



FOCUS

December 2020

January 2021

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

The White Horse *Eaton Bray*

Market Square
Eaton Bray
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01525 220 231
www.eatonbraypub.co.uk



From the horse's mouth

*No mask, no entry, no exceptions, no confusion
Until we're told it's no longer necessary
(masks may be removed when seated at your table)*

*Every precaution has been taken to ensure
your safety and the safety of our staff*



In these uncertain times, we look forward to seeing you whenever you're confident enough to visit, we are uncertain about what we will be allowed to do during December and January. We do know that we

miss you and eagerly await the return of normality.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

*Eat, Drink and relax
at The White Horse*

The Salvation Army Booth Place



Sunday

Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45 - 10.45am
(Term time only)

Morning Worship 11am

Tuesday

Coffee Morning 10 - 11.30am
(Alternate weeks)

Wednesday

Home League 2.30 - 3.30pm
(Ladies meeting but all welcome)

Champion's Club (Term time only)
5.30-6.30pm (Ages 5 to Year 5)
6.45-7.45pm (Year 6 and above)

Thursday

Girls' Night Out
(1st Thursday of the month) 7.45pm

Ladies Fellowship
(Last Thursday of the month) 7.30pm

**For further details please contact us on
01525 222087 or email
eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk**

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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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

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on the road towards Leighton Buzzard)

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday worship each week between 11am and 12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to talk together.

For more information contact:
John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

Web: www.northallbaptistchurch.org

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.

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Diary



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: 07832 230774
- 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
- Mondays Yoga, 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- Mondays Barre, 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- 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 Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 07800 518654
- Tuesdays Beginner's Boxercise, 6-7pm Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtpinfo@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Fortnightly, Eaton Bray
- Wednesdays Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays (term time) Caterpillars Baby and Toddler Group 10am to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough, £1 per family unit, Contact Alister 07572 395687
- 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
- Wed (term time) Art Courses, Whipsnade Village Hall, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- 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 jtpinfo@gmail.com
- Thursdays Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome

Please get in touch with the relevant organisation to check if sessions are running

Village Diary

Thursdays	Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome. www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
Thursdays	Mixed Ability Yoga Class, 11.30am to 1.p.m. Northall Village Hall, Contact Dee Lock on 01525 377542
Fridays	Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 10 - 11am
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 07800 518654
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 Whittemore on 01525 376124
Fri (term time)	Art Courses, Whipsnade Village Hall, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Lorna Moore 078 9661 9660
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 11am and 6pm Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL Contact Alister on 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)
2nd Mon	Film Society, Sep to May, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 01525 220883
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 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. Contact Sue Bingham on 01525 222522
2nd & 4th Tues	Dagnall Church Welcome Club, 2-4pm, Dagnall Church. Contact Catherine Hayden 01525 220527
2nd Wednesday	St.Mary's Ladies Guild, 2pm, St.Mary's, Eaton Bray
2nd Wednesday	Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions Club, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
2nd Thursday	CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
2nd Saturday	Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern, Keira 07936 693696
3rd Thursday	Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
3rd Sunday	Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288
Last Saturday	Coffee Morning, 10:00-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church

Please get in touch with the relevant organisation to check if sessions are running

Benefit from Local Advertising

We thank our current advertisers for the support they have given to Focus and the valuable contribution that they have made to our community.

The popularity of Focus continues and we deliver over 2400 copies, one to each household in Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall (Covid permitting), ten times a year (24000 copies in all!). In addition, the magazine is accessible online (www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk) for which during the lockdown we had significant number of views. This provides extensive local advertising in full colour for your company, products or service, anytime, anywhere.

If you wish to advertise in Focus for 2021, please contact Sally Taylor on 01525 221576 or email: advertising@thefocusmagazine.co.uk



CHARITY CHRISTMAS PUZZLE



This year sees the 30th Anniversary of the annual Puzzle set by Gordon Gray. The Puzzle is rated by participants as one of the most enjoyable (and devious) they have tackled and, with a theme designed to help completion, it will appeal to people who enjoy doing word puzzles. Puzzlers have plenty of time to find the answers and entries should be returned, with a donation, by 24th January.

Three highest scorers will each receive a £50 prize.

Everyone who enters will qualify for one of four £10 prizes.

Copies of the Puzzle can be accessed from the web at www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. You can register early to receive a copy on the issue date of 8 December.



£98,900 raised for charity

£7,500 donated last year



This year's puzzle will support five charities nominated by Puzzlers.

Fundraising for

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Previously we announced our amazing result from the World's Biggest Coffee Morning. However, it did not stop there. Thanks to Edna Moore's baking and support from the Leighton Buzzard branch of the Nat West

bank we have increased the amount raised to **£2,469**.

Thank you once again to everyone who supported in any way. These funds are very much needed to help stop cancer being the forgotten "c" this year.

Sheila Banks, Macmillan Cancer Support Fundraising

Village Info



EDaN Community Transport
Peter Williams: 01442 842506

Village Hall Booking Contacts

Northall: Lorna Cabbage Tel: 07857 318696 www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

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

Dagnall: Liz Coates 01442 842550 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email DVH_Bookings@outlook.com

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

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 & Munns Farm Shop

Eaton Bray: The Coffee Tavern

Northall: The Swan Public House

Edlesborough: Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Baptist Church, Summerleys



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

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough

Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousins

The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261

Curate: Rev'd Stephen Burge

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

Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

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

There are many different traditions associated with Christmas and lots of ways of celebrating the festive season. One of the customs which emerged during the Middle Ages was that of the Yule Log. Today we often have a chocolate cake shaped like a log which represents the Yule Log. In Medieval times, they used a real chunk of wood. After the harvest, the workers on the great estates would go into the woods to find a great, thick tree trunk. Then they would cut it down and take the very widest part away with them. This was taken to the house of the estate owner and then soaked in water to make it as wet as possible.

On Christmas Eve, the log would be put in the fireplace by the workers who lit a small fire under it, ensuring the fire didn't go out. Because the log was huge and also very wet, it would take a long time for it to catch fire and burn. As long as part of the log had not yet burned, the workers didn't have to go back to their work. This would usually take about a week and give them a week's holiday!

We too have many Christmas traditions. Some are ones which we share, such as Carol services and present giving. Others will be special to our own family or our particular community. Christmas 2020 will be very different as we are unable to gather together in the way that we usually do. There is information in the centre of this Focus about how the churches will be offering ways to worship this Christmas within the Covid-19 restrictions. But for many of us, this Christmas will be unlike any we have known before. There will be a sense of loss as we reflect on the loss of so much of our normal life, those who have lost jobs and all who have been bereaved. Sometimes it can feel overwhelming. We can also reflect on the ways that our communities have offered care for one another in these challenging times and the way the Christmas message of goodwill to all has been embodied in many acts of kindness.

The first Christmas was also a time of great uncertainty and upheaval. Joseph was summoned to register as part of the Roman Census and had to travel over 70 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem. There was no transport other than a donkey and Mary was heavily pregnant. To make matters worse, by the time Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem all the rooms were taken. So the Christ child was born in an animal shelter, probably a cave under the house. Once King Herod found out about the new king from the Magi, visitors from the East, Mary and Joseph had to flee for their lives with their son and escape into Egypt where they stayed until Herod died. It was not an ideal start in life for the baby who the angel told Mary was to be the Son of God.

Jesus said he came to bring light in the darkness and hope in troubled situations. As we prepare for a Christmas like no other our celebrations may be very different to usual. But the heart of Christmas remains the same. Jesus, God's Son came into the world to

bring us into relationship with God. He came to show how much God cares for each one of us. He came to bring peace and hope. May you know that peace and hope this Christmas.

Wishing you every blessing for Christmas and the New Year, Joy
✠ Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough



Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month:

10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service. (For anyone wishing to attend a service of Holy Communion there is a Family Communion at 10.30am at All Saints' Church, Dagnall, where visitors are assured of a warm welcome).

WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES. PLEASE BRING A FACE MASK.

In light of the current Coronavirus situation the Pastoral Care Team at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray welcomes your assistance in identifying any of our parishioners who might be sick or otherwise benefit from their support during this challenging time. Please contact us at admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk in this regard.

Dagnall Church Services



All Saint's Dagnall Sunday service is at at 10.30am. All welcome.

Please wear a facemask.

**Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4
1RL**



Christmas Wishes



To all our friends and acquaintances who we used to meet at the Salvation Army, both Methodist Churches and St.Marys for various coffee mornings, services and meetings and last but not least all the helpers at the monthly church lunches which we are sure we will all miss. We would like to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas. Hoping we will all meet up soon in the New Year.

God bless you all.

Iris Hignell and Enid Holmes





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Friends of the Church on the Hill

What a Year.....well, actually, what a last three months.

