

FOCUS

May 2022



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worship each week between 11am and
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talk together.

For more information contact:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

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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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



**The paper
used for this
magazine is
sourced from
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be recycled**

Village Diary



Weekly

- Mon-Sun St. Mary's Edlesborough is open most days 10am-4pm, sometimes longer.
Look for the OPEN sign below the notice board
- Mon-Fri (term) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec
- Mon-Fri (term) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term) Edlesborough Primary Academy Pre-School, 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org
- Mon-Fri (term) Tottemhoe Pre-school, Tottemhoe CE Academy, 01582 662959, tottemhoeoffice@tot.dsamat.co.uk
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, Tottemhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45-9.45pm, w:dagnall-community-choir.co.uk
- Mondays (term) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall VH 2-3.30. 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 VH, Sheila sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk
- Mondays KFFPA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+)
- Mondays Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFFPA' 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 Tottemhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.15am, 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 VH, 07800 518654
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-11:30am, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly
- Tuesdays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon
- Tuesdays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Tuesdays 12-3pm, Chiltem Art Club, St Giles Church Hall, Tottemhoe, Contact 01582 607315/872115
- Wednesdays Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact Loma Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Loma Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Jazzercise 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Thursdays KFFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+)
- Thursdays Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFFPA' for info
- Thursdays Tae Kwon-do, Dagnall Village Hall, 5.45-7.30pm 07813 755785
- 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, simon_betts@hotmail.com.
- Thursdays Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome
- Thursdays Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome. www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
- Thursdays (term) Vinyasa yoga, 7:30-8:30pm The Coffee Tavern eleanorlangton@outlook.com 07969 315384
- Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 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 Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- 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

Village Diary

- Fridays "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes, 10am-11.30am, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124
- Saturdays Jazzercise 9-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Saturdays KFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+)
Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
- Sundays Sunday Worship at 11am, Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525 222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com
- Sundays Yoga, 9:30am-10:30am, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact eleanorlangton@outlook.com or 07969315384
- Sundays Karate for kids & adults, 2:30-4pm & 4:30-6pm, Eaton Bray VH, 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 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, 10:30am - 12 noon (July held on 2nd Saturday)
- 2nd Monday Film Society, Sep to May, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 01525 220883
- 2nd Tuesday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
- 2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall. Contact Sue Bingham 01525 222522
- 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 Saturday Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern, Keira 07936 693696
- 2nd Saturday Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church., October to May only
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 2nd Friday Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning 2, Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 a.m. all welcome. No meeting in September, June plant bring and buy, December Sherry & mince pies
- 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
- This Month's One Off/Annual/Irregular Events**
- 7th May St Mary's Spring Fair, 11am-3pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 7th May Book Swap, 12 - 3pm, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
- 7th May Village Hall Quiz, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, £9 per person, Book mintyman1958@gmail.com
- 9th May Eaton Bray Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting, 7pm, The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray
- 12th May Northall Village Hall AGM, 8pm, Northall Village Hall
- 13-21st May Dunstable Rep Theatre 'My Mother Said I Never Should' www.littletheatre.org.uk
- 15-21st May Christian Aid Week
- 17th May Hunger Lunch for Christian Aid, 11am-1pm, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray £5 Book 01582 471117 or 07779 939794 eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk
- 19th May Eaton Bray W.I. Community Coffee Morning, 10:30 - 12:30, Eaton Bray Methodist Hall
- 23rd May Dagnall Community Choir Open Evening, 7:45-9:45pm, Dagnall Church
- 24th May Edlesborough Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting, 7:30pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 25th May Little Gaddesden Folk Club, 7pm, Little Gaddesden Village Hall, Church Road, Little Gaddesden, HP4 INX. Tickets £14 07786 811735
- 28th May Edlesborough Methodist Chapel Coffee Morning for Christian Aid, 10-12noon





EdleFest 2022

10 -11 June

Your Village Music Festival in Numbers

Well, you'd expect a few numbers at a music festival, wouldn't you? (Sorry, I couldn't resist that one). But, if you've not been to EdleFest before, I thought you might be surprised by some of the numbers behind our own 'little' festival. So here they are:

- 1 stage (carried up the hill by hand – more volunteers always welcome!)
- 2 lighting rigs
- 3 portaloos
- 6 great bands
- 15 artists on stage
- 16 bottle of 'Pimms' vanished at the last festival (a thirsty crowd?)
- 74 bottles of wine were consumed
- 200 tickets available (each night)
- 468 pints of real-ale drunk last time around (now, there's a challenge...)
- 1200 Watts of sound to liven up our beautiful medieval church
- 1500 flyers distributed (so don't say you've not heard about it!)
- 6000 website visitors, from 131 countries, so don't miss out when you're already so close...

I know they're just numbers. But when you do the maths, they all add up to one fantastic music festival, right here your doorstep! We have music lined-up for the evenings of June 10th and 11th, and both nights are selling well, so don't miss out!

And now for some even better numbers - we've held the same low prices as for 2019, and there's a discounted rate if you come for both nights, and when you look at the line-up, why wouldn't you?

Tickets are available in the village from Janes Flooring (cash only, please). Or you can get them on-line via the website, or by calling 01525 221744.

Find out more online by searching for EdleFest, or visiting edlefest.site123.me, by calling 07974 921923, or by email to EdleFest@gmail.com. See you there!



Standing room only – EdleFest 2019

Edlesborough Baptist Church

All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday

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

Find us on Facebook @gbce2014

Village Info



EDaN Community Transport
Peter Williams: 01442 842506

Village Hall Booking Contacts

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

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

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

Dagnall: Bev Way 07875 462128 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email DVH_Bookings@outlook.com

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Police Contact Numbers...

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General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: 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: 07930 987064

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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousins

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

Associate Priest: Rev'd Stephen Burge

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

Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

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

'Our Father who art in heaven.' This is the opening of one of the most well-known and well used Christian prayers. Jesus taught it to his disciples when they asked him how to pray. Known as the Lord's Prayer it encourages us to address God as 'our father' and to ask him for all our needs. The Lord's Prayer begins by praising God and recognising his holiness. We also pray: 'Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.' Christians believe that God is the creator of heaven and earth. As creator, he knows what is best for us and for our world. We pray that God's kingdom will come on earth; that his priorities will be our priorities. Jesus said that the most important thing is to love God and love our neighbour as we love ourselves. We can help that day come closer by living in a godly way.

During the period between Ascension and Pentecost from 26th May to 5th June, 'Thy kingdom come' an initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury will encourage people across the world to pledge to pray. You are invited to join the global wave of prayer. The first 'Thy kingdom come' initiative was in May 2016 when 100,000 Christians pledged to pray. That number has grown year on year, and in 2021 Christians from 172 countries participated in praying for friends and family. This praying together has been across our diversity and our differences as every person, household and church are encouraged to pray in their own way.

Thy Kingdom Come at St Mary's Eaton Bray will start with a service of Holy Communion on 26th May, Ascension Day at 7.15pm. We will then be holding prayer times each morning at 10am and each evening at 6pm during the 10 days of 'Thy Kingdom Come'. These will be led by a variety of people and will last about 20 minutes. There will also be material to lead you on a self-guided prayer walk around the villages which you can do whenever you wish. Look out for the information on the noticeboard, on St Mary's Facebook page and in the weekly pew leaflet. You can also find out more about our plans on our website www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk There will be some free prayer journals available in St Mary's church if you would like to come and collect one. Whether you have joined in 'Thy kingdom Come before or not, we invite you to take part- along with churches from over 80 different denominations and traditions in nearly 90% of countries around the world. Archbishop Justin Welby writes: "In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." On Pentecost Sunday, 5th June, we will be holding a Jubilee tea party for families. There will be party food and Smartie Artie to entertain you in the churchyard during the afternoon. We will need numbers for catering purposes, so if you would like to know more or to book a place, please email admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

I hope you will come along and get involved in Thy Kingdom Come, the global prayer initiative. And that you will join us on 5th June to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Every blessing, Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough



Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION
On First and Third Sunday of each month:
8.00am HOLY COMMUNION
On Third Sunday of each month:
10.00am WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service.

WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES.

DETAILS AND ONLINE WORSHIP: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

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

Dagnall Church Services



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

We encourage people to wear a face covering.

Any queries please contact Phillip Lee on 07977234453.

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4 1RL

Florence Hawes

Tina, Brian and family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral of 'Flo' (1922. -2022). A wonderful mother, great grandma and nan. She will rest in peace with her husband Lionel in St. Mary's churchyard, Eaton Bray.





HUNGER LUNCH

Tuesday 17th May 11.am-1pm
Soup, bread, and cakes Cost: £5
The Salvation Army, Booth Place

For further information
please contact : 01582
471117 or 07779939794
or email: [eaton.bray@
salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk)
Please let us know before
hand for catering purposes.



Children's Tea Party with Smartie Artie

Sunday 5th June 2.30-4.30 pm
St Mary's Churchyard Eaton Bray.

Everyone welcome
but please RSVP for catering to:
sheilabanks1@aol.com





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

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

Northall Village Hall AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is being held on Thursday 12th May 2022 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 test our new Wi-Fi network.
- 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



On May 7th the church coffee morning is joining The Spring Fair in Eaton Bray Village Hall. The Book Swap will be held at the same time but will be in the church as usual. So bring your books to swap and pop over to see us.

