

# FOCUS

February 2023



Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall  
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# NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

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

For more information contact:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email [northallchapel@btinternet.com](mailto:northallchapel@btinternet.com)

Web: [www.northallbaptistchurch.org](http://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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**10th of the month**

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

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**Focus would like to remind contributors that the deadline for articles is the 10th of the preceding month**

*Kindly Note*

*If the event you wish to advertise falls in the first week of the month, it is advisable to get the details into Focus a month earlier. The magazines are not delivered from the printers until the first of the month, therefore it takes a few days for them all to be circulated throughout the village.*

*✉ Editor*

**Focus is online at [www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk](http://www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk)**





# Village Diary



## Weekly

- Mon-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
- Mondays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 4-7pm mini / junior tennis coaching
- Mondays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 7-8pm Adult Coaching 'Get Back Into Tennis'
- 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 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, Chiltern Art Club, St Giles Church Hall, Tottemhoe, Contact 01582 607315/872115
- Tuesdays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 6-7.30pm Social play for all adults
- Tuesdays Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Dee on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Jazzercise 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Wednesdays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 5-6 pm 9-11 years old tennis coaching & U16 Beginners tennis
- Wednesdays Pilates 6-7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Heather Holmes, 07305 023077 pilateswithheather@mail.com
- Wednesdays Warm Hub, 10:45am-1pm, St Mary's Church Eaton Bray
- 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](http://www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk) info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171



# Village Diary

Thursdays	Warm Hub, 1:30am-3:30pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 07800 518654
Fridays	Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
Fridays	Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am, £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6 months free
Fridays	Scouts, (10½ to 14 years old), 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk, 07899 892344
Fridays	"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	Karate for kids & adults, 2:30-4pm & 4:30-6pm, Eaton Bray VH, Contact 07500 007779
Sundays	Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 10am -12pm Social play for all adults
<b>Monthly</b>	
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)
1st Saturday	Book Swap at St Mary's Eaton Bray, 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
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

## Dear Focus Business Advertisers

Thank you for your support which enables the Focus magazine Committee to deliver 10 free editions a year of a full colour magazine to the properties in the four villages. The magazine can also be found on line at [www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk](http://www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk).

Focus keeps readers up to date with local information and events.

## And to our Readers

We hope that you enjoy your first 2023 edition of Focus.

When you are looking for businesses and services, please check the advertisers in the magazine to support a local business whenever possible.

✍️Angela Dunford and Sally Taylor, Advertising Managers

The paper used for this magazine is sourced from sustainable forests and can be recycled



# Village Info



**EDaN Community Transport**  
Peter Williams: 01442 842506

## Village Hall Booking Contacts

**Northall:** Lorna Cabbage Tel: 07857 318696 [www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Email: [manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk)

## Police Contact Numbers...

*making neighbourhoods safer together*

**General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101      Emergency: 999**

**Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)**

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

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

PCSO Jackie Dodson

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

## Defibrillator Locations

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



**Dagnall:** Red Lion Public House & Munns Farm Shop

**Eaton Bray:** The Coffee Tavern

**Northall:** The Swan Public House

**Edlesborough:** Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Baptist Church, Summerleys



**Helpline: 07930 987064**

**Manned phone hours:**

**9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday**

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

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

*We help people of Eaton Bray and adjacent villages*

# Appledown Rescue Dog of the Month



One look at Shenzi's anxious little face will tell you that this little bulldog has had a very hard start to her short life. At just 2 years old she has clearly been used for breeding and has never lived as a family pet. In addition, her illegally cropped ears must have caused her much pain. This nervous, gentle girl deserves adoring patient owners who will help her gain her confidence and learn about being a pet. She could possibly live with a calm male dog pending introductions. If you are interested in offering a rescue dog a loving home please download an application form from our website where you will find information on the rehoming process. To support our work it's easy to make a one-off donation of £3 simply 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](mailto:appledown.kennels@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.appledownrescue.co.uk](http://www.appledownrescue.co.uk) **Viewings are by appointment only.**

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## Slow Puncture

I'd use every one of them – each tiny symbol / sign –  
to 'light up' my words ... and write eye-catching lines:  
the comma; the colon; the ellipsis; the slash;  
the question mark; the hyphen; the en and em dash.

In stanzas 1-2, it was all there on show  
(Was there nothing not used? The short answer: No!)  
But then I came to an unfortunate juncture:  
my punctuation, you see, got a slow puncture

and those small, helpful marks which let my words breathe  
or let me be understood, all started to leave.  
Hyphens unhappened semi colons got missed  
apostrophes went awol in commaless lists.

"And what of the question marks Oh yes even those  
(while my brackets and speech marks forgot how to close  
When the last comma left there was nowhere to pause  
my words floated by in one endless clause

and no one could tell once the full stops departed  
where one sentence ended and another one started  
capitals absconded and meaning left too  
as the breaks between stanzas bowed then withdrew just like the line breaks  
then all sense got blurred the last thing to go was the gaps between words  
brian bilston





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

Pancake Day is traditionally known as Shrove Tuesday, the day on which all the fat, cream and rich foods had to be used up before Lent. Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter. The name 'shrove' comes from the Old English word 'shrive' meaning to confess. On Shrove Tuesday in the Middle Ages, people used to go to church to confess their sins so that they were forgiven before the season of Lent began. It was also the last chance to indulge in foods not allowed in Lent, so pancakes were made to use up the fat, butter and eggs which were forbidden during Lent.

The story goes that in Olney in 1445 a woman heard the Shrivings Bell ringing whilst she was still making pancakes. She ran to church in her apron, still clutching her frying pan. And so the tradition of pancake races began! This year the Churches Together in Eaton Bray and Edlesborough will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday with an evening of Pancakes and Prayer. It will take place at Eaton Bray Methodist church on 21st February from 6.30pm and all are welcome. There is no charge for the pancakes, but there will be a collection for the work of Christian Aid amongst the world's most deprived communities. On Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, there will be a service in St Mary's at 10am. This will be Holy Communion with the imposition of ashes (making the sign of the cross in ash on people's foreheads). The ashes are a further reminder that Lent is a season of confession, reflection and preparation before the festival of Easter.

During Lent, the North Chilterns Group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings for an 'Alphabet of Christianity'! This is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith, whether you are a practising Christian or you just want to know more. Bring those questions you have been wanting to ask for ages, but perhaps have felt they are really something you 'should know', or have forgotten. Bring an open mind and a willingness to learn and enjoy yourself. Bring a bible if you have one... The meetings are all at Totternhoe Church Hall, Church Road, Totternhoe, LU6 1RH. We will be starting with refreshments at 7.30pm for 7.45pm, and concluding with a short act of worship, ending by 9pm. The dates are February 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

For more information, please contact the Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall on 01582 872223 or [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com)

Everyone is welcome to come along. If you have never been to church before and you would like to find out more about the Christian faith, then this is a good opportunity to do so. It will be a relaxed approach with no pressure to join the discussion unless

you wish to do so - and it is free! The other thing worth noting is that although the sessions are linked, each one will stand alone. We hope you will come and join us at one or more of the events during Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent.

With every blessing,

☞ Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough



## **SERVICES AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, EATON BRAY**

**SUNDAYS: 10am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION**

*(apart from the third Sunday - see below)*

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**WEEKDAYS: Wednesday at 10am HOLY COMMUNION  
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**Details and ONLINE WORSHIP: [www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk)**

## **Dagnall Church Services**

**Sun. 19th Feb. 10.30 am Holy Communion**



**For any queries please contact:**

**Philip Lee on 07977234453 or Dorothy Green on 01442 843237**



**Eaton Bray Good Neighbours** had a busy month in December. During the weeks before Christmas, a group of our kind volunteers delivered a Christmas Gift and card to many in the village who had needed our help during the past year. This also gave us an opportunity to

visit everybody who had been in touch with us.

Our mobile phone which we operate on a daily basis, has been busy with requests for help in collecting medication, lifts to doctor's and Hospital appointments. During the very cold weather, we helped many villagers with delivering their shopping too.

At the beginning of a New Year, we hope more volunteers will come forward. We always welcome new volunteers to help with requests or to be a befriender. We would also welcome more drivers. Please contact us on the telephone number listed below, if you are interested in helping us.

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours look forward to another successful year in helping and supporting those in our village who need our help.

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

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

# Eaton Bray Dairy

## QUALITY MILK DELIVERY SERVICE

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### IN EATON BRAY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

On the 1st October 2022 Eaton Bray Dairy was born! I made the brave decision on going It alone taking over and continuing delivering milk to Eaton Bray and the surrounding villages.

As an introduction, my name is Steve a reliable and dependable milkman delivering milk and goods direct to your door. I am no stranger to delivering milk, for the past twelve years I have worked for Eggington Dairy getting up bright and early making sure customers had their fresh pint of milk for their morning cuppa! In the summer of 2022 when Steve Peck of Pecks Farm/Eggington Dairy made the tough decision to start a new chapter in his life and cease doorstep deliveries, it was kindly offered that I may like to carry on and continue with the service our customers had been used to and relied upon. After a lot of consideration and planning I decided to take the plunge and within a matter of weeks Eaton Bray Dairy started trading independently.

My existing milk round covers Stoke Hammond, Great Brickhill, Little Brickhill, Bow Brickhill and Heath and Reach. As I live in Eaton Bray, I really wanted to continue to serve the customers who came to rely on the convenience of a doorstep delivery brought to them by Eggington Dairy. So, with the help from Jacki, (who was also a Milk lady for Eggington Dairy) we were able to add Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Totternhoe, Dagnall, Northall, Tilsworth and Stanbridge to my round.

I am now three months into the take over and so far so good. It's hard work and exhausting at times especially in bad weather but it's all made worthwhile when I hear the kind support from customers and the appreciation that I was able to carry on with deliveries in the way they had become accustomed to.

I take pride in being able to offer competitive prices and deliver all types of fresh milk in glass or plastic bottles (supplied by Taylors Dairies/Cotteswold Dairy) and top-quality groceries (supplied by Pecks Farm, Eggington). Your milk will be on your doorstep three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 52 weeks a year by 8:00am.

If you are considering in having the convenience of a milk delivery straight to your door then I am your milkman! Please feel free to email me Steve Boshell at [eatonbraydairy@gmail.com](mailto:eatonbraydairy@gmail.com) or call **07308 300793** with any queries or questions or visit our website on [www.eatonbraydairy.co.uk](http://www.eatonbraydairy.co.uk).







