

# Focus

July 2021

CARNIVAL  
POSTPONED  
SEE PAGE 9

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

Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45 - 10.45am  
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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**

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(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on  
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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.

**The Focus Magazine  
Committee**

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Copy for publication to the Editor by the  
**10th of the month**

*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*

**Focus is online at [www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk](http://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 Primary Academy, 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org
- 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 ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFPA' for info
- Mondays Cubs (8-10½ 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 Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly 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 andrea@naturalpilates.co.uk or 07855 138005
- 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 Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Thursdays KFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
- 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](http://www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk) info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
- 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, (10½ to 14 years old), 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk, 07899 892344
- 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 KFFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+)  
Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFFPA' for info
- Saturdays Bootcamp Fitness, 9-10am, Dagnall Recreation Ground, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtpinfo@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 Villaage 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

## One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 25th Jly Open Gardens, 11am - 5pm, St Mary's Eaton Bray Programmes £7.50
- 25th Jly Eaton Bray Cricket Club Expectacular, 1pm, The Rye, Eaton Bray
- 26th-30th Jly Eaton Bray Tennis Club Summer Camps, Book [www.ebltc.org.uk](http://www.ebltc.org.uk)

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

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## Northall Village Hall AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is being held on Friday 16th July 2021 at 8pm in the Hall, South End Lane. Everyone is welcome – only Northall residents can vote.

- Come and see the improvements we've made to the toilets, the car park and the new environmentally friendly air sourced heat pump system.
- Come and hear about our plans for installing Wi-Fi, and a PA system.
- Come and tell us about further improvements you would like to see us make to the Hall and Playground.
- **Pimm's and Tea & Coffee will be available.**



Thinking of hiring the Hall?

This is a perfect opportunity to inspect our wonderful Village Hall.

For information about hiring the Hall, contact the Booking Secretary – 07857 318696

# 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](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh)

Email: [northallvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:northallvhbookings@gmail.com)

**Eaton Bray:** Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

Email: [bookings@ebvh.co.uk](mailto:bookings@ebvh.co.uk) Website [www.ebvh.co.uk](http://www.ebvh.co.uk)

**Dagnall:** Bev Way 07875 462128 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email [DVH\\_Bookings@outlook.com](mailto:DVH_Bookings@outlook.com)

**Edlesborough Memorial Hall:** Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: [manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

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

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: [greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@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 Cousans

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](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk) Facebook: St Mary's Eaton Bray

I am writing this article for *Focus* enjoying the sun that has been beating down on us for the last couple of weeks. It has seemed like a long time coming, but now it is here I have been trying to make the most of it: doing all those jobs that have needed doing in the garden, enjoying some walks in the local countryside, as well as just sitting and enjoying simply being able to relax in the garden without the fear of a sudden cold, wet wind.

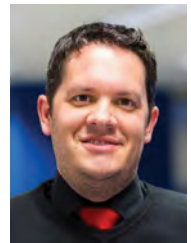
The recent sun reminded me of an animated version of one of *Aesop's Fables* that I was shown when I was young. In the *Fable of the Wind and the Sun*, the wind and the sun decide to have a competition to see who is the strongest. To prove this feat they agreed that the winner will be whoever can get a man walking in the countryside to take off his coat. The wind goes first and blows and blows and blows, but to no avail - however hard the wind blows, the tighter the man holds on to his coat. The sun then has his go, and the sun makes the weather warmer and warmer, until the man eventually takes off his coat. The moral of the fable is that *persuasion* is better than *force*.

In the Bible the sun is sometimes used as an image of God. In the *Book of Psalms* it says 'For the LORD God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.' (Ps 84:11) And in the less well-known prophecy of Habakkuk, the prophet describes the glory of God by saying: 'The brightness was like the sun; rays came forth from his hand, where his power lay hidden.' (Hab 3:4). Before the electric lightbulb, the sun provided light for people to see and to work; the dark of the night was, in contrast, something to be feared. The sun also provides warmth – something that is particularly important in the Near East, where the contrast in temperature between night and day can be incredibly large. The feeling of warmth is one that is also associated with comfort and security, which is what I think the prophet Habakkuk is also alluding to, God's power is not simply forceful like the wind, but it also provides us with comfort and security. Indeed, God, like the sun, lights the path for us showing where we should go; God, like the sun, provides us with the light of hope that dispels fear and worry; God provides us with the light of the spirit that brings us comfort and security.

There is also a question and a challenge for us too. Are we like suns to those around us? Do we provide others with warmth, direction, and security? Or are we like the wind in Aesop's fable? Do we try and get our own way, at whatever the cost? In one of his parables Jesus calls us to be like a bright city on a hill, and like candles, providing people with hope, with guidance and with love. Then, and only then, can we 'shine like the sun in the kingdom of our Father' (Matt 13:43). I hope that over the summer, as we all enjoy some nice sunny weather, we can all take some time to think about how 'sunny' we are to others, and about those things that we can do to provide warmth, security and confidence to all those around us.

God Bless

✍️ Rev'd Stephen Burge





## St Mary's Village Carnival - POSTPONED

Following the government announcement the carnival now can't take place on the 3rd July. Any large gatherings that are allowed have to be ticketed and have full entrance control to the event....which we can't. We are now planning for our reserve date of 28th August when hopefully we can see you all on the green.

### 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 WEAR A FACE COVERING**

**DETAILS: [www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk)**

## Dagnall Church Services



The All Saint's Dagnall Sunday service is at 10.30am on the 3rd Sunday of each month only.

All welcome. **Please wear a face covering.**

Any queries please contact Phillip Lee on 07977234453.

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4 1RL

## St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

**May 2021**

**1st prize – Robert Dickson**

**2nd prize – Angela Dunford**

**3rd prize – Geoffrey Wheeler**

**June 2021**

**1st prize – Marion Higley**

**2nd prize – Patricia Costin**

**3rd prize – Yvonne Ranson**

## Edlesborough Baptist Church

**Pastor: Alister King**

**[gbcepastor@gmail.com](mailto:gbcepastor@gmail.com)**

**All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday**

**Keep up to date by visiting:**

**[www.edlesboroughbaptist.wix.com/home](http://www.edlesboroughbaptist.wix.com/home)**

**Find us on Facebook @gbce2014**



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Are you looking for activities for your family over the next few weeks? Members of St Mary's church have put together three scavenger hunts, one each for Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall. We hope you will enjoy seeing all the villages by foot or bike and seeing each village with a different focus. We would ask you for a donation towards St Mary's funds at this difficult time. We would suggest a donation of £5 per quiz, or all three for £10. Why not organise family teams?

For your copies of the scavenger hunts and answers, or for more information, please email: [barbara.morton1@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.morton1@gmail.com)



You can make your donation online. Thank you very much for your continuing support!



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GDC number : 111350

Hygienist:  
Mrs Jane Shrowder  
GDC number : 2344



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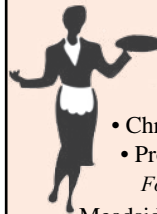
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## **Have an Issue, Complaint or Feedback? Here's how to **REPORT IT** Effectively**

The villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall are covered by Thames Valley Police. Should you need to contact the police please ensure you ask for Thames Valley Police.

Thames Valley Police are responsible for:

- Crime
- Vandalism
- Dangerous and obstructive parking
- Road safety issues, including speeding
- Missing persons



Thames Valley Police can be contacted on 101 or via email at [greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

In an emergency please call 999 and ask for Thames Valley Police.

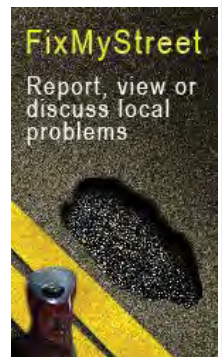
### **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL**

The quickest way to report an issue to Buckinghamshire Council is to visit [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/) and then click on the correct link.



Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for:

- Highways – including vision splays & lights outside the 30 & 40mph limit, potholes, road markings, signs, pavement issues
- Fly-tipping
- Recycling & Waste – including household collections and details about household recycling centres
- Planning – including advice, applications and enforcement
- Environment Issues – including noise, public rights of way, trees, etc.
- Care for Children & Families
- Community Safety



#### **Emergency contacts**

If there is an emergency and it's not a matter for the emergency services (999), then you can call out of hours.

#### **Roads and Pavements**

Call us to report flooding or a problem on roads and pavements that could lead to a fatal accident:

- In office hours: [01296 382416](tel:01296382416)
- Out of hours: [01296 486630](tel:01296486630)

#### **Social Care Emergencies**

- To report abuse: [01296 387021](tel:01296387021)
- Out of hours emergency contact call: [0800 999 7677](tel:08009997677)

#### **Housing Emergencies**

If you have a housing related emergency, please contact us.

- For the Aylesbury and Wycombe areas please call [0800 999 7677](tel:08009997677) - follow the prompts to speak to one of our officers for advice and assistance.