Book Swap dates at St Mary's Church

May 7th from **12.00 – 15.00***

June 4th **10.30 – 12.00**

July 9th **10.30 – 12.00**

*Take a book you want to read
Leave a book you want to share*

Please only bring with you as many novels as you wish to take away with you as we do not have the capacity to store more books than the bookcase will hold. For more information, or if you would like to be involved, please contact:

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Email: chris.sanders45@gmail.com

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Email: jenimackenzie@hotmail.com

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Charity No. 1011133

St Mary's Village Carnival



Love
Our Planet
2nd July 2022

In aid of St Mary's Church Fabric Fund, other local charities & good causes. This year the carnival will be held on Saturday 2nd July 2022 with the theme of "LOVE OUR PLANET."

JOIN THE CARNIVAL PROCESSION

If you fancy showing off your creative flair then why not get involved in decorating your car, van, bike, skateboard, scooter or even yourself and come and join in with the procession.

DECORATE YOUR HOUSE WITH A 'LOVE OUR PLANET' RELATED THEME

Start designing, creating and painting so your house is ready for Carnival day. If you don't have the time but still want to get involved then why not decorate your house with some bunting or balloons.

THE CARNIVAL NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Carnival Committee is in need of people who can help in a variety of ways. If you can spare a couple of hours, or are even happy to help all day, your assistance will be gratefully received. You can help by:

- Deploying and collecting cones and road closure signage
- Assisting with bringing equipment to and from the Green, before and after the event
- Helping on a stall
- Join our committee to help run our 2023 carnival

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

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

In order to make sure you have a presence at the carnival, the committee are urging local businesses, schools, youth groups and organisations to make contact and be part of this brilliant event. With visitors attending from all over, the carnival offers the perfect platform for businesses to gain new customers.

Just a few ways the carnival can help your business:

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

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

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com



Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Grass & Hedge Cutting in the Villages

Now that the spring time has arrived the cutting of the grass verges has resumed. EPC requests that parishioners do not park on the grass verges as this causes damage to them and inconveniences the contractors. EPC reminds all parishioners whose hedges border the pavements that they are required to ensure that their hedges are kept well-trimmed ensuring that the maximum pavement width is available for pedestrians, pushchair and wheelchair users.



Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Chris Poll and Cllr Peter Brazier attended the March Council meeting and reported on the following matters;

- Cllr Poll has contacted the Planning Officer about Primrose Cottage in Dagnall. It appears that demolition has commenced on the property which has resulted in the property being deliberately damaged without planning permission.
- At the last Buckinghamshire Full Council meeting the budget for 2022/23 was agreed with the maximum Council Tax increase. Cllr Poll stated that funding from Central Government has been cut significantly.
- There is a Boundary and Parliamentary Commission Review taking place. This is likely to affect this area due to the growth in Aylesbury, Buckingham and Milton Keynes. The plan is to reduce 147 councillors to 98 councillors. This will lead to a planned revision to the County Council; hence more changes to ward boundaries. Ivinghoe Ward will stay the same but the number of councillors will reduce from three to two.

More information can be viewed at www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/boundary-commission-for-england-launches-public-consultation-on-proposed-constituencies/



The EdleFest dates for 2022 have been confirmed as 10th and 11th June. More information and tickets are available via the EdleFest website <https://edlefest.site123.me/>



Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting will take place in Edlesborough Memorial Hall on Tuesday 24th May at 7.30 and is planned to end no later than 9pm. Please see the separate article in this edition of Focus for more information.

New Trees in Dagnall

Six new trees have been planted on the grass verge as you enter Dagnall from the Edlesborough direction. The trees have been planted as part of a scheme promoted by the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment. Unfortunately the trees were not planted in the correct location on the grass verge and Buckinghamshire Council are currently making arrangements for them to be relocated as quickly as possible.

EDaN Community Car Service

This is a group of local volunteers who support parishioners with journeys to hospital etc. The group which has been inactive due to Covid 19 has now resumed. The group is in need of more volunteer drivers. Any parishioner interested in using the service or volunteering should contact the co-ordinator Peter Williams via email at peterw500@aol.com or on 01442 842506.

EDaN Beautification Team

The EDaN Beautification Team continue to work hard tending to the various planters in the villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall which are all looking lovely. Do you enjoy gardening and have some time to spare? The EDaN Beautification Team is running low on volunteers for the tidying and watering of these planters. Anyone interested in getting involved or helping out with the watering should contact Mrs Christine Yates on 01525 220739 or chris@brooklyns.org.uk

Streetlights

Please report failed streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall to the Clerk for repair. When making a report please ensure you provide the Clerk with the information displayed on the lamp post.

Christmas Wreaths

Council have agreed that they will no longer hang the Christmas wreaths along High Street, Edlesborough. The number of wreaths available has reduced and there is an enormous amount of work involved in advertising the wreaths, chasing sponsorship/donations, hanging and removing the wreaths. Council agreed that the work done by the EDaN Beautification Team with the two Christmas Trees and dressing EMH in lights looks very special and it was agreed that the wreaths last December looked rather “sad” in comparison. The wreaths will be kept in case another body wishes to take them on and hang them each year. If no interest is received for them the wreaths will be offered to another Parish Council in November. Should a local organisation be interested in the Christmas Wreaths they should contact the Clerk for more information.

EPC Small Grant Scheme

The Council is currently considering two applications for small grants from local organisations. More information about the Small Grant Scheme can be found on the Council’s website.

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

Traffic Calming

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 or on 07828 398371

South End Lane, Northall - 20mph Zones

Council have raised a purchase order with Buckinghamshire Council for a Speed Survey to be carried out on South End Lane, Northall. The evidence gathered will help to inform whether the road is suitable for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit.

Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place at 7:30pm on:

- Thursday 19th May 2022 – Edlesborough Memorial Hall. This meeting will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council.
- Thursday 16th June 2022 – Edlesborough Memorial Hall

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 Agenda and full minutes of previous 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 on the Edlesborough Parish website.



Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky Office hours Mon – Fri 10am – 1pm (Excl. Wed)

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

Midnight Walk Returns for One Last Night

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity's annual Midnight Walk returns to Aylesbury for the final time after a two year hiatus on Saturday 16th July.

Since it began in 2010, the Midnight Walk has seen hundreds of men and women come together and take to the streets of Aylesbury, walking over 50,000 miles and raising over £650,000 for the charity over the years. But this will be the last opportunity to take part in the event.

The charity is hoping its local community will support their Farewell Midnight Walk, with walkers joining them to remember loved ones and support their local hospice as they walk the final miles for one last time.

Walkers can choose from 5 mile or 10 mile circular routes – both starting from Aylesbury College at midnight on Saturday 16th July, with refreshments at pit stops along the way. Each walker will also receive a commemorative Farewell Midnight Walk 2022 T-shirt, as well as a Finisher's medal and complimentary breakfast at the end of the walk.

For more information and to sign up, please visit www.fnhospice.org.uk/events/midnightwalk or call 01296 429975



Florence Nightingale Hospice is located at Stoke Mandeville Hospital and provides first class specialist palliative care which is accessible and free of charge to those with a life-limiting illness in Buckinghamshire. The Hospice also provides other services such as the FNH@Home services, providing end-of-life care for patients in their homes, Florrie's Children's Team respite care for families, the Day Hospice and Bereavement Support.

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity commits to fund over £1,000,000 of hospice services each year, supporting local in-patient and at-home palliative care services.

For more information, visit www.fnhospice.org.uk

Supporting total Hospice care for local people



Little Gaddesden Folk Club

Hello folks! It is with great pleasure to invite you all to the launch of a new folk, roots & blues club near to where we live, in the village just North of Dagnall, Little Gaddesden. The Little Gaddesden Folk Club was an idea born out of lockdown to help bring the very best in folk, roots and blues music to our little corner of Beds, Herts & Bucks.

Our launch event will be on Wednesday 25th May at 7pm and we have a fantastic young trio who go by the name of Granny's Attic to kick things off, along with some fabulous up-and-coming talent! Granny's Attic are a BBC Folk Award nominated trio, who have exceptional musicianship and boundless energy. Described by Folk Radio as "one of the most exciting and accomplished English folk acts on the scene right now", they have featured on the BBC Radio 2 Folk Show with Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 6 Music with Tom Robinson and most recently on the BBC Radio 3 breakfast show with Petroc Trelawny.

We are also delighted to welcome a very talented local musician, Lizzy Hardingham from St Albans to our line-up for the evening, who will be supporting Granny's Attic. Lizzy is an indomitable folk musician and ornate songstress, with "beautifully delivered songs that sing straight to the heart". Having been nominated for FATEA's coveted Female Artist of The Year, Lizzy is currently being mentored by the English Folk Expo and working on "firmly nailing her place as one of the rising stars of the folk scene".

Tickets are priced at £14 for the evening, with all profit donated to the Little Gaddesden School. The local Scout Group will be selling freshly made pizza's, delivered straight to your table! A raffle will also be held in aid of a local charity. Doors will open at 7pm, along with our licensed bar, with music starting at 8pm.

Tickets will be available to purchase from the Little Gaddesden Village Shop, or online via <https://www.wegotickets.com/lgfolkclub>

Full details can be found on our new Facebook page, www.facebook.com/thelgfolkclub, along with videos of our exceptional musicians, to whet your musical appetite!

Please share far and wide and we look forward to welcoming you on the 25th May, for what is guaranteed to be a fabulous experience and for a very good cause - keeping live music alive!

✉ Benjamin Dawson

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www.grannysattic.org.uk FANCOURT MUSIC



Online resource for Buckinghamshire's Ukrainian refugees, hosts and community groups

A new online resource for individuals, charities and community groups providing support for Ukrainian refugees in Buckinghamshire has been launched by local charity Community Impact Bucks.

