

FOCUS

August/September 2008



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THE FOUR VILLAGES MAGAZINE

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Focus - The Four Village Magazine

Magazine Committee

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

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

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together

General Assistance (Recommended Number) 01234 841212

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/P.C.Viv Dady 01582 473418

P.C. Viv Dady Mobile 07900051367

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

Email: SNT.Leighton-Rural@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Cover Photograph

The cover photograph is from the publication 'A History of Dagnall Village'. The photo is one of many photographs included in the publication which can be purchased from Dagnall School. An extract and additional photos from the publication are included in this issue of Focus.

Edlesborough Methodist Church 150th Anniversary Celebrations

September 21st Harvest Festival

October 11th Concert Wesley Singers

November 29th Christmas Bazaar & Coffee Morning

December 14th Candlelit Carol Service

+ our monthly coffee mornings on the last Saturday of each month and our 'CAMEO' coffee morning on the 2nd Thursday of each month

Village Diaries August/September 2008



Weekly

- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Cindy 07773 095624
- Mon-Fri (term time) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.30-12 noon, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Under 5's Pre-School, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Sue 01525 222199
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Kay 07803 925254
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays (term time) Mums & Tots Group, 1-2.30pm, Grace Community Church
- Tuesdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 1.45-3.15pm 01525 377542
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Baby's First Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 10.15 - 11.45 am, Pitstone Memorial Hall
- Tuesdays FITKID, 6-7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Caroline 08445 606432
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, Totternhoe Village Hall, 07986 730922
- Tuesdays Northall Toddler Group, 10am - 12 noon, Northall Village Hall, Ellie 01525 222144
- Tuesdays Fortnightly Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Weds (term time) Eaton Bray Under 5's, 1.15-3pm Eaton Bray Village, Hall Cindy 01582 477568
- Wednesdays Chi Kung & Wu Chi classes, Coffee Tavern 11am - noon
- Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Thurs (term time) Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45 - 2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) Contact Michelle Tel 01442 842 676
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- Thursdays Keep fit, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Mrs Johnson 220304
- Thursdays Kfa Body Moves 40+, Fitness through movement, exercise & dance. 8-9pm, Edlesborough School, Pat 01582 668735
- Thursdays Baby & Toddler Group, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 9.30-11.30am
- Thursdays Keep Fit Edlesborough School, 8pm Tel: 01582 668735
- Fridays SOCATOTS, 12:45, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Daniel Walker 07968 778681
- Fridays (term time) The Venue for 8-12s @ Grace Community Church, 7.00-8.45 pm, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
- Saturdays Jazzercise, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 715208

Monthly

- 1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Contact Sheila Beal on 01525 221185
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday Dunstable & District Orbit Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
- 2nd Tuesday Toddlers' Church, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2.00pm
2nd Tuesday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable (opposite Wilkinson)
- 2nd Tuesday Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 2nd Wednesday 8.15pm Healing Service in St Mary's Church
2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
3rd Sunday Grace Community Church Service, 11am, all welcome, Bruce Moulding 01525 221601
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 2nd Aug, 6th Sep Brunch take-away at All Saints Church from 9.30 – 11.30 am
6th & 20th Aug, Bingo, Dagnall Village Hall 8pm.
3rd & 17th Sep
8th Aug Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, 10.30 am.
19th Aug Over 60's, Visit to the London Eye

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 1st, 5th, 11th, 15th, Play Around The Parishes Play Scheme. Children aged between 4 and 12 years are eligible to attend any of the sessions but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Full details on page 30.
19th, 22nd, 27th & 28th Aug Coffee Morning in aid of St. Mary's Roof Fund, 10.30am - 12noon, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
2nd Aug Dagnall Garden Show, 2.30pm Village Hall
6th Sep Friends of St Mary's Coffee Morning, 10.30-12 noon, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
6th Sep Hymns of Praise on Edlesborough Green, 4pm
14th Sep Harvest Supper & Barn Dance, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tickets 01525 222283
20th Sep Edlesborough Methodist Church Harvest Festival
21st Sep Friends of St. Mary's Concert, 6-8pm, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray, Tickets: Sally Taylor, 01525 221576
21st Sep MacMillan Cancer Relief World's Biggest Coffee Morning, 10am - 12noon, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray
26th Sep All Saints Harvest Festival Services 10.30am. and 6.00pm
28th Sep Eaton Bray Methodist Church Harvest Celebration, 10.30am
28th Sep



New Book Group in Northall

I am hoping to set up a Book Group in the Village. The idea of a Book Group is that each month the members all read the same book and then get together for a sociable and friendly discussion about that particular book.

If you live in Northall or the other Villages, enjoy reading and like the idea of sharing your interest with others, please contact me:

Susan Young,

Tel: 01525 221013 or

Email: gyoung@3northall.freemove.co.uk

Once there are between 6 and 10 potential members, we will have a preliminary meeting to get the Group up and running and to plan the details (i.e., when and where to meet, book suggestions, etc).

Hymns of Praise on Edlesborough Green

‘Let’s revive the service on the Green’ said several churches when asked by the local Churches Together Committee what we should be doing together. ‘More song, less talk!’ added one congregation.

A sub group met, thought how best to make this happen and came up with HYMNS ON THE GREEN; an open air event for all the community; to take place on SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 4PM.

Everyone is welcome to come and join in open air praise led by the Salvation Army band, whether regular churchgoer or not. Bring a garden chair if you’d like a seat. Reviving refreshments served in Edlesborough Methodist Church afterwards.

Book the date in your diary now.

Panto 2009 - A Space Oddity

Following the success of this years Little Red Riding Hoodie, the time is nigh to start cranking the handle of the machine that’s going to produce next year’s effort. We have it in mind to do a modern, completely new Panto, a sort of Star Trek meets Dr Who.

As usual we need volunteers for all departments, but in particular we need someone to take charge of costumes, and someone to take a major role in set production. Above all we need actors, male and female, large and small, young and old, experienced and novice. Whatever your interest we’ll find something for you to do. It’s great fun and very rewarding.

You know you’ve always meant to do something so do it now! Send us an e-mail to register your interest. You will not be committed to anything but we do need to know who’s interested and we need to know NOW. If you are not an e-mailer you can phone Sonia Dean on 07968022283 who will register your interest.

Don’t wait. Do it now or we’ll send round a space alien to turn you into a toad!

Contact Pete & Ronnie Farrar at farrarandr@yahoo.co.uk

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EDaN Project Update

By the time you read this message households in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall (EDaN) will have started to receive a copy of the Edlesborough Parish Plan through the letterbox. If you have not received one by mid-August there are contact details at the end of this article.

Please read it thoroughly as it identifies the key projects that will be undertaken by the Project Action Teams over the next several years. Each project has a list of recommendations that each team will consider and develop actions to fulfil these where appropriate.