***If you see an issue and you really want to see it addressed swiftly please report it to the correct authority.***

## Summer 2021 Tennis Camps

**Week 1 – 9-11am Mini Tennis (10 and under)**

**Week 2 - 9-11am Junior Yellow Ball (11-18yrs)**

**Week 3 – 9-11am Mini Tennis (10 and under)**



Our Camps combine fun and games with Tennis Coaching. Youngsters aged 10 years and under learn the basics while having lots of fun doing games and activities specifically designed to build co-ordination, balance and movement. The older age groups work on drills to embed good movement and build fitness, which lead onto appropriate technical aspects of Tennis being covered. They finish up with valuable Tournament and match play tuition and practice, and even rain doesn't always stop play. You don't have to be member of the Club to attend the Camps and all abilities are catered for.

	Mini Tennis Camp =	Ages 4-10 years old	Red/Orange/Green Balls		
<b>Week1:</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> July
	<b>Junior Tennis Camp =</b>	<b>Ages 11-18 years old</b>			
<b>Week2:</b>	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> August
	<b>Mini Tennis Camp =</b>	<b>Ages 4-10 years old</b>	<b>Red/Orange/Green Balls</b>		
<b>Week3:</b>	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> August

Courses are run by Head Coach Sara Bamford (PTR Pro and LTA Level 4) with an LTA license, DBS and Emergency First Aid. All equipment is supplied but please wear sports clothing and suitable trainers. Ages 4-18 catered for. Please note all camp sessions will run inline with the LTA COVID Guidelines more information can be found at [www.lta.org.uk](http://www.lta.org.uk)

	Cost
<b>Week (5 days)</b>	£60
<b>1 Day</b>	£13



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If you have any questions or need any more information, please call Sara Bamford on 07561-571578.

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# Great British Spring Clean in Edlesborough and Northall

This year our Litter Picking Team registered to take part in the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign known as “The Great British Spring Clean. On registering I had to pledge a couple of hours per volunteer and was somewhat perplexed when I had a message back to say we had pledged 54 MILES of litter picking!! I didn’t share this with the Team at the time in case I frightened them..... However, we had three good sessions. Four intrepid ladies spent Tuesday morning clearing the main road and side roads in Northall, on Saturday seven of us tackled Edlesborough around the High Street, the Green, and Cock’s Close, and on Sunday and Monday some of us finished the parts we hadn’t reached on the Green and at the Traveller’s Rest. Our haul consisted of fourteen bags of assorted litter, a hub cap, and a TV monitor (and a very fetching pair of tartan boxer shorts – you do wonder!!) A huge thank you to everyone who took part and gave up their time to make the villages tidy. The sad thing about litter picking is that it is like housework – it keeps needing doing!! Almost as soon as we had finished the main road in Northall, a pile of fly tipping arrived. Hopefully the amazing “Men in Orange” from Streetscene will be out tomorrow to deal with it and our bags.

Our Team are trying to reach the more remote parts of the villages where there are verges or footpaths but no houses. We hope that everyone resident in the villages takes responsibility for their own patch and pops out to clear any litter from the area around their property. Every little helps!

I need to apologise for upsetting local cyclists in my last article when I suggested that they might be responsible for the half empty bottles of energy drinks we kept finding in the ditches and hedges locally. I am assured that cyclists carry their bottles of drinks attached to their bikes and don’t discard them. So, the mystery remains. Who drinks half a bottle of energy drink and then discards the rest? Dare I upset the local joggers (I must point out here that I am married to one of those!) or maybe walkers?? I have no idea but if anyone can solve the mystery, I would be interested to know. Funnily enough there don’t seem to have been so many of these bottles recently so maybe someone has seen Focus and got the message! I hope so!!

Finally, I thought that you would like to know that the younger generation have been involved as well. The young son of one of our Team has been out with his dad fishing cans, bottles, and general debris from the stream at the rear of Summerlys. This is a great idea but any young person wanting to join in this worthwhile occupation must never do it on their own, but under adult supervision and should be suitably attired in wellies and rubber gloves.

✍️ Lorna Cubbage

[lornamcubbage@gmail.com](mailto:lornamcubbage@gmail.com)





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HARKLIGHTS is aimed at 9-12 year olds and is Tim Tilly's first book. Themes of nature, conservation and family are weaved into the book. Wick, the story's hero, is a resident in an Orphanage and when an unexpected arrival appears it changes his life. An exciting novel which will encourage young readers to consider how they can preserve and conserve the natural world around them.

Harklights is the winner of the Joan Aiken Future Classics Prize and is available from Our Bookshop Tring, £7.99.

*I think that Harklights is an amazing book, full of magic, fun and adventure. I have not finished it yet but I have almost finished it. So far it is amazing and full of exciting twists and turns. Thank you so much for recommending it to my Mum for me.*

Charlotte age 10



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## Race for Life at Dagnall C of E



As a small school, we are fortunate to be able to do some fantastic events and this year we took part in the Race for Life at the Recreation ground. All pupils as well as staff took part and together we have raised an amazing **£1,640!** The children all received a medal - here are two of our superstar pupils.



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[office@dagnall.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@dagnall.bucks.sch.uk)

### Annual Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council

On the 20th May Edlesborough Parish Council held its Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in Edlesborough Memorial Hall. This was the first time Councillors had physically attended a meeting in over a year. Thanks to modern technology Councillors who were unable to attend in person and parishioners were able to join the meeting via the social media platform Zoom.

At this meeting Councillors unanimously voted for Mr Alan Williams to continue as Chair and Mr Kevin Cabbage to continue as Vice Chair to the Council.

In order to minimise the time spent together in an enclosed space, Council worked their way through a short agenda addressing Councillor responsibility, finance and planning matters. A copy of the minutes can be viewed on the Council website.

### Parking Issues

During the past month the Parish Council has been contacted several times about inconsiderate and dangerous parking in the Parish, in particular in the village of Edlesborough.

*Council reminds all parishioners to consider how their parking affects others.*

*When leaving your vehicle:*

- *Does it restrict access on the pavement so as to force a pedestrian, pushchair or wheelchair user on to the road?*
- *Does it restrict the view of other drivers exiting a junction or their driveway?*

Council reminds all drivers that they should avoid parking on the white lines near the shops and school.

Edlesborough Parish Council does not have any enforcement powers over parking in the Parish. Only the police (Thames Valley Police for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) have powers (outside of London and Wales) to enforce against pavement parking. They can do this where there is an obstruction (including to a buggy/wheelchair user) or a safety issue, such as parking within 10m of a junction.

The recent issues at the top of the High Street in Edlesborough have been drawn to the attention of both Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police.

Thames Valley Police have advised the Council that if a vehicle is parked with 10m of the junction of the High Street and the B440, regardless of who it is, visitor, workman, or resident then Thames Valley Police will start issuing tickets.

**We have been asked by Buckinghamshire Council Highways Department to encourage Parishioners wishing to report dangerous or obstructive parking, to do so to Thames Valley Police.**

Edlesborough Parish Council is open to proposals on possible solutions on a range of issues regarding traffic of any kind. If you are interested in helping to develop initiatives on traffic subjects such as road parking, pavement parking, reducing speed, HGVs, road safety etc. please contact Cllr Alan Williams via email at [alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) or on 07828 398371





## Ivinghoe Freight Strategy

During May and June EPC delivered two flyers to all homes in the Parish informing them about Buckinghamshire Council's Ivinghoe Freight Zone Strategy Consultation.

EPC strongly believes that Buckinghamshire Council should reconsider their position not to include the B440 (Leighton Road) in the Freight Strategy. If the B440 is not included in the strategy EPC believes there will be a 50-70% increase in HGV vehicles using the B440.

EPC thanks all the Parishioners who took time to respond to Buckinghamshire Council's Consultation. The image to the right shows HGV vehicles trying to pass each other on the B440 on the hill at the junction with the High Street in Edlesborough. (Image courtesy of Georgie Lowde).



## Grass & Hedge Cutting in the Villages

### Grass Verges

Now that the growing season is in full swing my Council requests that drivers do not park cars on the grass verges in the villages. Parking on the verges causes damage to them and makes it difficult for the Council's contractor to cut the verge.

### Hedge Cutting

The Council contractor is scheduled to cut the Pastures hedge in the **last week of June/first week of July**.

The hedge will be cut to the recommended height of 8ft.

The Council is aware of concerns about nesting birds and endeavours to do all it can to protect them. However the Council is also duty bound to ensure that the hedge does not overhang the footpath so as to:

1. Endanger or obstruct the passage of pedestrians
2. Potentially causes danger to the surface of the footpath.

EPC asks all parishioners whose hedges border the pavements to ensure that their hedges are kept well-trimmed ensuring that the maximum pavement width is available for pedestrians, pushchair and wheelchair users.

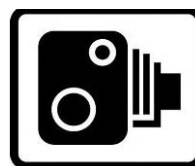
## Edlesborough Pavilion

At the time of writing this report EPC is expecting Edlesborough Pavilion to begin opening sometime in July, hopefully.

## Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

Thames Valley Police have relaunched and restarted their Community Speedwatch – more information can be found at [Restart and relaunch for Community Speedwatch in 2021 · Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner \(thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk\)](#) Any

parishioner interested in becoming involved with the EDaN Community Speedwatch for Edlesborough Parish should contact Cllr Alan Williams via email at [alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) or on 07828 398371



## Dagnall Forest School

Following the hard work of Cllr Trish Owen and her small team of volunteers the wooded/copse area in Dagnall allotments is now ready for Dagnall School to use as their Forest School. This will provide the pupils with many opportunities to learn about wildlife, survival skills and conservation. This new use of the area will be a great asset to the allotments and the Council hopes that it will in turn help reduce the amount of rubbish being dumped in the area.