The webpage – Community Support for Ukrainian refugees in Buckinghamshire – provides information on the help already available in the county, and also details of where individuals and organisations can register their offers of support. This includes information for:

- Bucks residents who want to help Ukrainian refugees in the county
- Charities/community groups in Buckinghamshire which are offering support or facilities to the county's Ukrainian refugees
- Refugees or hosts in the county who want to find out what support is available within Bucks communities

Buckinghamshire Council established the Bucks Ukraine Partnership, a cross-sector partnership, to coordinate support for Ukrainian refugees in the county. As part of this, Community Impact Bucks is leading the Community Capacity sub-group which is engaging with charities, community groups and individuals in the community who can offer support.

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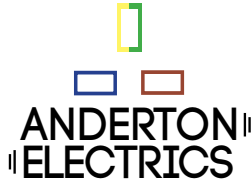
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EDLESBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB

Come and play tennis with us at our friendly club on The Green

- High quality floodlight courts with easy booking system
- Coaching available for adults and children from our LTA coach
- Weekly club nights, with balls and floodlights provided

Contact us at: enquiries@etctennis.org or visit us at: www.etctennis.org

Eaton Bray Cricket Club



Work done and ready to go.

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 and the Focus Magazine for their continued support. 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 2022.

Appledown Dog of the Month



Pretty Rosie is a lurcher born in 2021 and is full of the life and energy you would expect of a young dog. She is a sweet-natured girl who is learning her manners on the lead. She will need owners to continue her training and a secure garden for zoomies! Rosie would probably live with another dog pending introductions and could also live with a cat. More information and photos can be found on our Facebook page. Please visit our website for details of the rehoming process and an application form. Viewings are by appointment only.

To support our work you can make a one-off donation of £3 by texting APPLE to 70111, or donate via Paypal using the

'DONATE Support a Cause' option. Cheques are very welcome too!

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

01525 220383 (10am-1pm & 2-4 pm) E-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk **Viewings are by appointment only.**

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram!

This month some of our volunteers have been busy baking, ready for our Easter Bake. Other volunteers will help with the delivery of the boxes of sumptuous homemade cakes. We deliver to villagers who have requested our help throughout the year. The Easter cakes are always well received by everyone.

We continue to be in touch with some of the community by telephone. If you live on your own, having a chat on the telephone can make a lot of difference to your day. Our volunteer drivers have had many requests for lifts to hospitals or local doctors' surgeries.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer we would like to hear from you.

Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer. We provide lifts to doctors, or hospitals, collections of shopping or medication and befriending. We also have a mobile phone which we take in turns to receive the calls, for the requests for help, from local people in our villages. You can contact us by calling 07930 987064 when a friend will answer your call. We are here if you need any help



Stretching



Stretching, its benefits and when “stretching it out” may not be the right thing to do!

“If you don’t use it, you lose it!” This is certainly very true where muscle flexibility and strength are concerned. We tend to lose flexibility as we age and by stretching, we can help to avoid injury and to produce mood-boosting chemicals in the brain, helping us both physically and mentally.

Before and after exercise we should stretch - before exercise it’s thought best to focus on more dynamic stretches which involve movement as you are preparing the muscles, tendons and joints for activity. After exercise, focus on doing static, more classic stretch postures, holding them for up to 30 seconds to give the muscles time to lengthen and recover.

Constantly tight muscles? If you find that no matter how hard you try, some of your muscles are always tight then think again before just repeatedly trying to stretch them. They may be “hanging on” because of some form of muscle imbalance, causing odd movement patterns. An assessment from a Physiotherapist can enable you to do exercises to correct this, and **then** stretch the tightened muscle group(s).

If you feel that you might like a little more help to understand your body’s flexibility, or lack of it, seek the advice of a Chartered Physiotherapist who can assess and guide you to a more flexible, less injury-prone you.



Dagnall Community Choir

Have you been thinking about joining a choir? Then please come along to:

DAGNALL COMMUNITY CHOIR

OPEN EVENING

Monday 23rd May* 2022

7.45 – 9.45pm

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road, HP4 1RL

We are looking to recruit new members and would welcome anyone who would like to come along to our open evening to find out more about the choir. This will be a relaxed and fun evening featuring some of our favourite music, and a chance to meet current choir members and our excellent musical team. Feel free to join in, or just come along to listen (there may even be cake!)

The choir is pleased to announce that we have a number of up-and-coming performances planned for the next few months. We are excited to have been asked to sing at the Queen's Jubilee celebrations that will be taking place on Edlesborough Green on Sunday June 5th – more details to follow nearer the time.

In September we have booked Eaton Bray Village Hall for an autumn showcase concert. We haven't been able to do this sort of event for the last two years, so we're really looking forward to making this a very special occasion. Put the date in your diary now – Saturday 10th September.

The next opportunity to hear us sing will be at the annual Poppy Prom which takes place at St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray on Saturday 12th November, then on Sunday 18th December we will be hosting a Christmas Concert at Dagnall Village Hall.

There may be additional events and performances added to this list, so watch this space or check our website for up-to-date information.

With all these performances lined up we are working on increasing our repertoire, and Michelle tells us she has plenty of new music planned for us to learn... Amongst the recent additions to our music folders are songs from the musicals Chess and West Side Story; we're also tackling a bit of Latin Rock and reviving some of the classical pieces we've mastered in the past. Something for everyone as usual!

* in case of any changes to this date please check our website www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk, or telephone 07443 037227.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

March 2022

£100 Mark Moss

£25 Brian Hing

£10 Joan Hing

April 2022

£25 Zara Chamberlain

£10 Joe Roff

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by Meadow Marquess, ECL Howard Watson Smith LLP, Tops Tiles and SMSS Ltd

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Eaton Bray Parish Council Focus Report

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website: 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.

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

Parish Council Open Office/Surgery

If you need to speak to the Parish Council Clerk about local matters, you can visit the Parish Council Office at the Coffee Tavern on the second Tuesday after the monthly parish council meeting each month. For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk or visit <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/parish-council-surgery/>

Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council has vacancies, if interested in joining, please contact the Parish Clerk. For further information, please visit: <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/become-a-parish-councillor/>

Parish Allotments

Formal Notice of Allotment Inspections May 2022 - The Meads/Holmans Field Allotments

To: Allotment Holders – Allotment inspections will be conducted in May 2022, to ensure allotment plots are being cultivated in accordance with the Allotment Tenancy Agreement.

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 7 March 2022, from 7:30pm

(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 04/04/2022)

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

Cllr Philip Spicer - email: Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CBC Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CBC Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

- Parking/Greenways: CBC are carrying out a design and feasibility study. The Parish Council have written to CBC Chief Executive about the length of time this matter has been going on.
- Grants/Match Funding: The Parish Council are looking into funding opportunities from CBC/Ward Cllr Spicer towards local schemes.

Planning Applications – February 2022/March 2022

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.

Monthly Payments, March 2022

A copy of the Parish Council monthly payments can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

Recreation Grounds

- School Lane ground: Repair works to the footpaths were carried out on Monday 28 February 2022.
- School Lane ground: Removal of old wooden benches: The Parish Council to organise the removal of the old wooden rotten benches.
- School Lane play area: The Parish Council to repair/make good matting around the mini roundabout.

Highways

- Speedwatch: All Speedwatch members have completed their training. The group are just waiting for final confirmation from the police that all training is complete and then the group will be able to organise Speedwatch sessions within the village.
- Road Closure notification signs: The Parish Council to display pre-road closure notification signs for the Carnival and Remembrance Service– signs to be fitted 1-2 weeks prior to event and removed after.

Watercourse/Mill End Close

- Benches: Two new benches have been fitted along the pathway in Mill End Close.

Jubilee Celebrations

- The Parish Council to order poles/flags for display along the parish roads.
*UPDATE: Flags/Poles order has been received, ready for installation.
- Picnic in the Park/Queen's Platinum Jubilee: The Parish Council wanted to thank those who responded to the survey concerning the potential interest in the Village to hold a Jubilee Event in the School Lane Park.

From the limited number of replies received it appeared that there were a few events being planned in the village. The Parish Council has therefore taken the decision not to proceed.

Parish Trees

- St. Mary's Church/Ash: Work to the tree was carried out on 23 March 2022.
- Landscape Buffer/Maple: Work to the tree was carried out on 24 March 2022.

Parish Council Meetings (The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

Details can be obtained from the EBPC website, www.ebpc.co.uk

- Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 9 May 2022 from 7:00pm
- Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council, Monday 9 May 2022 from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6 June 2022, from 7:30pm

Parish Council Open Office/Surgery *(dates subject to change, please check the EBPC Website for updates)*

- Tuesday 17 May 2022, 10am-12noon, The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray
- Tuesday 14 June 2022, 10am-12noon, The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

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





The Great British Spring Clean – Litter Picking in Edlesborough and Northall

Litter Pickers in Edlesborough and Northall have been out in force over the past couple of weeks supporting the “Keep Britain Tidy” Great British Spring Clean. Edlesborough Cub Scouts started us off with an enthusiastic litter pick on and around the Green, along Cow Lane and around Townside and Slicketts Lane – which broke new ground for our Group. Well done and thank you for all your help. Hopefully they will have been surprised and taken aback at the amount of litter our village manages to generate! The more “mature” members of the Group have been busy around the Traveller’s Rest area and along the main road between Edlesborough and Northall as well as clearing roads in Northall. We have covered large areas of the villages but sadly there is always lots to do. To date the wonderful “Men in Orange” from Streetscene have collected in the region of 35 bags of litter from us and we now have another 15 for them! Where does it all come from?? Well mainly from the local supermarkets. Much of our haul is cans and beer and wine bottles which people obviously dump because they don’t want folk at home to know about their drinking habits. Northall is at just about the distance where people in cars finish their McDonald’s meal, open their car windows, and turf it into the hedges rather than take it home. During lockdown, when McDonalds was closed, much of the litter magically disappeared from the hedgerows!!