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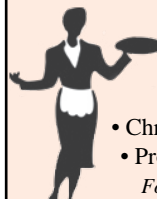
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The advertisement for Lee Hutt Heating & Plumbing Services is a blue square with white text and icons. It lists various services like Bathrooms, Tiling, Heating, Taps, Leaks, and Call Outs. It also includes a '25 YEARS' anniversary badge and contact numbers. Icons of a shower, toilet, sink, and wrench are also present.

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The advertisement for ChiroPodody Home Visiting Practice features a background image of hands being treated. It lists the practitioner's name, qualifications, and experience, along with a list of services provided. Contact information and professional affiliations are also included.

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**07957 250682**  
Book by phone or online  
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The advertisement for Anne Johnson Osteopath includes a small logo of a hand and a foot. It provides the practitioner's name, address, and a list of conditions treated. Contact details and the website are also provided.



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# Eaton Bray Academy

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**BOUNCERS (REMIX) by John Godber**

**Directed by Angela Goss**



An outrageous and hilarious parody  
of the northern disco scene

Performances:  
17<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# **Bouncers**

This amateur production is presented by  
arrangement with Josef Weinburger Ltd

## **BOUNCERS RE-MIX BY JOHN GODBER**

Remember disco? Retro music? The good old days when Friday night was clubbing night? Then come on down to The Little Theatre for our next production! Bouncers, by John Godber, is bursting with imagination and wit and presented by just four actors playing over thirty characters, Bouncers is an outrageous and hilarious parody of the disco scene. The Bouncers tell the story of a Friday night out on the town in the 90's set around a seedy night club. We see them as giggly girls and lads on the make preparing for the big night out as we follow their progress to the disco floor. There, we also meet an entire cross-section of disco-goers! The evening's events are set against the tatty glitzy glamour, flashing lights and pulsating beat of the nightclub scene. The evening will be full of retro music, drama, high laughs and plenty of social comment.

Contains adult themes.

<https://littletheatre.org.uk/book>

<https://littletheatre.org.uk/Plays/2022-23/bouncers>

---

## **Dunstable Probus Club**

Dunstable PROBUS Club meets on the second Monday of the month at Tilsworth Golf Centre and membership is open to retired or semi-retired professional and business people. The Club's main purpose is the promotion of good fellowship. Members enjoy some social activities and the occasional organized visit throughout the year and after their regular monthly lunch meetings are entertained by speakers who give talks on a wide range of topics. If you are interested in joining the Club, please contact the Secretary, Philip Savage on 01582 662462.



# Eaton Bray Quiz Night 3rd Dec 2022

The Christmas “Jumper” quiz was a great success with more teams and more monies raised for both Appledown Kennels and Dunstable Food Bank. We are pleased to say we sent both of these great local Charities £500, doubling last times contribution. A BIG thank you for all those who turned up and took part, and to all the “Newbies” welcome, making it again a great Local Social event 😊

**See you all again on the 22nd April 2023?**

The winners “What’s the Poinsettia” won by quite a margin, thank goodness, no tie-break questions!! These were awarded with the inaugural “Keith Blackburn Charity Shield”. Keith had been our quiz master for over 15 years! A local man who not only supplied the quiz questions to us but many other local quiz events. His family donated a sum and it was decided to purchase the Shield in his memory for which we are most grateful



The donations we were able to pass on come from not only ticket sales but also the Raffle. This year all the wonderful prizes were donated – so a big thank you Maggie for “cajoling” these various companies. Kindly we also got a fishing voucher from Park Farm Fisheries and Tesco “gifted” all the baguettes as we explained it was a Charity Event (well done John will

try this again!)

The Event doesn’t just happen without a Team so my thanks go to the EB Quiz Elves, you know who you are 😊

Looking forward to seeing you all again next year – put it in the diary 22/04/2023. Keep looking in the Focus Magazine for updates, and in various local shops, lamp posts etc. for reminders

Contact me to book your table [Mintyman1958@gmail.com](mailto:Mintyman1958@gmail.com)

Kind regards,

✍️ Robert Taylor





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

**The next Book Swap is at St Mary's Church  
on Saturday February 4th from 10.30 – 12.00 am**

We enjoyed an excellent attendance and participation at the first Book Swap of this year; it was lovely to see so many familiar faces back again and some new ones,

We are keen to further develop links with other organisations and to promote awareness of the availability of books, magazines etc. There is an extensive range of E-books, E-audio and magazines available free of charge from your local library via their website. The outreach manager for Central Bedfordshire libraries can visit St Mary's and give a presentation on these topics and an update on the Home Library service. Before booking this visit (probably in the spring) we would like to get a rough idea of how many people would be likely to be interested in such a talk. Please let us know by contacting Jeni or Chris by email or at the book swap on 4 February

For more information about Book Swap please contact:

Chris Sanders                      Email: [chris.sanders45@gmail.com](mailto:chris.sanders45@gmail.com)

Jenifer MacKenzie              Email: [jenimackenzie@hotmail.com](mailto:jenimackenzie@hotmail.com)

**The Book Swap is free and open to all adults**

## **Keeping Everyone Safe**

Would you be able to recognise signs of abuse or know how to report any safeguarding concerns? We all have safeguarding responsibilities; why not take 10 minutes to ask yourself the following questions:

1. What is safeguarding?
2. What are the 10 types of abuse?
3. Who is responsible for safeguarding in your organisation?
4. Does your organisation have a Safeguarding Policy? If so, do you know the procedures to report and record concerns?

To find the answers to these questions, visit Ann Craft Trust's website (<https://www.anncrafttrust.org>) and if you work alongside or volunteer for a not-for-profit organisation, read Community Impact Bucks' blog <https://communityimpactbucks.org.uk/2022/11/do-you-know-how-to-spot-and-respond-to-a-safeguarding-issue/>. Do you know how to spot and respond to a safeguarding issue?, to find out about the safeguarding support available to groups in Buckinghamshire.





# Edlesborough Parish Council News

## Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

### Thank You's

Once again volunteers in the Parish were busy making the villages festive for Christmas. EPC would like to thank the following people:

- Cllr Alan Williams and Penny Pataky for hanging the lights on Edlesborough Memorial Hall.
- Kevin and Lorna Cabbage for hanging the Christmas lights on the Northall Christmas Tree and village sign.
- Jane & Chris Woodcock for providing the power for the Northall Christmas tree and village sign lights.
- Stephanie Wilson for decorating the tree in Dagnall.

Unfortunately, due to a supply issue the two trees traditionally displayed in Edlesborough were unavailable in December. EPC thanks Christmas Trees R Us for all their past support.

### Cllr John Wilkinson

In December 1997 Cllr John Wilkinson was co-opted onto Edlesborough Parish Council. At the December Council meeting Cllr Williams gave a speech thanking John for his dedication to the Council and Parish.

*'December 2022 saw John achieve his 25th anniversary as a parish councillor for Edlesborough. John joined on the 18th December 1997. The minutes of the meeting recorded some items familiar to us today. Rising energy prices, speeding traffic, damaged lampposts and the costs for our annual financial audit going up too.*

*At that time John was an active member of S.E.N.T (Stop Edlesborough New Town). From then on John has dedicated himself to planning issues to the point where he has, for some considerable time, analysed planning applications on behalf of the parish council.*

*He makes recommendations to EPC for submission to higher authorities. The Neighbourhood Plan that governs the development in our parish benefitted hugely from John's knowledge. John has also made it a point of knowing some of the history, going back to the Enclosure Acts, that helped shape parts of the village. In addition, John also has developed expertise, in many other council responsibilities, that helps to guide us as the role of the council develops.*

*Edlesborough Parish Council is privileged to have John as a councillor and friend. We look forward to him continuing to serve the community for some years to come.'*



## Cllr Alan Williams

EPC is also delighted to hear that Cllr Alan Williams has been honoured in His Majesty King Charles III's inaugural New Year Honours List. Cllr Williams has been awarded the Order of the British Empire (BEM) for services to the community of Edlesborough.



## EdleFest 2023

The EdleFest dates for 2023 have been confirmed as 9th and 10th June. More information and tickets are available via the EdleFest website <https://edlefest.site123.me/>



## EPC Surgery

Do you have a question or a suggestion for the Parish Council? EPC will be holding its first EPC Surgery of 2023 on **Monday 13th February** in Edlesborough Pavilion from 10am – midday. All parishioners are welcome to pop in and speak to the Clerk or a Councillor about local matters at this surgery.

## Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

### Traffic Calming

Buckinghamshire Council have now agreed to allow the installation of the MVAS supporting posts to be installed across the Parish. Once installed this will enable EPC to deploy the three Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS) across the parish.

The purpose of these signs is to remind drivers of the speed limit and to encourage them to reduce their speed through our villages. Data collected by the signs can also be used as evidence for other traffic calming measures.



## Ivinghoe Freight Strategy – Update



EPC have received the following update from Buckinghamshire Council:

*“In order to get the proposed zone restricting HGV movements to those which have a business reason to be there, encouraging through traffic to use more appropriate routes around the area, the implementation has been divided into two phases.*

*Phase 1 covers the installation of signage around the zone making the 7.5 tonne environmental traffic regulation order restricting HGV traffic with exception for local access legal. The installation although extensive is relatively straight forward using standard compliant signs on existing or new poles as needed. The TfB construction team have completed the tender process for the works and a contractor has been appointed. We are waiting on the contractor providing a programme which will*

give us the planned start date and the completion timeline. In the meantime it is reasonable to suggest that phase 1 is expected to be completed by the end of February 2023.

Phase 2 will cover the advance notice signage on key routes around the zone to alert drivers and operators about the restriction enabling them to avoid breaching the order and following more suitable roads. The signage is more bespoke and includes the positioning in our neighbouring Central Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire authorities. The TfB design team are finalising the drawing and development work over the next few weeks. The plan is to give phase 1 time to operate in order to solicit feedback from the public to help identify the locations where the advance notice signs can be most effective to minimise avoidable breaches of the zone. The timeline for these works is more difficult to establish at this stage and we must consider the potential impact of the upcoming change of the highways contract.

We are continuing to monitor progress through the implementation phase and will look at issuing a press release as the phase 1 installation gets underway. Details on the scheme can be found on the council website [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/ivinghoe-freight-zone/](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/ivinghoe-freight-zone/)

Once the zone is in place parishioners should report breaches to [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/report-an-hgv-using-a-road-that-has-a-weight-restriction/](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavy-goods-vehicles-hgvs/report-an-hgv-using-a-road-that-has-a-weight-restriction/)

### **Salt Bins**

The responsibility for filling these bins is with Transport for Buckinghamshire. When supplies are running low a refill request should be submitted via their website <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>. It is more appropriate if a parishioner living close to the salt bin makes the request but in practice anyone can make the request.