Like all of the Voluntary Groups in our villages, The Friends of the Church on the Hill (FotCotH), had to virtually hibernate through the Spring and Summer. A maximum of six of us at any one time were able to do a limited amount of grounds maintenance in the Churchyards. With the building closed we had to postpone EdleFest2020 until 2021, and visitors were not allowed entry to the Church.

Now for the good news. Since we were able to re-open we have been very busy.

St. Mary's, Edlesborough is by far the most popular of the Champing Churches under the auspices of the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). There are wonderful comments in the visitors book, and from July 25th until October 31st we had about 80 Champers. In the current "staycation" scenario, and a need to have something to look forward to, the enquiry line for next year is already running hot.

In October, a touring group of actors, "This is my Theatre", produced a sold out performance of Macbeth. We are delighted to say that they are returning with "A Christmas Carol" on 17th December; see their website for socially distanced tickets, subject to.....

Also in October, after many meetings and applications to the CCT, we played host to a sixty strong film crew using the Churchyard for a full day, as a film location, set in rural Ireland. They were completely self-contained, building stages, tracks for cameras and



smoke machines snaking through the grounds. Their own caterers provided breakfast and lunch, which were very tasty! The crew loved the location with the Church providing a magnificent backdrop to the shooting of the scenes. The film, a horror movie titled "The Little People" is set for general release in 2021. Watch out for the leprechauns!

Christine Yates and her team have decorated the War Memorial not only as a magnificent tribute and an act of Remembrance, but this





year also to celebrate a birthday. The Memorial was inaugurated in March 1920, by Lord Brownlow, on one of his last appearances before his death.

Our best news concerns the storm damaged stained glass window in the Tower. Over the last three years, visitors will have seen how dark the Tower area is, with the window space being boarded up.

We have finally received estimates for the expert repair and installation of the window, so that it can be returned to its rightful place and being west facing, illuminate the Church once more.

Like most of our national cultural institutions, the CCT has suffered a dramatic fall in income, and has felt the effect on its resources and capabilities. In a nutshell, the project to restore the window will have to be funded locally. The Friends Group is looking to put together a financial package involving all parts of our community. We will be able to provide more information in due course, but in the meantime, anyone interested in supporting this effort please contact: wyn.johns@gmail.com (Treasurer FotCoTH).

We have received confirmation from the CCT that through lockdown the Church can remain open for “Independent Prayer”. Covid Safety Notices are placed inside the building and there is a reminder that the Church is not cleaned on a regular basis. The Churchyards are also open. We wanted to do this for our community as we go through difficult times together. This beautiful building has witnessed many life-changing episodes in the history of our villages. With your help it will continue to be a place of solace and hope for now and the future. For updates find us on Facebook under Friends of the Church on the Hill or see our website: www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk

✉ Wyn Johns





*Edlesborough Parish Council
wishes all Parishioners a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year.*



Remembrance Day 2020

Edlesborough Parish Council wishes to thank Christine Yates and Bob Stilliard for displaying the knitted poppies at the Edlesborough War Memorial.

Thank you also to all the parishioners for knitting the beautiful poppies.

This year marks 100 years since the memorial was erected.

Have Your Say

From time to time EPC is asked to represent local opinion. The latest is an initiative by Buckinghamshire



Edlesborough War Memorial Dressed in Knitted Poppies – photo supplied by Christine Yates.

HAVE

YOUR

SAY...

Council to engage more closely with residents. EPC is trialling an on-line questionnaire to understand priorities. There is a questionnaire on our website for you to complete and an invitation to volunteer to participate in subject matter groups. Please help us and Buckinghamshire Council by following the link to our website www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Feedback from the Ivinghoe & Wing Freight Strategy Survey

Graham Hillary (Buckinghamshire Council Transport Strategy Officer, Freight) attended the October Council meeting and provided the Council with a comprehensive presentation detailing the process and decision made following the Ivinghoe & Wing Freight Strategy Survey carried out at the start of 2020.

EPC continue to have serious concerns about traffic being displaced onto the B440 and have raised this with Buckinghamshire Council. EPC informed Mr Hillary that there is evidence that vehicles will be displaced onto the B440 and that EPC had been trying for many years to have the issues on the B440 addressed and that requests had always been refused by Bucks Council as the Highways Authority.

Mr Hillary advised the EPC that if the Council could provide a solid rationale with supporting evidence for the B440 to be included in the proposed zone it would be considered.

EPC confirmed that the compelling, qualified and robust reason for including the B440 between its junctions with the B489 and the A4146/A505 in the proposed freight zone is because the justification and principal benefit of the zone will be to relieve the

number of through HGVs using the B488 between Ivinghoe and the A4146. If the B440 is not included, most, if not all the HGVs displaced from the B488 will simply transfer to the B440, which is an equally unsuitable road.

More information about this can be found in the minutes of the EPC October 2020 Council Meeting.

More information about the progress of the Ivinghoe and Wing Freight Strategy can be found at <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/highway-projects/ivinghoe-fz-survey/>

Mr Hillary confirmed that the next steps will be to finalise the proposal early in 2021. They will then create the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and hold a statutory public consultation. The consultation is a final opportunity to comment on the detail of the zone. Subject to consultation feedback, Buckinghamshire Council expects the Ivinghoe Area Freight Zone to be in effect by the spring of 2021. **Please ensure that you participate in the public consultation when it is announced.**

EPC urges parishioners to follow this matter closely and direct any concerns they may have to freight@buckscc.gov.uk

New Pavilion

The pavilion is now watertight and the contractors are almost finished on the internal first fix partitioning and electrics. At the time of writing it is expected that the underfloor heating with the floor insulation and screed will commence the week beginning 9th November.

Fortunately work is allowed to continue on construction site but supply problems make it heavy going! There isn't an exact date when the new Pavilion will open but you will know if you become a member. The process for membership will be announced soon by Edlesborough Community Sports Club.

Luton Airport

Buckinghamshire Cllr Anne Wight and EPC would like to draw everyone's attention to the following consultations regarding the creation of a new holding stack for Luton airport (running until 5 Feb, 2021). This is in addition to their survey consultation on an increase in passenger numbers to 19 mppa which ran until 11 November, 2020. Please use the following links for more information:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-54572593>
- https://consultations.airspacechange.co.uk/london-luton-airport/ad6_luton_arrivals/
- <http://www.luton19mppa.info/>

Fly-tipping, Potholes, Pavement & Road Issues

Should you notice or witness **fly-tipping** in Edlesborough, Dagnall or Northall please report this to Buckinghamshire Council using the following link <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

Issues with **roads & pavements** should be reported to Bucks CC using the following link <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

IMPORTANT: If you consider the issue to be dangerous or an emergency, please call Transport for Bucks on: 01296 382416 (09:00 – 17:30 Mon-Thurs, 09:00 – 17:00 Friday) or 01296 486630 (out of hours and weekends).

Posting about it on Facebook can be useful to Parishioners but this does not, however,

lead to roads/pavements being repaired or fly-tipped items being removed.

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

The EDaN Traffic Management team needs more new members and volunteers to help with their new Sentinel device. A few parishioners have volunteered but we need more to set up training to operate the video speed camera.

If you have an interest in traffic management in the villages or are concerned about Road Safety, please contact Cllr Alan Williams at Alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or 07828 398371



Salt Bins

The responsibility for filling these bins is with Transport for Buckinghamshire. When supplies are running low a refill request should be submitted via their website <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

It is more appropriate if a parishioner living close to the salt bin makes the request but in practise anyone can make the request.



Streetlights

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.

Ordinary Council Meetings

EPC will continue to hold their Ordinary Council Meetings via the Social Media Platform, Zoom until it is deemed safe to resume holding physical public meetings.

Any parishioner wishing to attend the Ordinary Council meetings should visit EPC's website for more information.

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 17th December 2020
- Thursday 21st January 2021

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

Please check the Council website for any changes in any of our current 'virtual' meeting plans via Zoom.

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.

All the hyperlinks in the information above can be accessed through the Edlesborough Parish website.

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky *Office hours Mon – Fri 9am – 12pm (Excl. Wed)*

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil



Community Responder

Wanted for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Be a real lifesaver for your community

Whilst not an employee of South Central Ambulance Service, you will be a valuable member of the team and make a life-saving contribution to patients in the community who dial 999. As one of the over 1,000 Community and Co-Responders who support SCAS. Our numbers are made up of members of the public, fire service, police community support officers, coastguards and military responders. We are all volunteers and undertake training to be able to help the people in our community with the support of SCAS. SCAS is always on the lookout for more community and co-responders across the four counties in the South Central region. So if you are physically fit, have access to a vehicle and want to make a life-saving difference to your community, why not think about becoming one too? You'll need to be able to give a minimum commitment of 20 on call hours a month and all training and support will be provided.

