

FOCUS

May 2018



**The local village magazine just for Us!
Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall
Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk**

*The White Horse Inn
At Eaton Bray*

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invites you to

Café Community

Eaton Bray
Methodist
Church

Saturday 12th May 2018

11.00am to 1.00pm

Charity of the month:

Save the Children - Yemen Appeal

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

All ages welcome (inc. activity area).



NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on
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Everyone is welcome to our Sunday
worship each week between 11am and
12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to
talk together.

For more information contact:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

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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*Focus accepts no responsibility as to the
accuracy or content of any advertising or articles
published in 'this' magazine, neither do they
reflect the opinion of members of the Committee.*

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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.*

✍️ Editor

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Village Diary May 2018



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 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 KFPA ISTD Classical Ballet classes, 3+yrs, 4.15pm, Edlesbrough Memorial Hall, www.kfpa.co.uk
- Mondays Cubs (8-10 ½ years old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550
- 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, Sarah Cox: 07765 158182
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Beginner's Boxercise, 6-7pm Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtptinfo@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays Caterpillars Baby and Toddler Group 10am to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough, £1 per family unit, Frances King 01582 475896
- Wednesdays Pilates 6.45 & 7.45pm, 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 Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Thursdays KFPA Street dance classes 4+yrs 4pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, www.kfpa.co.uk
- Thursdays Tae Kwon-do, Dagnall Village Hall, 5.45-7.30pm 07813 755785
- Thursdays Clubbercise 7.30 - 8.30pm. Eaton Bray Hall - Gina Flitton 07846421756
- Thursdays Beavers (6 to 8 years old), 6.15-7.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact: ebebeaverleader@ebescouts.co.uk
- Thursdays Explorers Scouts (14-18 years old), 8pm-9.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Simon Betts, lionheartesu@hotmail.co.uk
- Thursdays Intermediate Boxercise, 7.30-8.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtptinfo@gmail.com
- Thursdays Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome

Village Diary May 2018

Fridays	Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 10 - 11am
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
Fridays	Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am, £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6 months free
Fridays	Scouts, 10 ½ to 14 years old, 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, 07899 892344, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk
Fridays (term time)	"Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes 10am-11.30am. Contact Emma Whitemore on 01525 376124
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
Saturdays	Bootcamp Fitness, 9-10am, Dagnall Recreation Ground, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtptinfo@gmail.com
Sundays	Sunday Worship at 10:30am and 6pm Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough (across from the post office). Alister King 07572 395687
Sundays	Karate for kids & adults, 4-5:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact 07500 007779
Monthly	
1st Monday	Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except Jan-2nd Monday)
1st Monday	Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Margaret Jones on 01525 220991
1st & 3rd Mon (ex. Bank Hols)	Knit 'n Stitch at Edlesborough Village Hall, 1:45pm to 3:45pm. Contact Heather Westwood (01525 839083)
1st & 3rd Tues	Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
1st & 3rd Tues	TOTS, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 1:30pm
1st Saturday	St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10:30am - 12 noon
1st Sunday	St. Mary's Edlesborough Open Days, 2-5pm, May to September inclusive
2nd Monday	SilverLink, 2.30-4.00pm, Grace Baptist Chapel Edlesborough – activities, talks, friendship & refreshments for the over 60s
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 Thursday	Sewing & Craft Bee, 7:30pm, Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
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, 10:30-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
Other Regular Events	
6th	Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
11th	Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30am. All welcome.
12th	Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
15th	Dagnall and Kensworth Friendship Club Ploughman's Lunch in the village Hall 1.30 pm, followed by The Ukulele Ladies from U3A.

Village Diary May 2018

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 13th Appledown Fun Dog Show, 11am, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, LU6 1QY
13th-19th Christian Aid Week
15th Dagnall Village Hall AGM 7pm, Church Hall Dagnall
19th Brunch & Bring & Buy 10-12 noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
23rd Wed Club Age Concern Coffee Morning, 10-11:30am, Northall Village Hall
24th Eaton Bray W.I. Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Joan Horne



The family of Joan Horne would like to thank all those who attended her funeral on Thursday 25th January, and then afterwards at the village hall. The donations on the day totalled £628, which has been sent to Coeliac UK.

Ann Dunstan



Will, Patsy and families would like to thank everyone for the cards and messages of sympathy following Ann's death on 28th January and for the beautiful floral tributes and generous donations following her funeral - a total of £650 has been sent to Harefield Hospital



DAGNALL VILLAGE HALL

Annual General Meeting
15th May 2018 at 7pm
Church Hall, Dagnall

All residents of Dagnall are welcome to attend and vote

St. Mary's Pitstone Annual Festival of Art, Craft and Flowers

Saturday 26th May 2 - 6pm
Sunday 27th May 11 - 5pm
Monday 28th May 11 - 5pm

Edlesborough Methodist Church

Kindly note the church will be open during the period of the carnival on 7th July 2018 so that anyone interested can visit for a "QUIET TIME" away from the hustle and bustle of the carnival.

Village Info



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: 07857 318696 Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 07975 7972202

Email: bookings@ebvh.co.uk Website www.ebvh.co.uk

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Police Contact Numbers...

making neighbourhoods safer together

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

Defibrillator Locations

These units are registered with the Ambulance Services. To access them, please phone 999. You will be given the access code and the location of the unit will be confirmed. The defibrillator is easy and safe to use. The units can be found on the outside walls of the following locations:

Dagnall: Red Lion Public House

Eaton Bray: The Coffee Tavern

Edlesborough: Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Northall: The Swan Public House

Eaton Bray



Helpline: 07930987064

**Manned phone hours: 9am to 5pm,
Monday to Friday**

(An answering service is available for out-of-hours calls)

Call us if you want help with getting to the surgery/hospital, collecting prescriptions, minor errands or d-i-y jobs, form-filling, walking your pet, on-line shopping support etc. or if you would welcome our befriending service.

We help people of Eaton Bray and adjacent villages

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



Eaton Bray Village Hall

15th Beer Festival

Friday 8th and Saturday 9th June

It's getting closer. When you read this, we will be little more than a month away from another GREAT Beer Festival.

Elsewhere in this August publication you can see our advert which will give you all the information you need. So I thought a bit of history around the reasons for the event might be of interest.

As many of you may remember the Eaton Bray Village hall at the turn of the century was a rather run down state. There were many plans to completely knock it down and start afresh but this became financially impossible. So the trustees decided on a complete refurbishment, starting with the main hall. To enable this to happen we received some donations, from organisations and individuals, many of them anonymously. This was backed up by the Parish Council who granted a magnificent £85,000. Thus we started. But in all we have spent nearly £400,000 since we started and a lot of that has come from fund raising. The most recent project, being the refurbishment of the foyer and installation of electric doors.

The Beer Festival was only possible with the help of our friends from CAMRA who organise and give us all the profits from the beer sales. In all, I calculate that nearly £40,000 has been generated for the hall over the 15 years and we are truly grateful to them for their generosity. But of course there is another even bigger contributor and that is you, the folk who come to enjoy that beer and the food and help us to create the biggest and best Beer Festival in the area!

So do come along and make this year's event even better than before.

Don't forget the date:

Friday 8th and Saturday 9th June noon to 11pm each day.

See you there!

PS As usual the event is run by volunteers who get nothing for their work, except your pleasure. But should you wish to help out, even just for an hour or two, we would be most grateful.

To volunteer or if you have any questions just ring Ross on 07974 715222

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Church Warden & Pastoral Matters: Catherine Hayden (01525 220527)

Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

Website: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk Facebook: St Mary's Eaton Bray

Tennyson wrote in the *Idylls of the King* that 'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.' Prayer is an important element in many religions. And there are lots of people of no particular faith who pray. A TearFund survey in 2007 revealed that 20 million adults in the UK pray. Of those, 13 million pray at least once a month and 9 million pray on a daily basis. One in three people believe that God answers prayer. As a theological student in Cambridge I had to do a survey on prayer along with another student, which involved knocking on people's doors and asking for their views. The results were fascinating with the majority of people we asked saying that they had prayed at least once in their lives.

Ghandi once said: 'Prayer is not an old woman's idle amusement. Properly understood and applied it is the most potent instrument of action.' If we believe that prayer makes a difference to the world, then it means we can all be involved in changing things for the better. For the good thing about individual prayer is that it can happen at any time and in any place. For Christians and for people of other faiths there is also an important place in our lives for corporate prayer. This happens in our services, both on Sundays and during the week.

One of the most well-known and well used prayers is the one Jesus taught his disciples when they asked him how to pray. Known as the Lord's Prayer it encourages us to address God as 'our father in heaven' and to ask him for all our needs as well as giving praise and thanks.

During the period between Ascension and Pentecost from 10th -20th May 'Thy kingdom come' an initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury will encourage people across the globe to pledge to pray. Now in its third year, participation has grown every year. In 2016 100,000 Christians pledged to pray. By 2017 more than half a million people participated from 85 countries as diverse as Ghana, Korea, Cuba and the Falkland Islands. This is an ecumenical event and last year more than 50 denominations were involved. The website www.thykingdomcome.global says: 'The positive impact of Thy Kingdom Come 2017 continues to unfold as numerous stories of personal and communal transformation pour in from churches, families and whole communities alike.'