Please keep your copy of the plan in a safe place so that you can refer to it whenever an issue arises that you are concerned about. Check the plan to see if it is covered. From time to time the EDaN Steering Group will review the relevance of the plan and update it as appropriate. For those of you with Internet access the Plan and actions will appear on the Parish website www.edlesborough.gov.uk under Parish Plan (EDaN Project). Some of the Project Action Teams are already active.

Retain Edlesborough Post Office

The 'Retain Edlesborough Post Office Team' is pleased to confirm that Edlesborough Post Office is on the list to REMAIN OPEN and part of the PO network subject to the 6 week consultation period ending on 26th August 2008. The decision is not final until this period is over. We wish to thank everyone who signed the petition to keep it open but also **ask everyone to continue to use Edlesborough PO as much as possible.**

You can still help ensure the future of our Post Office by writing to Laura Tarling, Network Development Manager, C/O National Consultation Team, FREEPOST CONSULTATION TEAM or email to consultation@postoffice.co.uk stating how pleased you are it is proposed to remain open and that you would welcome any additional services such as Road Fund Licences and the Passport Checking Service.

Beautify the Villages

This team too has made good progress already and is putting some definition to their recommendations to ensure that their proposals are practical and meet with the various regulations that exist these days. Cost evaluations need to take place too and these are being pursued.

Footpaths and Pavements

This team is up and running evaluating the data from the questionnaires together with the comments that many of you made in order to draw out common themes for prioritisation. The process that this team, as every other team, will go through is to take the recommendations, put clear actions against them and identify the resources and costs involved together with a time frame.

The Project Action Team plans will also appear on the Parish website for all to see.

Other teams that are getting underway relate to the following topics:

Youth Facilities

Cycleways

Postcodes

Drainage

Transportation

Street Lighting

If you have any interest in these or any of the other projects outlined in the Parish Plan

you received please contact us at EDaN. Call Alan Williams 01525 221926 or Vicky Lee 01442 843361 or you can email us at edanplan@yahoo.co.uk
 Finally congratulations to Sue Cawdell of Dagnall who won the EDaN 'Name the Bear' competition at the Carnival with the name BooBoo!
 Thanks for your interest and support
 The EDaN Steering Group



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All Saints, Dagnall - Services in August and September 2008

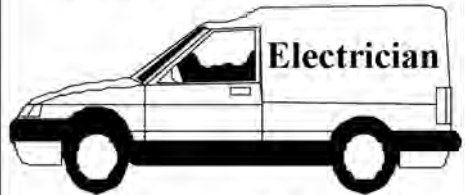
- | | | |
|---|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun. 3rd Aug. | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service with Holy Communion |
| Sun. 10th Aug. | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Sung Eucharist |
| Sun. 17th Aug. | 10.30 am | Family Communion |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service |
| Sun. 24th Aug. | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Family Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Prayer |
| Sun 31st Aug. | 10.30 am | Fellowship Service |
| Sun. 7th Sept. | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service with Holy Communion |
| Thu. 11th Sept. | 7.30 pm | Eucharist |
| Sun. 14th Sept. | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Sung Eucharist |
| Sun. 21st Sept. | 10.30 am | Family Communion |
| Sun. 28th Sept. | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Family Harvest Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Harvest Thanksgiving |
| Sun. 5th Oct. | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service with Holy Communion |
| Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am | | |





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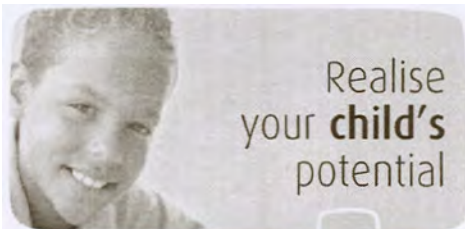
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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Canon Malcolm Grant

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

Hon. Assistant Priest : The Revd John Heffer

35 Peblemoor, Edlesborough - Tel: 01525 220618

Much of what Jesus taught us was done through parables – stories which are easy to remember and which challenge us to think about life. Instructions apply only to specific situations, and as circumstances change they often become irrelevant; stories illuminate all sorts of new situations.

Here's an interesting modern parable I came across not very long ago. A teacher gave each child in a class a large glass jar (it must have been a long time ago, or Health and Safety would have forbidden it!) and a collection of pebbles, gravel chips and sand, and asked them to get as much as they could into their jar. Those who filled the jar with sand first of all discovered they couldn't get anything else in. Those who tried the gravel found they could get a little bit of sand in if they poured it very carefully, but nothing else. Those who started off with the pebbles found they could get quite a lot of gravel chips into the spaces between the pebbles, and then quite a lot of sand into the remaining spaces.

Then came the message. "Now", teacher said, "I want you to think of the jar as your life. The rocks are the really important things like faith and care for others, and love and honesty and goodness. The gravel chips are the ordinary things of everyday life – work and domestic chores and learning and all the things like that. The sand is our pleasures and all the things we indulge ourselves with. What does the jar teach us? If we try to fill our lives with pleasures and self-indulgence, there is very soon no room for anything else. If our concerns are almost exclusively for work and home duties then we'll find a bit of room to enjoy ourselves, but not much. If we start with the rocks of faith and love and care for others and all the other really important things, then we'll find there's plenty of room in our lives for work and duties and for enjoying ourselves as well." And that is probably just about the reverse of how many people see things, isn't it?

How do you fill up your life? Think about it as you lie on the beach or sit in your garden this summer, and see what this simple little story is saying to you.

May God bless you all.

MALCOLM

From the Parish Registers

Confirmation – “*May they daily increase in your Holy Spirit*”

22 June

Confirmed by the Bishop of Bedford

Annabel Kate Browne
Hayden Alexander Elves
Pauline Helen Glen
Alison Mary Grant
Zara Nicola Rogers
Alice Victoria Ryder



Funerals – “Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest”

4 July

Marjorie Elizabeth Lena Bradbrook, formerly of Harpenden

Services at St Mary’s Church

SUNDAYS : **8.00am** – The Eucharist
 10.00am – PARISH SUNG EUCHARIST (with Sunday School)
 On Second Sunday of each month:
 10.00am – WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE – a less formal service
 with Holy Communion

WEEK-DAYS :

Week-day services have resumed their normal pattern after the repairs to the church:

Tuesday: **7.30am** - Eucharist
 2.00pm (2nd Tuesday) – Toddlers’ Church

Wednesday: **9.30am** - Eucharist

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

Northall Playground

Northall residents enjoyed a picnic lunch in the grounds of the Village Hall on Sunday 13 July to celebrate the opening of the new playground. Anne Thompson, Chair of Edlesborough Parish Council cut a pink ribbon and then joined the village children on the new equipment.