Below are images of some of the rubbish cleared from the area.



## Allotments

All Allotments in the Parish are let and the Council now holds a waiting list for anyone wanting an allotment plot.

## Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 15th July 2021.
- Thursday 16th September 2021.

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

In line with current Government legislation all council meetings must again be held face to face, with the facility for public attendance where possible, meetings can no longer be held purely remotely as allowed for the past year. Any parishioner wishing to attend the Ordinary Council meetings should visit EPC's website for the latest information.

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. Council requests that where possible questions, issues and suggestions are submitted in writing to the Clerk by the Tuesday preceding 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](mailto:clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) 01525 229358 Website: [www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk)

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### Wednesday Club Age Concern Northall

We require additional volunteer drivers to pick up our members from home and return them later in our minibus. It involves two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon, once a month on a Wednesday. If you are interested please contact Peter Barrow on 01442 842364 or Peter Williams on 01442 842506 for further information.

Thank you

## The Mountain

*lessonslearnedinlife.com*

If the mountain seems too big today  
then climb a hill instead.

If the morning brings you sadness  
it's ok to stay in bed.

If the day ahead weighs heavy  
and your plans feel like a curse,  
there's no shame in rearranging,  
don't make yourself feel worse.



If a shower stings like needles  
and a bath feels like you'll drown,  
if you haven't washed your hair for days,  
don't throw away your crown.

A day is not a lifetime

a rest is not defeat,  
don't think of it as failure,  
just a quiet, kind retreat.

It's ok to take a moment  
from an anxious, fractured mind,  
the world will not stop turning  
while you get realigned.

The mountain will still be there  
when you want to try again,  
you can climb it in your own time,  
just love yourself til then.

Laura Ding-Edwards

# EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

## **EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL FOCUS REPORT: MAY/JUNE 2021**

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

A hard copy of the minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council's notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

### **FixMyStreet**

CBC have a new reporting system to make reporting road/street issues easier, quicker and more accurate. You can now report and track highways and environment problems online, via the FixMyStreet app:

<https://fixmystreet.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/>

### **EATON BRAY YOUTH COUNCIL**

**Representing the younger community members.**

Eaton Bray Parish Council would like young people to come forward to set up a Youth Council. The aim of a Youth Council is for you to have your say. We want to provide equipment and activities, and to encourage a youth friendly environment – so we need your ideas. Interested? For more details, please go to the Parish Council website: <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/an-eaton-bray-youth-council/>

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### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & ANNUAL MEETING OF EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON MONDAY 10 MAY 2021, from 7:00pm via REMOTE/ZOOM**

*(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 07/06/2021)*

### **ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING, 31 March 2021**

The final accounts were signed off by the Internal Auditor on the 5 May 2021. The accounts will be available for public inspection for a period of 30 working days from 11 May 2021 to 22 June 2021, and forwarded to the external auditors for 30 June 2021. Inspection notices are displayed on the Parish Council website and the Parish Council noticeboard at The Coffee Tavern.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT**

A copy of the Chairperson's annual report can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

---

### **CBC CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (CBC)**

Cllr Philip Spicer - email: [Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

CBC Website: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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### **SEWAGE PUMP STATION – THE RYE**

Cllr Spicer and the Parish Council are still waiting to hear back from CBC/Anglian Water regarding sewage overflowing from the pump station. Cllr Spicer is chasing up the water company for a response.

### **GREENWAYS**

The Parish Council raised with CBC the parking problems being experienced by residents in Greenways. Cllr Spicer is trying to arrange a meeting with CBC Highways and Housing. CBC are in favour of a park scheme but have concerns regarding planning and use of amenity land.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – MARCH/APRIL 2021**

A copy of the Parish Council's response to planning applications can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

### **YEAR END ACCOUNTS, 31 MARCH 2021 & MONTHLY PAYMENTS, MAY 2021**

The clerk distributed the accounts for the Annual Return to all Parish Councillors. The Council approved Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020-2021 and Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020-2021.

- The Parish Council gives Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of public rights, for accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021. Any person interested has the right to inspect the accounts by contacting the Parish Clerk. The inspection period is 30 working days, commencing 11 May 2021 and ending 22 June 2021.
- A copy of the Parish Council monthly accounts can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

# EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

## RECREATION GROUNDS

- The Rye – Fitness Rig: The Parish Council were informed of a slight delay from the supplier for the delivery/installation date from the supplier. Awaiting confirmation of new proposed delivery date.
  - UPDATE 07/06/2021: The amended delivery/installation of the Fitness Rig is planned w/c 14 June 2021.
- School Lane – play equipment: The Parish Council looked at designs/quotations for their two preferred designs. They are now meeting with the final two suppliers on site to look at the proposals before a final decision is made.
  - UPDATE 07/06/2021: The Parish Council looked at both designs and put to the vote the preferred design. Parish Councillors to meet up with the chosen supplier to go through the final design.
- School Lane – installation of new benches.
  - UPDATE 07/06/21: Due to a delay in the delivery of the benches, the possible planned delivery/installation for all benches is w/c 5 July 2021.
- School Lane – Basketball pitch: The Parish Council are looking into the possibility of improving the basketball pitch, making it a multi-play area (basketball, football, cricket) and are looking into costings and designs.
- Holmans Field: The Parish Council renewed the EB Lions Agreement for the 2021-2022 season.

## WATERCOURSE/MILL END CLOSE

- Emergency repair works to the island to mend the breach have been carried out.
  - UPDATE 07/06/2021: Since the original repair was carried out, the Parish Council are aware of the water flow in the stream still flowing strongly, investigations seem to show another location with there is a potential breach. The Parish Council approved works to clear an additional section of the bank/island to enable a full assessment of this area.
- Temporary safety fencing has been erected along the bank, with the permanent fencing along the bank planned to be erected w/c 21 June 2021.

## VILLAGE CALENDAR 2022

The Parish Council are narrowing down the final twelve photographs which will be used in the calendar.

## PARISH ALLOTMENTS

All plots are now currently let. The Parish Council does hold a waiting list. Should you wish to be added to the list, please contact the Parish Clerk to register your interest.

- UPDATE 07/06/2021: Two plots have become available at The Meads, Plot 16a and 16b, and are to be offered out to the next person on the waiting list.

## VILLAGE GATEWAYS

The Parish Council obtained quotes for work to the Village Gateways, from general sand/repair to complete overhaul. It was suggested that another option was to remove the gates completely, Parish Councillors were unable to agree whether to do this or not, so it was proposed that the Parish Council put out a village poll to give residents the opportunity to have their say.

## SPEEDWATCH

If you would like to get involved in trying to slow down traffic in the village or are concerned about road safety, please contact the Parish Clerk.

## NEXT MEETING

Due to social distancing measures (unless guidelines change) members of the press and public are invited to join the meeting remotely through the ZOOM link provided on the EBPC website, [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 7 June 2021, from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 5 July 2021, from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6 September 2021, from 7:30pm

## PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

To keep up to date with what is happening in your parish, you can get all Parish Council news and updates from the Parish Council website. The website has all Parish Council meeting agendas, minutes, financial documents and contact information as well as official sponsored events/initiatives and is the official council communications website. Visit it here: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)



**Heidi Head, Parish Clerk**

Email: [clerk@ebpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ebpc.co.uk) – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

Parish Office: 17 Hammond Street, Aston Clinton, HP22 0AJ

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs

Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter

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



# News from the Church on the Hill



Whilst we were all safely tucked up in our beds, in the six weeks to the end of May, 47 people had “Champed” in our Church. You may remember that there were some cold nights, so hot water bottles were available. Currently, up to the end of August, there are bookings for a further 37 people. Champing is a Church’s Conservation Trust initiative, and we are the most popular venue on the list of appropriate Churches. This has attracted some media attention, so much so that recently a French film crew recorded the arrival of a returning group.

Our Churchyard is now on the official list of Butterfly Conservation, and volunteer observers will be recording sightings, on a regular basis. They were particularly impressed with our wildflower banks which will remain unmown until the end of the season. We have also been creating habitat as we carry out grounds maintenance.

A recent recruit to our team is a professional archeologist who will be able to broaden our horizons.

We are on the touring circuit of “This is my Theatre”, see website. They staged two performances of “The Tempest” on May 20th, and the weather lived up to the title! “Treasure Island” was set for June 23rd. “Jane Eyre” arrives on August 4th and the Summer season closes on August 25th with “The Secret Garden”. No doubt there will be a Christmas production.



From September 10th we are participating in Heritage Open Days, as is St. Mary’s Eaton Bray. The theme this year is “Edible England”, so there could be some treats in store.

We are constantly approached by artists wanting to perform at the Church, and we are hopeful that by September we may be able to host a modest event.