This year at St Mary's we will be holding prayer times each morning and evening during the 10 days of 'Thy Kingdom Come'. These will be led by a variety of people and will last about 20 minutes. There will be a special service on Ascension Day, 10th May at 7.15pm. To find out more visit our website www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk or look out for the posters on the notice board. St Alban's Cathedral will be hosting a Thy Kingdom Come Beacon Celebration on Saturday 19th May at 6.30 p.m.

with Archbishop Justin Welby. It will be a collaboration between Soul Survivor Watford, local and national youth organisations, ecumenical partners, the Diocese of St Albans and the Cathedral. The celebration will welcome people of all denominations and entry is free. Prayer and fun activities will run from 4 p.m. Do come along and get involved in this global prayer initiative.

Every blessing,

☞ Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough



FREE Defibrillator Training Sessions



On Saturday 12th May representatives from South Central Ambulance Service will be holding a FREE training session for Edlesborough residents on how to use an AED.

The session will take place in Edlesborough Memorial Hall commencing at 2pm

Spaces are limited & will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Anyone wishing to attend should register their interest with Penny Pataky the Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council who can be contacted on 01525 229358 or clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

EDLESBOROUGH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2013 - 2033



EPC is exploring the feasibility of printing hard copies of the final Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan for all the homes and businesses in the Parish. Councillors are currently working to establish the level of public interest in this proposal.

If you would be interested in receiving a hard copy of the final Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan please would you kindly inform the Parish Clerk on 01525 229358 or via email clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk



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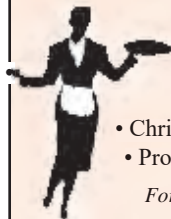
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Orchard
CONSULTATION

The parish owns a piece of land in Bower Lane (situated behind the village gateways and adjoining land owned by the Diocese) which is, at the moment, very overgrown and not used. The suggestion is that we make this land into a Community Orchard. We will apply for a grant for the trees and would like to get an interested group together to maintain this area.



**What do you think? Would you like to help? Any other ideas?
Your opinion would be greatly appreciated?**

Please forward your comments/views to Heidi Head, Parish Clerk.
Thank you.

Eaton Bray Parish Council

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



Appledown's Rescue Dog of the Month

Handsome Wedge is a Spaniel cross who was born in 2015. This super friendly young lad has lots of energy! He would love to be part of an active family who would carry on with his training, and has the time to give him the exercise he needs. Wedge is good with other dogs and would probably live with a female pending introductions. He came to us with a skin condition that is now controlled, but he will need careful feeding. He cannot live in Luton.

If you can offer Wedge or any of our other dogs a forever home, please call in at the kennels any day between 10 am and 4 pm, or phone for more details. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under seven years of age. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website, or please contact the kennels.

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels Harling Road, Eaton Bray LU6 1QY

Call 01525 220383 or e-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk

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Games

7th July 2018

St Mary's Village

Carnival 2018

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

The St Mary's Village Carnival is only two months away, which means that there is still time to get involved

Join the Carnival Procession

If you fancy showing off your creative flair then why not get involved in decorating your car, van, bike, skateboard, scooter or even yourself and come and join in with the procession. It's the perfect opportunity to showcase your design skills and get involved.

Decorate Your House with a Games Related Theme

Fancy turning your front garden into a tennis court that resembles centre court at Wimbledon, your driveway into a mini race track or the side of your house into a giant snakes and ladders board? Start designing, creating and painting so your house is ready for Carnival day. If you don't have the time but still want to get involved then why not decorate your house with some bunting or balloons.

The Carnival Needs Your Help

As the number of Carnivals decline due to reduction in Council funding, our Carnivals' success is on the rise. This is all down to the huge number of local volunteers that help every year. 2018 is no different and the Carnival Committee is always looking for people who can help in a variety of ways. If you can spare a couple of hours, or are even happy to help all day, your assistance will be gratefully received. You can help by:

- Assisting with bringing equipment to and from the Green, before and after the event.
- Helping on a stall
- Acting as a marshal during the procession

- Supervising the car park
- Litter picking
- Assisting with the BBQ

Information for Local Businesses

The Carnival is the perfect opportunity for businesses and organisations to be part of a local community event which is attracting an ever increasing amount of visitors and gaining a reputation as one of the best rural carnivals around.

In order to make sure you have a presence at the Carnival, the Carnival committee are urging local businesses, schools, youth groups and organisations to make contact and be part of this brilliant event. With visitors attending from all over Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and beyond, the Carnival offers the perfect platform for business' to come and meet their customers and potential customers. The committee will work in partnership with a business or organisation to ensure that they get the best out of what the Carnival can offer. Just a few ways the Carnival can help are:

- Advertising in the Carnival arena, offering prime exposure within the heart of the Carnival.
- Having a stall at the Carnival. Prices unchanged from last year.
- Donating a prize towards either the grand draw or the silent auction.

To book a stall, arrange advertising, offer prizes or for a chat about how the Carnival can work for your business or organisation, visit the Carnival website:

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR 25TH BIRTHDAY - COME AND JOIN US!



St Judes Clinic in Leighton Buzzard will be 25 years old and to celebrate we would like to invite you to pop in for tea, cake

St Judes offers a warm, friendly and professional service and achieves excellent results."

"...You really have a great clinic and should be proud of all you do."

"...Amazing professionals, changed my life beyond measure. ...A thoroughly good practice that I would highly recommend."

We would love to see on **Friday 8th June**, but if you cannot pop in, give us a call quoting "birthday" to claim your discount voucher.

and a chat on **Friday 8th June** between 10 am and 4 pm. You can also pick up a special birthday discount voucher for physiotherapy.

Initially based in Edlesborough, Moira D'Arcy, Practice Principal, gradually expanded the award-winning physiotherapy and podiatry clinic and moved to Leighton Buzzard in 2007.

Contrary to popular belief, the St Judes' Clinic building in Lake Street is not a religious establishment but a private healthcare clinic, although St Jude was the Patron Saint of lost causes!



St Judes have a dedicated team of experienced physiotherapists and podiatrists and treats everything from aches and pains,

sports injuries and women's health to back treatment. We also offer free 10-minute chats with all our clinicians and are open Monday to Saturday with disabled access.

So why not pop in or give us a call on 01525 377751 and see how St Judes can help you. Don't just take our word for it – here are just a few of our recent patient reviews:

"...I have received excellent diagnoses and courses of treatment. I can thoroughly recommend all aspects of their service."



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🌐 www.stjudesclinic.com

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Dunstable & District Local History Society

8 May, 7.45pm

The Rebel Preacher

Jeremy Walker tells the turbulent story of Edward Harrison, who served in the Parliamentary garrison at Newport Pagnell during the civil war and who, as a well-known leader of nonconformist religion, was famously appointed to replace the Vicar of Kensworth.

Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable

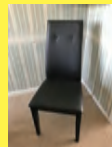
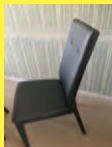
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Well we're nearly there – EdleFest 2018 is all set for June 15th and

16th - and I couldn't be more excited!

Some things are best left to tradition and so we're kicking off both Friday and Saturday evenings with a truly piping-hot start from *Regina Wyatt*. Friday continues with a new act for the festival. Vick and Mick come from Stroud and bring with them a mellow blend of jazz standards, blues, pop and folk with some beautiful harmonies.

Then we have my own band - *The Dicemen*. We think we can safely claim to be one of the top folk/post-punk/indie acoustic trios in the Herts Beds Bucks area (okay – perhaps the only one!) With a line-up of guitar, mandolin, bouzouki, banjo and acoustic bass we'll be playing some of our own



Starlight

songs (including our new single) alongside some unlikely versions of others you may already know.

But Friday night is crowned off by the king of contemporary English singer-songwriters – the multi-award winning *Chris Wood*, a man as comfortable at the Royal Albert Hall as at Edlesborough's Church on the Hill. His most recent album 'So Much to Defend' has received wide critical acclaim and was given 4 Stars by THE GUARDIAN.

Saturday evening brings us local folk duo *Starlight Barking* - winners at last year's Towersey Festival who will be playing a mixture of lively original and traditional tunes on fiddle and guitar, along with some songs. Then we get to enjoy more virtuosic music from *Emily Noithip*. After taking last year's festival by storm we can look forward to another stunning performance by this talented young cellist!

Then the biggest band we've seen so far - *Rob Heron and the Tea Pad Orchestra*. The Tea Pad sound draws on myriad influences – from Django Reinhardt to Cab Calloway – yet ultimately sounds like nobody else, with a swing style that's utterly their own, witnessed across their three wonderful albums – 2012's *Money Isn't Everything*, 2014's *Talk About The Weather* and now the new *Something Blue*. They've already blown away audiences at Glastonbury, Wilderness and Towersey, as well as appearing twice on Radio 4's *Loose Ends* – and if you're lucky enough to be at this year's EdleFest, I'm pretty sure they will blow you away too!