Become a Community First Responder

If you want to be able to help us in emergency situations, then become a Volunteer Community First Responder. You will be trained by SCAS to be able calmly and professionally to deal with medical emergencies, providing sometimes life-saving first aid to a patient in the crucial minutes before an ambulance arrives. Once the ambulance arrives, you will continue to support the SCAS staff treating the patient.

After attending an initial five-day training course (spread over a couple of weekends and evenings) and an annual 1 day refresher course, the commitment we ask of you is to make yourself available at least 20 hours each month. You can choose the times to fit around your other commitments and you 'respond' from home or perhaps your workplace.

We will provide you with all the training,

equipment and support you need to do something amazing for your community: become a real lifesaver.

The CFR role

We have Community First Responder (CFR) Schemes across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire, in both urban and rural areas. Our CFRs are trained to deliver life-saving skills such as the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED), basic airway management and oxygen therapy, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR – and we always need new recruits.

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The types of emergencies you might attend

You will only be sent to 999 emergency calls we receive during the hours you have agreed to provide emergency cover, if you have had the relevant training and if the incident is local to you (usually within three to five miles). You will be trained to help in cases of:

- Cardiac arrest Heart attack
- Stroke Choking Chest pains
- Diabetic emergencies
- Serious injuries (not road traffic collisions)
- Breathing difficulties
- Patients suffering a seizure
- Unconscious patients
- Traumatic injuries

Want to know more? OR Ready to apply?

Call us on 01962 898090 or email cfr@scas.nhs.uk for an application pack. OR

Speak to the local coordinator:

Peter Cooper, South Central Ambulance Service, Community First Responder Coordinator, Aylesbury North
07860258833



British Legion Poppy Appeal in Edlesborough and Northall Thank You!

After an uncomfortable year when we have been prevented from doing so many things, it wasn't a surprise to find that the annual British Legion Poppy Appeal would be affected by the Covid19 outbreak. At first the instructions from the Legion were that we would not be able to carry out a collection as usual this year, partly due to the difficulty with manufacturing supplies at Aylesford and also with all the restrictions in place due to social distancing and sanitising. However, in September I heard from the Legion that the larger supermarkets and shops would be able to sell poppies after all and that if any of my contacts were prepared to have a tin, that would be great, providing I had enough stock from last year. As in Eaton Bray, most of my contacts were unable to host a collection this year, but Edlesborough Newsagents decided to give it a try and despite all the difficulties with screens and sanitising have very successfully provided a place for local people to purchase their poppies.

A big thank you to Paula and Manny and the team at the Newsagents. A huge thank you to the customers and all the people who have called in for a poppy. I called in to collect one of the tins and was unable to lift it! Edlesborough has displayed its usual generosity in spite of all the difficulties! It will be a day or two before I can open the tins and let you all know how much you have raised but I hope to do so before the Focus deadline date. In a year when all the charities are suffering, it is lovely to think that our village will still be able to show its generous support for the British Legion and the important work it

carries out, especially at this time.

Thank you for your generosity.

✍️Lorna Cabbage.

When I wrote the article above in order to



meet the Focus deadline, I had only just collected the full tins from Edlesborough Newsagents, and I had to leave them a couple of days before I could open them and count the collection. This evening I opened the two tins and was completely overwhelmed by the amounts in them. The first tin held £273.35 and the second tin, which was only there over the weekend, held £ 165.48. In addition, I found a donation of £6.68 in a plastic bag hidden among the poppies left in the box. So, the total collection for this year is an incredible **£445.51!!** You are an amazing lot in the Villages!! I had thought that we wouldn't be able to hold a collection given all the restrictions, but Paula and Manny and the team plus all you generous people who made donations, obviously thought differently!!

Many, many thanks for all your support and generosity.

✍️Lorna Cabbage.

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Throughout the lockdown and into the Summer, Eaton Bray Good Neighbours helped many people in our village. We had calls for help with collection of medication and lifts to the hospital. We have also sorted shopping for delivery and given general advice.

Our 'Good Neighbours In Touch' continued through our first Lockdown. A group of volunteers kindly telephoned some of the elderly members of our community, or anyone who wanted a call. A chat on the phone can mean a lot if you live on your own. There is always much to chat about with lots going on at the moment. We are hoping to relaunch our 'In Touch' programme during the winter. If you live on your own and would like a telephone call, or equally if you would like to volunteer to phone a friend, please call the number listed below.

A group of dedicated volunteers look after the Good Neighbours phone each day. This is an excellent team who regularly take the calls and arrange any tasks which are requested.

Having Eaton Bray Good Neighbours here to help gives some of our villagers a warm feeling of support. Equally the volunteers appreciate the joy of helping someone who needs you. We are here if you need any help.

You can contact us by calling: **07930 987064 when a friend will answer your call.**

Keep strong and safe.

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

Delayed Venture regarding our fitness therefore our physical and mental health

FITNESS our PHYSICAL and MENTAL HEALTH

we hope to commence the walks in January 2021

January 4th at Eaton Bray park at 10.15am

January 4th at Edlesborough at 2.30 pm

Please contact me on 07801754602 if you are interested.

I will continue to walk twice a day as usual.

Pat Quartermaine S.R.N. and Excel 2000 trainer

Fran Taylor Art Therapist HCPC



What To Do in the Garden in December



*Photo by Jon Naustdalslid
Courtesy of Thompson and Morgan*

December can be a quiet month in the garden, but there are more things to take care of than you might think. With limited daylight hours as we approach the shortest day of the year, this month's crisp wintery weather can be strikingly beautiful and bitterly cold in equal measure.

Timely Tips

1. Dig over empty borders and prepare your soil for next year's planting.
2. Group potted plants together in a sheltered spot in the garden to protect them from the harshest winter weather.
3. Get pruning - wisteria, fruit trees, roses and Japanese maples are just some of the plants that benefit from a winter prune.
4. Look after the birds - clean feeders, stock up on fat balls and make sure they have access to fresh water.

In the flower garden

- Start to winter-prune wisteria, cutting back summer side-shoots to 2 or 3 buds.
- Prune climbing roses now, removing diseased or damaged growth and tying in any new shoots to their support. Prune older flowered side shoots back by two thirds of their length.
- Prune Japanese Maples (Acers) and vines if needed, as they will bleed sap if pruning is done any later.
- Leave the faded flower heads on your hydrangeas until spring, as they provide frost protection to the swelling buds further down the stems.
- If any of your rose bushes suffered from blackspot or rust this summer, gather up and remove any fallen leaves to reduce the

chance of infection next year.

- Lift and store dahlia tubers once their leaves are blackened by frost.
- Move containers of shrubs or bedding planters to a sheltered spots; clustering them together helps protect the root systems from suffering frost damage
- Check climbers are securely attached to their supports with ties.
- Harvest holly with berries for making Christmas garlands and wreaths. Stand them in a bucket of water until you're ready to use them.
- Take root cuttings of oriental poppies and grow them on in cold frames.
- Take hardwood cuttings from suitable trees and shrubs.
- Spread fresh gravel or grit around alpine plants.

In the vegetable garden



*Photo by Graham Corney
Courtesy of Thompson and Morgan*

- Lift your last leeks and parsnips before the soil becomes frozen, and heel them in to a trench beside a convenient path. They'll keep for several months like this and can be easily brought indoors when required.
- Remove yellowing leaves from your winter brassicas – they're no use to the plant and may harbour pests and diseases.
- If you haven't already, cut down dead asparagus foliage and the top growth of Jerusalem artichokes. Order your asparagus crowns now for planting in spring.
- Dig over empty borders and pile manure on top - let the worms and frosts break up the clods of soil.

- Dig a trench for next year's beans, fill it with compostable kitchen waste (not cooked food) and re-cover with soil. This will rot down and dramatically improve the growing conditions.
- Cover winter brassicas with netting to protect them from pigeons.
- Keep fleece to hand to protect hardy salad crops such as Lettuce 'Winter Gem', winter land cress, purslane, and corn salad on cold nights.
- Protect any remaining celery plants left in the soil by covering with straw or fleece.
- Cover heavy clay soil with polythene to keep it drier and allow winter digging.
- While many parts of the garden and allotment are cleared, use this opportunity to install a permanent network of hard-wearing paths.

In the fruit garden

- Now is the perfect time to prune fruit trees to maintain an open, balanced structure and encourage quality fruit production. The exception is plums, cherries and other stone fruits that should not be pruned until the summer to prevent silver leaf fungus. Use clean, sharp secateurs to avoid damaging your trees.
- Prune grape vines.
- Protect wall trained peaches and nectarines from wet winter weather which spreads the peach leaf curl fungus. Construct a screen of clear polythene over the plant, but not touching it.
- Lift and divide established clumps of rhubarb to renew the plant's vigour. Sections taken from the outside of the plant are better than those from the centre.
- Protect the tips of fig tree branches. They will carry the fruits for next year and are susceptible to frost. Cover with fleece or straw.
- Apply glue bands or grease bands to the trunks of fruit trees to prevent wingless female winter moths climbing the trunks

and laying their eggs in the branches.