On your behalf I would like to thank the band of intrepid pickers who turn out regularly and often put themselves in jeopardy collecting rubbish from the busy main roads. I know that the majority of people driving along the main road are not locals and won’t see this, but if you do happen to drive past one of our band, please SLOW DOWN a bit and maybe open a window and yell a “Thank You”. We do appreciate being appreciated!!

Recently we have been struggling with an influx of litter at the Memorial Hall Car Park end of the Green. The main problem appears to be that people use the two bins in the area until they are overflowing, and then the winds that we have been experiencing recently have been blowing the excess out onto the Green and car park. The Group are liaising with the Parish Council to try to find a solution to this problem. The bins are emptied on Fridays at the moment. If you find that the nearest bin is full when you are on the Green, it would be very helpful if you could either find a less full bin as there are quite a few, - or just take your litter home with you. This problem will probably get worse in lovely summer weather when picnics on the Green are popular....

The real message is that it is really up to all of us to help keep our villages tidy. We shouldn’t have to do it, but litter is an unpleasant part of life these days and is not getting any better despite all the publicity about “taking care of the environment” If we all keep “our patch” clean, take our rubbish home when we are out, spread the word, and encourage our young people things might just improve. I would love to think that one day I would go out with my litter picker and be bored stiff because there was nothing to do!!



Eaton Bray Methodist Church

To our great delight, Geoff Best visited us again on the first March Sunday (which was also the first Sunday in Lent) and gave another of his inspiring sermons; he reminded us of Jesus's firm and uncompromising response to the Devil's temptations in the wilderness. It was the first step of his journey to death on the cross. This difficult road mirrors ours as we travel through life. It isn't easy but it will be OK because he has walked the road before us and will accompany with us as we battle through. Our second Sunday was Café Worship, led with vigour by Steve Rogers. We had an interesting debate comparing a variety of human qualities in Christian life and a valuable discussion of what constitutes 'tough love'. On the third Sunday, John Enejo focused on the topic of repentance and what it really means. Repentance is another way of expressing change and can lead to eternal life. The fourth service in March was on Mothering Sunday and was led by the Bible Study Group. It was a thoughtful celebration of motherhood, with all the joys and trials that it represents. At the end of the service, posies of spring flowers were distributed to the congregation. March was an incredibly sad month for us, as our Minister's wife, Elisabeth Bibbings, passed into God's gracious and eternal care following a long battle with cancer. She was an inspiring woman, a fine Lay Worker and Preacher, and a good friend to all the village churches in her husband's ministry. She will be greatly missed.

A Warm Invitation

If you would like to join us in a Sunday service, you would be very welcome. Our worship takes place in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Totternhoe Rd and starts at 10.30am.



The Salvation Army, Eaton Bray

Programme

Morning Worship	Sunday 11.am
Coffee Morning (alternate weeks)	Tuesday 10.-11.30am
Home League (Ladies meeting)	Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm
Champions Club	Wednesday 6.15-7.15pm
Girls Night Out (1st Thurs of the month)	Thursdays 7.45 pm

For further information please telephone:
01582 471117 or 07779939794
Or contact us by email:
eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk



**Chiltern
Art
Club**

St Giles church hall Totternhoe
every Tuesday 12pm to 3pm
All levels of skills welcome

Contacts
01582 607315
01582 872115



Please Support Christian Aid Week 15th - 21st May

Christian Aid are working with mothers in South Sudan, sharing knowledge with them about nutrition so they can give their children a good start in life.

You can help to support this work by coming along to one of the following events or donating online to Christian Aid.

Go to www.caid.org.uk/strength to make your donation

Hunger Lunch

Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray

Tuesday 17th May, 2022 11am – 1pm

Soup, bread and cakes

Cost £5

For further information contact:

07779 939794 or 01582 471117

or email: eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk

Please let them know beforehand for catering purposes

Edlesborough Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

Saturday 28th May, 2022 10am – 12 noon



St Mary's Spring Fair and Coffee Morning
Saturday 7 May 2022
Eaton Bray Village Hall
11am – 3pm

Come and enjoy a coffee and cake, or some delicious lunchtime refreshments including our legendary bacon butties! Then browse the lovely craft stalls, plus jigsaws, raffle, chocolate tombola and plants for sale.

If you would like a stall for the event, please contact Barbara Morton on 01525 852368, or email barbara.morton1@gmail.com

30th Village Hall Quiz

? **Saturday 7th May** ?

Come and help us celebrate another momentous occasion

This fabulous quiz will include a Ploughman's supper with the questions. Bring your own glasses and drink.



7.00pm for 7.30pm



Just £9 per person. Teams of up to 8 people
Fabulous prizes!



For bookings contact Robert Taylor
Mintyman1958@gmail.com



Mary Seacole



The Mary Seacole Building, situated at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, is a prime example of using pioneers of the past to inspire a future generation. Used for educating nurses and midwives, and recently as a space for the NHS to carry out PPE training, the building opened in 2020.

Mary Seacole was born in Jamaica in 1805. This was during the period when many black people in the Caribbean were forced to work as slaves. Although Mary's mother was black, her father James Grant was a white Scottish army officer and Mary was born a 'free person'.

Mary's mother ran a lodging house, Blundell Hall, but she was also a healer and taught Mary many of her skills using traditional Jamaican medicines.

By 1818, aged 12, Mary helped run the boarding house, where many of the guests were sick or injured soldiers. Three years later, she travelled to England with relatives and stayed for a year. It was an opportunity to acquire knowledge about modern European medicine, supplementing her training in traditional Caribbean techniques.

Mary travelled and then returned to Kingston and married Edwin Seacole in 1836, but Edwin became unwell so Mary nursed him until he died in 1844 closely followed by her mother's death. In the early 1850s Mary nursed victims of Cholera and Yellow Fever in Kingston and Panama. In 1853 she was invited by the medical authorities to supervise nursing services at the Kingston British Army's headquarters and she used Blundell Hall as a hospital.

The Crimean War (October 1853 - February 1856) was fought by a coalition including Britain, against the Russian Empire. Mary travelled to England and approached the British War Office, asking to be sent as an army nurse to the Crimea where she had heard there were poor medical facilities for wounded soldiers. She was refused. Undaunted, she funded her own trip to Crimea, where she established the British Hotel with Thomas Day, a relative of her husband. The hotel provided a place of respite for sick and recovering soldiers. At the time, Mary was as well-known in Britain as Florence Nightingale. Ms Nightingale's military hospital was situated hundreds of miles from the frontline in Scutari (now called Üsküdar, just outside the Turkish city of Istanbul). But Mary's hotel near Balaclava was much closer to the fighting. Mary was able to visit the battlefield, sometimes under fire, to nurse the wounded. She nursed sick soldiers so kindly that they called her 'Mother Seacole'.

When the war ended, Mary went back to Britain with very little money. Soldiers wrote letters to newspapers, praising what she had done. All those who admired her came to her aid, whether soldiers, generals or members of the Royal family. In 1857 a fund-raising gala was held for her over four nights on the banks of the River Thames. Over 80,000 people attended. The same year she published her autobiography, *The Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole in Many Lands*, which became an instant bestseller.

Mary died in London in 1881. Unfortunately, she was then lost to history for around 100 years until nurses from the Caribbean visited her grave in North West London, where the local MP, Lord Clive Soley, promised to raise money for a statue for Mary. In 2004, Mary was voted the Greatest Black Briton. Lord Soley launched the campaign for a statue after leaving the House of Commons. In 2016, the statue was finally unveiled in the grounds of St Thomas' Hospital on London's Southbank.

Courtesy of the Mary Seacole Trust: <https://www.maryseacoletrust.org.uk/learn-about-mary/>

Your Photos



A path through Bluebell Wood by Andy Cross. A male great spotted woodpecker by Adrian Lewis. Edlesborough Church by Agnieszka Brozek



Easy Chicken Fajitas

By Steven Morris

Ingredients

2 large chicken breasts, finely sliced
1 red onion, finely sliced
1 red pepper, sliced
1 red chilli, finely sliced (optional)

For the marinade

1 heaped tbsp smoked paprika
1 tbsp ground coriander
pinch of ground cumin
2 medium garlic cloves, crushed
4 tbsp olive oil
1 lime, juiced
4-5 drops Tabasco

To serve

6 medium tortillas
bag mixed salad
230g tub fresh salsa

Method

Step 1

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and wrap 6 medium tortillas in foil.

Step 2

Mix 1 heaped tbsp smoked paprika, 1 tbsp ground coriander, a pinch of ground cumin, 2 crushed garlic cloves, 4 tbsp olive oil, the juice of 1 lime and 4-5 drops Tabasco

together in a bowl with a big pinch each of salt and pepper.

Step 3

Stir 2 finely sliced chicken breasts, 1 finely sliced red onion, 1 sliced red pepper and 1 finely sliced red chilli, if using, into the marinade.

Step 4

Heat a griddle pan until smoking hot and add the chicken and marinade to the pan.

Step 5

Keep everything moving over a high heat for about 5 mins using tongs until you get a nice charred effect. If your griddle pan is small you may need to do this in two batches.

Step 6

To check the chicken is cooked, find the thickest part and tear in half – if any part is still raw cook until done.