You can find out more about the whole event online by searching for *EdleFest*, or at the website edlefest.site123.me, by calling 01525 221744, or by email to EdleFest@gmail.com. Tickets on-sale now!



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(Edlesborough)



Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

FREE Defibrillator Training Sessions

On Saturday 12th May representatives from South Central Ambulance Service will be holding a FREE training session for Edlesborough residents on how to use an AED.

The session will take place in Edlesborough Memorial Hall commencing at 2pm. Spaces are limited & will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Anyone wishing to attend should register their interest with Penny Pataky, the Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council, who can be contacted on 01525 229358 or clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan

EPC is exploring the feasibility of printing hard copies of the final Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan for all the homes and businesses in the Parish.

Councillors are currently working to establish the level of public interest in this proposal.

If you would be interested in receiving a hard copy of the final Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan please would you kindly inform the Parish Clerk (contact details below)

EdleFest 2018

The EdleFest dates for 2018 have been confirmed as 15th, 16th and 17th June. More information and tickets are available via the EdleFest website <https://edlefest.site123.me/>

County Cllr Anne Wight

County Cllr Anne Wight continues to provide EPC with comprehensive reports which include information about:

- Freight Strategy Consultation
- Repairs to Dagnall Roundabout
- Safe in Bucks Consultation
- National CSE Awareness Day

Find out more about National CSE Awareness Day at www.stop-cse.org

How to get help or report a concern:

If you are concerned about a young person you can contact the First Response Team (Children's Social Care) on 0845 460 0001 or 01296 383962



or email: secure-cypfirstresponse@buckscc.gcsx.gov.uk

If you think a child or young person is in immediate danger call 999. Alternatively contact your local police on 101 who will have a dedicated team you can talk to about child sexual exploitation.

Buckinghamshire also has a countywide 'R-U-Safe?' service for young people run by Barnardo's, which is able to offer advice and support to any young person worried about these issues. Visit www.RUWise2it.co.uk to find out more.

ChildLine also offers support directly to children and young people – contact them on 0800 1111 or visit their website www.childline.org.uk

Anyone wishing to read the full report can find it on the EPC website.

Village Planters & Best Kept Village Competition

The EDaN Beautification Team continue to look after the various planters around the three villages. The following planters' sleepers have now been replaced with new recycled plastic ones:

- Edlesborough green sign planter
- Top of Good Intent
- EMH
- Northall on main road
- Dagnall by the school

Anyone wishing to get involved with the EDaN Beautification Team should contact Lorna Cabbage on 01525 220361.

Edlesborough will once again be entering the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition, judging will take place between 1st June and 7th July 2018.

Potholes, Road Issues & Rights of Way

Any parishioners that have concerns about a Highways issue should report their concerns to Transport for Bucks via the Bucks CC website.

www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-problem/tell-us-about-a-highways-problem/

Streetlights

EPC has received a request for additional streetlights in the village of Edlesborough. EPC are currently

exploring the feasibility of this request; including energy supply possibilities & consulting the residents of the properties near the proposed locations. Please report failed streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall to the Clerk for repair. When making a report please ensure you provide the Clerk with the information displayed on the lamp post.

Speedwatch

The EDaN Traffic Management team are looking for volunteers to help with their new Sentinel device. If you have an interest in slowing down traffic in the villages or are concerned about Road Safety, please contact Cllr Alan Williams 07928 398371.

EPC Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place as follows:

Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Thursday 17th May 2018. This evening will include the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and will be followed by the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Thursday 21st June 2018

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 available to view on the website or from the Parish Clerk.

To keep up to date with the latest information in the Parish please visit the Edlesborough Parish website and visit our Facebook page.

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky *Office hours Mon – Fri 11am – 3pm (Excl. Wed)*

Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk 01525 229358 Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil



With gloomy winter just a memory, and the last of the fish leaving the Green after an even gloomier spring, the 2018 cricket season is here.

There is a full fixture list of games on both Saturdays and Sundays throughout the summer, with Saturdays being the more serious games in Division 5 of the Four Counties League (Bucks, Beds and Herts - they can't count), and Sundays the slightly less intense but equally rewarding friendly fixtures (against other villages).

New players are always welcome for either field, and anybody interested in joining should contact **Ceri Davies** on **01525 221472** to book their debut.

This season we are again running the All Stars introductory programme for 5 to 8 year olds on Sunday mornings. This is a national initiative devised by the England Cricket Board, but delivered through local clubs. The launch in 2017 was very popular and great fun, and we are looking forward to more of the same this year. More details than you could possibly imagine are on the ECB website: just Google 'All Stars Cricket'.

WARNING - willing parents may find themselves getting involved as well!



Grace Baptist Church Edlesborough

What Is a Baptist Church?



Grace Baptist Church Edlesborough

This month I've asked the leaders of two of our midweek activities to tell you about them. Newcomers are always welcome at these groups.

Caterpillars

Caterpillars is a baby and toddler group for parents, grandparents, child minders and others along with their children from 0 to 4 years old. Organised by Grace Baptist Church Edlesborough, we run on term-time Wednesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30, providing a comfortable place to talk, drink a tea or coffee, play, read, do craft, work puzzles, hear a Bible story, sing a Bible-story-related song or two and sing some timeless nursery-rhyme favourites. A £1 weekly voluntary family/group donation helps provide toys, supplies and snacks for the group.

Our schedule looks something like this:

10:00 start

10:30 snacks

11:00 Bible story, singing

11:10 more time to play

11:30 tidy up and end

...with chatting, playing and crafting in between!

We seek to promote a safe, friendly, calm and fair environment where we can encourage and lend a helping hand to carers and their children. Those organising the sessions are DBS checked. The Caterpillars Team

www.facebook.com/caterpillarstoddlergroup

SilverLink

SilverLink meets at the chapel on the second Monday afternoon of each month, and is open to anyone in the village age 60+. We began in September, and have enjoyed a range of activities and talks, including quizzes, gardening tips and board games. We've also had an opportunity to hear about the Cayman Islands, and discuss the facts about cancer from

a Macmillan Nurse. Each meeting ends with a leisurely afternoon tea and time to talk together. In May we are planning a trip to Stockwood Park. Please feel free to join us on the second Monday of each month from 2.30-4pm (unless otherwise stated).

Here's our programme of events through the summer:

- 14th May - a trip to Stockwood Park (meet at 2pm)
- 11th June - Tissington Well Dressings (talk by Steve Burton)
- 9th July - A trip to Pitstone Watermill
- 13th August - What's My Line?
- 10th September - A trip to Dunstable Downs

For further information about all church activities see our Facebook page @gbce2014 We hope to see you soon!

✍ Timothy Reynolds (Pastor)

Grace Baptist Church Edlesborough

Pastor: Timothy Reynolds
gbcepastor@gmail.com
Secretary: Alister King
gbcesecretary@gmail.com

Weekly Activities Sunday Services

10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship*

2nd Monday

2.30pm SilverLink for over 60s

Wednesday

10.00am Caterpillars Toddler Group
7.30pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

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Eaton Bray Methodist Church

On Mothering Sunday Geoff Best led a delightful café service, opening with a memorable quote from Julian of Norwich “If God is our father, God is also our mother”. In our discussions we considered several women in the Bible, particularly comparing and contrasting Elkanah and Hannah. Our Communion Service, on the 3rd Sunday, was taken by Rev Nigel Bibbings, who helped us to focus on Jesus’ mental preparation in the days running up to the Passover and his own death. As with the grain of wheat, the key to living is dying and we need to die to ‘self’ i.e. to overcome our self-preoccupation and develop a sense of where we are in relation to other people. Our service on Palm Sunday was a Local Arrangement, a very moving service conducted by our own Jacque Stamp. Events commenced with a play about Passion week performed with joy and gusto by the children. Her sermon opened with the question, “Who is He?” and she outlined the variety of possible reactions to him of the people in the Passover crowds. We know, of course, and we know the facts and horror of his death but are we prepared to tell those who do not know? Our Easter Sunday service with Communion was in the capable hands

of Rev Wallace Edwards, always a welcome visitor to our church. In his sermon he urged us to remember with thanksgiving our Lord rising from the dead. In doing so Jesus promises eternal life to us all and he asked us to consider the words of one of the hymns that we had just sung “Christ is Alive, Let Christians sing”. Our way of life should be modelled on that of Jesus and it is important to do the small things in life well, as they can lead on to bigger ones.

Dates for your Diary:

Cafe Community

Saturday 12th May 11am – 1pm

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

Music Night

Saturday 2nd June at 7.30pm

There will be a concert of choral singing by the Dunstable U3A Choir led by Elaine Trevor, and an organ recital by Stephen Turner (organist at The Square, Dunstable). Refreshments served. Entry free but donations to church and charity welcome.