The opening was the culmination of 2 years of planning by the Northall Village Hall Management Committee, chaired by Alan Tipper. He praised Edlesborough Parish Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council, Waste Recycling Environmental Limited, and First Move Developments Ltd for their financial contributions, as well as the Management Committee (The Treasurer, Kevin Cubbage, in particular) for all their efforts in making the project happen. As a security measure the playground has 24 hour video surveillance. The Village Hall is available for hire for private parties when it is not being used by the village for community activities. For further information go to www.edlesborough.gov.uk/community/index.htm



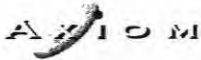
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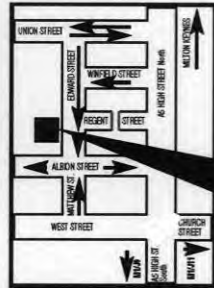


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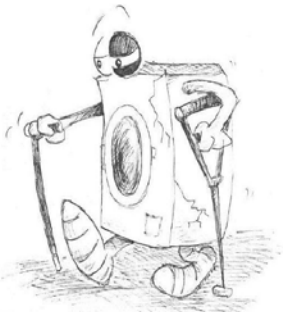


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Fairy Tales, St Judes Clinic and the Fete



It was a great turn out for what turned out to be a dry, if somewhat windy fete at The Green on 5th July, our 13th Fete at Edlesborough. Our wish for clear skies came true and Mrs Margaret Sinfield of Eaton Bray realised it was no fairy tale when we told her she had won first prize in our charity raffle this year - a voucher for £200 to spend at Janes in Edlesborough.

Congratulations also go to our runners up who won free treatments at the clinic for a Sports Massage, a Body Alignment Check and a Reflexology session.

Our thanks go to everyone who supported us and helped us yet again raise money for The Princess Royal Trust for Carers.



Moira D'Arcy, Practice Principal (& friend!) giving lucky winner Margaret Sinfield, her £200 gift voucher.



Getting into the spirit of the day – Shrek (Paul Gough, Podiatrist!). No wonder we still had some sweets left on the stall – a bit scary Paul!



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Dagnall News

Over 60's

In July we held our annual Garden Meeting which, subject to the weather, always proves to be a occasion venue for our members. We continue to appreciate the generosity of Mr & Mrs John Yorke, who willingly open their attractive garden for this meeting.

At the time of preparing these notes we are looking forward to our visit in August to the London Eye, followed by a fish and chip lunch, which is always appreciated by our members. Those of us who have previously visited the Eye can recommend the experience, even to the faint-hearted among us.

In September we will be out for lunch again visiting the Bell at Winslow for their popular carvery – a treat for everyone.

Dagnall Village Hall

Whitbread's Raise and Match Scheme

Dagnall Fete Boosted by £750 by Whitbread match-funding award

This year, the profits of the Dagnall Village Fete were boosted by the award of £750 from Whitbread. Sharon Quinn lives in Dagnall and has been employed by Whitbread locally (in Dunstable) since 2003. Sharon raised funds at the Fete by being an active member of the Fete Committee, working at the burger and can stop stall and helping with the Auction. Whitbread match-funded to their maximum amount - £750.

Whitbread Plc is the UK's leading Hospitality Company, managing market leading businesses in the budget hotels and restaurant sectors, including Premier Inn, Brewers Fayre, Beefeater and Costa.

Whitbread is passionate about winning and caring for its guests and this is at the heart of everything it does. The dedication to service is not just limited to its many customers but is also extended to the communities where it operates.

Whitbread actively encourages its 45,000 people to volunteer their time and energy to a range of community activities. Whitbread's match-funding scheme, in which employees' fund raising efforts are matched by the Whitbread 1988 Charitable Trust £ for £ up to a maximum of £750, recognises and rewards their hard work and commitment, and provides additional funds for the organisations which they support.

During the last year, Whitbread's employees and customers have raised many tens of thousands of pounds through various charitable fundraising activities. In addition the Whitbread 1988 Charitable Trust made direct contributions of over £150,000 in the last 12 months.

Dagnall Church

Sunday September 28th, Harvest Festival Services 10.30am. and 6.00pm.

Harvest Supper (possibly on Friday 3rd. October). More details later.

The next breakfast takeaways will be held on 2nd August and 6th September from 9.30 – 11.30 am at All Saints'. Bacon roll with tea/coffee £3.00; croissant/Danish with tea/coffee £2.00. There will also be a Fairtrade stall. We hope to see you there.

Christian Aid

The amount collected around Dagnall Village for Christian Aid amounted to £268.43. Many thanks for your support.

Wendy & Bill

Dagnall School

My Magic Shoe Adventure By Cameron B

The Beginning

I am flying to my Uncle Gary's with my magic shoe.

The Middle

My Uncle Gary was surprised when I landed.

Me and my Uncle Gary were playing football.

The End

When I came home my Mum was worried about me!

Cameron. Reception at Dagnall School

Edlesborough Parish Council (including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) News

A reminder of dates of the Play Around the Parishes Play Scheme visits to Villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall is on page 30 of this issue of Focus.

Finance

The Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2007 has been audited and notices to this effect will appear on the village Notice Boards.

Streetlighting

Due to the problems created by the streetlight situated on the pavement outside the Old Greyhound at Church End, Edlesborough this column will be removed and re-sited on the opposite side of the road.

The Green, Edlesborough & Dagnall Recreation Field

New goalposts have been purchased for both villages, the Parish Council are grateful to EB Lions for having assisted in putting up the goalposts. Edlesborough goalposts had to be removed for St. Mary's Village Carnival but will be reinstated.

It was confirmed by the Parish Council that Gadsden Walk footpath at Dagnall will not be opened until a safety crossing for children to walk to Dagnall School has been established in Dunstable Road.

Vandalism

Broken roof tiles and guttering are constantly being repaired on the Pavilion

Road Repairs/missing signs etc.

Buckinghamshire County Council are aware of repairs necessary to the Parish roads and 'gangs' of workmen will visit the Parish on a rota system throughout the year to deal with the problems.

Cemetery Access Project

A revised specification is currently being considered by The Churches Conservation Trust prior to the Parish Council being able to send this out for tenders.

Edlesborough Memorial Hall Bookings can be made by telephoning Beverly Sage on 01525 229509

Lin Sargeant – Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council – Tel: 01525 220859

E-mail: parish.council.clerk@edlesborough.gov.uk

Website: www.edlesborough.gov.uk

Make the Most of your Energy

If you have little or no insulation in your home, up to 40p in every £1 of heat you pay for could be escaping before you feel warm. Yet, being energy efficient can cut as much as £250 off your annual energy bill and reduce your household's carbon dioxide emissions by around two tonnes. Here's how you can start saving:

1. Look for the logo

Buy Energy Saving Recommended electrical appliances. These are amongst the most efficient in their class. Using them could save you up to £37 a year.



2. Switch to energy saving light bulbs

Energy saving light bulbs last around 10 times longer and come in a range of styles. Each bulb you fit will save up to £60 on electricity over the bulb's lifetime.