Step 7

Put the tortillas in the oven to heat up and serve with the cooked chicken, a bag of mixed salad and one 230g tub of fresh salsa.



Easy Cheesecake

By Jason Atherton

Ingredients

4 shortbread biscuits
300g tub soft cheese
zest and juice of 1 lime
3 tbsp icing sugar
½ a 380g pack of frozen mixed berries, plus a few extra to serve

Method

Step 1

Put the shortbread biscuits into a plastic bag and bash with a rolling pin until broken. Divide between two dessert glasses. Beat together the soft cheese with the zest of a

lime and 2 tbsp icing sugar until smooth. Put this on top of each biscuit base and smooth out with the back of a spoon.

Step 2

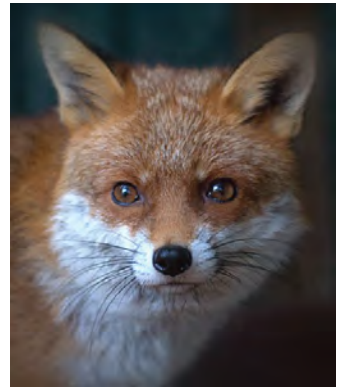
Take the mixed frozen berries, defrost and blend half with 1 tbsp icing sugar and the juice of the lime. Pour this on top of each cheesecake and scatter with a few extra whole berries. Serve or sit in the fridge for a few hours before serving.



The Red Fox

Courtesy of The Fox Project www.foxproject.org.uk/

The fox is an opportunist which has adapted perfectly to urban and suburban environments. It is a small member of the canine family, an omnivore that will eat practically anything. Its diet includes worms, beetles, berries, carrion, small rodents, rabbits and birds. Although an efficient predator, it is basically lazy and will not bother with elusive prey where scavenging might produce an easier meal. Larger items it takes and buries to insure against future hard times when food may be sparse.



Fox screams often wake and scare people, but they are no more than fox conversations. This is usually only problematic for short periods during autumn, when juveniles are dispersing, and in the mating season, between Christmas and early February.

Concern is sometimes expressed over “too many” foxes being present in an area. The population, like that of all carnivores, is self regulating and limited by the amount of food and territory available. Cubs born simply replace the number of adults lost since the previous breeding season. Foxes are loners, not pack animals, and the family usually disperses by late autumn.

Having said that, the most recent scientific research on foxes indicates the national fox population has fallen by 41% since 1995, so ‘over-population’ is less probable than ever.

Foxes will take livestock such as chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs if they are not properly secured, but are unlikely to threaten cats, dogs or humans, all of which are more than a match for an adult fox. The fact that urban foxes, in particular, often appear unafraid of humans has more to do with the fact they have learned how slowly humans can move, and how fast they can move if they have to! As foxes search for food, garden damage may occur, but most damage can easily be prevented

by using non-toxic chemical repellents which move foxes on humanely. Foxes are protected under a series of wildlife protection laws against poisoning, gassing, asphyxiating, maiming, stabbing, impaling, drowning, clubbing and most forms of snaring, with anyone carrying out such acts subject to 6 months imprisonment and/or £5,000 fine per animal.

The fox is sometimes incorrectly referred to as vermin. It is not, and never has been categorised as such by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the only body empowered to impose the term on a wild species.

Recipe for Happiness

**1 large smile,
2 cups of sweetness
A large helping of positivity,
A good sense of humour
1 cup of self-esteem,
2 spoonfuls of true faith
1 spoonful of good will,
2 pinches of easy going
and a heart full of love.
"Mix together and share with
family and friends"**



It's time for action - small changes make a huge difference to our planet

WHY SAVE FOOD

From shop to home – we can all make a difference

Food is something that unites. It's something that is lovingly grown and nurtured for months before it arrives in our shops. It's a social activity, a comfort, an essential, and a luxury.

And yet in UK households we waste 6.5 million tonnes of it every year, 4.5 million of which is edible. We're not talking egg shells or chicken bones... We mean the last few bites from your plate that you couldn't quite manage, or your bread crusts, or potato peelings – all stuff which could have been transformed into something delicious.

Those 4.5 million tonnes are enough to fill 38 million wheelie bins, or 90 Royal Albert Halls. It's a lot, but we have the power to change this.

LOVE YOUR FOOD

Your food is at its best when it's on your plate, ready to be enjoyed. It's perfect in your fridge, ready to be used, or stored in the freezer for another time. It's at its worst when it's in your bin.

Saving food means saving money, but look at the bigger picture, too. Reducing food waste is good for the planet, as it helps slow down global warming. If global food waste were a country, it would be third largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China and the US. By using up every edible bit of your food, you're doing your bit to look after the environment; imagine what we could achieve if we all make a change!

FOR THE PLANET, AND FOR YOUR PURSE

The average family of four can save just over £60 per month by reducing their food waste. Whether you're doing the food shop or ordering a meal at a restaurant, every decision is an opportunity to save food from the bin. If you don't want a side salad, ask for your meal without it. If you won't make good use of the extra portion, don't be tempted by it. And if you can't finish your main, ask for a doggy bag! Food is made to be loved, so that's what we should do.

We believe that every person has a part to play in reducing food waste and looking after the planet. The time is now, and the answer is simple: love food, hate waste.

We'll help you every step of the way."

✍️ Sarah Clayton

Love Food Hate Waste

For ideas and recipes for leftovers go to:

www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

Edlesborough Flowers



Flowers For All Occasions

Hand Tied Bouquets
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Novelties & Gifts : Candles & Diffusers

Tel: 01525 221920

www.edlesborough-flowers.co.uk

Email: info@edlesborough-flowers.co.uk

2 High Street Edlesborough LU6 2HS



Down the Lane

Today, as I write this, it's a cold, sunny April day. There's lots of colour in the garden, mainly bulbs, but shrubs and trees are coming into flower. There is a lovely prunus, with deep pink blossom, outside my kitchen window. The blackthorn and prune plum flowerings are nearly over. There have been a few bees around so I hope there will be fruit. My bluebells are already in flower though they will soon be hidden by cow parsley. There will be no cow parsley flowering down South End Lane this year thanks to Buckinghamshire Council trying to turn the verges into lawns by mowing them regularly. This is not the way to be eco-friendly!



Roadside verges can be a haven for wildlife. The lane is about 800 metres long so that gives about 1600 sqm of verge or flower meadow. I know I need to contact BC as highway maintenance is not under the remit of the Parish Council.

Thanks to Monty Don, I have discovered that my domesticated cowslips are primulas! They have now been flowering for a month. I'll pot some up for sale at St Mary's Spring Fair on May 7th. There will also be winter aconites, one of the few plants which flower in January and provide nectar for any bees around then. This year I'm planning to collect seed from my snowdrops to plant in the garden and St Mary's churchyard under the new native hedge. The seed pods need

to be collected when they change colour and planted straight away. I've always split and moved snowdrop clumps before. Collecting seeds will be less time consuming but the flowers will not appear for a couple of years.

I'm sowing vegetable seeds now. It always exciting to try something new so this year it's artichokes in a flower bed as the plants are too big for the vegetable plot. Many vegetables have attractive foliage which has given me other ideas, purple kale, carrots and climbing beans, which have pretty flowers, to go into the borders. During the winter I bought kallettes, a cross between sprouts and kale, to eat which are delicious but expensive in the shops. I've bought some seed for the vegetable plot. I will also grow some outdoor cucumbers. The press is warning that fuel costs are deterring commercial growers from growing cucumbers this year.

My photos this month are primulas, and a pot with thalia daffodils and tulips. This is the third year I have left the bulbs in the pot. They must like all the fertiliser given to the summer bedding which is planted as they die back! The third picture is a robinia with its colourful new growth.



✍️ Sally Taylor



SAVE THE DATE - HAVE YOUR SAY!



In the days before social media came along the government decreed that there must be a forum where the Parish Council publicly and formally reviews its achievements and plans each year with its electors. It is known as the **Annual Parish Meeting**.

The meeting offers any electors in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall the opportunity to raise any issues. Unlike a normal Parish Council meeting, in this special meeting anyone is allowed to speak on any topic related to the parish.

Edlesborough Parish Council plans to take this a stage further. We would like to invite organisations based in the parish to join us and share their plans for the future and identify ways the Parish Council and/or electors might help to support them. They will have the opportunity to address all the participants in the meeting. It also provides the opportunity to meet with councillors informally.

Coupled with this EPC has launched a Small Grants Scheme to invite individuals and local groups/organisations to apply for funding. We will invite them to share their plans/progress of any Parish Council funded project. Similarly, we will invite representatives of existing organisations that have already received council funding to share their plans. We would also like to make you aware of new opportunities to participate in initiatives and funding from Buckinghamshire Council.

The law requires that a meeting be held each year and that both the chair and clerk of the council organise the meeting between March and 1st June. The chair of the council is required to chair the meeting. Sadly the government rules say that we are not allowed to hold the meeting on licensed premises so we are unable to hold it in our new pavilion. However, we are not prevented from serving 'refreshments' in Edlesborough Memorial Hall. We will send out formal invitations to existing organisations. **We want you especially, the electors, to come along.** In order to ensure we provide sufficient "refreshments" for all attendees we request that you inform Penny Pataky our Parish Clerk of your intention to via clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or 01525 229358

The meeting will take place in Edlesborough Memorial Hall on Tuesday 24th May at 7.30 and is planned to end no later than 9pm.

Details of the small grants scheme are available on our website www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/community-information/epc-small-grant-scheme/

We look forward to joining with you in this new forum on parish life.

