi.

John Newton was a little boy who felt involved! His mother died when he was six years old and his father later re-married. On John's eleventh birthday it was decided that he should ‘go to sea’. He soon became a teenage rebel with a talent for writing verse. In his early days on board ship he used this gift and taught the crew a song he had written. The lyrics were about the Captain, his character, family and the ship. Sadly they were such, that they were unprintable!- He was flogged for desertion, press ganged and became involved with slave trading. At the age of twenty three, on board a cargo ship in the midst of a violent storm, he called out for God's mercy; and was amazed

to be saved from what was almost certain death. He became a Christian, but was still involved with slaving for some time. Eventually he renounced this and became a minister of the church at the age of thirty nine. Using the name of Jesus in a very different way, his gift of words re-directed to writing beautiful hymns such as

'Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see'

And

'How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And delivers away his fear.'

Psalms, have always been inspired people to write; they themselves are songs or poems and have encouraged others to reward them. Psalms 100, 103, 136 and 23 being just a few chosen ones. For families, individuals, congregations and even football crowds they have a special meaning, a way of expressing our Christian faith, bringing comfort in time of difficulty, they can ease pain when read - try them - as Joseph Scriven wrote:

'O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear;
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.'

✉Maureen

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.

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**Bank Holiday Monday,
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The Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray Weekly Activities



Sunday

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Footprints (Sunday School) | 9.45-10.45am |
| Morning Worship | 11am |
| Messy Church | 3-5pm |
| <i>(Last Sunday of the month)</i> | |
| Songs of Praise | 4pm |
| <i>(3rd Sunday of the month from May to Dec)</i> | |

Tuesday

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Coffee Morning | |
| <i>(Alternate weeks)</i> | 10-11.30am |
| Music practices (all welcome) | 7.30-9pm |

Wednesday

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Home League | 2.30-3.30pm |
| <i>(Ladies Mtg but all welcome)</i> | |
| Champions Challenge Club <i>(term time)</i> | |
| <i>(Ages 5-10 years)</i> | 5.45-6.45pm |

Thursday

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Parent and Toddler Group | |
| <i>(Term time)</i> | 9.30-11.30am |
| Sewing & Craft Bees | |
| <i>(2nd Thursday of month)</i> | 7.45 pm |
| Ladies Fellowship | |
| <i>(Last week of month)</i> | 7.45pm |

*For further details please call Envoy Hilary Chadwick. T:01525 222087 / 07932 057490
E: hilary.chadwick@salvationarmy.org.uk
W: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eaton-bray*

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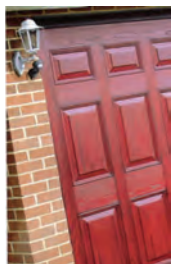


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