The Church is open to visitors every day, as indicated on the sign. Exceptions are when Champers have exclusivity from 6pm to 10am. Please sign the Visitors Book and consider a donation to CCT via the Wall Safe or by text. Details in the Church.

✍ Wyn Johns

Friends of the Church on the Hill  
[www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk](http://www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk)

FB: friends of the church on the hill, edlesborough



# Flower Power in our Villages



I feel sure that many of you in our community in the three EDaN villages will have been cheered by the displays of flowers in our planters and around our village signs in Edlesborough, Northall and Dagnall. Heaven knows we have needed our hearts to be gladdened in these troubled and worrying



times. Unfortunately we have been a bit thwarted in our efforts to tend them during lockdowns but are now trying our best!

Much that you see in the picture below has been organised and worked on by our EDaN Beautification Team – a VERY small group of dedicated ladies who have been striving for over the past 14 years to make and keep our villages beautiful for YOU to feel proud to live in.

We have planted over 20,000 daffodil bulbs, designed, installed and helped pay for our three village signs with May Days and car boot sales in Edlesborough and installed and planted the sponsored flower boxes ... all with the valuable support of Edlesborough Parish Council. If you would like to be a sponsor please get in touch with me! The new trees on Edlesborough Green was another of our projects and at Christmas time we are instrumental in putting up the lights outside the village halls and decorating the Christmas trees, kindly donated by Trees R Us. We also led the project to light up our Church on the Hill - seven years in the making but well worth the battle – such a welcome sight when arriving home on a cold dark night!

Very sadly we have lost two of our members and we are not getting any younger! We desperately need help, otherwise these lovely additions to our villages may not continue to delight you on your walks. Our team member, Lorna Cubbage, has been nurturing all the young summer bedding plants for this year's displays and we will have them in the planters by the time you read this. It's a mammoth task to keep them all watered and alive during the hot spells and I am sending out a plea for you to join us, or at least help with the watering. If you are new to our villages, I am sure that all these features appealed to you when you were choosing where to live and we would appreciate any new ideas you may have to improve their charm.

If you would like to help in any way **PLEASE** get in touch with me: 01525 220739 or [chris@brooklyns.org.uk](mailto:chris@brooklyns.org.uk)

✉Chris Yates

# Your Photos



*Red Kite by Brian Dumpleton  
Balloon over Eaton Bray by  
Richard Woodhead  
Two Cygnets by John Hockey*







*Pyramidal Orchid at College Lake  
by Richard Woodhead  
Hockeridge Wood by Joshua Day  
Goldfinch by Brian Dumpleton*





# *Music at St Mary's*

## **Diary Dates**

### **Saturday 14 August- Ladies sing Duets**

Featuring Min Min Peaker & Karen Lomax  
Programme includes:  
Lakme's Flower Duet,  
Rossini's Cat Duet

### **Saturday 13 November - Poppy Prom**

Featuring South Beds Concert Band  
Dagnall Community Choir  
Soloist Linda Watkins

### **Saturday 15 January 2022 - New Year's Concert**

Featuring Aylesbury Concert Band

### **Saturday 19 March 2022 - Noah Scape**

Featuring Mark Niel, Linda Watkins and Miriam Wedley

### **Saturday 10 April 2022 – Concert & Cakes**

Featuring The Linsdale Singers



**Box Office – 01525 222283**

**ST MARY'S, EATON BRAY,  
OPEN GARDENS  
Sunday 25th July, 11am – 5pm**



What better way to enjoy a day in the countryside than to visit some of the fantastic gardens in our villages? July 25th is the date of this year's Open Gardens – one of the most delightful events of the summer. There are eight gardens to visit, including some of the more notable gardens in the villages. Among properties you can see will be a manor house reputed to be the haunt of highwaymen.

Programmes, price £7.50, giving access to all the gardens, are available from a gazebo that will be erected in the churchyard of St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray. Refreshments will be served during the afternoon both in church and in one of the gardens. At this stage of planning we would welcome a few people to act as stewards for part of the afternoon. If you can help please contact me on 220136. Thank you, Gordon Gray (Tel 01525 220136)

# Deer at Ashridge Estate



Courtesy of Ashridge Estate and The National Trust

The fallow deer are an integral part of the landscape at Ashridge and a much-loved feature of this historic estate.

## Medieval Origins

In 1283, Edmund Earl of Cornwall (grandson of King John of Robin Hood fame) founded a monastery on the site where Ashridge House now stands. It was named 'Assherugge'.

As was the custom amongst the elite in medieval times, a deer park was created, surrounding the monastery. Fallow deer were brought in, kept within this fenced enclosure, and hunted for venison. This is the origin of the fallow deer that live at Ashridge today.

Following the dissolution of the monasteries, the estate passed into the hands of the Earls of Bridgewater. The park was expanded, but the deer were always kept within the fenced parkland and managed by the park keepers.

## The Great Sale – The Deer Set Free

In 1925, the owners of the Ashridge Estate decided to sell up. By this time the estate comprised not only the park, but large areas of woodland and commons surrounding it. The estate was broken up and Ashridge House was sold, but the magnificent landscape that surrounded it passed to the National Trust to look after.

At the time of the sale, the fences enclosing the park were removed. The deer that had lived behind fences for 600 years were set free to roam across the countryside. They now travel widely in the landscape, crossing land owned by many landowners, and are truly wild animals.

## How to Recognise a Fallow Deer

Fallow deer bucks (males) have distinctive palmate antlers with a broad flat centre. Younger males are called 'pricketts' and their antlers are shorter and pointed. The antlers are shed every year, and each year they grow back bigger, until around the age of eight



*A herd of fallow deer grazing at Ashridge by Hugh Mothersole  
courtesy of The National Trust*



*King of all he surveys by Hugh Morse  
courtesy of The National Trust*

when the males have reached their maximum size. Antlers are made of bone which can grow at a rate of 2.5 cm a day. A soft velvet covering helps protect newly forming antlers as they grow, but this is shed once the antlers are fully grown.

Fallow deer come in a variety of colours. You're most likely to see the dark, or melanistic, deer at Ashridge, but tan,

spotty, or even white individuals also can also be seen. They were originally brought to England from the Mediterranean area but are now considered to be naturalised in Britain.

Muntjac deer also live at Ashridge, they are small and stocky, and are sometimes mistaken for wild boar. Muntjac are native to Asia and are thought to have escaped into the countryside from Woburn. They are now widespread across England and Wales.

### **How to See Deer on the Estate**

Deer are naturally cautious animals that move in small groups and avoid humans. They are surprisingly hard to see within the tree canopy and it's possible to pass very close to them without seeing them – you need to keep your eyes peeled. Peer through the trunks of the trees into the darkest places, looking for the give-away flick of a tail or the glint of a bright eye. If you want to photograph them you will need a long lens and a steady hand.

We recommend walking quietly and keeping dogs on a short lead. Choose parts of the estate that are away from roads and well used tracks. The best time of day to see deer is at dawn and dusk when they are most active.

### **The Rut**

The breeding season for Fallow deer, known as the rutting season, begins once the weather turns cold, usually in October. At this time of year the bucks can be heard making loud, deep, groaning calls in order to attract a doe (female). The sound of the groan is directly related to the size of the male, although it's not possible for us to hear the difference. For other bucks, however, this is very important – it can help them know how strong another buck is likely to be and whether it's worth the risk of challenging them. If they are closely matched in size bucks may test their strength against each other by pushing and shoving each other with their antlers.



*Bucks clashing during the rutting season by Hugh Mothersole courtesy of The National Trust*

### **A Forest Feast**

Fallow deer graze in open grasslands as well as browse on trees and shrubs in woodlands. Much of their diet consists of grasses and flowers but they also eat the fresh young shoots of trees, shrubs and brambles. Some tree species are clearly favoured over others with ash, hornbeam, sweet chestnut, hazel and sallow amongst the favourites. Silver birch is one of the least palatable species.

Like most herbivores their diet depends on the season, and during autumn they will eat the fruits of the forest such as acorns, beech nuts, and sweet chestnuts, which they can remove from their prickly casing using their front hooves. During winter, when food is harder to find, they'll take the juicy buds from trees. When really pushed, such as in snow or severe winter weather they'll strip the bark from trees.

All deer are ruminants and often spend time 'laying up' in quiet areas during the daytime while they chew the cud.

# Photography in Focus

In this series, John Hockey shares some tips

## MODIFYING IMAGES

In this article I am going to talk about changing the image you may have captured on your phone, tablet or camera, by using built in software as you take the shot or by using options later to modify what your eye actually saw.

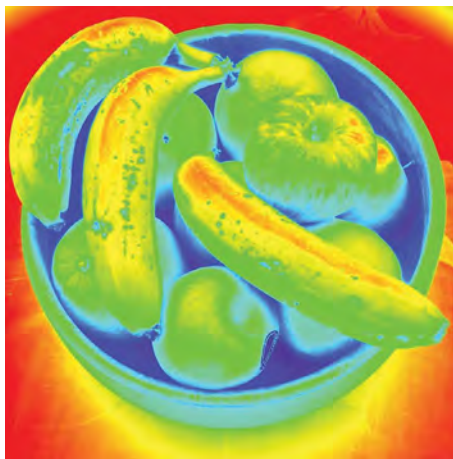
Every village in Bedfordshire was given a sign following the Festival of Britain in 1951. In addition to the village name, the Festival logo (designed by Abram Games) is at one end and the Bedfordshire County coat of arms is at the other. Here is a photograph of the village sign for Eaton Bray, but not in a way you would normally see it!