Edlesborough Parish Council



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God has no favourites

At the time of writing we are just coming to the end of **Lent** and looking forward to **Easter**. We have held our usual **Lent** discussions on Zoom again this year. Our subject was 'God has no favourites'. This was taken from St. Paul's letter to the Galatians chapter 3 where he explains 'There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.'

So we all have the same worth with God through Jesus. Currently there is so much division and jealousy for one another in this world. There is no need as we are all equal in God's eyes. We are here in this world for a short period of time and then what? Do you think there is anything after that? If you believe the Bible you will know that through believing on Jesus there is an eternal life. So death is not the end and there is a huge prospect to look forward to.

We have a lot to be thankful for, it gives us peace and it helps to have a positive outlook as we struggle with daily concerns.

We can have confidence that those who have power over us are in no better position than us. Any power should not be abused. Power is a responsibility.

We discussed how we can improve things and we concluded that each has a responsibility to care for one

another – Jesus tells us to 'love one another as I have loved you' (John 13 v 34). We can all do things using our powers - however small. If we don't know if things have been ethically produced, we can choose not to buy them. We might try to mend things rather than throw them away. We all want a better life for our children and they are learning at school how not to waste the earth's resources. Perhaps we need to learn from them?

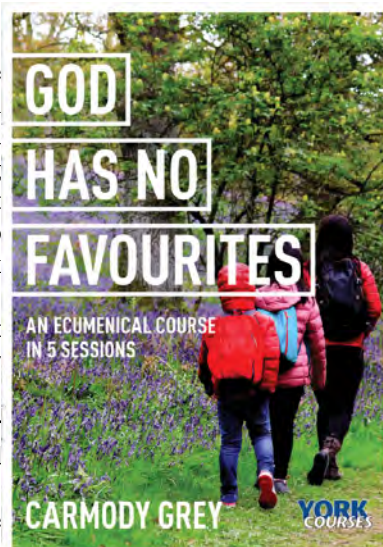
Two years of the pandemic has taught us that we need to do things differently. So we can do some of our meetings – business or otherwise - on Zoom or Teams. This saves the fuel and the travel time. Perhaps you can think of other things that would help in little ways.

Many of us have been sending money and goods to those in Ukraine recently - caring for our brothers and sisters there during this difficult time. What can you do to make things better for others?

If you would like to know more about God and the new life you have in him, why not join us on Sundays at 11 am. You will get a warm welcome. Refreshments served afterwards. For those unable to attend in person we also stream our services.

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

✉ Ruth Cox Tel: 07791 425625



Eaton Bray History

The White Horse Public House: The Green, Eaton Bray

(courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)



The White Horse about 1920

The White Horse is the oldest known licensed premises in Eaton Bray. The earliest record of it is in 1810 when it was the venue for a court held by the Manor of Eaton Bray with the Members. The building was listed by the former Department of Environment in September 1980 as Grade II, of special interest. The department dated the construction to the early 19th century, raising the interesting possibility that it was purpose built as a

public house. The building is clad in colourwashed roughcast and has a hipped slate roof. It has been extended to the rear.

The White Horse played a minor role in a felony. In 1832 Samuel Heley of Edlesborough [Buckinghamshire] and George Woodcraft of Eaton Bray were accused of stealing ducks from Eaton Bray farmer William Rollings. He went to Heley's house and found one and a half ducks there, he also found two ducks at Woodcraft's house. He then went to the White Horse where he saw two ducks' heads to one of which he identified because it had a blemish on the top of the eye, though the eye had been knocked out. 30 year old Heley and 25 year old Woodcraft were both sentenced to six months' hard labour. Woodcraft seems to have stayed on the right side of the law but Heley went to prison twice more – in 1845 for stealing apples and pears, when he received fourteen days' hard labour and in 1876 when he served fourteen days' for breaching the Factory Acts.

The countywide licensing register of 1876 states that the owner was Annie Macnamara of Caddington, Lady of the Manor, she leased the property to Dunstable brewer Benjamin Bennett, meaning that the publican, James Bird, was the sub-tenant. By the time of the 1891 licensing register the pub was a free house, though still owned by the Macnamaras.

In 1898 the public house was put up for sale by auction by Arthur Macnamara. The sale particulars read as follows:

THE FULLY-LICENSED PUBLIC HOUSE

Known as

“THE WHITE HORSE”

Situate at the junction of the High Roads in the centre of EATON BRAY VILLAGE and within four miles of the towns of LEIGHTON BUZZARD and DUNSTABLE

Comprising

SUBSTANTIALLY-BUILT HOUSE,

containing

BAR, PARLOUR, CLUB ROOM, TAP ROOM AND EIGHT BED ROOMS;

Connected by covered way are

KITCHEN, WASH-HOUSE AND STORE;

THE OUTBUILDINGS

Include
Stabling for Seven Horses and Barn,
And in field
PIGGERY AND HEN-HOUSE
Together with
GARDEN AND PADDOCK
Containing
0a. 3r. 35p.

Let on a Yearly Michaelmas tenancy to Mr. HENRY SELLS at the low Rent of £30 per annum.
THE POSITION OF THIS HOUSE RENDERS IT CAPABLE OF DOING A LARGE
TRADE.

The particulars are annotated to show that the White Horse was bought by Berkhamsted [Hertfordshire] brewers Lock & Smith for £2,000. Perhaps the rent was not as low as the sale particulars suggested because in 1901 the publican, Henry Sells, became insolvent and his possessions were sold at auction. The pub was a favourite place for auction sales for the best part of a century, from at least 1858 until at least 1944.

The countywide licensing register of 1903 duly shows the White Horse owned by Lock & Smith. It is described as: “clean and in good repair” and was just 44 yards from the next licensed premises (The Five Bells); the property had one front, one side and one rear door.

The Rating and Valuation Act 1925 specified that every building and piece of land in the country was to be assessed to determine its rateable value. Like most of the county, Eaton Bray was assessed in 1927 and the valuer visiting the White Horse found that it was now owned and occupied by George Walter Shiers. The valuer commented: “Nice attractive looking place but looks larger outside than inside”

The property comprised a public bar (“good”), a tap room (“rather small”), a club room (“good, brick floor”), a kitchen, a sitting room and a large lobby with six bedrooms (“one a letting bedroom”), a dining room and a bathroom upstairs. A brick, weather-boarded and slated washhouse, a coal shed and a WC stood outside along with three brick, stone and slated stables (“disused”) and a weather-boarded and sheet iron two bay open shed.

The takings were said to be £12 per week in winter and £18 in summer. Trade consisted of four barrels of beer per week (“?? Halves?”), eight to twelve dozen bottles of beer per week, six gallons of spirits per year and eighteen gallons of wine per year. The valuer observed: “Good stock in cellar. Been here just over a year”. Evidently there was some uncertainty over the level of trade because another hand has written: “Mrs. Shiers says five barrels per month. Mr. Shiers in bed” and another person has written: “I think above trade rather underestimated”. The observation was made: “House faces small green, good position. Five Bells practically adjoins”.

The owner also had an orchard of just over half an acre (“few trees”) and a small plot with a weather-boarded and tiled meal house and store. In the orchard stood two weather-boarded and tiled piggeries and a weather-boarded and felt hen house (“good”).

The White Horse is now the only public house in Eaton Bray – the rest having closed and either been demolished, become private houses or restaurants.



The White Horse December 2008



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Who Do You Think You Are Has Got Nothing on Me!

I started researching my family history when I retired a few years ago, little did I know what I would find.

My father was orphaned at the tender age of 8, his parents died within a couple of weeks of each other in November and December 1931. He and his 3 siblings became the responsibility of 3 much older step siblings who split them up and sent them off to boarding school or to live with family friends or relatives. Consequently, their contact with each other was sporadic and they certainly knew nothing of their closer family, aunts, uncles, cousins etc.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered that my paternal grandfather had 11 siblings!!! My father who sadly passed away some years ago, definitely knew nothing of these uncles and aunts and what a job I had ahead of me, researching all these relatives with the surname Smith – my maiden name.

After joining ancestry.co.uk I was able to make a lot of headway, my first discovery being 3 of my cousins who were brought up in Wales. Now for my first shock, one of these cousins had been in the RAF and having reached the end of his time there had gone on to create a business buying and refurbishing old aircraft. He subsequently bought a small airfield and became the owner of numerous planes, including Spitfires, that he had worked on and flew. Little did my Dad (a great James Bond fan) know that when he was watching Tomorrow Never Dies, it was his nephew flying one of the Spitfires that appeared in that film!

My next discovery was that my Father had two very glamorous cousins, one had been a Playboy Bunny Girl, the other a Page 3 Girl (who remembers them?) who married John Conteh, the boxer. So I now have a world champ in my family tree. Even more shocking was the fact that their family lived just five minutes from me at my previous address in Harrow. If only we'd known.

I have managed to make contact with all these cousins and second cousins, either spoken to them on the telephone, written to them or actually met them.

The last discovery I will go into now (though I could go on for pages more!) is a very sad one concerning another cousin of my father's, again someone he knew nothing of. As Leading Aircraftman in the RAF, this cousin was called upon to serve in World War II, captured and taken Prisoner of War by the Japanese.

Having become sick from starvation and torture, he, along with numerous other sick prisoners, both British and Dutch (a total of 549 men) were being transported to Java on board the prisoner of war ship Suez Maru. Almost one hundred sick Japanese were also on board.