3. Have lofty ambitions

Installing 270mm of loft insulation could reduce your heating bills by a healthy £110 a year. This remains one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to save energy.



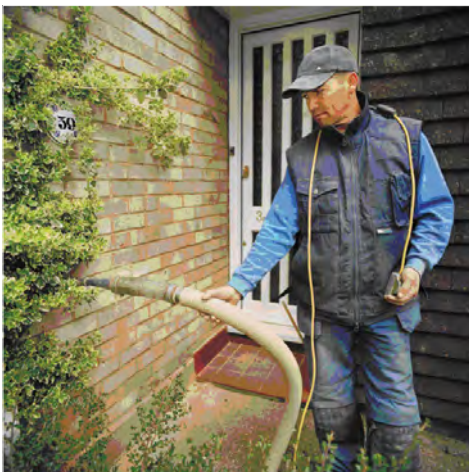
4. Insulate wall cavities

Around 33% of the heat lost in an uninsulated house escapes through the walls. Each year following installation, cavity wall insulation will trim your heating bills by about £90.

5. Give your home an energy health check

Still not sure which are your home's weak spots? Why not complete a Home Energy Check.

For more free, impartial advice call the Energy Saving Trust's local advice centre free on 0800 512 012. Act on CO2 and start saving today.



Play Around the Parishes

Play Scheme

Dagnall Recreation Field

Wednesday 30th July 10am-12.30pm

Friday 15th August 2pm-4.30pm

Thursday 28th August 2pm-4.30pm

Edlesborough Green

Friday 1st August 2pm-4.30pm

Monday 11th August 10am-12.30pm

Friday 22nd August 10am-12.30pm

Northall Village Hall Green

Tuesday 5th August 10am-12.30pm

Tuesday 19th August 2pm-4.30pm

Wednesday 27th August 10am-12.30pm

Children aged between 4 and 12 years are eligible to attend any of the sessions but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

Make the most of your energy

With talk of further energy price rises to come, you might like to consider how you can cut your winter energy bills. If you have little or no insulation in your home, up to 40p in every £1 of heat you pay for could be escaping before you feel warm. A few simple improvements like insulation can cut as much as £250 off your annual energy bill and reduce your household's carbon dioxide emissions by around two tonnes. Here's how you can start saving...

Article supplied by Gordon Glass
Energy Efficiency Advice Centre

1. Have lofty ambitions

Installing 270mm of loft insulation can reduce your heating bills by a healthy £110 a year. This remains one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to save energy

2. Look for the logo

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Tuesday & Thursday 12.45 pm - 3.15 pm

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These are just a few of the comments made in our fifth OFSTED Report (March 2008 - available via our website). The report reflects the high quality of learning on offer to all children at Edlesborough Under 5's and highlighted the quality of teaching by the staff. We are currently operating a waiting list for 2½ to 4½ year olds. If you would like to pop in for a look around, please phone Tracey on 07854 939226 between 9am - 12 noon, to arrange an appointment. A warm welcome awaits you.

**For registration details or to place your child on the waiting list,
please phone Sue Pickering: Tel - 01525 222199.**

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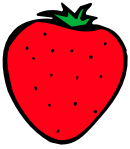


Signals: A Railway Miscellany

The Book Castle, Dunstable, £9.99 ISBN: 978 1 903747 90 2

Available from September in all good bookshops

Since the dawn of the railway age, a fascinating mixture of lines have criss-crossed the counties of Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. They range from narrow gauge examples, such as the Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway and Whipsnade Zoo's "Jumbo Express", constructed for both commercial and tourism purposes, to main trunk routes. Such lines commence at London's Kings Cross, Euston and St Pancras stations, and first came to public attention during the glorious era of steam and which remain as steadfast today, solid planks within the modern railway network. This book also features some that have survived closure scares, and which remain in use. The most well known lines of this type are the "Abbey Flyer" route between Watford Junction and St Albans Abbey, and that between Bedford and Bletchley. There are others that have fallen before the march of the internal combustion engine, but which live on as public footpaths, accessible to all, prominent amongst these being the former lines between Wolverton and Newport Pagnell, and Watford to Rickmansworth. A number of heritage railway centres and museums are also described, each with their own special characteristics, for example the long lived Buckinghamshire Railway Centre. The story is also told of one of the longest-lived national organisations catering for the "gricer", this being the Locomotive Club of Great Britain. A fascinating selection of photographs add a further dimension to this treasure-trove of the railway world, past and present.



.....you could pick bright red strawberries, dig orange carrots (forks provided!), pluck yellow sweetcorn from plants taller than most of you, get pods and pods of green peas, pick up a heavy blue skinned pumpkin, get purple fingers picking blackberries and lots lots more.....

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Wheels to Work arrives in South Bedfordshire!

Help is at hand for those in South Bedfordshire struggling to access education, training or employment, thanks to an exciting new Bedfordshire Rural Transport Partnership scheme being delivered by BRCC.

Wheels to Work, which is funded principally by Bedfordshire County Council with additional funding from the Learning and Skills Council, provides an innovative way of overcoming transport barriers to key services, offering transport solutions to individuals for a six to nine month period until a longer-term solution can be found.

This is generally though moped loan, for which a nominal sum is charged per month, part of which is invested in a savings programme so that a moped can be purchased at the end of the loan period. Those who do not qualify for a moped loan will be offered assistance with personalised travel planning.

The scheme is one of around 55 across the country and will be eligible to people:

- Of working age (16 – 64) with priority given to those aged 16 - 24
- Living in the South Bedfordshire area (excluding Luton)
- Having limited or no access to transport for employment, education or training opportunities.



For further information please contact Bob Hughes on 01525 878144 or bobh@bedscc.org.uk.

Carnival 2008 – Fairy Tales

I'm sure you will agree that our Carnival just goes from strength to strength. What a community event. Right up until the Day itself I thought we would all get very wet – how wrong I was. We need a little while longer to calculate how much was taken but it looks to be around £11,000 - another remarkable achievement – well done everybody. All the results will be found elsewhere in Focus and so it is my pleasure to thank all those that attended, all that decorated their houses and all those who gave goods, time and cash to ensure the Carnival's success. Thanks also to the Right Revd Graeme Knowles, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral for opening the event and for judging the floats. Finally, thanks to my magnificent Committee of Chris and Sheila Banks, Roger Cook, Sonia Dean, Katrina Grant, Gordon Gray, Theo Gray, Bernadette Hillman, Norman and Ann Lee, David Marriage, Heather Martin, Tony Morreale, Mark Saccoccio, Lin Sargeant, Rebecca Shaw, Vince Taylor, Peter Thomas, and Roger Wilkinson. If you have a favourite local good cause that you would like to be considered for a grant from the proceeds of this year's event, or if you would like to be involved in the running of Carnival 2009, please call me on 221284 or contact me through the website www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.