### **Council Meetings**

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 16th February 2022 – in Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- Thursday 17th March 2022 – in Edlesborough Memorial Hall

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

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.

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky Office hours Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm (Excl. Wed)

Email: [clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) 01525 229358 Website: [www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil)



Charity No. 293080

Welcome Back & Happy 2023 to us all

It was a real shame to finish 2022 with the temporary closure of club a couple of sessions before planned. Once again a number of us succumbed to illness and seasonal germs ... here's hoping for a happy & healthy 2023

Our first session back this year included a meal at The Swan, Northall - thank you to all the team for serving us a delicious home cooked hot meal & hosting the club expertly.

Planning for The Quiz Night on Friday 10th March is all under control ... in fact nearly all tickets are sold already!!

An Outing is booked for Wednesday 31st May & some spaces are available for new members to join us

### Drivers & Helpers Needed

Are you retired? Do you like driving? We are a small team of drivers and helpers who transport our members from their homes - 9am onwards to Northall Village Hall every Wednesday. We have our own Wednesday Club minibus (12 seater). They are returned home from about 3pm. If you think you might like to join us and spend a few hours about twice every month, please contact Peter Williams, our Chairman, for further details on 01442 842506.





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Registered office: The Pace Centre Ltd, The Bradbury Campus, 156 Wendover Rd, Aylesbury, HP22 5TE | Company number 2707807 | Registered Charity No. 1011133



## Eaton Bray Methodist Church

On the first Sunday in December, we were glad to welcome back Rev Wallace Edwards, whose sermon made interesting comparisons between the society of first century Palestine and our society today. In the former, shepherds were the humblest and poorest citizens, yet it was shepherds who were the first people invited to visit the baby in the manger, an indication of God’s concern for less privileged people. On the second Sunday Peter Baker came to lead our Café Service. In our discussions, he asked us to consider John the Baptist, the man divinely appointed to herald Christ. Yet, even he had his moment of doubt; “Are you he or do we wait for another?” This is the Gospel writer’s way of asking us to reflect on the truth. We held our Carol Service on the 3rd Sunday; this joyful occasion was a ‘home-grown’ programme of readings, carols and prayers, organised by members of the congregation. Christmas Day coincided with our 4th Sunday in the month and was led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings, who gave a very inclusive message, emphasising that ‘Christ came for all’.

### Date for your diary

**Warm Hub/Social Afternoon** Weekly on Thursdays 1.30pm – 5.30pm  
Chat, meeting friends, games, refreshments. All Welcome.

### A Warm Invitation

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



**Stephen D.  
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### *A Haven of Peace*



There is an ancient stone church stands in Eaton Bray  
'Gainst a curtain of green, its portals dull and grey  
The stained-glass windows glint green, red, and blue  
A contrast in colour of many a hue.

Let us open the door and quietly walk in  
There is a feeling of peace, which gently begins  
To calm all the fears we carry in life  
As a Presence, unseen, seems to combat our strife.

St Mary the Virgin is the name of this place,  
In this quiet little village it commands its own space  
Where it has stood, most respected, for hundreds of years  
It has seen joy, love, and gladness and often our tears.

I come here and sit when I am feeling low  
Just to talk to that Presence, I see not, but know  
He is listening, and sees all my pain,  
I leave, fully heartened, but will come back again.

Dear walls, oh so friendly and alter so clear  
I look up at Our Lady and feel she is near,  
The Lamp of the Sacrament glowing so bright  
Bring me peace, love, and comfort all through this long night.

✍️ Norman William Davies

*Have you penned a verse with local interest that we could publish in Focus? We would be happy to accommodate any budding poets.*

# Your Photos



*Gordon Gray receiving his BEM from the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Susan Lousada, on 22nd November at Cranfield University. Photo supplied by Catherine Hayden*

*St Mary's Church Eaton Bray in the snow by Paul Radford*



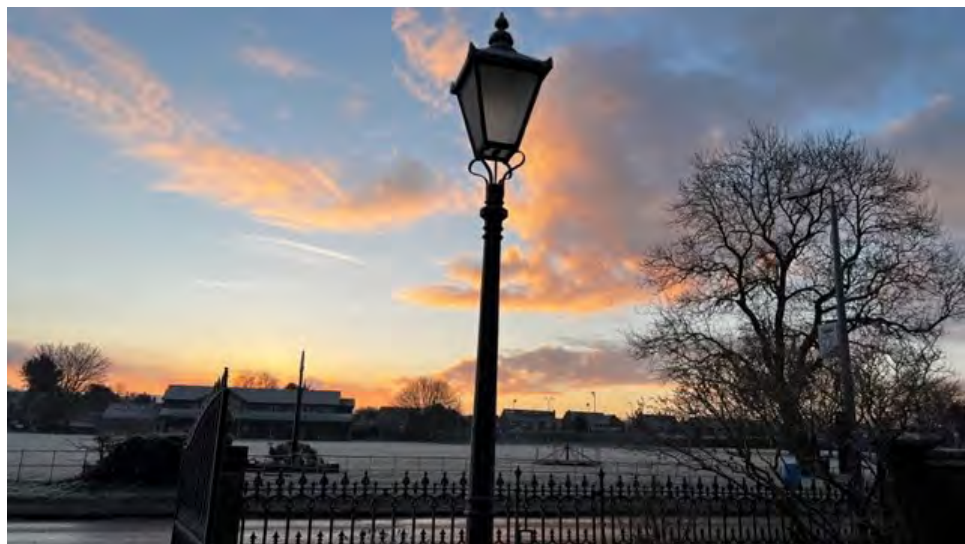


# Your Photos

*Enchanted path, Eaton Bray by  
Richard Woodhead*



*Edlesborough Green  
by Jane Jones*



# 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](http://www.ebpc.co.uk). A hard copy of the minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council's notice board at The Coffee Tavern.*

### Parish Council Website

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

### 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/>

### FixMyStreet

CBC have a reporting system to make reporting road/street issues easier, quicker and more accurate. To report and track highways and environment problems go online/use the FixMyStreet app: <https://fixmystreet.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/>

### Royal British Legion



The current volunteer for the Royal British Legion is standing down and are looking for a replacement volunteer to organise the Royal British Legion poppy appeal for the village. If you are interested in taking on this role, please apply to the Parish Clerk. Thank you.

### Reminder - Parish Allotments: Allotment Tenancy Renewals 2022-2023

Allotment tenancy renewals - payments to be made via one of the following two options:

1. Bank transfer (if this is your chosen method, please email the Parish Clerk for details)
2. Cash or cheque (cheques made payable to Eaton Bray Parish Council): payments can be posted to the Parish Clerk or hand delivered to the Parish Clerk at the Parish Council open office - for dates/times, please visit the Parish Council website <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/parish-council-surgery/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Held on Monday 7th November 2022 &  
5th December 2022, from 7:30pm**

*(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 05/12/2022 & 9/1/2023)*

### Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

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

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

CBC Email: [customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

- Community Grant Application: Eaton Bray Parish Council's application was not successful.
- Pavements: Improvement works has been completed in Bower Lane up to Medley Close.
- Drains: CBC assessed the village drains (High Street/Woodside) due to localised flooding in this location.  
\*UPDATE: 05/12/2022 – the drains have been cleaned. Update 9/1/2023 There's been improvement in this location, hopefully this has resolved the flooding.

## **Bedfordshire Police**

Community Officers Steven Beer and Lisa Pollard attended the meeting.

- The police wished to remind residents that incidents reported on 101 are recorded in the Bedfordshire incident report and logged; this data will then show on the parish crime stats.
- Community Officer Lisa Pollard will be taking over from Steven Beer.
- For general Police contact/enquiries: **non-emergency call 101 - emergencies 999**

## **Planning Applications & Appeals – October/November/December 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 November/December 2022**

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

## **Recreation Grounds**

- School Lane: Groundworks – work to commence Monday 28th November 2022 for an estimated two weeks (weather dependent). The play area will be closed during the improvement works.  
\*Update 9/1/2023: Due to poor weather conditions there is a delay on the completion of the groundworks, but the contractor hopes to finish the improvements within the next few weeks.
- School Lane: Play area fencing – repair works to the fencing has been started, with final repairs to be completed once the groundwork improvements are finished.
- School Lane: Lighting – proposed designs/costs has been looked at by the Parish Council. The council to investigate suitable electricity source.  
\*Update [09/01/2023]: The Parish Council looked at the designs of the proposed lights for the recreation ground and agreed to one of the designs. The council to now go out for a more detailed cost of full installation using the preferred light design.
- The Rye ground: Improvement works have been carried out to the car park.
- The Rye ground: Fly-tipping – several items were dumped in the car park, which the Parish Council had removed. The police have also been informed of this incident.
- School Lane: The Cherry tree in recognition of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been planted.

## **Parish Allotments**

- ALLOTMENT INSPECTION: The next allotment inspection is due to be conducted in May 2023. Date to be confirmed.

## Village Signs:

The Parish Council are waiting to hear from the supplier regarding delivery/ installation date of the two new village signs.

## Ground Maintenance Contract:

The Parish Council has gone out to tender for the Ground Maintenance Contract for 2023-2026.

## Parish Trees – Landscape Buffer, Mill End Close:

Many of the trees in this location are on the adjacent landowner's boundary line/land and the Parish Council are not able to carry out work to them. It is the landowner who will need to organise work, if deemed necessary by their own tree surgeon's assessment. If the trees are within the actual strip, then the Parish Council can organise a tree assessment, carrying out any essential work. Residents are entitled under law to cut back to their boundary branches/hedging overhanging their property line.



## Parish Council Meeting (1st Floor, The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

Details can be obtained from the EBPC website, [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

\* Monday 13th February 2023

\* Monday 6th March 2023

## Parish Council Open Office: 10am-12noon at The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray

*(Dates/times subject to change, please check the EBPC Website for full details/ updates)*

\* Tuesday 14th February 2023

\* Tuesday 14th March 2023

Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

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

Parish Office: The Coffee Tavern, 18 High Street, Eaton Bray, Beds, LU6 2DP

Postal Address: 17 Hammond Street, Aston Clinton, Bucks, HP22 0AJ

Follow Eaton Bray on Facebook - Keep up to date with what is going on in your parish



## Happy Valentines Day

The modern origins of Valentine's Day come from England. The first real association of Valentine's Day with romantic love, or “love birds,” comes from Geoffrey Chaucer's poem Parlement of Foules. Dating from 1382, it states: “For this was on St. Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.” William Shakespeare's Hamlet (1600–1601) refers to both Saint Valentine's Day and the phrase “to be your Valentine,” showing that Valentine's Day was established in British culture by that time.