On 29th November 1943, the Suez Maru was torpedoed by American submarine USS Bonefish, commanded by Cdr Tom Hogan, obviously unaware of who was on board. Hundreds were drowned and hundreds more, both allied and Japanese, managed to escape and were struggling in the water. A Japanese minesweeper managed to pick up Japanese survivors then slowly circled the British and Dutch who were still in the water struggling for survival and shot them with machine guns and rifles. Only one lived to tell the tale.

This tragedy is still, to this day, being discussed in Parliament. No official explanation or apology was ever offered.

I thought ancestry research was going to be easy, I'm not even half way through researching my paternal great uncles and aunts! I wish I had the Who Do You Think You Are team to help.

✍️ by an Edlesborough resident

How to Care for Your Lawn

Courtesy of BBC Gardeners' World Magazine

A lush, well-maintained lawn is the perfect green foil for colourful herbaceous borders, a great setting for summer picnics and even a foraging ground for birds and other wildlife. We show you how to keep your lawn looking its best all year round.

How to care for your lawn

Regularly mowing your lawn will help promote lush, green growth. Nip out weeds like dandelions when you see them to stop them competing with the grass and scatter grass seed into bare patches to get them growing again. Use stored rainwater and grey water to water your lawn in dry summers to stop it going brown. Spike the turf with a fork to aerate trampled areas to help bring them back to life, and rake out dead growth in autumn to maintain a lush, green sward.

Follow our care tips to improve the condition and appearance of your lawn, below.

Mow your lawn regularly

Cut your lawn at least once a week in summer and once every two weeks during spring, autumn and warm winters. Regular trimming encourages the roots to spread, which will help to fill gaps and block out weeds.

In summer, raise the cutting height of your mower to leave the lawn longer – around 5-10cm – as this will make it less prone to going brown in dry weather. Keep your mower well maintained and the blades sharp.

Water your lawn

Always water young lawns but don't over water as this can cause them to root shallowly and establish poorly. Where possible, use rainwater from a water butt or grey water from your bath or washing up bowl. Sprinklers are perfect for keeping lawns hydrated but they use a lot of mains water and are not permitted during a hosepipe ban. Don't worry if an established lawn goes brown, it's not dead. It will simply green up again when the rains come.

Weed your lawn

Plantains and dandelions have wide, flat leaves that can smother large areas of lawn and inhibit growth, although they are easy to remove using a hand trowel or daisy grubber. Yellow medick, buttercups and clover can also spread quickly through a lawn, so raking before you mow can help to lift them up into the mower blades, weakening and killing them off over time.



Try to avoid using weedkiller. Chemical weedkillers can be expensive and ultimately don't tackle poor grass health, which helps weeds to thrive. If you feel you need to use one, try a homemade weed killer instead.



Relieve compacted grass

Compacted ground prevents grass growing well and can lead to bare patches in the summer and mud baths in the winter. Relieve the compaction and aerate the soil by pushing a garden fork about 10cm deep into the soil every 10cm and gently rocking back and forth on the fork handle. The prongs open up the soil, allowing

the roots to breathe and encouraging the grass to regrow.

On heavy ground, such as clay soils, brush sharp sand or fine horticultural grit into the holes to improve drainage and prevent further compaction.

Edge your lawn

Edging a lawn is the finishing touch to a neat, clipped lawn. Use a pair of long-handled shears to define the edge of your lawn, and stop the grass growing into borders. It instantly neatens your garden, creating a very satisfying finish. Where the lawn has grown into the border, use a spade or half-moon edger to reshape it and create a shallow 'moat' or install permanent edging that the grass can't cross.

Feed your lawn

To keep your lawn looking good you need to feed it regularly. If you have a large lawn, invest in a wheeled lawn feeder for a fast and accurate job. Apply fertiliser to grass when rain is forecast, so that it gets washed down to the roots and to stop it burning the leaf blades – an organic fertiliser will aid long term lawn health, over chemical alternatives. If it doesn't rain, water the fertiliser in with a hose or watering can. Your grass should look greener within a week. Lawns typically need a feed in spring and midsummer.

Fill bare lawn patches

Rather than letting bare patches spoil the look of your lawn it's easy to sow grass seed over the raked soil. Alternatively, make fillers from unused turf. When reshaping the lawn, collect up the strips and place them 5cm apart in a compost-filled seed tray, then grow them on outside or in a cold frame.

To replace the bare patch, cut out a square or rectangle around the area and, using a hand trowel, dig up the soil in the rectangle to whatever depth of soil your new turf strip is. Gently lay the turf, cut to fit, over the patch. Firm it down so that there are no gaps and your new turf is no higher or lower than your existing lawn.

Interesting Facts about May

- A maypole was built in 1543 that was 100 feet high. Isaac Newton later purchased the pole in 1713 and used it to prop up a telescope.
- The Eurovision song contest is always held in May. The United Kingdom has won the event five times – the last win was 17 years ago.
- The two flowers of May are the hawthorn and the lily of the valley – the birthstone is the emerald.
- It was on 1 May in 1931 that the Empire State Building was officially opened.
- Maypoles were actually banned in England in 1644. Those who were found to have erected them were fined five shillings every week it was standing.
- To fans of the sci-fi series 4 May is commonly known as Star Wars Day (May the 4th/May the force) and many use it as an excuse to re-watch the movies.
- Famous people born in the month of May include Bob Dylan, Adele, John F Kennedy and Mr T.
- In Old English, May was known as the Month of Three Milkings – this was because cows could be milked three times a day.
- In the town of Stilton, May Day is celebrated with a cheese-rolling contest.
- May is named after the Greek Goddess Maia, who was the goddess of fertility.



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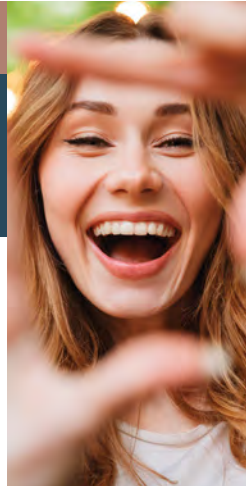
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Bedfordshire Lieutenancy

New High Sheriff of Bedfordshire 2022-2023

Sworn in at Elstow Abbey

The new High Sheriff of Bedfordshire for 2022/2023 was installed yesterday, Sunday 3 April 2022. Lady Jane Clifford, who succeeds Eric Masih, was sworn in at a ceremony at Elstow Abbey.

Lady Clifford was born in Tanzania where her father, Sir George Paterson, was Attorney General. She was brought up in Sierra Leone, Ghana and Zambia as her family moved around with her father's work, latterly as Chief Justice. One of her earliest memories was accompanying her parents to the Assizes in a huge dug out canoe crossing the Zambezi River as there were no roads or bridges. In Ghana, Sir George worked with Kwame Nkrumah to ensure the smooth transition to independence. Jane finished her education in Dorset before moving to London to read Art History at the Courtauld Institute, London University. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Timothy.

Jane started out as a lecturer for the Workers' Educational Association in Manchester before becoming the art critic of the Daily Telegraph. At the same time, she began closely assisting Laura Ashley, finding and copying antique wallpaper and textile designs and writing books about furnishing and decorating houses for the company. After Laura's tragic death, Jane moved to Zoffany, another wallpaper and fabric manufacturer.

While her husband was directing the Manchester City Art Galleries, Jane set up and ran the events for the Friends. When Timothy moved to direct the National Galleries of Scotland, Jane performed a similar role for the Patrons. Supporting her husband's role took up a lot of her time and her career was put on hold. Timothy was knighted by Her Majesty in 2002. After their retirement in 2010 the Cliffords moved to Bedfordshire to be nearer London and their only daughter and grandson.

Jane has helped various charities to organise large scale events, including Help the Aged, Save the Children and the NSPCC. She is a keen bridge player and founded a book club which is still going strong after 30 years. They own a small house in Umbria in Italy; Jane speaks Italian and is a great Italophile.

Jane feels very honoured to have been nominated as High Sheriff for Bedfordshire for 2022-23 and will endeavour to serve the county to the best of her ability.

Initiatives and Objectives for 2022-2023

Jane is particularly excited to be holding office the year of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and is keen to support the Queen's Green Canopy initiative, 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. In the wake of the pandemic, the special importance of green spaces has become evident to help combat isolation, promote mental health and physical wellbeing and, by improving the surroundings in deprived areas, to prevent crime. With this in mind, Jane is keen to support charities that promote sport for all ages, rehabilitation and prevention of homelessness. In the last few months, the world has changed and we must now face the new and unexpected challenges presented by the crises in Ukraine and Afghanistan.

The Office of High Sheriff is an independent non-political Royal appointment for a single year. The origins of the Office date back to Saxon times, when the 'Shire Reeve' was responsible to the king for the maintenance of law and order within the shire, or county,

and for the collection and return of taxes due to the Crown. Today, there are 55 High Sheriffs serving the counties of England and Wales each year.

Whilst the duties of the role have evolved over time, supporting the Crown and the judiciary remain central elements of the role today. In addition, High Sheriffs actively lend support and encouragement to crime prevention agencies, the emergency services and to the voluntary sector. In recent years, High Sheriffs in many parts of England and Wales have been particularly active in encouraging crime reduction initiatives, especially amongst young people. Many High Sheriffs also assist Community Foundations and local charities working with vulnerable and other people both in endorsing and helping to raise the profile of valuable work. The High Sheriffs' Association adopted National Crimebeat in recent years in response to specific areas of need. High Sheriffs receive no remuneration and no part of the expense of a High Sheriff's year falls on the public purse.