Peter Bennett – Chairman

Carnival Competition Winners- 2008

We had some fantastic prizes in our Fairy Tales Carnival and here are details of just some of the lucky winners. You can find much more information and see our huge range of photos of all the fun on our carnival website on www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

Best Dressed House: An excellent range of brilliant entries and the winner for Eaton Bray was 31 Moor End with a special mention for the 3 shops which joined in. The winner for Edlesborough was 5 Pebblemoor and in 2nd place, 16 Brownlow Ave

Edna's Cake Raffle: Andrea 01582 472542

Worm Charming: Mekyla Peters, 11 Griffin Field, Stewkley

Chain Saw Raffle: Mr Woolcott,

Clarabelle: Veronica Squires

Procession Winners

Pre School & Lower School: 1st Eaton Bray Lower School, 2nd Eaton Bray Pre-School Playgroup, Edlesborough Under 5's

School age Organisations: 1st - Friends of Edlesborough School, 2nd equal Eaton Bray Brownies & Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Cubs

Family & Business: 1st Janes' Shop, 2nd The Bell Public House, 3rd Hawkes Family

Dog Show

Best in Show Tarot Stedman, Reserve Best in Show - Silas Watkin

Best Puppy in Show Missy Woods

Best Novelty in Show Rafa Blundell

Class Number 1 Missy Woods

Class Number 2 1st Silas Watkin

Class Number 3 1st Ruby Macbraye



Class Number 4

1st Tarot Stedman

Class Number 5 - Junior Handler 1st Emily Reeder with Bo

GRAND DRAW - 2008

	PRIZE	SPONSOR	WINNER
1.	Weekend in Rome	Hotel Quirinale	Sue Hounslow
2.	Visit to Houses of Parliament	Andrew Selous MP	Tracey Steel
3.	Tickets to four Royal Palaces	Penny Sydenham	Mrs. Doe
4.	Golf for four	Mentmore Golf & Country Club	Jason McDermid
5.	Teeth whitening	Peter le Roux	Ben, Edlesborough Autos
7.	Gliding lesson	London Gliding Club	Tracey Steele
8.	Beauty treatment	Lorinda le Roux	Lydia Sparrow
9.	Golf for two	Dunstable Golf Club	Annie Lampard
10.	Dinner for two	Azzurri Restaurant, Dunstable	Reece Goodwin
11.	Greetings card and box	Sally Taylor, Phoenix Cards	Mrs. Clark
12.	Bottles of wine	Peter and Eileen Bennett	Len D'Silva
13.	Meal voucher	The White Horse, Eaton Bray	Tracey Moren
14.	Ornamental tree	Brian McMahon, Grass Roots	Marion Higley
15.	Three hair 'do	Aurora, Edlesborough	Vanessa Byham
16.	Meal for four	The Swan, Northall	C. Rawlings
17.	Harper's basket	Harpers of Studham	Valerie Wyke
18.	Sunday Roasts for four	The Bell, Edlesborough	Christine Horn
19.	Family ticket	Mead Open Farm	A. Hamman
20.	Fly fishing at Bellows Mill	Rachael Hodge	Tom McCormac
21.	Lunch for two	Old Palace Lodge, Dunstable	Mr. Barber
22.	Hair products	High Street Hair	Mr. Walsh
23.	Meat voucher	D. & E. Hines	Denise Sewell
24.	Fishing at Watermead	David and Valerie Richards	Reece Goodwin
25.	Bowling tickets	GoBowling, Dunstable	Reg Fossey

Another wonderful Carnival Day – and despite all our fears engendered by the weather forecast, bright, sunny and extremely windy, so much so that our gazebo was blown down, and the gazebo for the Plant Stall next to us as well!!! Hey-ho, that's Carnival! Dilemma, do we stay on our drafty corner where we have been almost blown away for so many years, or do we move – but then NONE OF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND US!! No, we will brave the elements just to meet again all the wonderful people who supported us this year at the Fete. However, the Grand Draw would not be so successful without the support of so many generous sponsors, and the support of all those many people who sell tickets in advance. My sincere thanks to them, and to my usual loyal team, Norman, Deidrea and Gaynor



AUTUMN BAZAAR

1st October 2008

2pm-4pm

Edlesborough Memorial Hall

Everyone is welcome!

Great Christmas present ideas!

Any birthdays coming up?

How about getting your child's photo taken?

And so much more....Entrance is FREE so come and have a look!

Refreshments and yummy homemade cakes on sale

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please go to www.edlesboroughunder5s.org.uk



Edlesborough Under 5's



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&

BARN DANCE

SATURDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

7.00pm

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL



**Live music from
the**

Ian Robertson Band

**Tickets £7.50 adult, £3.50 child, £20 family
from tel 01525 222283**

**Proceeds to
St Mary's Parish Church
Roof Appeal**

**The churches of Eaton Bray, Edlesborough,
Dagnall and Northall invite you to join them for**

Hymns of Praise on Edlesborough Green

**Led by the Salvation Army Band and
followed by refreshments at
Edlesborough Methodist Church
(Bring your garden chairs or picnic rugs.)**

Sunday 14th Sept at 4pm



**Shout for joy to the LORD all the earth.
Worship the LORD with gladness;
Come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
(Psalm 100)**



**Feeling hungry?
Fancy a brunch made by
someone else?**

Why not come and join us on Sats
2nd August and 6th Sept between
9.30-11.30 am at All Saints' Church,
Dagnall for a breakfast takeaway.
Bacon rolls with tea/coffee for
£3.00; Danish/croissant for £2.00.

Proceeds in aid of Crossroads
International, our
Church project for
2008.



Friends of St Mary's

Coffee Morning

Saturday, September 6th

10.30am - 12 noon

St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

Bring and Buy, Raffle

Village Vegetables - we will supply
a table for you to sell your produce



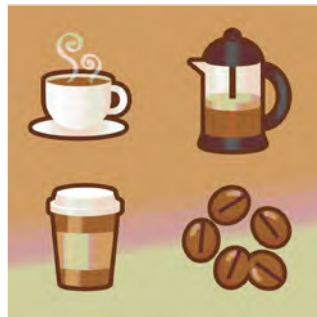
MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF

WORLDS BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

We are holding a Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support
on Friday 26th September in St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray.

Everyone is welcome, please come along and join us for coffee,
cake, bring and buy and conversation!

From 10.00 until 12.30.



The Mayne Event!

Many of you will have heard that our daughter was taken seriously ill last year, thankfully, she is now on the way to a good recovery. We are holding this one day event to raise money for Papworth Hospital, the Oncology Unit and Ground floor surgical unit, who helped Vicky so much. The quilt show will have most of my work on show, pieces from the very early days and right up to date. The Eaton Bray Village Quilt will be on display along with recent award winning pieces. My friends are making a selection of Christmas cushions for the special raffle and other quilting friends are providing the teas and cakes etc. Our son, Danny will also have a small display of his Pinstriping art work on display. Once the doors close at 4pm, the quilts will be taken down and Peter will prepare the hall for his slide presentation "EATON BRAY AND EDLESBOROUGH, A CENTURY OF CHANGE". Teas and biscuits will be on hand again and another raffle!