- If your strawberry plants are over 3 years old, order some new strawberry runners to replace them. Old strawberry plants can harbour diseases and tend to lose vigour and productivity.

In the greenhouse

- If you haven't already done so, clean out the greenhouse thoroughly. Wash the glass, the floor and the staging with horticultural disinfectant to kill any overwintering pests and diseases.
- Wash and disinfect capillary matting before storing it away.
- Brush heavy snow off the tops of greenhouses and cold frames to prevent the glass getting damaged.
- Insulate outdoor taps or turn them off at the mains. Pack away hoses that are not required.
- Ventilate the greenhouse on warmer days to reduce humidity and the risk of disease.
- Work in some manure to greenhouse borders to prepare them for next spring. Leave enough space to add compost later on.
- Propagate perennials from root cuttings including phlox, oriental poppies and mint.
- Water plants sparingly to maintain as dry an atmosphere as possible.
- Keep an eye out for aphids over-wintering on your plants, remove them by hand or use a pesticide.
- Protect your poinsettias from cold draughts and allow them to dry out slightly between waterings to make them last for the whole Christmas period and well into January.

Looking after your lawn



Photo by Deryabin

Courtesy of Thompson and Morgan

- Avoid walking on your lawn when it's blanketed by heavy frost or snow, as this damages the grass.
- If it's a mild winter, continue to cut the lawn if it's growing, but raise the height of the mower blades.
- Spike lawns with a garden fork to improve drainage and aeration.
- Keep clearing leaves off the lawn to let the light in and prevent dead patches appearing.
- Send your lawnmower and shears to be serviced and sharpened while they're less in demand.
- Turn your compost heaps to mix the ingredients and help the contents to decompose.
- Cover compost bins with a piece of old carpet or some plastic sheeting to prevent the compost becoming too cold and wet to rot down.
- Make a pile of old logs in an undisturbed corner of the garden to provide shelter for toads and other wildlife.



Photo by Allik

Courtesy of Thompson and Morgan

Other jobs about the garden

- Wash down all of your garden tools and give them a wipe of linseed oil on the wooden and metal areas to help prevent rusting.
- Choose a dry day to clear out the garden shed in preparation for the spring.
- Check the security of your shed. This is particularly important in winter when you visit it less often.
- Repair fences and apply a wood preservative to prevent them from rotting.
- There's still time to clean out water butts before they fill with fresh rain water over winter.
- Get rid of slimy patches on the patio and paving by scrubbing with a broom or blasting with a pressure washer. For an easy alternative try a liquid patio cleaner.
- Check tree ties and stakes to ensure that trees are still secure following strong autumn winds. Tighten or loosen ties as necessary.
- Wash and disinfect bird feeders and bird tables. Clean out bird baths too.
- Hang fat balls and keep bird feeders topped up to attract birds, who will in turn eat pests in your garden.
- Build or buy a compost bin.
- Continue to collect fallen leaves and add to leaf bins or compost bins to rot down.
- After pruning fruit trees use the twigs for pea sticks or shred them for your compost bin.
- Collect brightly coloured stems and berries for your Christmas decorations.
- Did you know the colourful wrappers of Quality Street sweets are compostable? They're made from cellulose, derived from wood pulp, so rather than chuck them in the bin, add them to your compost heap!

From your armchair

- Carefully plan your vegetable garden for next year so that you ensure good crop rotation to avoid a build up of pests and diseases.
- Order your flower seeds and vegetable seeds for next year - reflect on what worked well this year and what didn't, and don't be afraid to try new ideas.
- Take an inventory of tools and equipment that you need for next year. Add them to your Christmas list!
- Order apple trees now for planting in early spring. If space is limited, try growing dwarf fruit trees.

Information courtesy of Thompson and Morgan

www.thompson-morgan.com





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in
Edlesborough, Eaton Bray
Dagnall and Northall
Christmas Services 2020



Emily
Age 7yrs



The churches in the four villages join together in wishing you joy and peace this Christmas and invite you to join them at their Christmas Services

St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray (Anglican)

Sunday 20th December	10.00am 5.00pm	Holy Communion Online Carol Service followed by mince pies and mulled wine at home. Email for Zoom link (please see below)
Thursday 24th December	4.00pm & 6.00pm 11.15pm	Candle Services - for all ages, especially children. There will be much reduced numbers this year and admission by TICKET ONLY* Midnight Mass. TICKET ONLY*
Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Family Communion TICKET ONLY*
Sunday 27th December	10.00am	Holy Communion Online Nativity

- *TICKETS may be booked via our website
<https://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk/contact/>
- or by emailing admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk
- or for last minute information ring 01525 220527

Eaton Bray Methodist Church, Totternhoe Road, Eaton Bray

Christmas Day	10.30am	Christmas Morning Worship on Zoom
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Anyone who would like to join in this special service is very welcome to email edward.syrett@gmail.com for the link.

All Saints' Church, Dagnall

Christmas Day	10.30am	Christmas Family Communion TICKET ONLY*
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- for tickets, please ring 01442 843361 or 01525 220527

Northall Baptist Church, Chapel Lane, Northall

Sunday 20th December	11.00am	Service with Carols, Christmas Music and Drama
Christmas Day	10.30am	Short Family Service

Contact: John Hazell, 01525 218142 to check seating availability
See website: <https://www.northallbaptistchurch.org/> for latest information

The Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray

Sunday 6th December	11.00am	Worship
Sunday 13th December	11.00am	Worship
Sunday 20th December	11.00am	Worship
	4.00pm	Christingle

For the Christingle service, please book a place by ringing 07779939794 or 01582 471117

St Mary's Church, West Street, Dunstable (Roman Catholic)

For services at St Mary's, please contact the church for information

- tel: 01525 662710
- website: <http://stmarys-dunstable.org>

Sacred Heart Church, Beaudesert, Leighton Buzzard (Roman Catholic)

For services at Sacred Heart, please contact the church for information

- website: www.sacredheartlb.org.uk
- email: sacredheartlb@btinternet.com
- tel: 01525 372321

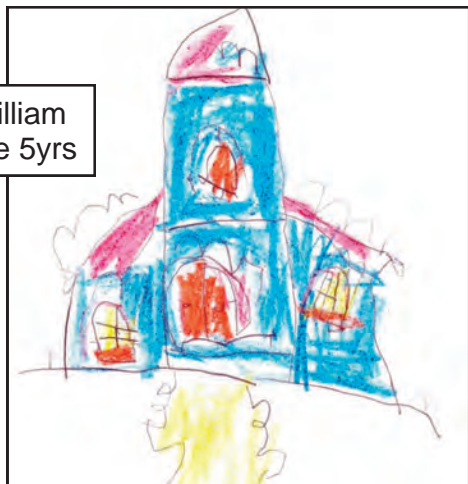
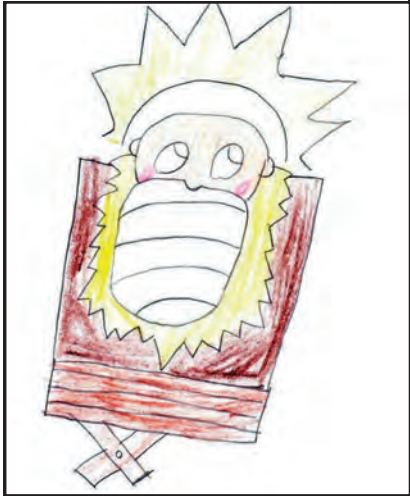
PLEASE NOTE ALL THESE SERVICES MAY CHANGE IF THE CORONAVIRUS REGULATIONS CHANGE AFTER FOCUS HAS GONE TO PRINT.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH YOU WISH TO ATTEND TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION.

I bring you good news ..of great joy...a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. *Luke chapter 2*



James
Age 9yrs



William
Age 5yrs

A message to all our lovely members, staff & volunteers to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year in which we hope to be coronavirus free and able to reopen our much needed club so we can all enjoy coffee, lunch, tea, games and chat in the company of our friends once again keep smiling everyone – until we meet again.

If you have a neighbour or family member who would like to go on our waiting list, or would like to find out more about our volunteer roles available at the club, please give Anna a call on 07854 230243 and leave a message.

Is This Also to be a Casualty of Covid 19?

Oh, how all our Members miss their Wednesday Club,
With its warm group of friends, and its constant noisy "hubbub"
As we entered the door at its venue in the Northall Village Hall,
There's a ring of smiling faces, and chorus of "Hello" from all,
Not forgetting that immediate hot cup of coffee or tea,
That's always very welcome enjoyed by all, and particularly by me!