High Sheriff's contact/Social Media details:

Website: <https://highsheriffofbedfordshire.org>

E-mail: info@highsheriffofbedfordshire.org

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HighSheriff2022>



May 2022 at the Grove

Popular Music

Rock for Heroes - 6 May

The Magic of Motown - 12 May

The Real Thing - 13 May

The Quo Experience - 14 May

Bring on the 50s & 60s Charity Show - 15 May

Walk Right Back - The Everly Brothers Story - 20 May

Some Guys Have all the Luck - The Rod Stewart Story - 27 May

The Diana Ross Story - In the name of love - 29 May

Dance

An Audience with Anton Du Beke - 5 May

Ian Waite and Vincent Simone....Act Two - 18 May

Film

The Father (12A) - 3 May

Cyrano (12A) - 10 & 23 May

Death on the Nile (PG-13) - 11 May

The Duke (12) - 16 & 17 May

Ambulance - 24 May

The Batman - 23 & 26 May

Variety

The Ladyboys of Bangkok - 4 May

Children's Shows

I Spy With My Little Eye - 8 May

Pop Princess Show - 28 May

Comedy

Paul Zerdin Hands Free - 7 May



Ticket prices vary; for more information or to book, call the Box Office on 01582 60 20 80 or visit the website at www.grovetheatre.co.uk.

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for March 2022

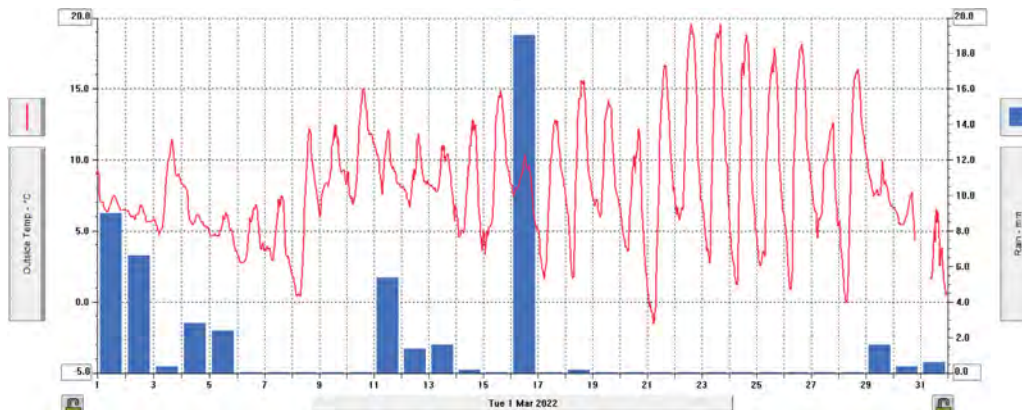
Elevation: 450 ft - Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West



The month started unsettled, showery and on the colder side. Between the 6th and the 10th it was dry with frost on the morning of the 8th. After that, the temperature started to rise and became unsettled again. On the 16th, it rained from noon onwards, making it the wettest day of the month with 19mm of rainfall. From the 18th to the 28th, we had cold mornings and sunny days. The lowest temperature of the month came on the 21st with -1.7°C . It was the only time in March that the temperature dropped below zero and only then for six hours (01:00-07:00). There followed a five day stretch with temperatures reaching above 18° - achieving 19.9°C on the 23rd - which felt like spring turning into summer. We ended March with a few light showers and a rapidly falling temperature. The monthly rain was spot on average. Overall, it was warmer than normal and largely sunny with a mean temperature of 8°C .

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	19.9°C	23 March 16.00	- 1.7°C	21 March 05.30
Mean Temperature	8.0°C			
Dewpoint:	9.6c	10March 13.00	- 3.3°C	31 March 03.30
Humidity:	95%	6 days in March	3.5%	23 March 14.30
Barometer:	1042.9mb	18 March 11.00	999.4 mb	11 March 15.00
Wind Speed	42mph N	31 March 13.30	Months avg.	6.9mph
Wind Chill:	18.9°C	23 March 13.00	- 5.6°C	8 March 06.30
Dominant Wind:	SSE			
Rainfall * T = total rain days and moisture. R = Actual rain				
* Rain Days: 14 (T), 14(R)	Wettest Day 16 March		19.0 mm	0.748ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	March 2022	51.6 mm	2.031 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	2 Months	158.0 mm	6.220ins

March 2022 Temperature and Rain



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15mins, this site forecast and much more, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall. If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: david@dagnallweather.co.uk or telephone: 01442 843883. Dagnall weather now has an app for your iPad & iPhone! Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.

Pitch a Tent Next to Elephants and Tigers at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo



Nature Nights from Saturday 4 June – Saturday 3 September

The UK's biggest Zoo is inviting guests to pitch their tents and spend the night amongst 10,000 animals, with the launch of Nature Nights at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. With selected dates available between Saturday 4 June to Saturday

3 September, families can set up camp in the heart of the conservation Zoo, spending an evening neighbouring the resident Asian elephants, common hippos and chimpanzees. After the Zoo has closed to the public, happy campers will join an expert ZSL host to explore the 600-acre nature haven by torchlight, keeping an eye out for nocturnal animals and native wildlife. After an evening filled with adventurous activities including a specially designed quiz and Zoo tours, guests will tiptoe past the sleeping animals on their way back to camp, settling down for the night within roaring distance of the Zoo's Amur tigers.

This year, large groups of families and friends or Scouts and Guide groups have the opportunity to book a private night to enjoy Nature Nights to themselves, with tailored tours to meet the specific interests of the group or help complete a badge that Uniformed Groups are working towards.

After a good night's sleep visitors may be woken by roars from across the Zoo signalling it's time to enjoy a hearty breakfast roll and hot drink. Animal lovers will set off on a morning tour to spot the earlier risers, guided by dedicated hosts, before the Zoo opens to the public for the day.

Suitable for families with children aged five and older, Nature Nights takes place on selected Saturdays, from 6.30pm, until 10am on Sunday. After packing up their tent, visitors will be free to spend the day in the Zoo. Ticket to Nature Nights at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo are £60 for adults and £55 for children. Private bookings for groups of up to 60 are available on alternative dates from June to September. To find out more or book your tickets visit zsl.org.

Race Around the World with ZSL

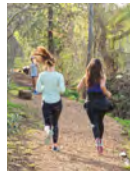
1 June 2022 – 30 June 2022

The international conservation charity behind London and Whipsnade Zoos, ZSL, is calling on animal lovers to get moving and walk, run, wheel or cycle 'Around the World in 30 Days' to raise vital money to save endangered wildlife across the world. Throughout the month of June, nature enthusiasts are being asked to collectively travel 40,075km - equal to the circumference of the globe to help fundraise in support ZSL's conservation work around the world.

Kicking off on 1 June, Around the World in 30 Days' participants can set the distance they'd like to cover across the 30 days. Fundraise as much money as possible, then take on their challenge of choice whether it be running, walking, wheeling or cycling, whenever and wherever they'd like to, turning their daily exercise into fundraising. Fundraisers will add their efforts to a combined tracker, and every week they'll unlock a new heart-warming story, showing how ZSL's conservation makes a difference in some of the world's most important habitats.

ZSL is helping vulnerable wildlife recover all over the globe and by taking part in this challenge, you will help us to continue this worldwide conservation work. If you're looking for ideas to make your challenge a little wilder, why not take inspiration from the animal kingdom?

ZSL have come up with a list of animal inspired athletics to try, including hedgehogs who roam an average distance of 2km on a single night, meaning they reach an impressive 60km in total during June. While tigers prowl over 10km a night to find food, totalling 300km a month. ZSL urgently needs your support, visit zsl.org/AroundtheWorld to find out more and sign up now.



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In the Master's footsteps



Andrew and I were privileged to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land recently and to see for ourselves where Jesus walked, talked, taught and lived His life.

One of the highlight's for me was when the group boarded a fishing vessel and we sailed into the middle of Lake Galilee admiring the beautiful lake and surrounding mountains.

Only the previous day when travelling to our hotel, we saw that Lake Galilee was very stormy and it reminded me of the story of Jesus in the boat when the storm arose and as he slept the disciples had to cope with the raging storm and were in fear of their lives.

Jesus stood up in the boat and said to the disciples, "Quiet! Be still!" and the wind and waves obeyed him.

The next day as we sailed on the boat, the water was like a mill pond, perfectly still. Much of Jesus' ministry takes place in and around the lake and even on the lake. The first disciples are called and the Gospels conclude with events by the lake in John 21 when Jesus calls the disciples to him because he wants to cook them breakfast.

As we sailed all these stories came flooding back reminding us along with my fellow colleague officers, that we had been called by God into ministry, not as dramatically as those first disciples, but remembering God's faithfulness through the last forty years of ministry.

When the boat came to a standstill all we could hear was the water lapping up against the side of the boat. A very special moment but in the silence each one of us were aware of God's presence.

We sang these words together:-

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. When Jesus looked o'er Galilee,
So blue and calm and fair,
Upon her bosom, could he see
A cross reflected there. | 2. When sunrise dyed the lovely deeps
and sparkled in his hair,
O did the light rays seem to say:
A crown of thorns he'll wear? |
| 3. When in the hush of eventide
Cool waters touched his feet,
Was it a hymn of Calvary's road
He heard the waves repeat.
(Catherine Baird) | 4. But when the winds triumphantly
swept from the open plain,
The Master surely heard the song:
The Lord shall live again! |

We have just celebrated the wonderful time of Easter and we thank Jesus for what He has done for us. May we be ever grateful for the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for each one of us. May God bless you all.

✍️ Allison Gaudion (Major)

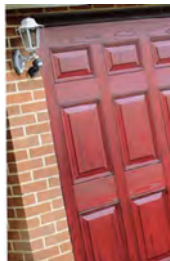


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