One setting on my camera allows for a 'fish-eye' lens to be brought into play, so the centre of the photograph is swollen relative to the outer edges. It makes for an interesting picture which would probably make you sit up and take notice if you saw it in a magazine.

Turning to my tablet, there are various options in what it calls the 'Photo Booth' app. Thermal Camera is one such and it enables you to turn a humble fruit bowl

into a psychedelic exercise in chromatic extravagance – radioactive banana anyone? Turning back to my camera there is the ability to change the colour of particular elements, using ‘Colour Swap’. With this option you can select an unusual colour for an object and alter just one part in a picture. Here I have turned the copper vase at the top of the Bridgewater Monument in Ashridge



from its normal verdigris shade of blue-green to deepest pink. Quite an interesting colour on an otherwise grey day, though I’m not sure whether Francis, 3rd Duke of Bridgewater ‘The Father of Inland Navigation’ would approve!

Using online software such as PhotoShop to alter what you and your camera or phone saw is a well-established technique allowing a myriad of artistic possibilities. Personally I don’t tend to use such devices but just for fun, I installed a free program called FotoSketcher

to see what I could do. Here is a picture I have used before of some Sorbus berries on

a tree after rain. To the left is the shot as taken and to the right is the picture manipulated with a filter allowing it to look like I have painted it in an impressionistic style. I am grateful to fellow photographer Andy Wood for pointing me in the direction of this software.



Well folks, I feel this series on photography has almost run its course but I will end next time with a piece on captions, which can make or mar an otherwise interesting picture.



# Eaton Bray Cricket Club

Been a very good start for the Bray. 1st X1 looking decent and Sunday X1 going like a train. 2nd X1

just need a bit of luck.

## Results

15th May Eaton Bray 1st X1 226-8 Andy Norris 117. New City 80-7 Guy Edwins 4-20.

Match abandoned rain.

15th May New City 2nd X1 v Eaton Bray 2nd X1 Cancelled rain.

16th May Eaton Bray Sunday X1 211-1 Joe Moss 104 n/o Hamd Waheed 86 n/o. Flitwick 123-9 Philip Spicer 3-15. Eaton Bray won by 88 runs

22nd May Eaton Bray 1st X1 v Luton Caribbean Newport Pagnall 2nd X1 v Eaton Bray 2nd X1 Cancelled rain.

23rd May Eaton Bray Sunday X1 v Dunstable Town 3rd X1 cancelled rain.

29th May Eaton Bray 1st X1 217-8 Peter Robinson 59 Newport Pagnall 214-9 Josh Edwins 3-45 Nick Pearson 3-45. Eaton Bray won by 3 runs.

29th May Eaton Bray 2nd X1 184 a/o Westcroft 185-8 Sri Kalai 5-40. Westcroft won by 2 wickets.

30th May Bedford 175-8 Euan Palmer 3-31 Eaton Bray Sunday X1 178-4 Joe Moss 67. Eaton Bray won by 4 wickets.

5th June Eaton Bray 1st X1 273-3 Andy Norris 113 Lee Gauntlett 86. Aspley Guise 219-7 James Flecknell 3-12. Eaton Bray won by 54 runs.

5th June MK Warriors 246 a/o Neil Scott 3-49. Eaton Bray 2nd X1 107 a/o. MK Warriors won by 139 runs.

6th June Biggleswade 140 a/o Nick Palmer 5-27. Eaton Bray Sunday X1 143-7 Hamd Waheed 52. Eaton Bray won by 3 wickets.

new 2020 Village Cricket League and some cracking support. Long may it last.

## 2020 Results

27th May Milton Bryan 138-5 Eaton Bray Outlaws 142-2 Joe Moss 60 n/o Lee Gauntlett 50 n/o Eaton Bray won by 8 wickets.

3rd June Eggington Foresters 137-7 Joe Moss 3-21 Eaton Bray Outlaws 141-5 Richard Osborne 41 n/o. Eaton Bray won by 5 wickets.

## Coronation Cup Quarter Final

28th May Little Gaddesden 100-4 Ian Jones 2-11 Eaton Bray 101-1 Andy Norris 48 n/o. Eaton Bray won by 9 Wickets.

We have a Ladies Softball Cricket event on Sunday 25th July starting at 1pm. Should be a great family day out with extras being a bouncy castle for the kids a gin festival and BBQ. If you fancy a game please go to our Social Media platforms for more information.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club are always on the hunt for new players of any age ability or gender. We run 2 senior teams in the FCCL on Saturdays and 1 in the Beds Sunday League. We also have a side in the newly formed Village T20 League played midweek. The club have a very good junior section with 6 teams at age group U9 2xU11 2xU13 and u15.

The club would like to thank our sponsors Meadow Marquees, ECL Howard Watson Smith LLP, Topps Tiles, SMSS Ltd, Houghton Insurance and the Focus Magazine for their support during the 2021 season.

If you would like to be part of a progressive family friendly club please contact us via Facebook or Twitter @EatonBrayCC.

Please enjoy your cricket with Eaton Bray in 2021.

We have had a great deal of interest in the





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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.

### JOHN O'GAUNT



In normal times I have been known to play a bit of golf and there is a splendid golf course near Sandy in Bedfordshire called John O'Gaunt GC. The course was so named because at one time John of Gaunt, third son of Edward III, owned the land on which it was constructed. By coincidence I have recently finished a new book called *The Red Prince – John of Gaunt*, on the cover of which is a famous sixteenth-century portrait containing his coat of arms.

A more modern representation of the arms is shown here: We can learn a lot about a person from looking at such arms on a portrait. The main shield is

quartered with the first and fourth quarters picked out in what is called 'France Ancient'. That is a *semé* or large number of fleur de lis, representing the kingdom of France. In 1394 the king of France changed the design to the simpler (and less costly in terms of gold thread) *Azure three fleur de lis* Or and this practice was followed by Henry IV in 1405. The other two quarters are of course the three lions of England. At this time, France was the premier kingdom so it is depicted in the first quarter.

In the centre is another shield and that is known as an *inescutcheon of pretence*, usually a representation of the arms of a wife, here Constance, of Castile and Leon (= Castle and Lion).

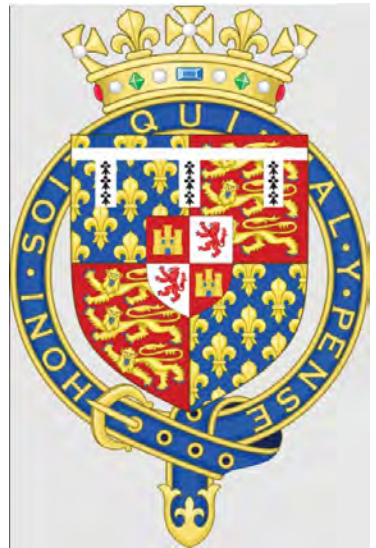
The *label* or horizontal bar with other bars hanging from it with ermine spots is a symbol used to denote the son of the sovereign.

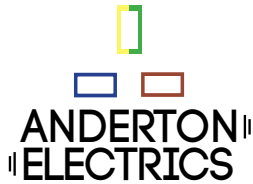
Around the outside of the shield is the representation of the Garter with its well-known motto '*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense*', instigated by Edward III in 1348.

Atop everything is a coronet and again, these are different depending upon who is entitled to wear them. For royalty, the coronet for a son of the sovereign is as shown, with crosses and fleur de lis around the rim.

So, without knowing anything about the man in the portrait we can tell he is a son of the sovereign, a member of the Order of the Garter, that he was married to an heiress of part of a foreign land and that the painting was depicting a time before 1405 but after 1348!

Next time: More local heraldry





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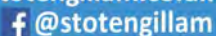
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# Pearl Barley and Vegetable Bake

My grandma was an expert in feeding a large family for next to nothing. She could throw together a stew for pennies. Her favourite ingredient was pearl barley, and eating it today immediately takes me back to her kitchen. It is so cheap and so easy to cook. But don't for a moment think it's boring. It brings a lovely soft nuttiness to any dish and is, I have read, easier to digest for some people than gluten based products like pasta. This bake is a throw-it-all-in job, totally foolproof and absolutely delicious. If you want to add meat or fish, simply mix in finely sliced chicken breast for the last 15 minutes of cooking, or salmon cubes for the last 10 minutes.

This will serve 4 people

350g pearl barley  
1 courgette, finely diced  
1 red onion, finely diced  
2 leeks, finely sliced  
3 garlic cloves, chopped  
1 red pepper, finely diced  
850ml vegetable stock  
Good pinch of salt  
Ground pepper  
Finely grated zest of a lemon  
Glug of good quality rapeseed oil

To finish off  
The juice of the lemon  
Rapeseed oil  
A bunch of basil, chopped

Preheat the oven to 180C/ Gas Mark 4

Chuck all the ingredients (except the lemon juice and basil) into a large baking dish.