The Club Members come from local town or village near and far,
No problem for some of us who still have a car.
For others, no worry, the club has the use of its very own bus,
Picking each member up from their own door step without any fuss,
For those who find walking a bit of a pain,
There's a volunteer Driver and Conductor to offer help to the same.

What happened midday is the high point we most sadly all miss,
Each week a plate of hot food was served, it was always "delish"
One meal could be chicken, next, perhaps fish, or minced steak,
but all with matching veg's and gravy galore,
And it was always a surprise as to what was each weekly menu had in store,
For those with a good appetite, they were well pleased.
As there was often a "top up" for many of these!

For those living alone, the Club gave help in this sad situation,
To make new friends, to play card or board games,
or enjoy a visit out by the Club's own bus, on quite frequent occasions,
This was the day in the week without that worry
"Now what can I find in my larder to eat"

As each volunteer cook's lunch standard was very hard to beat,
Also be lucky, and win a prize in "Bingo" or the "Draw" then we,
Lastly enjoyed our tea and cakes before going home at Three!.

So you see why our Club members are so sad,
Our Wednesday Club has existed for years in times good and bad,
But never has it been forbidden to do, what it does best,
To provide a welcome haven to help share any of Fate's bequests,
Lets us hope that one day, and may it be not too long,
That finally someone finds the answer, and that COVID has Gone!!!
With my sincere thanks to all those who have made the club as successful as it has
been, and will be again.

Norman Davies - A Club Member 10 October 2020

Photography in Focus

In this series, John Hockey shares some tips

CROPPING

There are three main reasons why you would want to crop a picture:

1. To get rid of an unwanted item in your photograph
2. To zoom in closer to reveal more detail
3. To improve composition

This can easily be accomplished on your computer, usually using software that comes with the camera, or by a more sophisticated program such as Photoshop. If the thought of manipulating pictures scares you, then the best way to avoid it is by being careful not to have telegraph poles or unwanted fences in your picture (!), by going in closer to your subject than you first thought (either physically or by zooming in) and by really thinking about the composition of the finished shot, all before pressing the button.

Here is how pictures can be manipulated to improve the finished photograph:

1. Losing an unwanted item.

Here is a shot of a horse in a field down Cow Lane, Edlesborough. It's not a great shot for all sorts of reasons, but I include it to make a point. The fence doesn't add much to the shot (and is out of focus), so cropping it out seems to make sense. Also, if we lose a bit of sky the proportions are improved as the picture becomes landscape rather than portrait. These two actions automatically magnify the remaining picture. Also, if you look closely at the second picture, there is an invisible curve which goes up the horse's neck, skirts the edge of the golden tree and leads the eye onto the horizon and up to the church on the hill. The old orchard tree then captures our gaze and drops us firmly back in the field...and so back diagonally across to the grazing horse. A good balance if not a great picture - maybe it would be improved by a fence in the bottom right hand corner?!



2. Zooming in for more detail.

These beech leaves in the sun at Whipsnade Park Golf Course are pleasant enough but cropping to zoom-in really shows the detail and you can almost feel that silky texture that doesn't come through in the original photograph.



Here is a second example of zooming in. The wonderful golden gates at Hampton court Palace are almost too fussy. Concentrating on the horned creature in the centre certainly makes for an interesting shot, but maybe the two together make a better visual ‘story’. One way to do this is to copy the original picture, then crop to zoom in and show the detail.



3. Improving composition.

In the picture shown here the succulent to the left of the auricula doesn't really add anything. If you crop the small plant out I hope you will agree that the picture has much better balance and just seems to work as a square format image (see the second picture on right):





So, three reasons to crop – lose what you don't want, zoom in for more detail and lastly improve composition.

Next time: Portraits

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels



Having been on lockdown throughout November and no rehoming taking place we have rather a full house! With gentle giant Achilles, little terrier Yogi and all shapes and sizes in between to care for it's been a challenging time, especially as we have not been able to hold most of our fund-raising events this year. So we need to ask generous dog lovers and supporters to help us get through this difficult time. It's easy to make

a donation of £3 simply by texting APPLE to 70111 or donate via Paypal using the 'DONATE Support a Cause' option and search for Appledown Rescue. Donations by cheque are very welcome too. Thank you from Achilles, Yogi and all our dogs!

If you are interested in offering a dog a loving home all the relevant information and an application form can be found on our website. Viewings are now by appointment only.



Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels Harling Road, Eaton Bray LU6 1QY
01525 220383 (10am-1pm & 2-4 pm) E-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk

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LOCAL HERALDRY

BY JOHN HOCKEY

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

BRITISH HISTORY ONLINE

I first became interested in Heraldry when, many years ago, I went to the library and looked up the volumes called the Victoria County History (VCH). Founded in 1899 as a national project to write the history of every county in England, at its inception the project was dedicated to Queen Victoria, which is how it derived its name.

These tomes were a sort of Domesday Book updated in Victorian times, in that they recorded information about the history, archaeology and landscape of many villages, towns and cities in the UK. In recent times, all this information is to be found on British History Online (<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/>). The heraldic interest came from the village histories, where ownership of manors were recorded, together with accompanying coats of arms of relevant people.

As an example, take Edlesborough. In a section called 'A history of the county of Buckingham, volume 3', there is an interesting piece about a chap called Spigurnel. This is the sort of text you find:

*...In 1199 a certain Richard Spigurnel (Esspigurnell) held a virgate of land in Northall, which was possibly the nucleus of Dagnall Manor, ...Rights in this manor, now called **Edlesborough** Manor, were conveyed about 1440 by Sir John Cheyne...etc. etc.*

The thing is, there was also printed a coat of arms and description or blazon as we say in heraldry, as follows:



*Spigurnel. Gules fretty argent a chief
or with a lion passant gules therein.*

It didn't mean very much to me then but now I know that Gules means the colour red and Argent means silver, always shown white, so we can show the main part of the shield with its fret pattern as it would have been seen in practice. The top third or chief is Or, meaning gold (always shown yellow) and on top of this we have a red lion passing through which gives us the complete, so much more colourful, coat of arms (please excuse hand colouring): There are plenty more coats of arms of those who held land in this area, such as Brownlow (Cust), Zouche etc., so do have a look on the web site, look up your village or parish and even use the blazon to imagine the colours.

Next time: Church Heraldry.

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Which Animals Hibernate in the UK? And How You Can Help Them

by Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust www.wwt.org.uk

Most of us tend to slow down in winter, as the cold weather and icy frost creeps into our bones, but some clever species avoid it all together by spending the darker months in a process known as hibernation. For some, hibernation is the only way to get through until spring.

How do animals hibernate?

Various animals living in or near wetlands hibernate to conserve energy through the winter, when their natural food sources become scarce or impossible to find. To do this, they first need to ensure that they fatten up during summer to provide a source of essential energy.

Once they're ready to hibernate, they instinctively start slowing their metabolism down to use as little energy as possible; their heart rate drops, as does their breathing, and they enter a state of deep hibernation or 'torpor' - where the metabolism slows down to less than 5% of their normal rate. The difference between hibernation and torpor is that hibernation appears to be a voluntary state, whereas torpor is usually for a shorter time period and appears involuntary.



We describe this state as 'hibernation' rather than 'sleep' because the brain cycles that the animal goes through are so drastically different from sleep

patterns - it's more of an extreme slowing down.

What kind of animals hibernate?

Reptiles and amphibians are cold blooded, and so if they remained active would not be able to perform their bodily functions. None of our wetland bird species hibernate, and have instead developed adaptations to deal with the cold – such as migration. Only three British mammal groups truly hibernate. All of our bat species, hedgehogs and the dormouse retreat to their cosy boltholes from around October/November

until March/April the following year.

Do hibernating animals stay 'asleep' all winter?

You may notice from season to season that the animals you see in nature seemingly vanish in winter, but they may not all be hibernating. You might also notice that some animals you thought hibernated are up and about! It's a myth that hibernating animals can't go back to hibernation after waking up - although ideally, they want to stay in hibernation to conserve energy. However, they sometimes get up for a bathroom break, because of a warmer spell of weather or because it's become dangerously cold (below freezing, they may wake up to top ice crystals forming in their blood).

Who hibernates?

Bats

As the only flying mammals, bats need to use a lot of energy, and to cope with this bats have developed several energy saving tactics. They hibernate during winter when food is scarce and have a very low birth rate. Bats will often pick hibernation roosts in old buildings or even the eaves of your house, so watch out for them if you're moving things around or renovating during this period.