Social Afternoons

Weekly on Thursdays 2-4pm

Chat, meeting friends, games, refreshments. All Welcome.



OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL 22 July 2018

Wanted - Gardens

In Northall, Eaton Bray or Edlesborough

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.



A Midsummer Night's Dream

St Mary's Church
Edlesborough

17th June, 3pm

Tickets:

£12.50, under 16s £5

Family of 4 £32

www.thisismytheatre.com

07732 253311

Iconic Chalk Lion Restored at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo



Photo by Colin Main

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo has finished restoration work on the Whipsnade White Lion, a famous chalk image that has overlooked the Dunstable Downs in Bedfordshire since 1933.

Following the donation of more than 800 tonnes – or 50 lorry loads – of chalk, the Zoo was able to start resurfacing the iconic landmark in September 2017. Winter weather and a steep incline made the restoration work challenging, but the final load of chalk was carefully smoothed out over the lion’s mane on Tuesday 20 March 2018.

General Manager of ZSL Whipsnade

Zoo, Owen Craft said: “We are delighted to have restored this iconic landmark to its original glory. ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is incredibly proud of the Whipsnade White Lion, which has stood proudly overlooking the Dunstable Downs since 1933.

“As a site of Special Scientific Interest, the Whipsnade White Lion and the area around it are cared for by the Zoo all year round, using environmentally-friendly products to protect the native plants and animals. This new coating of chalk has made a huge difference to the eye-catching brilliance of the landmark and I can’t wait for all our Easter visitors, as well as our wonderful, local communities, to see it looking so great, as they drive towards the Zoo.”

The Whipsnade White Lion was designed by R.B. Brook-Greaves, and work began to create it in November 1931. By the following April, the rough outline of the 147 metre-long lion was visible on the side of the Dunstable Downs. Ivinghoe Beacon was often used as a vantage point to check the accuracy of the outline. Almost two acres of land had to be cleared to reveal the chalk, and the lion was finally finished in the spring of 1933. During the Second World War, the lion was covered to prevent it from being used by enemy aircraft as a navigation point. In May 1981, as part of ZSL Whipsnade Zoo’s 50th anniversary celebrations, the lion was illuminated using 750 lightbulbs.

NB from editor. How great it would be if local businesses could sponsor some solar lights to put round as it used to look so good lit up as you drove past.

Front cover photo by Jane Childs



The chalk lion during the restoration



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

Held on Monday 5th March 2018 from 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) – Councillor Ken Janes email kwjanes@hotmail.co.uk / 07767-496823. CBC Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk / CBC Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk / CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

- Eaton Park Development: Cllr Janes has not heard back yet on this planning matter and will update accordingly.
- Consultation: Changes to bin collections-please note deadline for response/comment was 20th April 18.
- Consultation: Local Plan-currently going through due process, completion expected end of April 2018.
- Motorcross: the Council to obtain clarification on hours of use/opening and report CBC's response once received.

Bedfordshire Police:

- Eaton Bray Police contact: PC Konopka - email Slav.Konopka2@Bedfordshire.pnn.Police.uk
- For general Police contact/enquiries: Non-emergency call 101 / All emergencies 999
- Reporting of crimes – a reminder to all residents to call the police, when encountering an incident/see something suspicious, at any time of day. Try to obtain as much detail as possible to aid the police in their investigations.



School Lane Recreation Ground:

Concerns were raised by residents regarding the proposals by the Council to make a seating area in the small section at the bottom of the park. The Council clarified their position regarding the recent work carried out in this section of the recreation ground. In relation to benches, the Council took on board the concerns raised with regards to seating and the effects of such, however confirmed that they would be still be proceeding with the completion of phase 1 (which includes two of the trees being carved), however would reassess phase 2 (additional carvings/seating) at a later date.

Fly Tipping:

Concerns were raised with the amount of fly tipping in the parish. The Council confirmed that fly tipping on public land needs to be reported to CBC for clearance, otherwise the land owners are responsible for the clearance. You can report fly-tipping to CBC on 0300 300 8302, or email customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk. For more details use the following link: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/report.aspx>

Community Orchard Consultation: Bower Lane

The parish owns a piece of land in Bower Lane, which currently is very overgrown and unused. The Council is looking into the option of a Community Orchard and would like your views/help – for more information, please see the notice within Focus.



Watercourse Maintenance/River Ouzel

An assessment on a section of damaged river bank in Mill End Close carried out at the end of last year showed there were three areas within the bank where water was leaking into the drainage ditch. The cause of the leak was from crayfish burrowing into the riverbank and damaging the structure. Work is planned

to be carried out on this section of the bank and the Parish Council has contacted the Drainage Board for confirmation of when this work is due to commence, once notification has been received notices will be put on parish notice boards, Facebook and Focus.

Neighbourhood Plan

Residents - keep your eyes on the Parish Council web site/facebook - for updates.

Parish Council website: <https://eatonbray.com/news/tag/Neighbourhood-Plan>

Next Parish Council Meeting Date: Held in The Coffee Tavern / 1st floor, from 7:30pm

Monday 14th May 2018 (Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council from 7:00pm)



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



Northall Baptist Church

Northall Baptist Church – 200 years and still going Pilgrimage: Road to Northall

There's a BBC2 programme on at the moment called Pilgrimage: Road to Santiago. This has 8 celebrities, mostly non Christian but some with a religious background but not keen to resurrect their faith (sorry for the pun). A 15 day trek is leading them along the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. This pilgrimage was originally written up in a travelogue and published in 1992. As you can imagine there is a lot of complaining about the arduous up hill and down dale journey. Some days they have been walking as long as 10 hours. There were several stops along the way - one of these had a bonus of red wine pouring from a fountain! The

one vicar in the party, Reverend Kate Botley, who manages to quote a very appropriate scripture to capture each circumstance in which they find themselves, was very appreciative of this free gift.

What is fascinating is the participants who are all so diverse. Their pathways to this point have been so varied. This is symbolised by a shell which Kate carries on her rucksack – wider at one edge with grooves merging at the other edge – demonstrating their varied routes to that point and their common end.

Similarly, at 11 am every Sunday we meet: some from Northall itself, several from Leighton Buzzard and others from the surrounding villages. We come with different life experiences, different backgrounds, different walks of life to meet one common purpose but none of us perfect, meeting at one point just like the shell. As Kate Botley said 'we are his disciples, not Jesus'. All of us are making a pilgrimage. We have our faults and failings (our up hills and down dales) but share our faith, love and fun.

For those interested a free copy of the booklet, Rebels in Green Pastures can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>

✉ Ruth Cox Tel: 07791 425625

Magic Dave for Macmillan with the Leighton Buzzard Children's Theatre Saturday 12th May



Magic Dave the award-winning children's entertainer, will be returning to provide an afternoon of magic and music ably supported by the talented Leighton Buzzard Children's Theatre. This performance is in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The show starts at 2.30 p.m. Tickets: £6 adult £3 child £15 family (2+2) from the theatre box office or online.



Elvis is back rocking for Macmillan.

On **Saturday May 12th**. Back by popular demand, an evening of great music with the **"One Night with Elvis Band"**, talented local musicians led by vocalist Eugene O'Hara. Ably supported by the Dagnall Community Choir. The show starts at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £12, Concessions £10 available from the theatre box office or online.

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Sunday 13th May

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Morning

**Wednesday 23rd May
Northall Village Hall**

10am to 11.30am

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15th Eaton Bray Beer & Cider Festival

8th & 9th June

12pm to 11pm

Eaton Bray Village Hall



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Entrance £3 by raffle ticket (Free to CAMRA members with card proof)



Christian Aid Week 13 – 19 May

Can you help? We are seeking new faces and collectors – for our 4 villages – how about you?

There are some streets still needing collectors!

Please remember, if you are bereft of collectors, donations can always be left at our churches in the 4 villages.



We believe in life before death!

**Haiti – Earthquake 2010
then Hurricane Mathew
2016**



Vilia lost her mum and her home when the earthquake struck Port-au-Prince in 2010. Then **Christian Aid** partner **KORAL** built her a new home – robust enough to stand up to natural disasters.

Then the terrifying night of Hurricane Mathew – as the storm raged, for days, 50 of her neighbours sheltered with her! Despite the ferocity of the storm her house was barely damaged!

Christian Aid and **KORAL** know how to make it happen – of the 700 houses built, after the 2010 earthquake, just one, needed repairs after Hurricane Mathew! This is just one example of what can be done – let's do more!

Christian Aid week 13-19th May!

Ploughman's Lunches



Cakes and stalls,
Games and fun
All welcome

**Saturday
14th July**

11.30—2.00 pm

All Saints Church,

Dagnall

Supporting:

Dagnall C of E School

and

All Saints Building Fund



Brunch & Bring & Buy

**Saturday 19 May
10am - 12 midday**

at

The Salvation Army,
Booth Place, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DR



**Cooked breakfast,
bacon rolls, etc.**

Sale Table

All welcome

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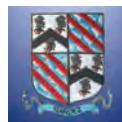
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Josh Peacock 07815565319 Senior
Paul Harris 07920459420 Youth



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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

Some days I feel inspired. Today is not one of them. I'm sitting here gazing out of the window at a wet, grey and gloomy scene, wondering what delirious scribbles I can delight you all with before the Focus print deadline expires in a few hours time. And the answer is that I really haven't a clue. So, instead, I thought I'd offer you a couple of stories that I recently spotted, which show the stranger side of our favourite sport.