Give it all a really good stir and cover tightly with either a lid or silver foil.



Simply bake in the oven for around an hour. The stock should be fully absorbed and the pearl barley soft.

Give it a good mix then pour in a little glug of oil, a good squeeze of lemon and throw in the basil. Mix once more, season and serve.

This dish is also delicious served cold the following day.

*BBC Three Counties  
Radio presenter and  
cook, Nick Coffey*





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My background and experience is as follows, I qualified as an S.R.N. In 1963 in 3 years and a I took a further year to receive the hospital badge at the Luton and Dunstable University Hospital. In 1985 following a Spinal Fusion and 5 months later a diagnosis of Fibromyalgia, I learnt that the most important treatment for the condition is Daily Exercise. In order to enjoy my life, to feel personally fulfilled and able to interact with my family, action was required. I had already known of The Woman's League of Health and Beauty and its commencement in the 1930s when these avant-garde ladies in London had seen young German men fit and exercising and felt that they needed to be competitive too. I have met elderly ladies who have been members of the League and they definitely demonstrate mobility and fitness.

When I was fitter and able to drive again, I joined 'Extend', based on the League movements using seated or standing exercises. Being qualified I had no difficulty finding work in Care homes, Colleges and Day Centres and I worked every day of the week helping out.

In 2006 my long time friend Fran (an Art Therapist) and I started a business together as a Social Enterprise. I had experienced work in Care Homes and recognised that exercise and meaningful activities were very limited in the 8 years that I had been involved working in care. We named our company VIVALO which means Nourishing Aliveness. For 6 years we trained carers in Care homes so that they could increasingly engage more with their residents. Sadly with Care homes struggling and a shortage of carers we were unable to continue with the training, although I had seen some evidence of confidence and meaningful activities prior to Covid-19.

Currently, as an Instructor training N.V.Q level 3 City & Guilds to candidates which is recognised by the Department of Health, I am in the process of applying for a grant. There are various activities that I can offer to promote mobility and have fun, starting with walks and meeting new people. Learn how fit you are with an M.O.T fitness test, exercising to music and attempting Adapted Sport. I plan to commence with Walks in Eaton Bray Park on July 7th meeting adjacent to the car park at 10.30 until 12 midday once a week

Please call me if you would like to be involved with healthy activities 07801754602.

✉ Pat Quartermaine

# Summer Holiday Tips from St Judes

The summer holidays are just around the corner so follow a few tips for a happy, healthy summer:



**Gardening** – when faced with a mountainous backlog of jobs, don't try to do everything in one go: break up tasks and take a

rest. Tackle jobs like weeding at a low height and cutting back of plants at a higher height. Take regular breaks - your joints will thank you for it.



**Happy Feet** – we see a huge increase in foot pain and plantar fasciitis cases in the summer often due to poor footwear. Ordinary

flip-flops give no support and little shock absorbency and affect the fascia under the foot (it's a bit like a piece of gristle that acts like a bow-string to lift the arch of the foot). This feels like you're walking on sharp stones and if not treated properly, can take ages to clear so try some supportive sandals instead. Feet looking a bit tired? - use a pumice stone to remove hard skin and then apply a specialist foot cream such as CCS Foot care cream which is recommended by Podiatrists

to manage and help prevent dry and rough skin (available from St Judes)

**Sunbathers back** – too much of a good



thing lazing around is not actually good for you. Try to support your spine when sunbathing - if your back hollows when lying on the

sunbed on your tummy, put a rolled towel or cushion under you to prevent backache. Look after your neck – it's better to keep your neck straight and place your hands on a rolled towel under your forehead than turn your head to the side.



**Wet walkies?** If it's raining cats and dogs avoid wearing your wellies as they don't offer much support - you are far better off wearing some walking boots.

Here's to a super summer!

Tips by Moira D'Arcy, Chartered Physiotherapist at St Judes

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**Eaton Bray W.I.** After quite a long time, Eaton Bray WI members arranged to meet up in the local park.

Taking our chairs and lunch, members were soon chatting and catching up on the past few months. The June sunshine encouraged a relaxing time, it was so good to see all our friends again. Lockdown had made us realise how we have missed our regular meetings. Our friendships are important and special.

We now plan to meet each month during the

summer in the local park. Our next meet up will be on Wednesday 14th July at 12 noon for members to bring their chair and lunch. We look forward to seeing other members who we have not seen for so long.

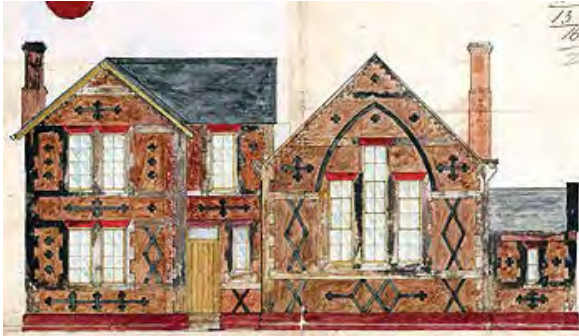
The contact for Eaton Bray WI is: Margaret Jones, on 01525 220991.

A warm and friendly welcome awaits new members. Our regular meetings have included an interesting speaker or demonstration, followed by social time and refreshments.

# Eaton Bray History

Courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives

## Eaton Bray Wesleyan School



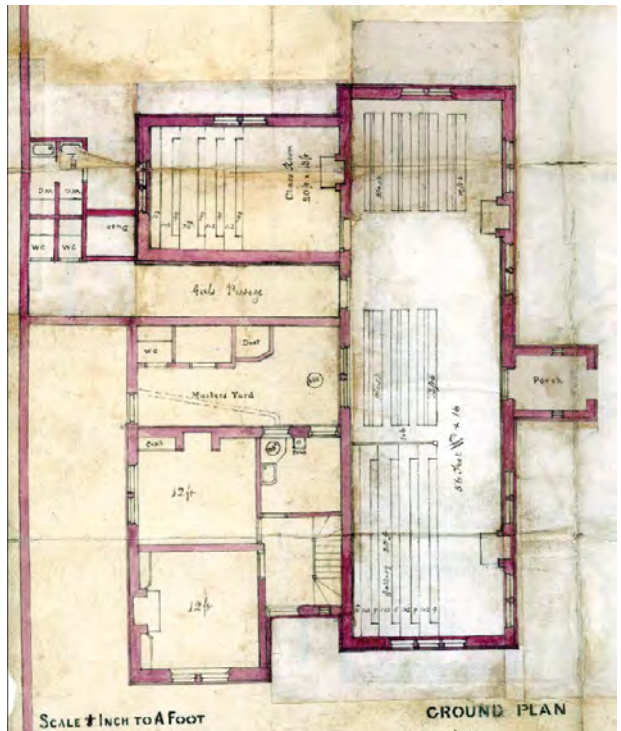
*Elevations of the school and the master's house about 1860*

The Wesleyan School in Eaton Bray probably had its genesis in the Sunday School run by Wesleyans in the village. In 1833 the government made £20,000 per annum available in grants to help build schools. It also prompted a questionnaire asking for details of local another educational provision. The Eaton Bray return noted: a Sunday School "in which are from 40 to 100 of both sexes, supported by collections among the Wesleyan Methodists". In those days a Sunday School was just that,

a school which met on a Sunday, usually in the church or nonconformist chapel or other similar building, teaching more than the religious topics with which they are associated today.

About 1860 plans were drawn up for a purpose built school, complete with a house for the schoolmaster and in that year the trustees of J. Pedley conveyed the site of the intended school to Wesleyan trustees. The school stood in Gammons Lane (which came to be called School Lane), close to the junction with the High Street on the south-east side.

The cause of the Wesleyan school seems to have been aided, presumably unintentionally, by the vicar. On 3rd March 1875 a letter attacking the vicar was published in the local press. It was from the Lord of the Manor, Arthur Macnamara, a notoriously difficult character himself. He alleged that the vicar, who had been appointed in 1871, had: "peremptorily closed his school, which caused the Wesleyan school to be enlarged at an



*A plan of the school about 1860*



expense of £550". In fact the National School seems to have limped on for another five or ten years before finally closing some time between 1880 and 1885.

The first Education Act was passed in 1870 (more correctly it was known as the Elementary Education Act). It was a milestone in the provision of education in Britain demonstrating central government's unequivocal support for education of all classes across the country. It also sought to secularise education by allowing the creation of School Boards. These were groups of representatives, elected by the local ratepayers and the Board had the powers to raise funds to form a local rate to support local education, build and run schools, pay the fees of the poorest children, make local school attendance compulsory between the ages of 5 and 13 and could even support local church schools, though in practice they replaced them, turning them into Board run schools (known as Board Schools). Naturally, and luckily for local historians, the Act required a questionnaire of local schools in 1870.

The return for Eaton Bray read: Existing: Wesleyan Day School. Accommodation for 112 boys and girls and 32 infants. Required: A school for 108 boys and girls and (A) a school for 68 infants, both at Eaton Bray. If the Eaton Bray National School be at once made efficient by supplying school furniture and appointing a certificated teacher, the accommodation required will be reduced to the item marked (A).