All bats hibernate in the UK

Reptiles

Many reptiles can be found in wetland habitat - but they're hidden in winter. This group go into a version



Grass snakes perform a kind of hibernation called brumation

of hibernation called brumation, a specific term that applies to reptiles, but it is similar to hibernation. This is because reptiles rely on the sun to regulate their body temperature,

so hibernation is essential for their survival in colder climates.

Amphibians

You'll probably have noticed a lack of frog, toad and newt activity in autumn and early winter, and they do in fact become dormant



Common toads tend to hibernate in damp leaf litter or anywhere dark and damp

during these months for survival. Frogs and newts will hibernate on the bottom of ponds, but if these ponds are full of leaf matter this can prove deadly to a hibernating amphibian if the pond freezes over.

Underneath that thick layer of ice, the leaf litter and plant matter starts to decompose, and that can release toxic gases that unfortunately can be fatal to the amphibians living below the surface.

Insects

Some wetland insects hibernate in larvae form, stashed safely in reedbeds and tussocks of grass, or crevices in walls or bug hotels. Some insects like honey bees rely on their family to survive, huddling together and using their joint heat to combat the cold.

There's also a process called diapause which can occur at any stage of an insect's development, which could be as an egg, larvae or adult form. Simply put, this is a state of stasis where the insect's appetite and development is slowed right down, until temperatures warm up and they appear again.



Birds use tactics like migration as a survival strategy instead

Who doesn't hibernate? Birds

Although there is at least one bird species in the world that does hibernate, birds in the UK at least do not use hibernation as a survival strategy. The two main threats to birds in

winter are a lack of food and extreme weather conditions. But instead of hibernation, wetland

birds have certain adaptations that allow them to survive the winter. They use their power of flight to migrate to more suitable climes. They also perform social flocking behaviours to keep warm and escape predation. They rely on their hardy physiology to survive extreme cold.

Water voles

You might assume that water voles are hibernators as they seemingly vanish from view, but actually they're active throughout the winter. Like us, they tend to spend a lot more time in their burrows. They store food such as tubers and rhizomes that they forage here as winter snacks.

It's not easy being a water vole, and numbers in the UK have dwindled in recent years, due to predation and loss of habitat. Luckily our reserves are a lifeline for them, and you stand a good chance of seeing one scuttle around the banks if you're patient and look closely.

Otters

Otters are active throughout the year. European otter coats are waterproof and 200 times denser than human hair, so they are well insulated from the cold. This enables



European otter coats are 200 times denser than human hair

them to breed all year round, as is shown with the surprising set of wild otter cubs arriving at Slimbridge in December 2018. Thanks to conservation efforts to reduce the amount of agricultural chemicals polluting the water, otter numbers are now on the rise from near extinction in England.

What does climate change mean for hibernating animals?

Scientific investigations have indicated that rising temperatures in the UK and beyond are proving disruptive for hibernating species, as the warmer temperature spells are causing them to stay for longer periods in their 'active' breaks from hibernating, causing them to use up vital energy. If the cold snap returns and no food is

around, their chances of survival are drastically reduced. This means that our gardens are becoming more and more important as refuges for wildlife.

Things you can do to help wildlife in winter

- Don't set fire to piles of leaves without first checking for small mammals burrowed under.
- In autumn, why not set up a designated haven in your garden to help hibernating animals? This could be a special wildlife pond, bat box or insect hotel that you know to leave there all winter. This helps lessen the risk of animals looking for hibernation spots in awkward or dangerous places for them. Our gardening for wetlands hub is full of things you can do to help.
- Supply a source of un-frozen water for non-

hibernating birds to drink and bathe in.

- Clean out your pond before winter comes to make sure there's no plant matter that will decay and produce noxious gases that can poison amphibians. You could consider floating a ball in the water to create movement and offset freezing in all but the coldest of temperatures.
- Don't smash your pond if it freezes over, as this can shock the fish and amphibians that live there. Instead, make a small hole with the bottom of a hot pan.
- Why not rewild a small section of your garden to provide a shelter for hibernating insects? Logs, stones and old bricks can be piled up to make a makeshift insect hotel. Cover it up with leaves and branches, and you're good to go.

Nigel's Thoughts

Methodist Minister

Dear Friends,

I am sure that we are all in need of a little encouragement and light in the darkness of our present circumstances, as well as during these shortest days of the year.

A national newspaper recently suggested that we should put up our lights and decorations early this year, to cheer us and mark these days out as different.

There is surely, a strand that links Christmas and Easter. Both darkness and light feature in the stories of Jesus' birth and his resurrection. There is another link also – both stories are surrounded by fears. The Christmas story may seem to tell only of 'glad tidings' and 'good cheer' but it begins with those who are afraid, Mary when told that she is to bear God's only Son, Joseph ("do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife") and the shepherds when they encounter the angels whilst watching their sheep (whose message is "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy").

The Easter story also, so often associated with the bright colours of fresh spring flowers and

the promise of new life, took place in a cemetery, when God's angelic messenger reassured the frightened women –

"Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised" (Matt 28 v 5-6). We so often fear circumstances that confront us in our own lives and are conditioned to react anxiously. In the scriptures, God does not speak about removing fears or eliminating frightening situations. What he does promise however is to be with us in those dark and difficult moments. Nothing is more powerful than God's love. There is no situation that God cannot graciously turn around to bring new life. That is worth remembering and holding onto in these disjointed and concerning days.

So put up and turn on those Christmas lights and keep them up, shining for all to see, for a while longer, this year and into 2021.

A Very Happy Christmas to You and Yours,

✍️Nigel





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memorial services have also been restricted, making it especially difficult for many to come to terms with their loss.

Whether the loss is recent or not, if you or someone you know needs help to cope with bereavement, Rennie Grove's team of trained staff and volunteers can help. You can call the Bereavement Support Line on 01727 638008 at any time and a member of the team will call back on the next working day. Trained to listen with empathy but without judgement, our team will work with you to find a way to help, signposting you to other forms of support if needed. Our help and support comes at no cost, however standard local call rates apply.

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Edlesborough W.I.



Dear Members and friends, this is just to let you know that we are still thinking and care about you all. At the time of writing it does look as if this wretched COVID virus is set to continue over the Christmas period. It will certainly put a damper on our usual festivities (some call it mayhem) and our own family gatherings, plus the hall remains closed for the foreseeable future. We will keep you informed if anything changes for the better. If it gets worse, you won't want to know!

In any case friends, we must in true Edlesborough WI tradition keep soldiering on and do the very best we can given the circumstances, which you must agree are very peculiar to say the least. I personally feel that we should continue to send our usual Christmas cards with our good wishes and messages within as they will, this year, especially mean so much more to their recipients and they will definitely brighten up our homes a great deal. Now that the sunshine has gone, everywhere looks so drab and gloomy doesn't it? Let's just

hope that some of the virus restrictions have been lifted by the time Christmas is actually here - fingers crossed.

Anyway dear friends enjoy your Christmas however and wherever it is spent. Do your very best to make it jolly. Remember we are WI and we, in Edlesborough are behoven to do so. When last I wrote I said "We'll meet again" but I now add not until 2021.

Please keep safe, keep well, keep warm and keep in touch with your WI friends (Phone call will do) and especially if they happen to live alone and it's over Christmastime. Eat, drink and be merry (yes I know it will be hard) - a drop of Bailey's or gin will take care of the merry bit.

The committee "girls" send their good wishes to you and your families. Have a good Christmas and a better New Year. If you need help or are plain fed up, we are only a phone call away. Keep smiling and a happy Christmas and good New Year to you. See you all sometime.

✍️ Sue Parker

pp Edlesborough WI Committee 2020

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

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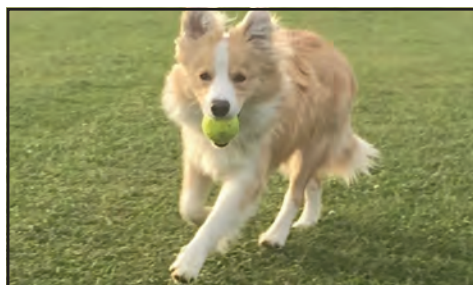
Our first Sunday Zoom service in October was deftly led by Elisabeth Bibbings and drew on the experience of the Apostle Paul, a man who occupied many different roles in his lifetime. These were all eclipsed by the task God gave him and serve as an inspiration for the rest of us; we need to focus on the goal God has allocated to us. On the second Sunday we were delighted to welcome Richard Armiger whose interesting 'Reflection' centred on the parable of the king whose invited guests cannot be bothered to turn up. Our standing with God depends on our acceptance of God's grace – a free gift, our worthiness is accordingly reflected in our response. Shepherd Combo was our leader on the third October Sunday; he shared with us a moving story of an amazing man he had once known, who faced devastating loss with immense courage because the

'still small voice' of God had supported him. In finding our way through the current distress of the pandemic, we

should always remember that God is with us. On our final Sunday, our service was in the capable hands of Roger Owers, who encouraged us to learn a lesson from the Epistle to the Thessalonians; like Paul, who could not be with the Christian communities he had founded, we, in lockdown, must find effective ways of caring and sharing.