# Sky's the Limit at 70

Hilary Fox has been a volunteer at Gaddesden Place Riding for the Disabled for more than 30 years and wanted to do something beneficial for the charity to mark her milestone 70th birthday. So in November Hilary completed a tandem skydive which has so far raised an amazing £2,800 for the Centre situated just a few miles up the Hemel road from our villages.

“At the time, jumping out of a plane was a pretty surreal experience and not one I'd repeat anytime soon but I'm so proud of how much money has kindly been donated to RDA because of my skydive,” said Hilary Fox. “I'm so grateful



to everyone involved.”

Gaddesden Place is a dedicated RDA centre offering anyone with additional needs and disabilities the opportunity to participate in a range of equine based activities, including riding and equine therapy.

If you would like to find out more about this amazing local charity, volunteer, or donate, please go to [www.gaddesdenplacerda.org.uk](http://www.gaddesdenplacerda.org.uk)  
Charity no 1140330



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# Warm Hub

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Wednesdays  
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Book Swap.  
Board games.  
Knit and natter



or bring your own crafting.

There will be hot drinks, biscuits and  
a light lunch of soup and a roll.

Free Wi Fi.



# Warm Hub

**Eaton Bray Methodist Church  
Will Be Open On  
Thursdays  
From 1:30pm to 5:30pm**

**All Welcome!**



Chat  
Games  
Puzzles  
Magazines



A Quiet Space

After School Drop-In

Hot Drinks and Biscuits will be  
available



## St Mary's Warm Hub



Every Wednesday morning, St Mary's Eaton Bray is open from 10.45am to 1pm for anyone who would like to drop in for a chat, a cuppa, or to share in a light lunch of soup and a roll. There will be the opportunity to play games, such as Scrabble, or do a jigsaw puzzle. The community Book Swap will be open so you can bring a book to exchange. Or bring your knitting or crochet along for a knit & natter!

We hope to see you there!

✍️ Revd Joy Cousans





# ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT



**FRIDAY 10th MARCH 7:30pm**

**NORTHALL VILLAGE HALL**



**Hot supper including dessert  
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**Tables of 8**

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**Please phone: Beryl Bishop 01525 220868**

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# Nigel's Thoughts



Dear Friends,

As I write it has grown dark early outside after a cloudy and wintry day of squally rain.

It is said that there are just four seasons in the year. To me, February is situated in the least encouraging of them all. We have become used to changing weather patterns, and to weather which we describe as unseasonable. Undoubtedly the world's changing climate is the cause of this. We should therefore do all that we can to reduce the harm that we are causing to the rhythms by which our fragile home, planet earth, is sustained. Much more than our weather is dependent on this - not least the survival of the natural world, species that are becoming endangered, and the threatening of lives and livelihoods across whole continents.

If all this, alongside our weather at this time of year, threatens to strike at the optimism and enthusiasm you would like to find within, let me share with you a concept that I stumbled across recently and I'm finding helpful.

If you put '72 seasons in the year' into a search engine you will discover the year, divided into that many 'seasons' of around five days each. This is based upon an ancient Japanese calendar. It enables us to pay attention to nature and to the passing of the year, as we break down our four seasons into shorter and more manageable periods of time. It is then possible to notice the minute changes that would otherwise pass us by, and find encouragement.

I recommend you try this for yourself. It is certainly helpful to focus on the detail of what is happening all around us, rather than just waiting for winter (or any other season) to pass.

Perhaps you will discover that God, who loves and treasures all that he has made holds you uniquely, whatever the season of the year or the season in your heart. He knows, understands and is always near, never fear.

God bless,

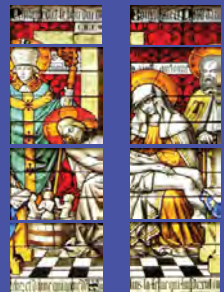
✍️ Nigel

## DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

Saturday 18th March 2023 at 7.30 pm  
St Mary's Parish Church, Woburn

### Antonín Dvořák *Stabat Mater*

Elizabeth Bottone (*soprano*)  
Lauren Easton (*mezzo*)  
Justin Lavender (*tenor*)  
Jonathan Gunthorpe (*bass*)



Danesborough Chorus Alina Orchestra  
Conducted by Ian Smith

Tickets: £20, £15, £10, under 18s £5 (*all unreserved*)  
Available by phoning 01908 583460 or by post  
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are also available online from [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

Danesborough Chorus reg. charity no. 1188026 [www.danesborough.org.uk](http://www.danesborough.org.uk)





# Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going

*A little Church with strong local links*

## HOPE

We are at the beginning of another year and we don't know how it will unfold. The news currently can be so depressing and many people are just trying to ignore the strikes, the squabbles and the difficult financial situation many of us face. Some need help from foodbanks or are worried about their fuel bills or their jobs. Those in Ukraine or from Ukraine, having already lost so much, are concerned about the ongoing war and the safety of themselves and their loved ones. Indeed we all are worried and pray for resolution as the consequences are far reaching.

It is useful to remember that as we approached last Christmas, one of the 4 Advent Candles was called "Hope". The hope that a Saviour of the world would make all things right. Jesus was born as the long-awaited Messiah who had been hoped for over thousands of years. What are your hopes for 2023? The New Year resolutions you made in January – to exercise more...to help around the house...to visit Grandparents are probably long gone. Are you hoping for a holiday or a new car or bigger house? Maybe, just wishing for a peaceful year!

A verse in Romans says 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit'. We will all have sung, at some point, the words 'O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come'. So trust in the God of hope and know the peace that brings.

On the 14th your focus might shift to romance and love but the next significant event in the Christian calendar is Lent. Lent from the old English word meaning 'lengthen' and begins with Ash Wednesday on 22nd February.

It's a period of 40 days leading up to Easter, when Christians think about how Jesus lived out the words 'Greater love has no-one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends', before that first Easter when Jesus was crucified, died and rose again. Some give up something they really enjoy during this period to help them remember the sufferings that Jesus experienced. We all look forward to the day before Ash Wednesday as it's Pancake Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday. It was the practice to use up all fat in the house before fasting from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Now each year Churches Together enjoy a fun evening eating pancakes and sharing some rousing songs.

Enjoy your pancakes and as 2023 unfolds may it bring more hope and good things to you and those around you.

Our Sunday services are at 11 am. We'd love you to join us for our worship and song. You will get a warm welcome. 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



Well we have come to the end of another year - a year that has seen our monthly meetings come back to normality after two years of ever-changing covid restrictions. We are now back to our meetings in the village hall on the second Tuesday of the month.

This year for our December meeting we decided to break tradition and we went to Tilsworth Golf Club for our meeting and Christmas celebration dinner. Albeit a very icy night a lot of our members enjoyed a lovely 3 course Christmas meal whilst being serenaded by Christmas music.

The evening started with our annual AGM. Our president and committee are selected by proposals and members votes. Hearty thanks were given to the 2022 committee who have worked very hard providing us with speakers, trips and celebration meals to name but a few of our activities - which has not been easy through the covid years. They also look after us in a very personal way as we all receive a lovely card and plant on our birthdays. This also extends to support given to those members who have been less fortunate and suffered with their health or lost loved ones. They meet once a month to discuss everything to do with the general running of our institute and its members also attending national and county meetings to provide us with the information of our institution. The committee changes a little each year with a few people leaving and new people elected. Hearty thanks were given to everyone for their great efforts and hard work providing the backbone of our institute throughout they year. A hearty thanks to SJ Huxtable our president and all committee members.

After about half an hour of 'business' we then sat down for our festive dinner and enjoyed chatting with our friends about another busy year, our Christmas plans and the things we have to look forwards to in 2023. Val Richards read us a very funny poem which summed up very well how life has changed in the last two years. It was a very jolly festive evening with thanks to Tilsworth Golf Club for a lovely meal and great service.

Edlesborough W.I. wish everybody a very Happy and Healthy 2023. New members are always given a warm welcome.

✍ Jane Jones

## St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

### November 2022

1st prize – Rodney Latham

2nd prize – Elisabeth Jones

3rd prize – Margaret Jones

### December 2022

1st prize – Hazel Gibbons

2nd prize – Georgina Rusling

3rd prize – Alan Trantum

## Edlesborough Baptist Church

All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday

Keep up to date by visiting:

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

Find us on Facebook @gbce2014

# Easy Banana Pancakes

By Esther Clark courtesy of BBC goodfood

Makes 12 pancakes

Turn overripe, blackened bananas into sweet and fluffy American-style pancakes. Serve with syrup and crunchy, toasted pecan nuts as a delicious brunch treat.

## Ingredients

350g self-raising flour

1 tsp baking powder

2 very ripe bananas

2 medium eggs

1 tsp vanilla extract

250ml whole milk

butter, for frying

## To serve

2 just ripe bananas, sliced

maple syrup (optional)

pecan halves, toasted and roughly chopped (optional)

## Method

**Step 1** - Sieve the flour, baking powder and a generous pinch of salt into a large bowl. In



a separate mixing bowl, mash the very ripe bananas with a fork until smooth, then whisk in the eggs, vanilla extract and milk. Make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients, tip in the wet ingredients and swiftly whisk together to create a smooth, silky batter.

**Step 2** - Heat a little knob of butter in a large non-stick pan over a medium heat. Add 2-3 tbsp of the batter to the pan and cook for several minutes, or until small bubbles start appearing on the surface. Flip the pancake over and cook for 1-2 mins on the other side. Repeat with the remaining batter, keeping the pancakes warm in a low oven.

**Step 3** - Stack the pancakes on plates and top with the banana slices, a glug of sticky maple syrup and a handful of pecan nuts, if you like.

# Creamy Chocolate Mousse

Courtesy of Tesco Real Food

Serves 2

This easy chocolate mousse recipe is perfect for an indulgent dinner for two, or rustle up as part of your Valentine's Day meal.

## Ingredients

85g dark chocolate (70% cocoa solids)

6 strawberries

100ml whole milk

90g full-fat Greek yogurt

1 tbsp maple syrup

40g pomegranate seeds

## Method

Break the chocolate into a heatproof bowl and melt over a small pan of barely simmering water, stirring constantly.