A School Board was formed in Eaton Bray on 13th July 1893. It took over the premises of the Wesleyan School the following year and the school was thereafter run as a Board School.

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# Northall Baptist Church

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## The Repair Shop

Don't we all just love the Repair Shop programme on TV? After several years of our throw-a-way society, it's refreshing to know that there are people out there who value things, for sentimental reasons, over many years despite them not being usable. Things that seem way beyond repair become as new!

What is your favourite repair? What is so interesting are the stories that go with each article brought in? Things that are so dilapidated, they should have been thrown away years ago but have been treasured because of those stories. The people who had owned them were very special and the tales are sometimes distressing, very moving. The final results never fail to astound those who brought them in.

My favourite one was the 2 storey toadstool night light – Bunnies Cottage. It was broken into hundreds of little pieces and when it was repaired it was amazing. The lady told the story that her Father bought it for her when she was born and as a child she was afraid of the dark but it was always already lit when she went up to bed. It formed the basis of nightly bedtime stories about the bunnies that her Mother made up and which she can still remember and values.

The presenter, Jay Blades tells in his autobiography that he was broken and the program helped to repair him. He said that 'the biggest repair job done in the Repair Shop is me' following his mental health problems. He went on to say that 'it's wonderful to know that nothing's so broken it can't be mended'. That's so true. But how are things mended?

Who repairs broken souls?

The bible is full of stories about folk that were broken and were mended. Mended by what or who? Jesus healed the blind, the lame, those with leprosy and those with mental health problems. Psalm 147 tells us the 'He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds.' Who is the 'He' – it is the Lord God. The well-known Psalm 23 tells us that the Lord is my shepherd ..... leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.' The miracles of Jesus tell of many who were healed of various afflictions both physical and mental. Jesus made them new. Made them usable, useful!

The Repair Shop for broken items could be regarded as symbolic of Jesus love for broken souls. He can mend both our physical and mental problems if he is asked.

We are hoping to continue our Sunday services on Zoom at 11 am until 18th July when if the Government's guidelines allow we hope to be back in the Northall Baptist Church building for live services 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/>

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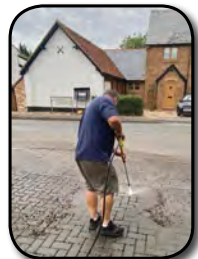
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# What to do in the Garden in July

Courtesy of [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)

July brings long, warm days that continue late into the evening perfect for pottering in the garden after work, hosting barbecues, and enjoying your beds and borders as they reach their peak.

Here's a list of jobs to keep on top of this July:

## Timely tips

1. Summer can still throw out a few surprises - make sure tall plants and climbers are well supported in case of bad weather.
2. Water at dusk to reduce evaporation and use mulch to retain moisture around plants.
3. Terracotta pots are prone to evaporation so dampen the pot down to keep roots inside cool and damp.
4. Regularly deadhead bedding and perennial plants to encourage new blooms for as long as possible.

## In the flower garden



- Cut back faded perennial plants to keep borders tidy.
- As your penstemon flowers fade, cut them back to just above a bud to encourage more flowers.
- Cutting back growth in hanging baskets can encourage new flowers and foliage and will revive the display. Make sure you feed your baskets well after doing this.
- Cut back hardy geraniums and delphiniums after the first flush of flowers to encourage new growth and further blooms.
- Continue to tie in and train new growth on climbing plants.
- Prune wisteria now. Just remove the whippy side-shoots from the main branch framework to about 20cm from their base (about five leaves from the main stem).

- Prune lupins to encourage more flowers.
- If you need to prune your deciduous magnolia, now's the best time to do it.
- Divide clumps of bearded Iris so they have time to form roots and flower buds for next year before the cold weather arrives.
- Take cuttings from your favourite tender plants for overwintering indoors. Cuttings can also still be taken from shrubs and border perennials.
- Deadhead bedding plants and perennial plants to stop them self-seeding and to encourage further flowering.
- Deadhead your roses to keep them looking tidy. Leave the flowers in place if your rose produces attractive hips (seed pods).
- Deadhead sweet peas regularly to keep them blooming. Water daily in dry weather.
- Capture seed heads from dandelions and other weeds. Collect them before they get a chance to release their seeds and spread throughout your garden.
- Keep an eye out for pests on plants, early treatment is best.
- Stop rust damaging hollyhock foliage by pruning out affected leaves and/or spraying with a fungicide.
- Look out for clematis wilt. Symptoms include wilting leaves and black discoloration on the leaves and stems. Cut out all affected material and dispose of it in your household waste.
- July is a good time to spray ground elder, bindweed and other persistent weeds with a glyphosate-based weed killer as the plants now have lots of leaf surface area with which to absorb it.

## In the vegetable garden



- Pepper plants will benefit from being potted on into progressively larger pots.
- Train cucumber stems upwards to make the most of the space available. Simply tie in their long stems to vertical wires or use cane supports to create a wigwam of poles.
- If you're growing aubergines, pinch out the growing tip once they have 5 or 6 fruits. Pick fruits while they are young. You can expect to start harvesting mid to late summer.
- Nip off the growing tips of squash and courgette plants to encourage branching.
- Pinch out tomato side shoots each week. Cut off any leaves growing below the lowest ripening fruit trusses to improve air circulation and prevent diseases.
- Boost your tomato crop by regularly feeding plants with dilute tomato fertiliser once a week. If leaves look pale and yellow, feed more regularly.
- Feed crops with a general purpose fertiliser.
- Apply a high-potash fertiliser once fruits start to form on peppers, cucumber and tomatoes. You can use this on sunflowers too.
- Harvest garlic when the tops start to bend over and yellow.
- Pick your courgettes while they're young. Regular picking encourages more fruit.
- Encourage more marrows by harvesting regularly. Marrows that form in July and August should reach a good size by autumn. Let their skins harden in the sun before cutting them later in September or October. They can be stored into winter.
- Pick, dry and freeze herbs for using later in the year.
- Pick runner beans regularly to prevent them becoming stringy and to make room for developing pods. Leaving mature pods on the plant can prevent further flowers forming and reduce your crop.
- Harvest beetroot, peas, carrots, chard, potatoes, salad leaves, lettuce, and tomatoes this month.
- Resist the temptation to harvest more rhubarb stems. Leave the stems in place; this will allow the plant to build up reserves for next year.
- Water your fruit and vegetable crops daily in warm weather. Try to ensure that they're consistently moist.
- Use grass clippings as a mulch around potato plants to stop tubers near the surface from turning green. Alternatively earth up your potato plants as they grow. If you're growing potatoes in bags, gradually add more compost until the bag is full.
- Control slugs to prevent them damaging your crops. Try using a natural pest control to reduce numbers.
- Tackle blackfly on broad beans by pinching off any affected growing tips.
- Check for cabbage white butterfly eggs under brassica leaves and squash any that you find.
- Clear away any diseased and spent foliage on and around your vegetable plants to keep them healthy.
- Clear weeds regularly, as they compete with your crops for nutrients and water.

### **In the fruit garden**



- Thin out the fruits on your fruit trees to produce good sized crops. This also helps to prevent brown rot.
- Protect any developing fruits from birds and squirrels by placing mesh around your plants.
- If you have plants fruiting in containers, make sure you give them a high potash liquid feed to keep them healthy and productive.
- Feed lemons and other citrus fruit trees throughout summer with a special citrus fertiliser.
- Treat apple scab with a fungicide. Always read the manufacturer's label to check the suitability for use on edible crops.

- Check the leaves of gooseberry bushes for sawfly larvae, which can completely strip the foliage in a matter of days. Jet them off with water or pick them off by hand.
- Peg down runners on your strawberry plants to create more plants for next year. If you don't need more plants simply remove the strawberry runners completely.
- Maximise your fig crop by pinching out the tips of side shoots after they've developed five leaves.
- Prune your stone fruit trees like plum, apricot, peach and cherry now. Pruning these species in the summer reduces the risk of silver leaf disease.
- If you've trained your apples and pears as cordons, fans or espaliers, give them their summer prune now to maintain a good shape.
- Prune the fruited stems of blackcurrant bushes after harvesting.
- Raspberries are shallow rooted so they'll appreciate being watered generously in hot, dry weather.

### **In the greenhouse**

- Check plants daily. Water first thing in the morning or in the evening to reduce water loss through evaporation.
- Harden off and plant out any plug plants that you've been growing on.
- Damp down your greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and deter red spider mites.
- Open vents and doors daily to provide adequate ventilation.
- Use blinds or apply shade paint to prevent the greenhouse from overheating in sunny weather.
- Try hanging sticky traps to catch flying pests to determine which pest control is needed.
- Tidy up fallen leaves and flowers to discourage the spread of fungal disease.

### **Looking after your lawn**

- This is your last chance to feed your lawn with a special lawn fertiliser to encourage healthy green growth.
- Water your lawn during hot weather,

particularly newly seeded or turfed lawns. Don't allow new lawns to dry out.