Please come along and enjoy the show! Also note that the tickets for the slide show are not available until SEPT. 26th and are limited to 50 only. They will be available from the Roebuck Garage.

Mary, Peter and Danny Mayne

THE MAYNE EVENT!

EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH 2008

10AM - 4PM

ADMISSION - £3



QUILTS ▪ QUILTS ▪ QUILTS! BY MARY MAYNE

PINSTRIPING DISPLAY BY DANNY MAYNE

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RAFFLE WITH A DIFFERENCE!

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EATON BRAY AND EDLESBOROUGH,

A CENTURY OF CHANGE

SLIDE PRESENTATION BY PETER MAYNE

EVENING PRESENTATION

DOORS OPEN - 6-30PM STARTS PROMPT 7PM,

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AND GROUND FLOOR SURGICAL WARD

Friends of St Mary's

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Sunday 21st September 6 - 8pm

St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

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Coffee Mornings

in aid of St Mary's Roof Fund

Saturday, August 2nd &

Saturday, October 4th



10.30am - 12 noon



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A History of Dagnall Village - An Extract

A map of 1857 shows most of the houses spread along the Leighton Buzzard road, then known as Hempstead Road and Hempstead Lane. The majority of the remainder being adjacent to Chapel Dell Pond and along Studham Lane. These cottages were collectively known as Pound Bank Cottages. A few other cottages were further up the lane at the Quaker Burial Ground.

The census of 1881 shows a total population of 484 living in 95 houses, the majority along Hempstead Road and Hempstead Lane (by now called Edlesborough Road). Along here was the Church and School, the Methodist Chapel, the Parsonage, the Shops, Wheelwrights, Blacksmiths etc, the Public Houses and the Brewery. Also the larger farmsteads and the homes of the Batchelor brothers (the owners of the Brewery) and the schoolmaster.

Most of the rest of the villagers lived in Pound Bank Cottages, there were 32 cottages in this area, together with the 172 acre Lower Farm and the Bell Public House, (Bethshan). 156 people lived in these cottages, the men were the agricultural labourers and their wives and no doubt, most of their children were straw plaiters.

Straw hat making was a flourishing trade in Luton and Dunstable in the 19th Century. Even before the end of the 18th century, Dunstable had given its name to straw hats made in the district. The cottage industry of straw plaiting dominated home life and was said to be ideal employment for wives and children of the agricultural labourers. It could be done indoors, outdoors or sitting in the doorway, in groups or alone.

Although mainly a female occupation most boys were taught plaiting and attended the plaiting school until they were old enough to take up farm work. A typical plait school was held in a small cottage room, attendance costing the parents in the 1850's about two pence a week. Children's earnings ranged from about ninepence a week by the time they were eight years old to 2/6d - 3/- at fourteen. This at a time when an agricultural labourers pay was about ten shillings a week.

The plaiters could either sell their plait to travelling dealers such as CHARLES ASTLING or at a higher price by taking it to the plait markets held at Dunstable on Wednesdays, or Tring or Ivinghoe on Fridays. For a time the Dagnall Plait School was held at Dagnall Hall Farm which was formed by David Gadsden. In the late 1840's and early 50's the plaiting mistress was his daughter Mary Anne Gadsden who also taught reading and writing. (In March 1851 at the age of 20 she married John Hawkins and went to live with him at Pitstone Green Farm.) Writing in 1861 in history and Topography of Beds, Jane Sheaham referring to Dagnall says "a portion of a farm house is used as a school in which Divine Service is likewise performed every Sunday." And in 1864 Kellys Directory referring to the elementary school opened by Lord Brownlow the previous year says "a night school is also held twice a week for men and once a week for women, reading, writing, arithmetic and plaiting are taught."

Straw plaiting remained the principle employment of the female inhabitants of Dagnall until the 1890s when the trade went into a steady decline as a result of cheaper imports from China and Japan.

Early in the century the Earl of Bridgewater was Lord of the Manor followed by the

Countess of Bridgewater and Arthur Macnamara as Lady and Lord of the Manor and then Viscount Alford. In the second half of the century it was the 2nd and 3rd Earl Brownlows.

In 1851 the Ashridge Clothing Club was established by Lady M Alford, "The object of the club is to encourage and spread economy among the labouring classes". It was for the benefit of the villages of Little Gaddesden, Ringshall, Hudnall, Dagnall, Nettleden and Frithsden. In addition to the members subscriptions an additional sum called the bonus was added at the end of each year.

A Bedding Club was also in being, the object of which was to supply iron bedsteads and mattresses at a very reasonable price.

Another club which was started around 1876 was to "assist the labouring classes to get medical attendance at a small cost".

The rules of the Club were:

Single person above 13 years of age 8d a month

Man and wife 10d a month

For a man, wife and children under 13 1 shilling a month.

In 1848 a Wesleyan Chapel was opened and later in 1863 a Church Day School and Church Mission Room, which had been erected by Lord Brownlow, was opened.

Formal elementary education was now available in the village for the first time. The prime object of the plait school mistresses was to ensure the day's quota of plait was completed, any other form of education was minimal or non existent. Although Mary Gadsden also taught reading and writing this was comparatively rare, most plait school mistresses of the day were almost, if not quite, illiterate.

It is understandable perhaps that many of the parents in the village were not over anxious to send their children to the new school, particularly as they had to pay and unlike the plait school, there was no immediate financial return. Even 12 years or more later the children were regularly kept from school if there was any work available for them, as these typical extracts from the school log show:

16.8.75 Average attendance considerably lower this week. Many of the children out in the fields gathering acorns.

23.2.77 The average attendance is low, the reason is many of the children are employed at home in sewing the plait up into hats and bonnets.

14.9.77 The average attendance the past week is very low owing to many of the children being absent gleaning in the fields.

The Factory Act of 1867 banned the employment of children under eight and the Education Act of 1876 brought in compulsory education for children above five and under ten. Children between ten and twelve could only be employed if they had reached a minimum standard of education.

Although in the 1880's elementary education had become compulsory it still had to be paid for and the school records continued to show a high rate of absenteeism.

In 1891 schooling was made free and after that the situation gradually improved. The school log in October 1897 shows: No. on Books - 68, percentage of attendance - 91%.



Dagnall Methodist Chapel, Main Road South, 1848-1970



Pound Bank Cottages, Dunstable Road, Dagnall. Demolished 1960

St Mary's Parochial Church Council meeting, 10th July 2008

The PCC discussed the following matters at its July meeting.