Dip each of the strawberries into the melted chocolate and put on a plate or baking sheet lined with nonstick baking paper.

Add the milk to the remaining melted chocolate and stir over the simmering water until combined.

Remove from the heat and stir in the yogurt and maple syrup until smooth. Pour into 2 dessert glasses or bowls.

Put the chocolate mousses and chocolate-covered strawberries in the fridge for at least 2 hours to set. When ready to serve, remove from the fridge and garnish the mousses with the pomegranate seeds and the chocolate-dipped strawberries.



# EATON BRAY TENNIS CLUB

# WELCOMES YOU

AS A WARM AND FRIENDLY CLUB WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE "LOOK OUT" FOR NEW MEMBERS OF ANY ABILITY, FROM COMPLETE BEGINNERS TO THE MORE EXPERIENCED PLAYER.

**If you are interested in Tennis we would love to hear from you.**

**Details of our Club regarding what's on offer and membership rates are available on our club website ([ebtbc.org.uk](http://ebtbc.org.uk))**

**We offer a coaching programme for all ages and abilities and you don't even need a racket for these sessions to get you started or back into the game.**

## JUNIOR COACHING

**MONDAY 4:00pm - 5:00pm**

Mini Red (ages 4-8 years old)

**MONDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm**

Under 16 Intermediate (ages 11-16 years old)

**MONDAY 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

Under 18 Advanced (ages 16-18 years old)

**WEDNESDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm**

Mini Green (ages 9-10 years old)

**WEDNESDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm**

Under 16 Beginners (ages 11-16 years old)

These sessions CAN BE BOOKED online VIA  
OUR WEBSITE [www.ebtbc.org.uk](http://www.ebtbc.org.uk)

## ADULT COACHING

**MONDAY 7:00pm - 8:00pm**

Get Back into Tennis

These sessions CAN BE BOOKED online VIA  
OUR WEBSITE [www.ebtbc.org.uk](http://www.ebtbc.org.uk)

## PRIVATE COACHING

1-2-1 Sessions are available with Head Coach  
Sara Bamford in 1 hour or 30 minute slots.

To book please contact Head Coach  
Sara Bamford directly.

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to book your place on any of the coaching sessions.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CLUB PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE [ebtbc.org.uk](http://ebtbc.org.uk)



# Eaton Bray Cricket Club



A Happy New Year for 2023.

Time to get ready for the new season.

Indoor nets have already started and will continue on Wednesday nights at Dunstable Cricket Club from 8-9 until March.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club are always on the hunt for new players of any age or ability. 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 and also a Ladies Softball Team.

The club would like to thank our sponsors Meadow Marquees, Mlily Mattress, Fine & Country Estate Agents, Westrope Butchery, 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.

We hope you enjoy your cricket with Eaton Bray in 2023.



## February at the Grove



### Film

Avatar - The Way of Water - 7-9 Feb

Matilda - 13 Feb

Strange World - 13 Feb

Tad the Lost Explorer and The Curse of the Mummy - 14 Feb

Shazam! Fury of the Gods - 14 Feb

Black Adam - 14 & 16 Feb

Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile - 16 Feb

A Man Called Otto - 16 Feb

Empire of Light - 28 Feb

### Childrens' Shows

Jurassic Earth - 4 Feb

Pop Princesses - 15 Feb

Ministry of Science Live - Science Saved the World - 19 Feb

### Variety

Encanto (PG) Sing-a-long-a - 5 Feb

Psychic Sally - 6 Feb

All Star Superslam Wrestling - 26 Feb

### Dance

Tap factory - 12 Feb

### Encore Screening

The Barber of Seville: They Royal Opera - 20 Feb

### Comedy

Barnstormers Comedy Club - 16 Feb

Solve-Along-A Murder She Wrote - 11 Feb

The Adult Panto: Cinderella and her Naughty Buttons! - 18 Feb

### Popular Music

The Johnny Cash Roadshow - 1 Feb

The Carpenters Story - Goodbye to Love Tour 2020 - 2 Feb

Mania - 3 Feb

Roy Orbison & Friends with Barry Steele - 10 Feb

Go Your Own Way - Fleetwood Mac Legacy - 17 Feb

### Private Hire

Rare Productions - Buggy Malone - 25 Feb

*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](http://www.grovetheatre.co.uk).*

# Down the Lane

A new year and the bulbs are emerging! The Violas in my tubs are covered in blooms. Like many of the weeds, they weren't affected by the snow and cold weather. Some of the evergreen shrubs are looking rather sad. Their leaves have fallen off, whereas a year ago they were a good source of foliage for flower arranging. I shall have to wait and see if there is new growth in the spring or whether they have to be replaced. The devastation has come as a shock after several mild winters.



*Algerian Winter Iris*

I left my Pelargoniums in the greenhouse and they have all died. At least I hadn't spent time potting them up and then losing them! I can now have fun buying new plants and working out a colour scheme. There is a such wide range of colours and types these days. If I start early they will be well established by the end of May when they can go outside.

Last autumn saw a bumper crop of nuts, seeds and berries after the excellent growing weather of the spring. Birds enjoyed the Crab Apples and fruit on the Prunus tree (it rarely has more than a few berries but was laden). When it was very cold, one clever bird, its feathers so puffed out I couldn't recognise the species, was bouncing on to verbena heads to knock off the seeds and then eating the seeds from the ground as it was too heavy to land on the plant.

Some of my favourite plants are shy and retiring, if you can describe plants that way. Algerian Winter Iris grows up against the garage wall where it is very dry under the eaves and catches some winter sun. It came from my mother's garden in Somerset and flowers continuously for a month although individual flowers only last for 3 or 4 days. I love having the flowers in the house; just a small vase with Winter Jasmine and Hazelnut catkins.

✍️ Sally Taylor



## Eaton Bray Cricket Club

(Est 1914)

**2 Teams FCCL**

**1 Team Beds Sunday League**

**1 Team Village T20 League**

**1 Team Ladies Softball**

**6 Junior Teams U15 2xU13**

**2 x U11 U9**

**Good on & off field facilities**

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## Good

Edlesborough Primary Academy was labelled as "solidly good" by a trained HMI as part of a self-commissioned external review in November 2021.

*"The school is going from strength to strength. The school is focused on outcomes, the curriculum is now scaffolded and pupils want to learn."*

Trained Ofsted Inspector



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Edlesborough Primary Academy is part of the Knowledge Schools Trust.

## Welcome to **Butterfly Funerals**

**B**utterfly Funerals are specialist funeral directors Luton and owned and operated by Teresa Stack-Murray & Peter Murray, residents of Eaton Bray. If you have experienced a recent bereavement and don't know where to start then please call us on 01582 968130. We will organise everything for you, compassionately, professionally and at a reasonable price. Butterfly Funerals provide everything that you will need at this time for funerals and cremations throughout Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and the rest of England. This will include advice surrounding administration as well as service provision from other providers such as florists and headstone masons.

For the last 3 years, we have been in the top 3 funeral directors in Luton.

### **Pre Paid Funerals From Butterfly Funerals**

If you are concerned about leaving a financial burden behind for your own funeral, Butterfly Funerals offer our pre-paid funerals service for you.

### Our Services

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### Contact Us

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# Barry Steele & Friends

THE  
TRAVELING  
WILBURYS

BUDDY  
HOLLY

ROY  
ORBISON



As Seen in the West End and direct from a sell out European Tour. Covering four decades from the 1950's to the late 1980's.

Barry Steele and a fabulous cast of musicians and singers define the music of a generation in this top-class production. A very special show specially produced to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the creation of the Traveling Wilburys and to commemorate the sheer brilliance of Roy Orbison who sadly died in 1988 whilst during a huge resurgence in popularity.

Barry Steele and friends will take you on a journey back in time to an evening in Los Angeles where The Big O was joined on stage by James Burton, Elvis Costello, Bruce Springsteen, and many others, through to the 'In Dreams Hologram Tour' where Buddy Holly and Roy Orbison shared the same stage before hurtling you right up to a new millennium and into 2017 and 'The Philharmonic Albums.'

No evening would be complete without recognising The Traveling Wilburys. Their creation in 1988 led to five iconic artistes being known collectively as the original supergroup. The second show of the evening is an incredible fusion of Rock n Roll and 'Wilburys' magic. Barry Steele and friends will have you dancing in the aisles with two great shows in one night!

With a nod to the fabulous KD Lang, Jeff Lynne of ELO & Buddy Holly for all you Rock N Rollers, there really is something for everyone.

**If you want a real deal the name on the ticket is Barry Steele.**



**Fri 10th Feb at 7.30pm**

**Tickets £25.50\***

***Call the Box Office on 01582 60 20 80***

***or visit the website at [www.grovetheatre.co.uk](http://www.grovetheatre.co.uk)***





# **Eaton Bray History**

## **Moor End Farmhouse, Eaton Bray** (courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)



*Moor End Farmhouse July 2012*

Moor End Farmhouse is, today, hidden behind a modern development in the High Street. It was listed by the former Department of Environment in September 1980 as Grade II, of special interest. The department dated the building to the 17th century “with later additions”. The front wing is timber framed with brick infill panels. The rear wing is in brick with clunch ashlar. The linking wing is of similar construction. The house comprises two storeys and attics beneath a modern tiled roof.

The farm was part of the Manor of Eaton Bray which, by the late 19th century was in the hands of the Macnamara family. In 1881 the tenants were Charles and John Hedges. By 1897 the tenant was William Bates. He was dead by 1903 because Kelly’s Directory for that year, as for 1906, lists the tenant as the executors of William Bates. The Pedley Settled Estates were put up for auction in 1915 by Arthur Macnamara’s executors. The sale particulars for Moor End Farm read as follows:

LOT 20

### **A Compact Freehold Agricultural Holding**

of about

**122a. 2r. 13p.**

comprising

### **Moor End Farm**

including

### **A Brick and Half-timbered House**

of two stories, with tiled roof and Porch Entrance, with Drive Approach from the high road, near to the Village Schools and containing: ON THE UPPER FLOOR - Four Bed Rooms. ON THE GROUND FLOOR - Two Sitting Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Wash-house, two Pantries and Dairy, with Garden.