Remember Goran Ivanisevic? The Croatian who so cruelly ended Tim Henman's Wimbledon dream in that 2001 semi-final? Well, the previous year he'd entered the 2000 Samsung Open in Brighton with high hopes. A weak field gave him a great chance and a second round match against South Korea's Hyung-Taik Lee didn't seem much of a problem. Then in the first set, when he dropped his serve to go 6-5 down, he promptly smashed his racket. He recovered his composure to take the second set 7-6 after a tie-break but in the third set racket number two cracked.

Ivanisevic persevered with it until the next changeover before dumping that one too in the bin. Four points later a double fault presented Lee with two break points, Ivanisevic then smashed his third racket on the floor before telling the umpire that he had no more left.

There was no alternative but for the racketless Croat to retire, therefore becoming the first player in history to lose a match in such a way.

Back on July 15, 1879, a Mr J T Hartley beat a Mr St Leger 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 in a fairly routine Wimbledon final. Our Mr John Thomeycroft Hartley was a vicar who, not expecting to progress very far in the tournament, had not even organised cover for his Sunday service.

His opponent was Irishman Vere Thomas "St Leger" Goold, and it would not be until 1907 when that match would acquire its notoriety. After falling on hard times Goold and his wife made the acquaintance of a wealthy Danish

widow named Emma Liven, from whom they secured various "loans". On Tuesday, August 6, the Goolds took a train from Monte Carlo to Marseilles, where they deposited a trunk that was later discovered to contain the dismembered body of Mrs Liven.

The trial lasted three days with Goold admitting to the murder. He remains the only convicted murderer to have contested a Wimbledon final.

Right, let's talk about Tennis for Kids. First, what is it? Tennis for Kids was launched in 2016 following Great Britain's historic 2015 Davis Cup victory to inspire the next generation to play. It proved such a hit that by the end of the year, 13,200 new children were introduced to tennis.

In 2017 a further 22,500 new children signed up which means in the last 2 years, over 35,000 kids have been given the opportunity to pick up a racket and have fun on court. Now in its third year, Tennis for Kids is going bigger and better with an aim to introduce even more children to the sport we love. This year, we will be running Tennis for Kids for 4 -11 year olds. The cost of the course is £25 and includes 6 coaching sessions, a racket and ball set and a personalised tennis shirt. They'll also be a follow on offer to enable them and their family to continue to play. This course is running at Eaton Bray Tennis Club with Sara Barnford as the Lead coach. To book onto this course all you need to do is sign up via this website www.tennisforkids.co.uk. For all coaching enquiries contact Sara Barnford on 07561 571578

Finally, as part of British Tennis's National Play Tennis weekend, we're holding our own day on Sunday 20th May. Come up to the courts that morning to enjoy free tennis for everyone, loan of racquets, free coaching, a good natter and a few refreshments. All ages and abilities are always welcome!

Well that's it for another month. For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at

the School Lane courts, or our various activities, you can visit our website at www.ebltc.org.uk; Alternatively please call any committee member – names and numbers on the website

- Coach Sara Bamford on 07561 571578, or if they're all out and I'm not seeking inspiration, then me, Andy Cross, on 07783 667338.



Nigel's Thoughts Methodist Minister

Dear Friends,

As I was looking out of a friend's sun room my thoughts turned to what I should write.

The room had rather a spectacular coastal view. Looking from left to right the distant vista across Morecambe Bay included Morecambe and Heysham, Fleetwood and (on a clear day – which most were) Blackpool Tower. Those who know me well will know that my binoculars were glued to my eyes, ship spotting, especially for the sailings to and from the Isle of Man from Heysham! I was also on the lookout for birds amid the sea grass which stretched out to meet the tide. I managed to spy the curlew, wheatear and little egret.

What preoccupied me more than all these things however, was the way in which weather patterns formed themselves (though distantly) in front of me and travelled across land and sea. Of particular significance were the cloud formations and the evidence of blustery or squally weather travelling southwards.

Words of encouragement came first to mind. William Cowper wrote of the God who "plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm". "Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take, the clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head" (In the hymn 'God moves in a mysterious way').

Then, with the coming Pentecost season in mind sprang the words of Charles Wesley and the promise of God's blessing for those who are intent upon building his Kingdom.

"Saw ye not the cloud arise, little as a human hand? Now it spreads along the skies, hangs

o'er all the thirsty land: Lo! The promise of a shower drops already from above; But the Lord will shortly pour All the Spirit of His love!" (In his hymn 'See how great a flame aspires')

It may be that many of us feel that we have already seen quite enough rain in the early months of this year! My prayer remains, that a cloudburst of blessing may soak us all and grant us the desire, and a hunger to know more and share more of our God's gracious love.

God bless,

✍️Nigel

St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

March 2018

1st prize – Peter Bennett

2nd prize – David Richards

3rd prize – Sally Taylor

April 2018

1st prize – Robert Dickson

2nd prize – Charles Parrott

3rd prize – Abigail Newbiggin

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

April 2018

£25. Jack Jacobs. No. 127

£10. Sharon Ellerton. No.82

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by Meadow Marquees and Houghton Insurance.

LOCAL HERALDRY

BY JOHN HOCKEY

In this series, we take a look around local towns and villages to find interesting and unusual heraldry.

A SHIELD WITHOUT ARMS

OK, I have to admit it, this month's heraldry is not from this part of the world but I thought it was just too interesting to keep secret and there is a tenuous local connection. Very occasionally a nobleman marries a commoner and in such a case whilst the titled gentleman may be armigerous (i.e. entitled to bear arms), his bride may not be so fortunate. The problem then occurs of what to put on her half of the marital shield.

Such an instance occurred in the 1800s when George, 7th Earl of Stamford, a member of the Grey family, (linked to the same family that owned Wrest Park in Silsoe) had taken a shine to and married Bessie Billage, the daughter of his servant at Cambridge.

Looking at this funeral hatchment, made when Bessie Grey (nee Billage) died in 1854, the fact she was without arms is neatly side-stepped by the use of diapering on her side of the shield. This is a type of free-form design often used in stained glass to make otherwise plain areas more interesting.

The blue and white (Argent and Azure) Grey arms are quartered with those of Booth which have three boars' heads erect Sable i.e. black.

As normal, the board is black behind the deceased and white for the surviving spouse.

Note the use of ermine unicorns as supporters and the Earl's coronet of rank above. Not a bad result for a commoner.

All the above are taken from heraldry displayed at Dunham Massey Hall in Cheshire, one of the seats of the 7th Earl. He married twice, once to Elizabeth (Bessie) Billage in 1848 and then again a year after she had died, in 1855 to Catherine Cox, a circus bareback rider!

Next month: Return to Berkhamsted



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Curiosity Creativity Community



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01442 842473

or visit: www.dagnall.bucks.sch.uk

email: office@dagnall.bucks.sch.uk

Dagnall Church of England School is a friendly, nurturing and fully-inclusive learning community, situated at the foot of the Chiltern Hills. We offer a unique, family feel where children benefit from small class sizes and personalised learning delivered by highly-skilled teachers.

We provide a secure and creative environment where children feel safe to take risks, to challenge themselves and to develop their love of learning as individuals.



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For a warm welcome and
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10.30am - midday



1st Saturday of each month
(except July - 2nd Saturday)



Some comments from our December 2015 Ofsted report:

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Pupils are very proud of their school and their achievements.

Pupils are polite and well mannered.

Teachers plan interesting and engaging lessons.

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Greetings from North Yorkshire

Firstly, here is part of an enticing advertisement I wrote, when we finally left our Hockliffe House home of 25 years. *A rare opportunity to acquire this historic, well-loved family home, and place of hospitality for centuries. The warm heart of this house is the huge, oak beamed farmhouse kitchen, where family and friends gather around the red Aga situated alongside an ancient bread oven. It has a large walled 'secret garden', where those seeking peace and quiet can sit in shady wooded areas, sunken garden, or around the naked lady pond and fountain. This is an unusual property, and not one for the faint-hearted, but it has a magic of its own, with its unique sense of history, peace, seclusion and solitude, despite being situated on a busy main road.*

Many of you will recall that for seven years we were able to share this historic house of welcome and hospitality, reflecting its provenance as a Medieval St. John's Hospice and later a Georgian inn, with those in the area and beyond, as a retreat centre for those of any faith or none. The work grew, as Wellsprings, with many of you coming as guests, professional therapists and volunteers without whom we couldn't have flourished as we did.