Flowerbeds in the churchyard

It has been difficult to look after these properly in recent years so discussions are taking place with the Eaton Bray Parish Council which is responsible for the maintenance of the rest of the churchyard. It is hoped the Council will be able to take over the care of them.

Harvest arrangements for 2008

There will be a Harvest Supper and barn dance with caller and live music on Saturday

20th September 7.00-10.30pm; supper will be provided by the church's social committee.

On Sunday 21st September, a Harvest Thanksgiving service will take place in St. Mary's. Everyone is warmly invited to attend this special service. There will be an auction of produce after the service and the proceeds will be sent to the Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal which this year will be given to one of Christian Aid's partner organisations in Mali, West Africa, the third poorest country in the world. The money will be used to train local fishermen in farming techniques as global warming and falling water levels in the River Niger have made it difficult to earn a living through fishing.

Other Harvest Services in the Parish will take place on Sunday 28th September at 6pm in All Saints' Church, Dagnall and Sunday 1st October in St Mary's Church, Edlesborough at 6pm.

Weekday Services

Regular attendees will be pleased to know that the 7.30am service on Tuesday and 9.30am service on Wednesday, which were not possible during the recent restoration work of St Mary's, will, now that has been completed, be resumed as from the first Tuesday in August.

Worship for Everyone

This service which takes place on the second Sunday of the month at 10.00am, has attempted recently to offer a wider range of different styles of worship. There has been an excellent response to these services from the congregation. The next Worship for Everyone will take place on 10th August and Rebecca Baldock will be present. Many people will remember that St Mary's congregation supported Rebecca in her work at the hospital at Kangango, Uganda in 2006/2007 when this was our Charity of the Year.

Away Day

The PCC has arranged an 'Away Day' to give committee members a welcome chance to discuss pastoral matters. This will take place on 11th October and the subject, arising out of a recent questionnaire of church members, will be 'What kind of church are we? What kind of church do we want to be?'

Carnival 2008

The success of Carnival 2008 was discussed and sincere thanks given to Peter Bennett and the Carnival Committee for having made it happen. The Carnival has added much to our villages and is a wonderful opportunity for the residents of the four villages to come together and have fun.

Bell-ringers

On some Sundays, it has not been possible to ring the full peel of bells at St Mary's as bell-ringers are in short supply at present. Committee members were encouraged to try to find recruits to learn the art of bell ringing. On Sundays when the bell cannot be rung, the service bell will be sounded for 5 minutes to indicate that a worshipping congregation is there and the service is about to begin.

Church Mouse

Mothers Union Report

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough

At the June meeting, members had the privilege of listening to Lt. Col. Brian Knightley and his wife Dorothy who both spoke about their experiences during a thirteen year period of living in Liberia as Salvation Army missionaries.

Liberia is in West Africa, with a population of 3 ½ million people who are mainly the descendants of slaves who were returned to the country from America after the abolition of slavery. The capital city, Monrovia, is named after the American President who arranged for their return, which accounts for the ‘Americanisation’ of the people with attitudes, spelling, etc.

When they arrived in 1991, the country was in the grip of a civil war – they arrived in a siege; lived through many difficult times; and more troubles flared up as they left. At one stage American troops had offered them an escape route which they refused, but in 2004 they were attacked, but managed to escape and returned to England.

Starting with open air services, six permanent churches were eventually built. Although the buildings might start as bamboo structures, it was important to erect permanent buildings to ensure the people realised that the Salvation Army was to be there permanently as well.

School buildings followed, two of which were built with funds from Norway where the S.A. raised 20% of the cost and the Norwegian Government 80%. Brian used ‘manpower’ rather than machinery, thus giving people employment and self respect. Many Liberians became Salvationists and took the teaching, both religious and practical, back to the villages.

Boy soldiers, victims of the civil war, became the ‘Hostel Boys’ living in hostels, but subsequently visiting police stations and prisons to help other males in difficulties – and, of course – a brass band was created. Girls have little education in Liberia, which caused the start of the Girls Hostels and the Home League group for women who were taught dressmaking, home craft skills, drama etc.

Wells were dug; medical assistance organised, with regular fortnightly visits to outlying areas where food, particularly milk products from Switzerland were distributed to the malnourished children and babies and by 1996 a feeding programme was introduced. They still have contracts in Liberia and know that the work and programmes they introduced still continue.

The Salvation Army, Booth Place	
Weekly Activities	
Sunday	
Sunday School	9.45-10.45am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	6.00pm
Sunday Evening (1st and 3rd each month)	
Youth Group (age 12+)	7.45-9.00pm
Monday	
Junior Club (age 8+)	6.30-7.45pm
Wednesday	
Home League (Ladies Meeting)	2.30pm
Thursday	
Baby and Toddler Group	9.30-11.30am
Thursday Evening	
Young Ladies Fellowship	7.45pm
(last Thursday in every month)	



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Salvation Sound...August/September 2008

I have been looking at the shadows of the past, and I can see all the things that have been a part of my life... I have had so many past-times... I have dabbled with embroidery, knitting, tapestry, fabric painting, flower arranging, gardening, D.I.Y. in the home, poetry, creative writing... I started to collect things, geodes, plates, miniature objet d'art, china, books, - the latter are still playing a large part in my life. One of my early school teachers once said to me, "Reading is never a time that is wasted, for whatever you read, you learn from."

Sometimes you remember something which you think is just trivia, but one day it maybe the answer to 'the 64,000 dollar question' For instance did you know that goldfish have memories that only last for two seconds?

Memory is a precious commodity. In many ways it makes us what we are today. It keeps life's experiences in our minds, we learn from what our memory retains.

I remember the quiet village High Street where I played with whip and top; skipping rope; marbles and a ball, as a child. There were very few cars then. I remember calling the cows in from pasture; the cutting of hay, making stacks, wonderful for sliding down. Skating, with 'wellies' on, on the ice covered pond. Collecting the bread on the way home from school, and picking at the crust. Gas-light and cobwebby mantles. The large kitchen table that was used for everything, making pastry, peeling veg. crayoning and painting, eating all of our meals, and homework... The feeding of chickens in the pen, cleaning the rabbits hutches, the houses where friends lived, the neighbours, children who then, were free to run in the fields... all part of my past. I see them all in a flash of vision; then they are gone, where are they now?

Proverbs 22:28. says 'Remove not the ancient landmarks which thy fathers have set.' Daring, darkness and faith all have had a part in the past of my life, but like a plum tree that endures because it has roots that tap deep into the soil and draws its strength and nourishment from hidden scources, so it is with me.

I still flourish... Psalm 92:14, 'They shall still bear fruit in old age'; I know this because my dependency is rooted in Christ Jesus. I read His word, reflect on it and pray that it brings into my life and yours, the fruit of the Spirit.

Our faltering steps and ebbing strength

Reveal life as a fading page;

Yet holding firm to Christ in faith

Keeps hope alive at any age...

Don't count your years, make your years count...