## Farm Premises

adjoining, timber-built and thatched and tiled, of Two Barns, Cow House, Stabling, Corn Store, cattle Sheds, Open Waggon, Shed, Piggery and Fold and Rickyards together with the several Enclosures of

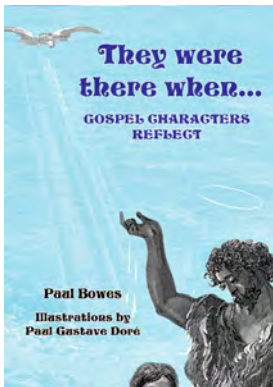
## Pasture and Arable Land

The land comprised: 9 acres, 32 poles of pasture; 2 roods of garden; a pond of 28 poles; 105 acres, 2 roods, 8 poles of arable with the remaining area being buildings, "Green Baulk", and "Sheep Wash". Bedfordshire County Council leased the garden for £1 per annum and the remainder was leased by Fred Bates for £183/10/- per annum. "This Lot is Sold subject to the right of the Parishioners of Eaton Bray to use the Sheep Wash".

The Lot was withdrawn. Fred Bates is given as occupier in Kelly's Directory for 1910, 1914, 1920 and 1924. In 1917 and 1918 the farm was compulsorily hired by Bedfordshire County Council. This was because the U-Boat campaign by Germany was taking such a toll on British shipping that it was feared that the country might be starved into surrender. As a panic measure the government instructed County Agricultural Executive Committees to order farmers to break up meadow and pasture to plant arable crops which is what happened in this case. Naturally most of these crops failed or brought in small yields but the introduction of the convoy system by the Admiralty saw the end of the U-Boat menace.

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. Eaton Bray, like most of the county, was assessed in 1927 and the valuer visiting Moor End Farm found that it was owned by the executors of W. H. Wallace, he had presumably bought the Farm from the Pedley Estates. His tenant, Fred Bates had paid rent of £202 per annum since 1906, though this is annotated "now £101/10 fixed in 1916" presumably the date at which Wallace bought it.

The reason for the dramatic decline in rent was that the former 122 acres had been reduced to 52. The valuer commented: "Nice house, very good Homestead". Kelly's Directory for 1928, 1931, 1936 and, the last directory for the county, 1940, all give the tenant as Thomas Gurney. In 1944 the arable land was sold following the death of Mrs. Wallace.



## New Book Title

### They were there when...

#### Meet the characters who encountered Jesus...

The four New Testament gospels offer a variety of perspectives on Jesus's life and ministry. Though based on strong oral history, they inevitably betray signs of being written a generation or two afterwards. Hence they accommodate a slightly different political background and reflect an emerging theological dichotomy as Christianity began to take shape from its Jewish roots. Contemporary testimonies would have been fresher, even rawer. They would have been emotional, probably confused. Here are the possible recollections of witnesses who were actually there when...

They Were There When... *Gospel Characters Reflect* - available from Amazon £9.99  
Book Castle Publishing 978 1906632 18 2

# **Saving Money by Making Lifestyle Changes**

*Courtesy of [www.raisin.co.uk](http://www.raisin.co.uk)*

Savings tips about your lifestyle, exploring how your weekly shop and habits can be adjusted to save money.

## **Shop at cheaper supermarkets**

Supermarkets such as Lidl and Aldi often offer cheaper fresh and perishable products than stores like Waitrose and Sainsburys, along with bargains on dry goods, toiletries and homeware.

## **Make sensible swaps**

Don't be a snob when it comes to supermarket own brands. They are commonly made by the same manufacturer as branded goods and can save you several pounds per shop.

## **Get rewarded for shopping**

By joining the loyalty scheme at your local supermarket, you'll enjoy points, coupons and exclusive offers in return that can free up more of your cash to save.

## **Combat world waste & eat well with a reduced price food app**

Revolutionary food apps are bringing both cheaper food and a better planet to fruition by inviting you to pay a small amount of money for food boxes containing food that would otherwise be thrown out. Rather than turning to your treasured takeaway or paying for expensive meals out, you could be doing both your wallet and the planet a favour.

## **Buy in bulk**

While we're not encouraging you to hoard, it can sometimes work out cheaper to buy products in bulk. Just make sure you calculate whether or not it is cheaper and if you will use all of the products.

## **Use coupons and vouchers**

Available online, in local neighbourhood magazines and sometimes posted directly to you, coupons and vouchers are a great way to shave a few pounds from your weekly shop. So that you don't forget the voucher itself, put it straight in your wallet as soon as you receive it or screenshot the code on your phone.

## **Check the reduced section**

Another great way to reduce food waste and cut back on your shopping bill is to check out your supermarket's reduced section for your essentials. It may also be that something has been damaged in store (e.g. a washing powder box) and is therefore available at a reduced price.

## **Cancel unnecessary subscriptions**

Along the same lines, it's a good idea to have a subscription service de-clutter, as you might find some ongoing payments you've forgotten about for a service you never use. You can usually cancel them by either contacting the service provider or cancelling the direct debit with your bank. Find out more about cancelling recurring payments at [www.raisin.co.uk/banking/recurring-payment/](http://www.raisin.co.uk/banking/recurring-payment/)

## **Take advantage of trial periods – but don't forget to cancel**

We've all heard the tactic of using multiple emails to take advantage of impressive offers, and trial periods are similar. However, you are often required to input your card details when you sign up, so be sure to cancel before you get charged. A good way to

do this is by setting a reminder in your phone or on your calendar.

### **Write a shopping list (and don't forget to take it with you!)**

By being organised and only shopping for exactly what you need to make meals during the week, you won't be tempted to buy unnecessary items during your weekly shop.

### **Don't shop on an empty stomach**

One of the worst things you can do is shop on an empty stomach, without a list. You'll only be interested in what your stomach – not your kitchen cupboards or your wallet – is saying.

### **Make your own lunch/smoothies/cleaning products**

Research from 2015 tells us that Londoners were spending an average of £6.60 a day on lunch, which amounts to £2,500 per year – an amount will be even higher now thanks to inflation and some shortages. However, if you choose to make your own lunch, you'll probably find that you'll spend less than £10 per week.

The same thing can be said for other essentials such as cleaning products – did you know that you can make almost any cleaning solution with white vinegar?

### **Stop smoking**

Smoking is an expensive habit, regardless of how often you do it. The average price of a pack of cigarettes is around £12.61 in the UK. If you smoke one pack per day, that's a whopping annual cost of £4,602.65. Over five years of smoking, you could save £23013.25.

### **Cut down on drinking**

Similar to smoking, drinking can be a costly habit, with the average night out costing Brits over £70. If you were to party every weekend each year, that's over £3,500 you could have saved.

### **Limit your social events**

Similarly, social events can also chip away at your savings. Rather than heading straight to an event, it can work out much cheaper to do something fun and free with your friends instead.

### **Use cashback companies**

Whether you're making a large, essential purchase such as a fridge or shopping around for insurance, it can pay off to use cashback companies. The way this works is that the cashback company will receive commission for any purchase you make via their site, which they then share with you. It can take a while for the process to complete, but, depending on what you buy, you can get a good amount of your cash back.

### **Get a cheaper mobile phone deal**

If you've been with the same network provider for a while, it might well be worth shopping around for a new deal. You can do this easily online, calling a provider or by going into a mobile phone store. You may also find that your existing provider will match a deal from a competitor so they don't lose you as a customer. earning yourself some extra cash in the process.

### **Sell anything you don't need**

From books through to houseplants, you can sell anything that you don't feel like you need. Facebook Marketplace is great for finding people in your local area in order to save on postage, and it doesn't incur any fees or take commission. eBay is another good, easy-to-use option.

# Attractions Near Our Villages

Courtesy of [www.komoot.com](http://www.komoot.com)

## Moneybury Hill Archaeological Barrow

Well preserved Bronze Age Bell Barrow.

The following is taken from the English Heritage scheduled monument description:

The monument includes a bell barrow situated on the west-facing escarpment of Moneybury Hill. The barrow mound survives as a well-defined roughly circular mound 25m in diameter and stands up to 3m high on its west side and 2m high on its east. The top of the mound has been disturbed at some time in the distant past so that it is now concave to a

depth of 0.4m. Surrounding the central mound is a sloping berm or platform 2.5m wide which separates the edge of the mound from the ditch; such a berm is characteristic of this class of monument. A surrounding ditch, from which the material was quarried to construct the mound, survives as an earthwork around the north and south sides only where it averages 4m wide and 0.3m deep; elsewhere it is buried and overlain with modern trackways but survives as a buried feature of similar width.

Bell barrows, the most visually impressive form of round barrow, are funerary monuments dating to the early and middle Bronze Age, with most examples belonging to the period 1600-1300 bc. They occur either in isolation or in round barrow cemeteries and were constructed as single or multiple mounds covering burials, often in pits, and surrounded by an enclosure ditch. The burials are frequently accompanied by weapons, personal ornaments, and pottery and appear to be those of aristocratic individuals, usually men. Bell barrows (particularly multiple barrows) are rare nationally, with less than 250 known examples, most of which are in Wessex. Their richness in terms of grave goods provides evidence for chronological and cultural links amongst early prehistoric communities over most of southern and eastern England as well as providing an insight into their beliefs and social organisation. As a particularly rare form of round barrow, all identified bell barrows would normally be considered to be of national importance.

Despite some disturbance of the central area of the barrow mound, most of the Moneybury bell barrow survives intact. There is also potential for the recovery of environmental material, relating to the landscape in which the monument was constructed, from both the old land surface sealed beneath the mound and from the ditch fill.

## Grand Union Canal

The Grand Union Canal was once one of the most important waterways in Britain, carrying goods between London and Birmingham. The canal travels 137 miles (220 km) in total, with 166 locks. After the introduction of the railway and lorries, the waters





were no longer needed for business and commercial trade stopped completely in the 1970s.

Today, the canal is a peaceful waterway carrying pleasure boats gently downstream. Joggers, cyclists and walkers enjoy the well-maintained tow path along its banks. The canal is a haven for wildlife, too.

**Icknield Way**

The 110 mile long Icknield Way is an ancient road which runs along the side of the Downs, its history dating back 6,500 years. Connecting East Anglia to important sites such as Avebury it was a well-used road, and since prehistoric times, farmers, soldiers, Saxon warlords and medieval drovers have walked or ridden along it. When the rain fell onto the Downs, it seeped through the hills and emerged as springs at the edge of the Chiltern hills lower down. These springs provided water for people and their animals.