Then moving to the North, ministering in three rural parishes as a Reader for seven years became a very eventful pioneering post! On finally retiring and downsizing, sending some of my vintage clothes to new incarnations, I reflected

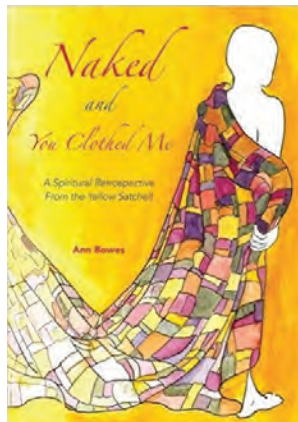
that in my ministry I had written many sermons on clothes. So maybe clothes are indeed important as to who we are, beyond just for decoration, keeping us warm and decent! Elizabeth Bowen writes that on the subject of dress almost no one feels truly indifferent; if their own clothes do not concern them, somebody else's does. I recognize that. I had a friend in my late twenties who spoke of my glorious new maxi coat as 'Very Ann Bowes, but I wouldn't be seen dead in it'.

Now another hopefully enticing invitation...to enter the wardrobe of my new book, **Naked and you Clothed me.**

From the clothes-line of seven decades of my busy varied life – before, during and after Bedfordshire – enjoy a series of revealing vignettes, trimmed with a rich seam of Bible-based clothing reflections. A reviewer said, 'It made me laugh; it made me cry; and it made me think.' Here you will discover tales from a chaotic family and professional life. Stories of mistakes, love and loss; a daughter diagnosed with a life threatening illness on the brink of her Oxford education; of birth, death, rise

and spectacular fall, hope, despair, the weeping and laughter of the grief and the dance, the silence and the speaking out...and yet celebrating and rejoicing on the companionship of my clothes throughout.

A final warning from a straight speaking, wonderful Yorkshire parishioner, about a certain visiting clergyman, 'Well, 'ow can yer trust a vicar 'oo walks down Main



Street in 'is dog collar, eatin' a pastie.'
Clothes and what we do in them or out of
them matter!

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Naked and you Clothed Me. £9.99.

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P.S. The book is available on line, in
selected local outlets (including Dunstable
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either Julia Dickens (Hockliffe) 01525
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Dagnall Community Choir

The month of May heralds warmer days, sunnier skies, and the start of our 2018 concert season! We are very much looking forward to performing at Leighton Buzzard Theatre on **Saturday 12th May**, 7.30pm, appearing alongside "Elvis" as part of a concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Tickets are £12, available from Leighton Buzzard Theatre Box Office 0300

300 8125.

On the evening of **Saturday 16th June**, we will be singing once again at St Mary's Church in Redbourn – a favourite venue of ours, where we know we will receive a warm welcome. Then a break for a couple of months, before concerts at Stanbridge on Friday 14th September and Little Gaddesden on Saturday 13th October.

To whet your appetite, here is a selection of just some of the songs in our current repertoire, from which we will be performing over the coming months:

The 59th Street Bridge Song
Danny Boy
This is the Moment
Domine Fili Unigenite
Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei
Over the Rainbow
Nella Fantasia
Non Nobis Domine
An American Trilogy
Irish Blessing
Who Will Buy?

Paul Simon
Arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Leslie Bricusse, Frank Wildhorn
Antonio Vivaldi
From The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins
E.Y Harburg, Harold Arlen
Chiara Ferrau, Ennio Morricone
Rudyard Kipling, Roger Quilter
Mickey Newbury
Philip Stopford
Lionel Bart

As you can see, there is something there for everyone, whether your taste be classical music, show tunes, country music... or you just enjoy an evening out being entertained. Please do come along to one of our concerts – we would love to see you there!

Or if you love singing and think you would perhaps like to join us, then come along to one of our Monday evening rehearsals – 7.45pm at Dagnall Church. They are a lot of fun and new members are always made welcome. We are a friendly group who enjoy socialising just as much as singing, and there are plenty of opportunities for choir members to do both! Everyone had a great time at our recent Barn Dance at Dagnall Village Hall for example, and we're now all looking forward to a lovely barbecue get-together, later in the summer.

For more information about the choir, to get in touch, or to see the full listing of our concerts, please take a look at our website www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk.



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When: Every Friday, 10:00-11:00 am

I am pleased to report once again, upon another good meeting of our Institute, held in March, the talk being entitled "From Plot to Pot". We enjoyed the company of two very enthusiastic ladies from the small village of Aley Green (near Caddington).

Lorraine and Ann met 26 years ago and needed something to do. Knowing nothing about gardening, they took over an empty allotment plot. All those years ago allotment tenants were all men, so as you can imagine, at first, the ladies were treated with some disdain. They have, however, triumphantly overcome this and now work 3 and a ½ very productive plots and other ladies have also taken on other empty plots. Well done ladies!

Lorraine and Ann grow every type of fruit bush you can imagine, plus vegetables (not onions) and turn them all into a variety and mix of jams, jellies, pickles and chutneys and sell them in aid of their local Methodist Chapel. They also acquire hedgerow and windfall fruit, donations of sugar and empty jars from their local village community, plus some from further afield.

They cannot cook the produce at the time it is harvested as there is simply too much of it, so they freeze it in 3 freezers and make it as it is needed throughout the year. They literally produce 100lbs of preserves etc yearly and have over the years raised thousands of pounds to help their ailing chapel.

The ladies had brought along a large amount of their produce for display and for all of us to look at and buy if we wished. Lorraine and Ann are certainly a hardworking, jolly and very enterprising duo, and clearly loved what they undertake.

For your information, our February coffee morning in a member's home raised £178.80 for our own funds and our Institute is 90 years old this year.

April is our Members Night when the ordinary members take over the organisation of the

monthly meeting to thank and to give their hardworking committee a rest. The April 2018 meeting was especially good. All the committee ladies were presented with a pretty pot of mini roses and our enjoyable speaker for the evening was Mark Niel, the Poet Laureate of Milton Keynes, and he entertained us royally as he talked us through his life interspersed with his poetry and songs with a guitar accompaniment. He explained that he was a "secret scribbler" for 8 years, writing poetry for friend's special occasions and some special Milton Keynes civic events. In 2011 the Milton Keynes mayor bestowed him with the accolade of Poet Laureate for the town, this was while he was working in Financial Services. In 2013 he was made redundant from his "day job" and decided to make poetry, his first love, his main job.

With his poetry he travels the length and breadth of the country and performs in all kinds of venues including schools. He has also been on 6 cruises as their "in house" (or should I say "in ship") poet. He enters all kinds of competitions and is obviously successful. He added that the auditions which allow him to speak to W.I.s are some of his toughest to pass! Quite right, we're fussy!!

His poetry and songs are both serious and funny. He writes for all ages and has produced 2 books, one for adults and one for children plus a CD. He was a very entertaining man and a good speaker. His talk also included plenty of audience participation.

Our meeting was nicely rounded off with home made cakes to enjoy with our tea. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all. Thank you, members.

Pashley Manor Tulip Festival coach is now fully booked with a waiting list and the Summer Supper is being held on the 12th July at The Old Swan Cheddington. The Institute is 90 years old this year and we think this is quite an achievement to be celebrated - but how is the question?



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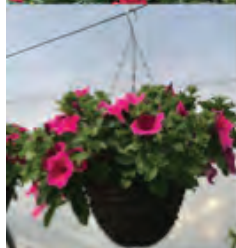
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2 large green peppers thickly sliced.
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1 tbsp hot pepper paste
1 tbsp tomato purée
2 tomatoes, sliced
1 tsp dried thyme or oregano
1 tsp salt
50 ml sunflower oil
100 ml water
Serves 4

Sometimes someone walks into the Weekend Kitchen studio and one of their dishes just brings with it all the aroma and flavour of its country of origin. This Chicken Guvec (pronounced 'Goo-Vetch') has all of the evocative elements of classic Turkish cooking. The meltingly tender meat and the unmistakable flavour of sweet peppers. The recipe was created by Yuksel Couling, who set up her catering company (<http://www.pomegranatesumac.com>) in Wilstead near Bedford when friends and family made it clear to her that her talents were being wasted just cooking for them! She uses the exact same principles her Turkish upbringing gave her - cook generously, simply and deliciously with fresh ingredients.

Don't worry if you don't have a clay pot to use. Any form of oven proof dish will be fine. If you can get to a Turkish shop, buy their proper Turkish pepper paste for this. If not, supermarkets have plenty of acceptable variants.

To serve 4, you'll need:
500g boneless chicken thighs, cut into slightly smaller pieces
1 large onion, thickly sliced

Place the chicken and the rest of ingredients (except for the oil and sliced tomatoes) into a mixing bowl. Mix everything well.

Pour the oil into your pot (it doesn't have to be a clay pot). Add the chicken mixture and sauté for 5 minutes. Add the water and stir.

Place the sliced tomatoes on top of the chicken mixture in the pot, and cover. Cook in the oven at 180C/ Gas Mark 4 for 30 minutes. To cook on the hob, simmer it for 30 minutes.