A Warm Invitation

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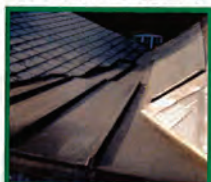
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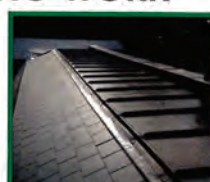
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(except July - 2nd Saturday)**



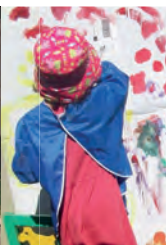
A committee run playgroup set in Dagnall Village Hall for children aged 2 to school age

We operate five mornings a week from **9:15 - 12:15**



Ofsted Comments

- Staff are consistently kind and caring which supports children to develop confidence and resilience
- Teaching is consistently good and children's safety is given the highest priority
- Children learn good manners and know how to treat each other with respect



If you think your child would be happy here please phone our Playgroup Leader, Ann Tobin on 07816 358 342
www.dagnallunderfives.co.uk

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Rennie Grove Hospice Care's Light up a Life goes Virtual

Rennie Grove Hospice Care will be holding a virtual Light up a Life service this December to give local people the opportunity to remember loved ones as Christmas approaches. The introduction of the virtual service has come about because its usual annual Light up a Life services held in local communities in Herts and Bucks are unable to go ahead as a result of the pandemic.



Television presenter Pam Rhodes, famous for hosting Songs of Praise, will present this non-denominational virtual service on 13 December at 5pm.

The video will be hosted on Rennie Grove's website and shared so that people can join together for the service from the comfort of their own home.

"Christmas is a special time of year and we know it can be particularly hard for those who have been bereaved. We also recognise that many people whose loved ones have died this year may not have been able to gather together and celebrate their lives in the way they would have liked," said Rennie Grove Head of Family Support, Lisa Makey. "That's why we wanted to give everyone the opportunity to join us for this service which we hope will be uplifting and bring people together to support each other during these challenging times."



"We're sorry that it won't be possible to hold our popular local in-person services this year, but we hope that this virtual service will offer everyone some comfort as well as supporting Rennie Grove Hospice Care's essential work in the community."

The service will include poems read by children, a moment for reflection, and songs performed by solo singer David Mills.

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Information for Parishioners in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

In the first instance parishioners should refer to www.gov.uk/coronavirus as **this has the most up to date information.**

Bucks CC have an online community support hub

- The support hub service will support those who are clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) with access to food and essential goods. There is a list of key contact details below.
- CEV residents can request priority supermarket delivery slots and request support from the Council via gov.uk
- All residents can find support on our online directory directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk by entering their postcode
- Vulnerable adult social care clients are being contacted regularly throughout the lockdown period.

Customer Service Centre	01296 395000 (Monday – Thursday 9-5.30pm and Friday 9-5pm)
Online contact form to request support directly with the support hub	www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/contact-us/
Bucks Online Directory (enter a postcode to see ALL local community support organisations)	directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/ If a group or organisation is missing from the directory, please email the support hub team
Safeguarding adults team	01296 383204 or 0800 137915 Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677
Safeguarding children team	0845 460 0001 Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677
Local Emergency Support	01296 382414 Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677

Advice for elderly or potentially vulnerable residents and Coronavirus

The link for people to register with the government as vulnerable and needing help is www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable and there is also a helpline on 0800 0288327.

Testing for coronavirus in Buckinghamshire

It's essential that everyone who develops symptoms of coronavirus, no matter how mild, books a coronavirus test. Everyone in the household should self-isolate until the result is received. There are several ways to get tested, including now **two walk-through testing sites** at High Wycombe (Buckinghamshire New University, Queen Alexandra Road) and Aylesbury (the Gateway office car park, Gatehouse Road). There is some misunderstanding around testing at the

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other

Wash hands
keep washing your hands regularly

Cover face
wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

Make space
stay at least 2 metres apart / or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

CORONAVIRUS

In light of the current Coronavirus situation the Pastoral Care Team at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray welcomes your assistance in identifying any of our parishioners who might be sick or otherwise benefit from their support during this challenging time.

Please contact Gaye Soule on 07807924218 (m) or send an email to admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk in this regard.

The Eaton Bray Good Neighbours scheme will continue to operate and the details of what they do can be seen in FOCUS.

Call them on 07930 987064 if you need assistance and they may be able to help. The line is manned from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. At other times you can leave a message.

Please note that Eaton Bray Good Neighbours scheme also covers Edlesborough and Northall residents

[nationaldahelpline.org.uk/](https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/). Further information about November's White Ribbon campaign about domestic abuse can be found at: <https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/>.

Mental health resources in Buckinghamshire

There will be people everywhere who are feeling the strain of the current situation, but no one should suffer in silence. There is an extensive list of websites, apps, and phone lines below which can offer support to anyone – young or old – during this difficult time.

Telephone help lines:

- The local NHS has launched support telephone lines for adults, and children and young people earlier this year. This service is available 24/7, and aims to take the pressure off the 111 service. There are 2 dedicated lines:
 - Adults: 01865 904 997
 - Children and young people: 01865 904 998
- Silver Line is a helpline for older residents: 0800 470 8090
- Samaritans – Freephone 116 123 – open 24 hours
- Saneline – 0300 304 7000 – 4.30 pm to 10.30 pm daily
- Rethink – 0845 456 0455 – 10 am to 2 pm Monday to Friday
- FRANK – 0800 77 6600 – open 24 hours
- No Panic – 0844 967 4848 – 10 am to 10 pm
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Buckinghamshire **01865 901 951**

Apps, web, or text services

- Healthy Minds (<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/healthyminds/>) is the self-referral site for

moment, but the most up-to-date information about testing is as follows:

- Everyone is eligible to get a test if they have symptoms however mild
- Children can, and should, get tested
- There is capacity for testing, with up to half a million tests being done every day
- Test sites are open 7 days a week
- You can (and should) leave home to get a test **even during lockdown**

Support continues for domestic abuse under COVID restrictions

Someone living with an abusive person during the new national restrictions, may find it more difficult to protect themselves. If you've seen or heard something relating to a neighbour, family member or friend, please report your concerns – someone's life may depend on it. It's really important to let people know that advice and support continues to be available despite the challenging times. If you, or someone you know, are suffering from domestic abuse please get help by reporting to Thames Valley Police or call the 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247 or visit <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/healthyminds/>.

NHS mental health support in Buckinghamshire

- Young Minds (<https://youngminds.org.uk/>) – a service for young people, with dedicated coronavirus pages
- Stay Alive is a suicide Prevention mobile phone app, search ‘stay alive’ on your app store
- Mind UK (<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/>), a national mental health charity, has resources online
- Elefriends (<https://sidebyside.mind.org.uk/>) safe online space to listen, share and be heard
- The Mental Health Foundation (<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/how-to-mental-health/>) offers some useful tips on how to look after your mental health
- Shout is a 24/7 crisis text line. Text SHOUT to 85258
- Prevention Matters (<https://www.connectionsupport.org.uk/buckinghamshire/projects/prevention-matters/>) can support people to stay independent and help to support residents with telephone contact; they will also know where to refer to if more intense support is needed.

Doorstep Scamming

Please find below information and advice issued by Buckinghamshire Council regarding doorstep scamming of the elderly and vulnerable during the corona virus isolation of such groups. To report scams in the Buckinghamshire area please use the following link:

trading_standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk or call on 01296 388788.

Doorstep scammers are taking advantage of the coronavirus emergency to con elderly and vulnerable people.

There has been a rise in the number of scam complaints related to the coronavirus outbreak, according to Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards team, who are urging members of the public to be aware. Since the beginning of the month the total number of scam complaints has increased by 40%.

Residents are also being urged to be especially wary of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits – these are only offered by the NHS.
- Vaccines or miracle cures – there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Shopping or medication collection services that require payment upfront.
- Home cleaning services.
- Overpriced or counterfeit products.

Residents must also be wary of emails, texts, telephone calls and messages via social media from scammers offering refunds on taxes or bills, as these are highly prevalent.

Trading Standards have provided some helpful tips to help prevent people from becoming victims of scams:

- Don't be pressurised into making a decision. If someone is trying to rush you or panic you, they are probably trying to scam you.
- Only purchase goods from trusted retailers.
- Be suspicious of requests for money upfront.
- Do not give your bank card or bank details to a stranger. Never write your PIN number down.
- Know who you're dealing with – if you don't know the person who's offering you help then ask to be introduced by someone that you know and trust.