**London Gliding Club / Strip Lynchetts**

The club was inaugurated in 1930. In 1939 Geoffrey Stephenson was the first person to glide across the Channel when he flew from Dunstable to France. The clubhouse and hangar form a listed building. During the Second World War, the club was used as a prisoner of war camp. Strip Lynchetts on your left, to the north of the bridleway, are cultivation terraces or strip lynchets. They are believed to be medieval. They would have made cultivation easier and improved drainage for vines or for crops planted after ploughing.



**Dunstable Downs**

With breathtaking views, scheduled monuments to explore, and several Sites of Special



Scientific Interest (SSSI), Dunstable Downs is a fantastic place to spend some time. Situated within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it is the highest point in Bedfordshire. There are lots of footpaths to explore across the chalk grasslands, including several circular walks. The site is managed by the National Trust and there is a visitor centre.

### **Pitstone Hill**

Pitstone Hill is a chalk grassland with small areas of woodland and scrub. As you explore the reserve, which has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, you can see lots of rare plant life including the nationally-scarce pasque flower and field fleawort. At least 26 species of butterfly have been recorded here and you can also see birds such as skylarks, meadow pipits, and willow warblers.



### **Sundon Hills Country Park**

The Smithcombe, Sharpenhoe and Sundhon Hills cover 86 hectares in Bedfordshire. With thick forests, gentle slopes and wildflowers, the area is a lovely place to cycle, hike and enjoy a picnic. The hills make up part of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and are considered a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Here, you will find plenty of interesting plants and wildlife. As the hills are made mostly of unimproved chalk grassland, there are lots of rare species. Look out for rabbits too!





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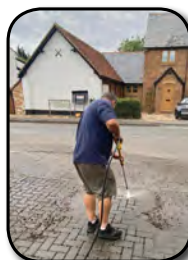
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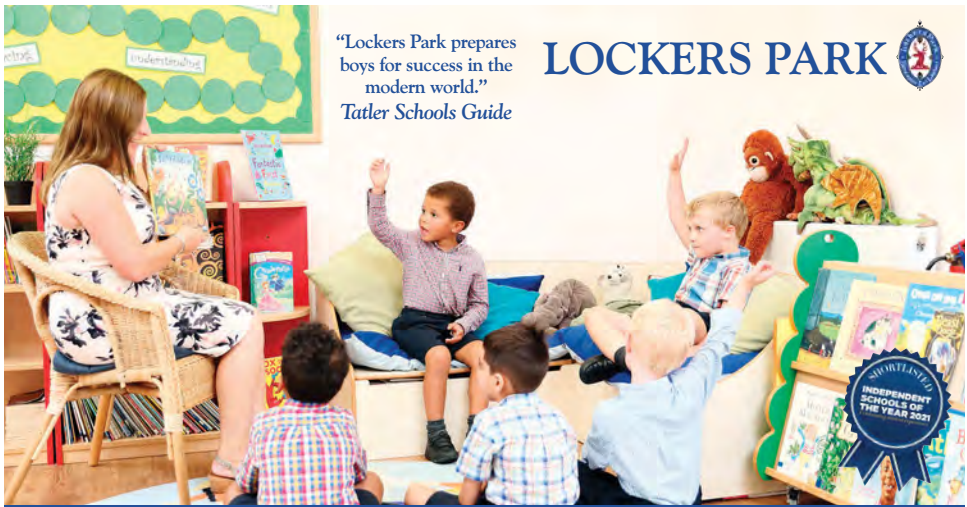


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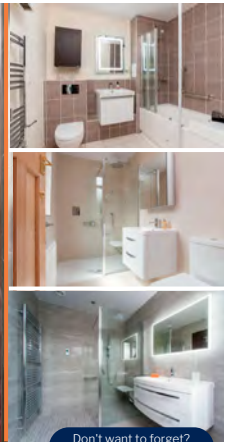


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## Ready... Vet... Go!

### Young conservationists can be Vets in Action this half term at Whipsnade Zoo

Saturday 11 to Sunday 19 February 2023

Aspiring young vets can put their animal care skills to the test at Whipsnade Zoo this February half-term - with Vets in Action, an inspirational role-playing experience for children.

From Saturday 11 to Sunday 19 February, during an action-packed week of activities, kids can experience first-hand what it takes to be a vet at the UK's largest zoo - looking after some of the biggest animals in the world, from powerful rhinos to towering giraffes.

Upon arrival at the specially created Animal Hospital, children will instantly be placed at the heart of the action, learning how to examine and treat different animals. Junior vets will join the team to learn all about the varied life of a zoo vet – practising their newly-learned skills by helping to rescue a replica stranded turtle and carrying out veterinary checks on fluffy toy otters.

Alongside the exciting role-play event, fascinating family talks and demonstrations will take visitors further behind the scenes, revealing the hidden world of everything from crocodiles to elephants.

Once their shift is over, families can explore acres of wide-open space at the conservation zoo, while paying a visit to more than 10,000 animals. A great value day out for the family, Vets In Action and all extra activities are included with zoo entry. Book tickets online now at [www.zsl.org](http://www.zsl.org)



## One, Zoo, Three...

### Zookeepers undertake the annual stocktake at Whipsnade Zoo

On 5th January, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's keepers began the mammoth task of counting every animal for their annual stocktake. Home to more than 10,000 animals, zookeepers at the UK's largest Zoo gathered their clipboards and calculators, to take stock of each invertebrate, bird, fish, mammal, reptile and amphibian.

2022 saw a number of new arrivals to Whipsnade Zoo, all of which were recorded for the first time during the yearly count; in August, the conservation Zoo celebrated the birth of Endangered Asian elephant calf, Nang Phaya, while November's Remembrance Day saw the birth of Wilfred, a reticulated giraffe calf named after war poet Wilfred Owen.

Elsewhere, a two-month-old, Critically Endangered, Visayan warty piglet (*Sus cebifrons*) was also added to the Zoo's official records, as well as hundreds of Critically Endangered and Extinct-in-the-Wild freshwater fish, bred at the Zoo's Aquarium and freshwater conservation breeding centre.

Families can spot the Zoo's 10,000 animals for themselves by booking a winter wildlife adventure at [zsl.org](http://zsl.org).



**ZSL | WHIPSNADE ZOO**

# Historic Edlesborough

Courtesy and copyright Buckinghamshire Council -  
Buckinghamshire's Heritage Portal



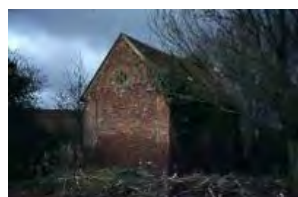
*Moat at Church Farm*

A Neolithic flint flake and axe were found in allotments in Dagnall, along with Roman and medieval pottery. Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flints were found in fieldwalking near the Washbrook Stream with Roman tile, quern fragments and pottery. A pit of unknown, but possibly prehistoric or Roman date was found in the Aylesbury-Buncefield pipeline excavation, which passed through this parish. Iron Age and Roman ditches, pits and pottery were also found. A possible enclosure at Coombe Bottom is known from an aerial photograph, but again the date is uncertain. Roman finds are also known from Coldharbour, where cinerary urns were found in the nineteenth century and from fieldwalking near the Tring Road, where Saxon artefacts were also found. A possible Saxon cemetery was found in the nineteenth century at Maylands in Dagnall.

A possible medieval chapel is recorded in the field-name Chapel Dell, and there are also historical records for its presence in the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries. Documents record the presence of a watermill from the eleventh century in Edlesborough, separate manors at Dagnall



*Barn at Church Farm*



*Dovecote at Church Farm*

and Bowell's manor and a moat at Church Farm. There are also lots of earthworks of the medieval period, such as the moat and hollow-way at Manor Farm, the moat at Butler's Farm that was infilled in the nineteenth century, one at Peppiatt's Farm associated with a fishpond, two fishponds at Church Farm and medieval field lynchets near the church. Archaeologists observed a test-pit inside St Mary's church, which revealed several skulls and medieval pottery, tile and stone. The oldest building is the church, with a thirteenth century nave aisles and chancel, fourteenth century tower and windows and fifteenth century north chapel and porches. It sits on a natural mound.

There are many listed buildings in Edlesborough, which date to the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Charity Farm is particularly interesting as it is a Wealden type house that is more commonly found in Kent. Church Farm has a fifteenth to sixteenth century tithe barn and an eighteenth century dovecote. Ivy Cottage dates to the early nineteenth century but appears to incorporate a medieval cruck truss. 51 The Green has two medieval bays with a sixteenth to seventeenth century cross-wing.

Dagnall Hamlet was a post-medieval farmstead that is now deserted. At Dagnall Hall Farm a field boundary detected in field survey may date to this period too. The church and mission at Dagnall was built in the nineteenth century and there are surviving post-medieval stocks there as well. There is a record of a nineteenth to twentieth century steam-mill in Edlesborough, as well as an eighteenth to nineteenth century windmill recorded on historic maps and a watermill of similar date near Ivinghoe church. Dagnall Brewery was established in the early twentieth century, though it was demolished in the 1960s/70s.



*Edlesborough windmill*

# Magpies

*Courtesy of British Trust for Ornithology*

Seen from a distance, the Magpie (*pica pica*) appears to be a simple two-tone, black and white bird. However, the black plumage is more subtle in colour than it first appears, with a blue-green iridescent sheen evident at close range. In the open it flies, rising awkwardly, with quick flaps and glides - like a ragged kite. Among trees the species moves confidently, reflecting its agility. On the ground the tail is often held high as the bird 'kangaroo-hops' along. The raucous, cackling, call is given frequently, reflecting the intensely competitive and social nature of this species. Young Magpies have a washed-out appearance and short, stubby tails.

For many people the Magpie is a villain, responsible for the widespread decline of songbirds. Research examining the question of whether Magpies have been responsible for songbird decline has failed to find any evidence to support the notion that they are to blame. It is true that while Magpie numbers have tended to increase, those of many of our songbird species have declined. These increases and decreases have occurred over different time periods and in different parts of the country, which suggests that the general patterns are a coincidence and not cause-and-effect.

At a local level, Magpies can sometimes be a problem for nesting birds; in fact, in many gardens they are probably the second most important predator after the domestic cat. Mind you, in the absence of wild mammals like the Weasel, many garden birds probably may still suffer lower levels of nest predation than they would experience in natural woodlands and farmland hedgerows.

Like other members of the Crow family, Magpies can be very interesting to watch. They are social birds with a degree of intelligence that has enabled them to adapt to a changing environment. You only need look at the number of Magpie nests alongside many of our new road networks to see how they have learned to exploit the carcasses of animals killed by road traffic.



# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

## Weather Conditions for November & December 2022

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

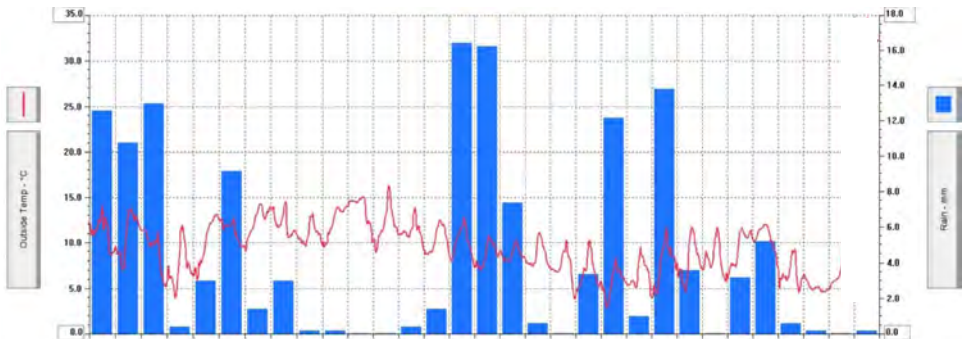


### November 2022

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature	16.4°C	12 Nov 14.30	2.7°C	21 Nov 13.30
Mean Temp	9.4°C	Dominant Wind:	SSE	
Humidity:	96%	6 days in Nov	73%	2 Nov 14.30
Barometer:	1027.3 hPa	12 Nov 00.00	974.6 hPa	17 Nov 00.30
Wind Speed	39 mph SSW	8 Nov 02.30	Months avg.	6.4 mph SSE
Wettest Day		15 Nov	16.41 mm	0.646 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	November	139.4mm	5.488 ins

**November:** The first half of the month was very mild. Following a nine-day unsettled period, we had a short dry spell before it turned unsettled again and cooler. With a high temperature of 16.4°C and a mean temperature of 9.4°C, it was an unusually warm month. It was also the wettest month of the year with rain on 25 days. There was 139.4mm of rainfall, which was 179% of the 14 year average for November. That compares to last year's November total of 23mm.

### November's Temperature and Rain



### December 2022

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature	13.5°C	19 Dec 20.30	-10.6°C	15 Dec 07.30
Mean Temp	3.7°C	Dominant Wind:	SSE	
Humidity:	100%	22 Dec 09.00	73%	26 Dec 13.30
Barometer:	1028.6 hPa	1 Dec 10.00	987.1 hPa	30 Dec 12.00
Wind Speed	38 mph SSE	30 Dec 10.30	Months avg.	6.5.2mph SSE
Wettest Day		31 Dec	14.2mm	0.559 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Dec	80.8 mm	3.181 ins

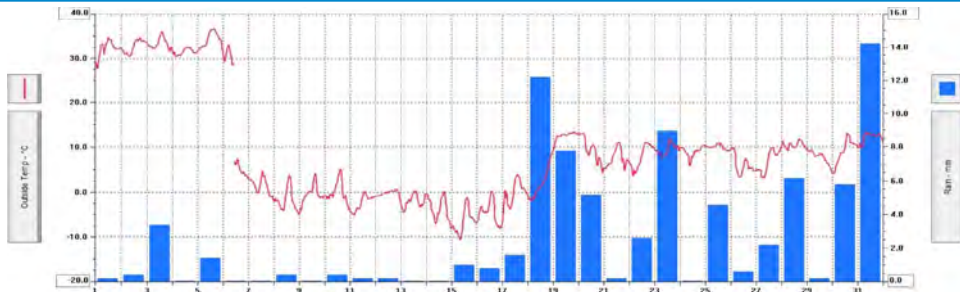
**December:** The month started cold and settled. But, on the evening of the 10th, the temperature dropped to below zero and was the start of a very cold snap. It started to snow late on Sunday the 11th, so we woke up on Monday morning to a blanket of snow. The temperature stayed below zero for almost six days and dropped to -10.6°C on the 15th. On the 18th, the thaw had set in with spells of rain. The temperature then rose into the teens, which was warm for December.

### December's Temperature and Rain

The blank columns on the next chart relate to days when the temperature and humidity sensors were giving out spurious readings. They've since been fixed and are back to normal.



# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)



## Annual Climatological Summary for 2022

### Temperature

### Precipitation

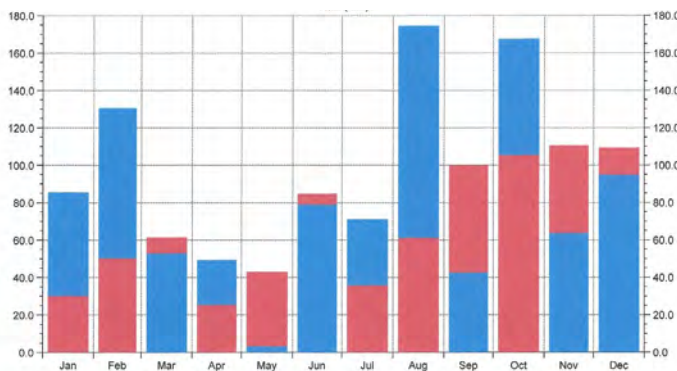
### Wind Speed

	High Temp	Date	Low Temp	Date	Mean Temp	Rain Day Max	Date	Month Total	Hi Wind	Date	Avg	Dom Dir
Jan	14.2°	1 <sup>st</sup>	-4.1°	6 <sup>th</sup>	4.5°	5.4mm	2 <sup>nd</sup>	22.4 mm	42.0	31 <sup>st</sup>	5.0	W
Feb	14.3°	1 <sup>st</sup>	-0.9°	26 <sup>th</sup>	7.1°	14.6mm	20 <sup>th</sup>	84.0 mm	55.0	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.2	W
Mar	19.9°	23 <sup>rd</sup>	-1.7°	21 <sup>st</sup>	8.0°	19.0mm	16 <sup>th</sup>	51.6 mm	42.0	31 <sup>st</sup>	5.9	SSE
Apr	23.1°	15 <sup>th</sup>	-4.2°	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.6°	19.4mm	7 <sup>th</sup>	33.2 mm	47.0	7 <sup>th</sup>	5.8	NE
May	25.3°	17 <sup>th</sup>	3.5°	29 <sup>th</sup>	13.5°	7.4mm	11 <sup>th</sup>	40.0 mm	30.0	16 <sup>th</sup>	4.8	W
Jun	31.5°	17 <sup>th</sup>	6.1°	2 <sup>nd</sup>	16.0°	10.8mm	5 <sup>th</sup>	45.3 mm	33.0	25 <sup>th</sup>	4.8	SSE
July	39.3°	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.6°	5 <sup>th</sup>	19.4°	14.6mm	20 <sup>th</sup>	23.0 mm	31.0	24 <sup>th</sup>	4.8	NW
Aug	34.3°	13 <sup>th</sup>	6.4°	6 <sup>th</sup>	19.8°	29.2mm	25 <sup>th</sup>	38.4 mm	26.0	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3.9	NE
Sep	25.3°	12 <sup>th</sup>	2.2°	17 <sup>th</sup>	14.4°	16.4mm	5 <sup>th</sup>	59.2 mm	31.0	30 <sup>th</sup>	4.2	SSE
Oct	20.9°	29 <sup>th</sup>	1.8°	9 <sup>th</sup>	12.9°	32.4mm	23 <sup>rd</sup>	102.5 mm	34.0	5 <sup>th</sup>	5.7	SSE
Nov	16.4°	12 <sup>th</sup>	2.7°	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.4°	16.4mm	15 <sup>th</sup>	139.4 mm	39.0	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.4	SSE
Dec	13.5°	19 <sup>th</sup>	-10.6°	15 <sup>th</sup>	3.7°	14.2mm	31 <sup>st</sup>	80.8 mm	38.0	30 <sup>th</sup>	5.2	SSE
	YEAR	TOTALS										
Lows /Max	39.3°	July	-10.6°	Dec	Avg 11.3°	Total Rain	Year	719.8mm (28.339ins)	Wind 55.0 mph	Feb	Wind 5.4 mph	SSE Year avg
	Max	Min										

**2022 Highlights:** A year of records. It was a much drier year, starting in January with only 22.4mm of rain which was only 29% of the Dagnall monthly average. The yearly total was 719.8mm, which compares to 811mm in 2021. The summer brought record high temperatures, with a peak of 39.3°c on the 19th of July. December brought us a very cold snap and snow that lasted for more than a week, with a low of -10.6°c. The Met Office says this is likely to become the norm.

### Rain Comparison for 2021 - 2022

Blue 2021 Red 2022



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Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.



# Salvation Sound



I would like to to take this opportunity, to say a sincere thank you to everyone who donated toys or gifts or gave financial support, to The Salvation Army's Toy Appeal. We would also like to thank particularly Giblin Estate Agents for their kindness in being willing to receive toys and gifts on our behalf. In this Christmas just gone, in Eaton Bray and neighbouring villages, 35 children received 132 toys. It seems an age since Leighton Buzzard Salvation Army band played carols at both ends of the village, and thanks to all who those who organized this event and for well-placed lighting, for which we were very grateful, so that we could still read our music!

Time does, seem to go so quickly, it will be next Christmas before we know it! We were so grateful for the generosity of the gifts we received, despite the financial challenges we are living in.

We had a call, a young woman was desperate. I took some of those toys to a young woman, with a family who simply couldn't afford to buy any toys. I will never forget her smile and her genuine sense of gratitude. 'I will never forget this...' she said and she meant every word she said.

We all carry some degree of anxiety, especially about the people closest to us, it's the flip side of loving. I find personal reassurance in the message of hope that we find in the Psalms, that God will be with us, in the good times and the not so good times. Psalm 46 says this: 'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth, give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.' It's a great message to hold onto.

Warmest regards

✍ David





**The Salvation Army, Eaton Bray**

**Programme**

<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Sunday 11.am</b>
<b>Coffee Morning</b> (alternate weeks)	<b>Tuesday 10.-11.30am</b>
<b>Home League</b> (Ladies meeting)	<b>Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm</b>
<b>Champions Club</b>	<b>Wednesday 6.15-7.15pm</b>
<b>Girls Night Out</b> (1st Thurs of the month)	<b>Thursdays 7.30 pm</b>

For further information please contact:  
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01525 222087  
eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk

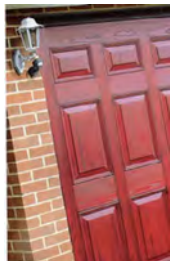


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