Serve with plain rice and salad.

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.



FUSALARIUM - WHAT????



Fusarium is a fungi

AND moss, worms, leather jackets and bouncing bowls, are the torments of every green keeper's life.

Cheddington Bowls Club has one of the best bowling greens in the area. Maintenance of the green is an all the year round job. If you are a lawn 'specialist', or like the exercise of mowing, you could consider joining our Green team. No need to be a bowler.

The aesthetics of a lush green finish is favoured by many, but more skilful bowling is played on drier grass, when the green runs at its fastest - *and the bowls at their slowest!*

You can't beat being on a bowls green on a warm sunny day.

Tempted to try?.....*or come and watch a match***

'Give Bowls A Go' sessions are on Tuesdays at 2pm or Friday at 6 pm, May to Sept. Friday May 18th, incs. **Fish & Chips**. Just bring a pair of trainers, or flat soled shoes. We will provide the rest. A warm welcome awaits you + fun, free coaching and a cuppa, a cheap pint and lots of new friends.

Fixtures** etc. are available on www.cheddingtonbowls.org.uk

Contact: Jo Tchertoff on 01296 668624 for more information

Cheddington Bowls Club: The Recreation Ground, High St. LU7 9AA

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Eaton Bray W.I.

It was Eaton Bray WI's turn to host the Spring Group Meeting on 27th March at Totternhoe Village Hall, attended by some 40 members from 6 local WI's.

It was a lovely evening with much fun and companionship. After the business meeting and reports from each WI, "The Pearl Lady" gave a fascinating talk on how pearls are made and showed us her beautiful collection of pearls.

Our usual monthly meeting and AGM was held on 9th April. We started the evening with the Business Meeting with reminders about the Meeting on 14th May when the Resolution on Mental Health will be discussed and we will celebrate the Royal Wedding. The competition will be for a decorated Royal Wedding Hat or

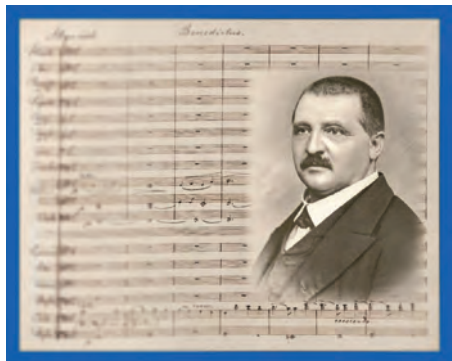
Souvenir.

Our Coffee Morning, to which everyone is invited, will be on 24th May at the Methodist Hall between 10 and 12.

At the AGM, Reports were received from the Treasurer, Secretary and the President and were followed by the re-election of the President and Committee. The evening continued with our usual refreshments (and cake) and then a fun half an hour having a Beetle Drive.

Eaton Bray WI meets at the Methodist Church Hall, Totternhoe Road, Eaton Bray on the first Monday of each Month and ladies of all ages are most welcome. If you are interested in coming along please contact Margaret Jones on 01525 220991.

BRUCKNER AND BUBBLY WITH THE DANESBOROUGH CHORUS



Save the date and pack a picnic for an evening of music and feasting with the Danesborough Chorus, in the atmospheric setting of Woburn Church, on Saturday 23rd June at 7.30 pm.

The choir is performing Bruckner's *Mass in F Minor*, which is generally recognised as one of the finest settings ever of sacred texts (even arch-rival Brahms confessed to being deeply moved when he attended a performance).

A quartet of outstanding professional soloists and the Milton Keynes City Orchestra join the choir for a programme which also includes Mendelssohn's melodic *Italian Symphony*.

Thrill at Bruckner's long, unfolding melodies and opulent harmonies in the favourable acoustic of Woburn Church – and bring strawberries and bubbly to enjoy during our traditional extended interval on the lawns.

Tickets: £22 and £17 (reserved, central nave), £10 (unreserved, side aisles), under 18s £5. Available by post from Danesborough Tickets, 58 Church Road, Aspley Heath, Woburn Sands, MK17 8TA (send SAE and cheque payable to 'Danesborough Chorus') or phone 01908 583460. Visit www.danesborough.org.uk for further information.

Dagnall & Kensworth Friendship Club

Our meeting on the 15th of May, of the Dagnall and Kensworth Friendship club is a Ploughman's Lunch in the Village Hall 1.30 pm, followed by The Ukulele Ladies from U3A.

The 19th June Meeting is the Garden Party at 6, Dunstable Road, in the garden of Brian and Rosemary Holt.

On July 17th our Kensworth members will be holding a Quiz in the Village Hall, with the usual Tea and raffle.

Rosemary will be taking final numbers for the outing to Kingston on Thames on September 18th, for a river cruise to Hampton Court. This outing is open to friends of our members to fill a coach. Lunch will be arranged on the way there.



Dagnall and Kensworth Friendship Club enjoyed a weekend away in Eastbourne. They had a day in Brighton.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD'S 'WALK-IN WARDROBE'!

If you haven't wandered along Peacock Parade to Peacock Mews yet you might not have discovered Leighton Buzzard's wonderful new eclectic pre-loved Boutique; The Wardrobe. The Wardrobe opened at the beginning of October last year and is fast gaining an enviable reputation as the place to shop in 'The Buzz' if you're looking for individual designer or unique pre-loved Clothing, Handbags, Shoes, Boots and Accessories at fantastic prices.

Tracey Greenfield, Owner of The Wardrobe said; "I decided to open a shop as for many years I have spent a fortune on buying gorgeous clothes, shoes and handbags to end up only wearing them once for a special event or occasion. It didn't take rocket science to work out that I am not the only woman who does this, as my friends and I have often over the years bought and sold clothes between our group of friends to each other.

"I thought there must be plenty of other ladies out there who, like me, have beautiful clothes that they've worn once, or that don't fit properly taking up space in their wardrobe, after all, we've all made those shopping mistakes in the past and ended up with a wardrobe full of clothes we don't wear that are just too good to take to the charity shop!

"The Wardrobe is the place where you can bring those items for us to sell on your behalf and make some money to spend on clothes that you **will** wear!"

Tracey continued; "Busy days in the Boutique are always great fun as people come in to see if their items have sold, fall in love with something else in the shop and go home with a new outfit to wear! Most ladies love shopping and we believe it should always be a positive and fun experience so on Saturday's we offer our customers a Glass of Prosecco to enjoy while they're trying and buying."

Honesty is the name of the game though on two levels. "We are quite discerning about what we accept to sell" said Sheree Wilkinson, Shop Manager at The Wardrobe. "We know what our customers are looking for and so we won't accept items that we know will take up space on the rails and not be of interest to our customer base. Some people are offended when we turn their items away, but we think honesty is the best policy as they are more frustrated if they return after 6 weeks and their item hasn't sold."

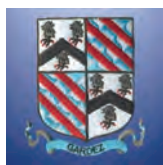
"Secondly, we are always honest with the customer, if the item doesn't fit or doesn't suit you, we'll tell you said Sheree. There's no point in taking something home that's going to sit in your wardrobe instead of ours and not be worn!"

The Wardrobe has an amazing collection of designer and branded clothes, if you are looking for an outfit for a girl's night out, date night, a Prom or a Spring/Summer Wedding then look no further. You are bound to find what you are looking for at The Wardrobe, and if you don't...don't worry, you won't have to wait too long, new stock arrives daily so each week there are new items to choose from on the rails.

"Our stock is changing all the time" concluded Sheree; "so our Boutique always has beautiful, high quality fashion available for our customers. One of the great things about working here is that we get to choose what stock suits the shop and invariably the occasional item ends up coming home with us!"

You'll find The Wardrobe at 2 Peacock Parade, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1RS.

Tel: 01525 837474 visit our Facebook Page for all the info www.facebook.com/@thewardrobeLB



Eaton Bray Cricket Club

Off and running. Its been a long winter but the 2018 season has arrived.

Winter nets have attracted record numbers and hopefully we can transfer this outside throughout the year.

Senior nets will now be at Rye Gardens on a Thursday from 6pm and Juniors on a Wednesday from 6pm.

Work parties have been performing to get the ground and clubhouse ready for the new season. Unfortunately because of poor weather and low body count this year, it has had to be done over 6 weeks and the club would like to thank those who gave their time and energy.

May Fixtures

FCCL Div1 1st XI

- May 5th Thurleigh away
- May 12th New City home
- May 19th Elstow home
- May 26th Olney Town home

FCCL Div6 2nd XI

- May 5th Eggington home
- May 12th St Andrews away
- May 19th Westcroft away
- May 26th Ivinghoe & Pitstone away

Beds Sunday Div 6

- May 6th Lutonian 3rds away
 - May 13th Langford 2nds home
 - May 27th Luton Town & Indians home
- Spectators are most welcome and all players

would be very grateful for your support .

May 26th sees the return of the Darts Competition (A Jaco Jacobs Presentation). This was very popular last year so please arrive early to avoid disappointment.