If you have information or are worried about coronavirus related scams please contact Trading Standards. You can email trading_standards@bucksandsurreytradingstandards.gov.uk or call on 01296 388788.



Northall Baptist Church

A little Church with strong local links

Endings and Beginnings

What a year this has been. As we move towards the end of the year and look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus – a momentous happening that changed the whole world. It was an ending of one era and the beginning of 2,000+ years of Christianity.

We celebrate a small baby being born, into a small village, to what seemed to be insignificant people. However, there were some who realised that this event was significant. Mary, a young girl was visited by an Angel to tell her she was to have a baby, although not married. This would have been scary but develops into a song of praise. Joseph also needed a visit from an Angel in a dream to explain the importance so that he realised that this was something very special. It heralded a very important beginning that is the focus of our Christmas – or should be – all these years later!

Why were people then and people now so unbelieving as it was all foretold by the prophets many, many years before? Isaiah 7 v 14 reads ‘The Lord himself will give you a sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means God with us)’. The place was foretold in Micah 5 v 2 says ‘But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.’ The distant past quoted was from the line of King David, King Solomon and onwards.

When Jesus was born, the shepherds were visited by one angel, then suddenly joined by a host of angels. They found the baby and then went to tell everyone. The ‘wise men’ from Eastern lands were also in on this, followed a star and brought gifts to him. What would a small baby do with Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh? But these were symbolic of Jesus’ Kingship, his Deity and his Suffering and Death.

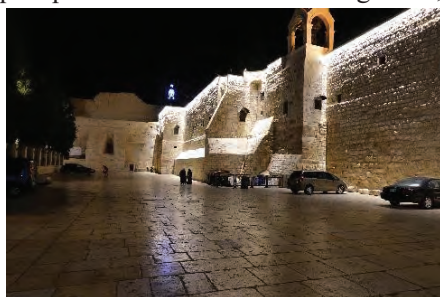
So much from then on changed the world. It was a tumultuous time then, under a despotic leader, Herod, at the time of Roman occupation. The Jewish religious leaders held sway challenging his authority though others accepted the loving and healing they witnessed.

It is lovely to get presents at Christmas and enjoy fun and festivities, but it is Jesus birth, life and leading to his death and resurrection, all foretold, that is what we should be focussing on. Maybe at this year end we’ll have more time to consider what really matters and make a new beginning for a new year.

As I write we are continuing our Sunday services on Zoom for the moment at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you’ll get a very warm welcome. Please ring the number below or contact us via our website.

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, 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



The Church of the Nativity stands on the traditional site - Manger Square Bethlehem today

CHRISTMAS MOVIE PICTURE ANSWERS

Answers to Christmas movie quiz on page 65
Courtesy of www.magicfreebiesuk.co.uk



CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

Answers to quiz on page 65

1. Do They Know It's Christmas?
2. Beatles
3. Christmas Alphabet
4. Harry Belafonte
5. Renee and Renato
6. Mistletoe and Wine
7. Bono and Paul McCartney
8. I will always love you
9. Mud
10. The Flying Pickets
11. Michael Barratt
12. Mad World

Edlesborough Baptist Church

Pastor: Alister King
gbcepastor@gmail.com

All are welcome to our 11am
service every Sunday

Keep up to date by visiting:
www.edlesboroughbaptist.wix.com/home

Find us on Facebook @gbce2014

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for October 2020

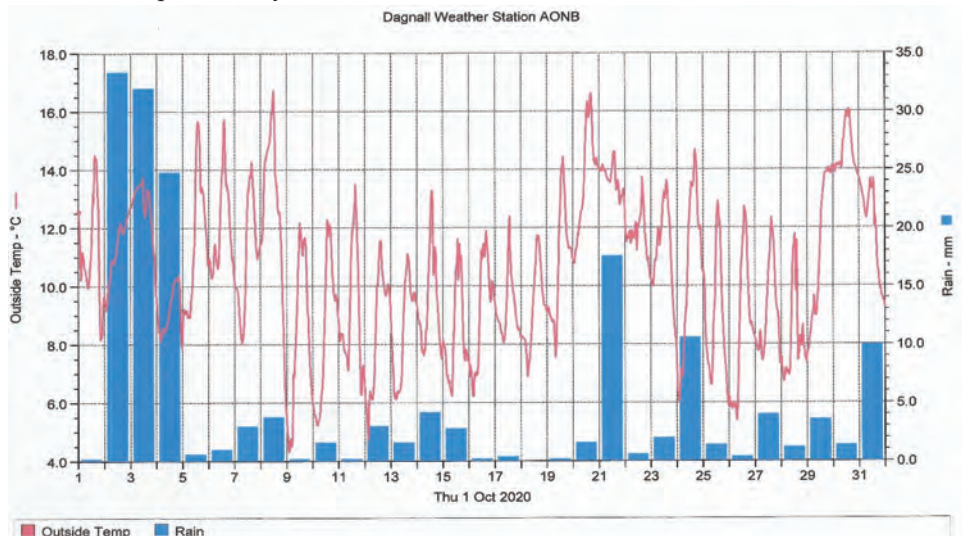
Elevation: 450 ft - Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West



October was a dull and wet month. The deluge started on the 2nd and it didn't stop raining for three days, in which we recorded 90.2mm (3.55ins) – I don't think I have ever measured so much rain in such a short time. In total, it rained 30 days out of 31, which has got to be a record. The total for the month was 167.6mm (6.6ins), which is 263% of the 12 year average. It was also windy with gusts reaching 37mph on the 31st. The temperatures were slightly down during the days but were warmer than normal at night with no frost. This meant I was still picking runner beans on the 31st, and I hope to pick more in November – I have never done that before!

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	16.9°C	8 15.30	4.2 °C	9 02.00
Mean Temperature	10.5°C			
Dewpoint:	15.1°C	8 12.00	3.5 °C	9 01.30
Humidity:	98%	19 09.30	60%	1 16.30
Barometer:	1026.3 mb	11 21.30	978mb	4 06.00
Wind Speed	37mph S	31 09.30	Months avg.	6.1 mph
Wind Chill:	16.6c	20 17.00	2.4°C	10 03.30
Dominant Wind:	W			
*Rain Days: 9(T), 9(R)		Wettest Day 2	33.4mm	1.315 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total		167.6mm	6.598 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	10 Month	856.9 mm	33.736 ins

For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk. 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.



Salvation Sound



SAVING CHRISTMAS!!!!

Recently, I read this article by the Rev Wynne Roberts and thought that I would like to share it with you all. We are now in another 'lockdown' and people are already wondering and panicking that 'Christmas needs to be saved!!' Politicians are currently discussing the measures they should take to 'save' Christmas. This is somewhat bizarre as Christmas does not need to be saved. Here are some examples why the true meaning of Christmas does not need 'saving'. So, let us go back to that first Christmas 2,000 years ago.

1. Judea was not in 'lockdown' and therefore there were no travel restrictions so that Joseph and Mary were able to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
2. There were no restrictions on inns or hospitality venues. People were able to move freely with people from other households from different areas so much that the inn was full, and Joseph and Mary had to be put up in a stable.
3. The innkeeper was able to do this as he had enough staff on the premises to check they were ok- he did not have to furlough them.
4. Joseph was able to be present at the birth of Jesus. He was not kept waiting outside.
5. There were no restrictions on carol singing and therefore the angels were able to sing God's praises and inform the shepherds of the good news of the birth of the King of Kings.
6. There were no rules stating that masks had to be worn indoors or in public places. There was also 'no rule of six' therefore the shepherds could together visit the Holy Family in the stable.
7. There were no international restrictions quarantine regulations for international travellers therefore the three wise men were able to visit and bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jesus.

It is not Christmas which needs to be 'saved' but ourselves. The good news of Jesus' birth was the dawn of a new beginning- and God's love is the same- yesterday, today and forever- especially at this difficult time. (Rev Wynne Roberts BEM)

This Christmas it is going to be hard, as we can't celebrate in the way we normally do, but please do not talk about Christmas being cancelled. The heart of Christmas is very much alive and is in our faith.

May God bless you.

✍ Major Allison Gaudion (The Salvation Army)



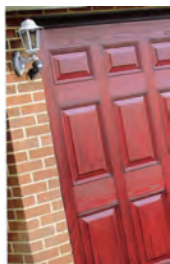


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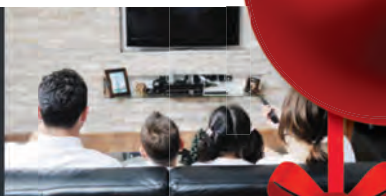
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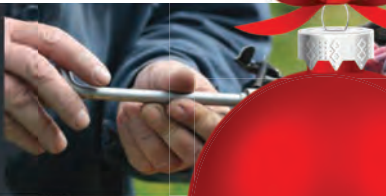
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