- If you're experiencing prolonged dry weather, set your mower blades higher to reduce stress on the grass.
- Warm weather encourages rapid weed growth - apply specific lawn weed killer to tackle this problem.
- If your lawn is infested by ants, brush out the nests on a dry day. Always brush them away before mowing.
- Recut any lawn edges if needed and install lawn edging to make future maintenance easier.

### **Other jobs about the garden**



- Water the soil around the base of plants rather than the foliage. Make 'pools' around individual plants so that the water is directed straight to the roots where it's needed or use an auto-watering collar.
- Water containers and baskets thoroughly in hot weather. Continue to feed them with a balanced liquid fertiliser every 2 to 4 weeks.
- Use water butts instead of tap water as often as you can when watering your plants.
- Turn the content of your compost bin every month to keep it well aerated.
- Keep bird baths topped up in hot weather.
- Remove floating blanket weed from your pond plants by twirling it around a stick or garden cane. Before composting it, pile the weed close to the pond for a few hours so any displaced creatures can crawl back into the water.
- Keep an eye out for powdery mildew on plants. Remove any affected parts and spray with a fungicide to prevent further spread.
- Look after your aphid eaters - ladybirds, hoverflies and lacewings feast on greenfly and blackfly so it's worth protecting them.

- Look for aphids on the underside of leaves - rub them off by hand or spray with an insecticide to prevent them multiplying. Alternatively use natural pest control such as Lacewing larvae.
- Keep an eye out for scarlet lily beetles on your lilies - remove and crush any you see. Also check for the sticky brown larvae on the underside of leaves.
- If your plants are wilting for no obvious reason, check for vine weevils by tipping your plants out of their pots and looking for 'C' shaped creamy maggots amongst the roots. Treat with nematodes if vine weevils are spotted.
- Prevent slugs attacking your young plants by using pest control. For container plants apply

copper tape.

### From your armchair

- Order perennial plants online now ready for autumn delivery.
- Think about which bulbs you would like for next spring - now is the time to order for autumn planting.
- Make a note of your garden's pros and cons at its peak to remind you of any changes that you need to make for next year.

### Information courtesy of

**Thompson and Morgan**  
[www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)



## Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our Sunday morning Zoom services continue for the time being but, as lockdown eases, we are holding afternoon outdoor services in the summer months. The next one will be on July 11th at 3.00pm in the School Lane Recreation Ground.

On the first Sunday in May, we were glad to welcome back Rev Nina Johnson of The Square, in Dunstable. She gave us a very powerful message based on the parable of the vine and its branches. Drawing on her knowledge as a professional horticulturist and a very profound experience on retreat, she urged us to remember that Christ is the source of all our strength and fruitfulness and therefore we need to stay firmly rooted in our faith in God. On the second Sunday, our own Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings, in a reflective message, continued the same theme, reminding that each of us is unique and each uniquely chosen by God to pass on his love. The Good News is for all. In Christian Aid week, culminating in the third May Sunday, Ivor Michelmore led our service with moving videos of climate change damage world-wide. As stewards of

the wonderful natural world that God has created, he challenged us to respect the environment and give generously to protect it and help all those who are suffering the effects of climate damage. The following week, Rev. Dr Ebute Obiabo made a welcome return. As it was Pentecost Sunday, his message was about the Holy Spirit, reassuring us that if we allow the Holy Spirit into our hearts it will guide us and show us what to do in our daily lives. God has given us new power, enthusiasm and courage to speak of Him to others and to make our church come alive again. Finally on Trinity Sunday, Martin Wallis gave us an inspiring reflection on the mystery and majesty of God. He encouraged us to preserve our sense of wonder and daily commitment in God's service.

### A Warm Invitation

**Our short online Zoom Sunday Service takes place at 10.30am. If you would like to join in, please contact our Zoom Service Host, Ed Syrett on 07814624628. You will be most welcome.**





# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

## Weather Conditions for May 2021

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



The majority of May was unsettled, wet and unseasonably cold. In the first week, we recorded frost on five days and it felt more like November as the month continued with high winds at times and showery rain on most days. It wasn't until the 27th that it turned warm and sunny with the sort of spring weather we would expect in May.

Temperatures were down on the average for May with a low of 0.04°C on the 1st. We had to wait to the last day of the month to reach the warmest day, 24.1°C.

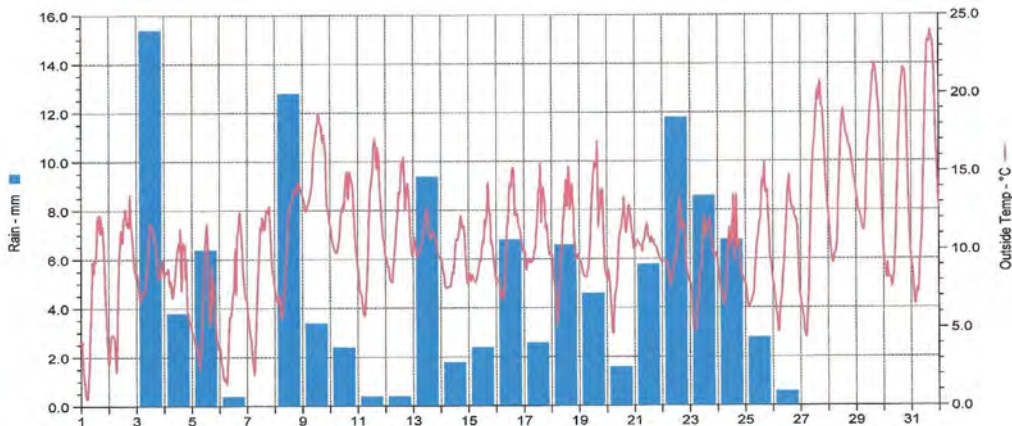
The rain that really dominated May was 208% of the 13 year average.

It looks like the weather is getting even more unpredictable, reaching some sort of record every month.

	High	Date/Time		Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	24.1°C	31 May 17.00		0.04°C	7 May 05.00
Mean Temperature	10.5°C				
Dewpoint:	13.7c	31 May 13.00		- 1.0°C	1 May 03.30
Humidity:	95%	27 May 07.30		44%	2 - 11 May
Barometer:	1028.4 mb	30 May 08.30		992.0 mb	4 May 01.30
Wind Speed	42mph SSW	3 May 22.00		Months avg.	6.0mph
Wind Chill:	23.6°C	31 May 17.30		0.3°C	7 May 06.30
Dominant Wind:	SSW				
<b>Rainfall</b> * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain					
*Rain Days: 23(T), 23(R)	Wettest Day 3 May			15.39 mm	0.606ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	May2021		117.6 mm	4.630ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	5 Months		341.6 mm	13.449ins

## May 2021

Showing 23 rain days and the low temperatures for May



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15mins, this site forecast and much more, visit: [www.dagnallweather.co.uk](http://www.dagnallweather.co.uk) and [http://bit.ly/weather\\_dagnall](http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall). If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: [david@dagnallweather.co.uk](mailto:david@dagnallweather.co.uk) or telephone: 01442 843883. 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

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### 'GRANNY KNOWS BEST'



One day over the last Bank Holiday we were able to spend time with our two younger grandchildren for the day. It was wonderful to spend time with them flying their kites on the downs and then later doing some craft with them in the back garden of our house. Ella-Mae, who is three was insistent that 'Baba' as she calls me had to do some craft with her and it was a delight to see the two of them sticking flowers etc on paper and even signing it with their names.



When they left it reminded me of the phrase 'Granny knows best'. When I remember my own grandmother's they always seem to know best. Very often they would give me very sound advice, advice that I took which seemed to be always right. Their wisdom and sound advice shaped me into the person that I am today. Did you know that very often we use sayings from the Bible without even realising it, and they often come from the book of Proverbs in the Old Testament. Here are just a few.

*'Absence makes the heart grow fonder'*

*'Actions speak louder than words'*

*'All good things must come to an end'*

*'A picture is worth a thousand words.'*

The book of Proverbs is attributed to King Solomon who was recognised for his wisdom in so many situations in The Old Testament.

Many of us will remember certain things that our granny said that has brought a smile to our face, or a real gem of wisdom that has kept us going when things have looked bleak. Often with age comes wisdom, it is up to us whether or not we accept the words of experience that are offered.

There was once a newly married woman, who when cooking the Sunday roast, would always cut off the end piece of the meat. When her husband asked why she did this, she replied that her mother always did so, so she continued to follow her example. But she thought the next time she saw her mother she would ask her why she did it. So next time they met she asked the question, and her mother replied, 'But my mother always cut the end off the meat.'

The next time the young woman visited her grandmother she decided to get to the bottom of this. So she asked, 'Why do you cut off the end of the meat before putting it in the oven to roast? Her grandmother answered, 'Oh, my dear, it's because that this the only way the meat will fit in my roasting dish!'

Two generations were simply following what granny did without really understanding why. Proverbs 2: 6: 'For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding' NIV When we need to seek advice we should turn to the Bible and the book of Proverbs is a good place to start. But just sometimes we may find that even granny knows best!

✍ Allison Gaudion (Major)

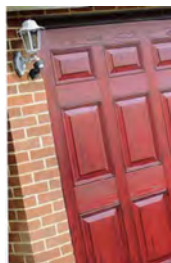


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