The club online shop is doing good business and becoming ever more popular. Have a look at romida.co.uk/eaton-bray-cc. Get kitted out at a reasonable price (Sandpaper unavailable)

Also have a look at our fantasy cricket page eaton-bray.fantasyclubcricket.co.uk

Two new players have joined the club and we would like to wish Scott and David all the best for the season.

We are always on the look out for new players. Any age, ability or gender. We run 2 senior teams in the FCCL on Saturdays and a senior team in the Beds Sunday League. Junior teams are run at age U9 U11 2xU13 and U15.

For more information please follow us on Facebook and Twitter @eatonbrayCC

We would like to thank Meadow Marquees Houghton Insurance and the Focus for their continued support.

Enjoy your cricket with Eaton Bray in 2018.



All Saints' Church, Dagnall

Services in May 2018

Sun. 6th May	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 13th May	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 20th May	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 27th May	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 3rd June	9.00 pm	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service



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

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for March 2018

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

March began with an exceptionally cold easterly airstream, which brought snow with daytime temperatures staying below freezing. By the 5th the temperatures had risen to 9 degrees and by the 10th it had reached 12 degrees for a few days but all this time it was unsettled with rain showers most days. On the 17th the temperature plummeted again with sub-zero temperatures day and night, then a short dry spell before the rain came again on the 27th and rain continuously for 4 days.

So March was cold and wet, we all new that! Some facts. Temperature of -5.7°C were a lot lower than average for March. Rain we were twice the 10 year average rain fall for the month and 4 days from 27th-30th we recorded 39.8 mm (1.567 ins) that's over twice the rain we had in total for March 2017.

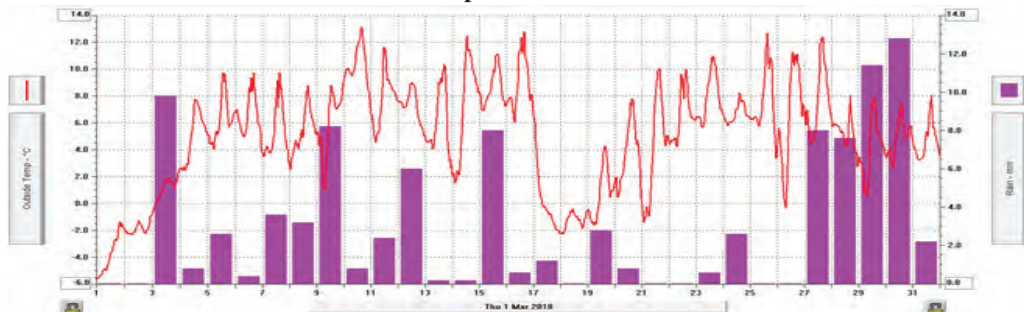
Again I have shown in the data below this month's weather compared to March 2017.

You may think this is the coldest March we have had for a long time but March 2013 was colder with a mean temperature of 2.8°C and almost as much rain.

*correction of February Focus Weather Mean temperature should be 2018 2.6°C -2017 6.3°C apologies for this.

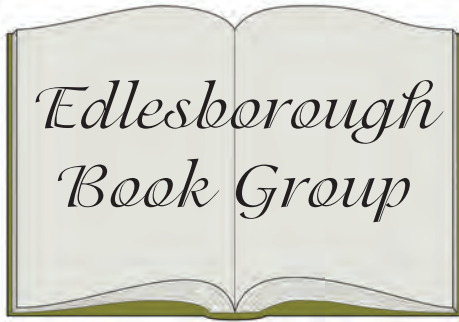
Temperature: March 2017	High 13.2°C 20.8°C	Date/Time 10 March 15.30	Low - 5.7°C 1.2°C	Date/Time 1 March 00.30
Mean Temperature March 2017	5.0°C 8.9°C			
Dewpoint: March 2017	11.3°C 11.5°C	4 March 07.00	- 7.8°C - 4.2°C	1 March 03.00
Humidity:	96%	3 days 18-19-20	48%	21 March 14.00
Barometer:	1032.7 mb	21 March 02.00	983.8 mb	5 March 23.30
Wind Speed	36 mph W	8 March 13.30	Months avg.	6.5 mph
Wind Chill: March 2017	12.7°C 19.1°C	16 March 16.00	- 11.2°C - 0.3°C	1 March 00.30
Dominant Wind:	S			
*Rain Days: 24(T), 24(R)		Wettest Day 30 March		12.80 mm 0.504 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	March 2018	96.8 mm	3.811 ins
	Total	March 2017	38.4mm	1.512 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Months	198.8 mm	7.827 ins
March 2017	Total	3 Months	102.0 mm	4.016ins

Rain and Temperatures for March 2018



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





**Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine
by Gail Honeyman**

This month's choice was another debut novel, a quirky story by Gail Honeyman, an Oxford graduate living in Scotland. The book won the Costa First Novel award and has topped the best seller lists world wide. It is soon to be made into a film by Reese Witherspoon.

It is a rather unusual concept for a novel, in as much as when Eleanor first starts to tell us her story, she doesn't appear to be very likeable. She works in an office, in a fairly routine capacity for which she seems over qualified. She deliberately avoids social contact with her colleagues, seeming to think herself slightly superior. They in turn, think her slightly strange and tolerate her. She seems to live completely within her head and insists that she is completely fine.

Her life in private is strictly regulated, at weekends buying the same frozen pizzas and two bottles of vodka which are to last her until Sunday evening. Even her lunchtimes consist of the same food bought at the same outlet. She has no friends and no social life, the only outside contact being a regular phone call from her mother.

Things start to change when she has to call on the services of the firm's IT engineer. She and Raymond embark on a friendship, tentatively at first, but thanks to Raymond's generous open nature, it develops gradually, until they are seeing one another at most lunchtimes. Then, together they help an elderly man who has collapsed in the street and again with

Raymond's encouragement, Eleanor realises the joy of opening one's heart and being involved with others.

Alongside Eleanor's story, we are given glimpses of her earlier life, the difficulties that she has experienced and how they have influenced her as an adult. As we get to know her, we appreciate Eleanor and all her eccentricities.

She is a character one falls in love with gradually and her life journey is very entertaining.

Everyone in our book group was full of praise for Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine. We enjoyed the originality of the story, basically sad, but heart warming and funny as well. A book we heartily recommend.

**The Salvation Army,
Booth Place - 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>	
Music practices (all welcome)	10-11.30am
	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
Girls' Night Out	
<i>(1st Thursday of month)</i>	
	7.45pm
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*

A Right Royal Affair

This month millions of people around the world, will switch on their televisions to watch the royal wedding between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, which will take place on Saturday 19 May at St George's Chapel in Windsor, where Prince Harry was christened. The Dean of Windsor will conduct the service and The Archbishop of Canterbury will officiate as the couple make their vows.

Invitations have been sent to 600 guests, with a further 200 invited to the couple's evening reception. Over 1,000 members of the public will be able to watch the arrival and departure of the bride and groom from the grounds of Windsor Castle. Many of these will be charity workers from charities who the couple have chosen because of their shared values. If you have not received an invitation by now then I fear you aren't on the list!

It is good to hear that the couple have asked people to donate to charities instead of sending wedding present. This follows a tradition which Prince William and Kate Middleton adhered to, with more than £1million being raised in 2011.

I am sure that we would wish them, and every couple that will marry this month, love and happiness as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

As Prince Harry and Meghan declare their love for each other before God and people from around the world, the Bible gives good counsel and guidance. I Corinthians 13 clearly sets out that love is and what it is not. It is a love given by God that has the strength and courage to work through difficulties. It is not the drippy romantic love of novels but is a love that requires work. It is not a love that 'will do' until something better comes along, but it is a deep and lasting love of trust and commitment.

The Message paraphrase says:

Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't strut,

Doesn't have a swelled head,

Doesn't force itself on others,

Isn't always "me first,"

Doesn't fly off the handle,

Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel,

Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

Puts up with anything,

Trusts God always,

Always looks for the best,

Never looks back,

But keeps going to the end.

Often love is thought of as a feeling, but in reality it is a choice and an action. This love is an ideal, which has its source in the God of love. He loved us enough to sacrifice his son for us. Jesus is our example of what it means to love; everything he did in life and death was supremely loving; and His Holy Spirit living in us gives us the power to love each other.

May we, along with Prince Harry and Meghan seek the source of love and learn what this means in the everyday, ordinary days of our lives as we live in relationships with others.

A prayer for Prince Harry and Meghan's wedding.

God of all grace, Friend and companion,
Look in favour on Harry and Meghan and
all who are made one in marriage.

William and Catherine

And all who are made one in marriage.

In your love deepen their love

And strengthen their wills

To keep the promises they will make,

That they may continue

In lifelong faithfulness to each other;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord

AMEN

✍ Hilary Chadwick (Envoy)

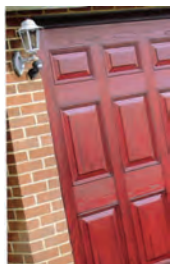


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