It is good to remember the past but it is wise to look to the future and consider, not just how things have affected us in our own lifetime, but how they will affect others in generations to come.

"What myriad thoughts we harbour

as we go our separate ways,

What doubt, what fear, what hopefulness

Pursues us all our days.

The rivers of our minds relentlessly flow on,

'Til sleep arrives, to stem the tide that carries us along."

Have a lovely summer.

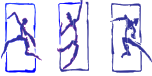


A parent's thoughts on our playgroup:

"My child attended Dagnall Under Fives for just over a year. As a parent helper I noticed that all the children seemed settled with excellent care, they enjoy a structured and stimulating routine to their mornings. All the girls working there showed a genuine interest in every child and meeting their individual needs. A good foundation towards the next stage in their lives. . . school!"

We are a committee run playgroup operating five mornings a week 9:30 – 12:00 for children aged 2½ to school age.

If you would like to find out if your child would be happy here, please phone our Playgroup Leader, Ann Tobin on 07816 358 342.



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Dagnall School

A Buckinghamshire co-educational school
For 4-7 year olds



Ofsted 2003

Pupils of all abilities make good progress and achieve well. Standards are consistently high in English, Mathematics and Science. The partnership with parents and the contribution of the community to pupils' learning is excellent.

Dagnall school offers

- small classes with high quality teaching
- a secure and caring environment where each pupil is seen to be an individual and not just one of many

Each child is encouraged to achieve to the best of their ability and to develop an eagerness to acquire knowledge and become lifelong learners.

Come and visit our friendly school, meet our lovely children and dedicated staff.



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Edlesborough School



Choosing the most appropriate school for your child is a very important decision

Edlesborough School is a co-educational village school for children from 4 to 11. We provide the benefits of a continuous primary education and the broad experience of a highly professional and caring staff. Our aim is to help all children achieve their maximum potential as individuals and as members of society.

'Overall academic standards are very high'

'Pupils make very good progress'

'Pupils are very well behaved, want to learn and work hard to meet the many challenges they are given'

(OFSTED 2003)



We would welcome the opportunity to show you round our friendly school.

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Fax 01525 221819 www.edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk

Soldiers. Sailors and Airmen's Families Association

In recent months there has been plenty of coverage in the news media of the plight of the armed services in action in Iraq and Afghanistan, of the returning wounded and of bereaved families. There have also been references to the lack of recognition given to our forces on their return from active service. All who have connections with service life were shocked by the hostility recently shown to men and women in uniform by some people on the grounds that they were against the wars.

Current military conflicts are unlike the major world wars of the twentieth century, which threatened the very survival of the nation. They were fought by vast numbers of conscripts alongside the professionals, and the whole population was behind them.

We now have volunteer forces, fighting in remote geographical locations for causes which can divide rather than unite the nation.

Today's servicemen and women have joined up in the full knowledge that they were likely to face military action. In taking part they are doing their duty. It is unthinkable that they and their families should not be given the support they need and deserve in coping with the adverse outcomes of their service life.

There is another side to the story. Publicity for the many tragic outcomes of the wars has led to some enhancement of government support for disabled victims but also to a vigorous response by the voluntary sector. On the 7th May The City of London organised a Salute outside St Paul's Cathedral to honour all branches of the services. Donations from the event were presented to the long-established Soldiers. Sailors and Airmen's Families Association, (SSAFA Forces Help,) founded in 1885, and also to a very new charity, "Help for Heroes".

SSAFA has a major national role in the provision of facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of severely wounded men and women. Accommodation is also available for the long term care of elderly ex-servicemen. and for brief periods of respite for people facing particularly stressful situations at home.

These national initiatives are complemented by local networks of volunteer caseworkers who are trained to respond to the wide range of practical, financial and emotional problems that commonly arise within the ex-service community. In Buckinghamshire there are about 40 caseworkers who currently handle about 300 cases a year.

We would welcome more volunteers and more clients. National estimates suggest that the military charities reach a disappointingly small proportion of the ex-service people and their dependants who would qualify for support.

If any readers, through either professional or social contacts, become aware of an ex-service family who might qualify for help they are invited to bring SSAFA to their attention and suggest that they telephone the contact number below. All cases are handled in the strictest confidence throughout. Potential volunteers are also invited to use the same contact number, 01296 688996 (Mr Tom Ridgway)

John Lambert, Publicity Officer SSAFA Forces Help, Bucks



Edlesborough Under 5's

We have had a wonderful month. The children who will be leaving to go to school in September and January went on a leavers trip to Whipsnade Wild Animal Park and had a fantastic day! The weather held for us and I think the highlight of the day for the children was eating their packed lunch! The children dressed up as lemurs during the lemur demonstration and looked very cute.

The carnival was a great day for the children. Our Peter Pan float looked fantastic, a credit to the imagination and hard work of the staff who designed it and engaged all the pre-school children to create the float's decoration including the lovely crocodile pictures and treasure maps which looked very effective.

Our Sports Day and Sponsored Bike Ride were very popular with the children, staff and parents and the younger siblings of the pre-school children enjoyed their own race too.

We end the Summer term with our Teddy Bears' Picnic and disco. Our best wishes go to the children who are leaving us to start school in September and we look forward to welcoming our new starters in the Autumn term.

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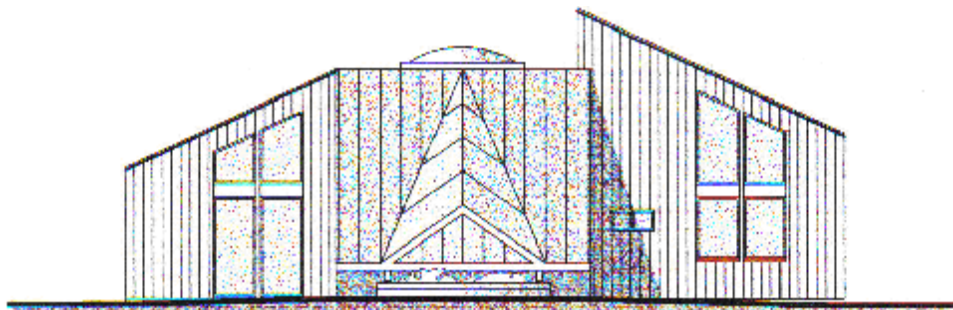
Eaton Bray Lower School

TOP MARKS!

The opening paragraph from the OfSTED inspection report, after their October 2007 visit, said this about EBLS:

"Eaton Bray Lower is an outstanding school. It modestly evaluates itself as good with some outstanding areas, but it is better than this. Its self-evaluation is correct in identifying strengths and areas for development. It provides an outstanding quality of education and care for its pupils and excellent value for money. Staff work exceptionally well in partnership with parents and the community for the benefit of all pupils. Pupils' enjoyment of school is impressive. The supportive parents are delighted with all aspects of its provision. Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher's vision for a school at the heart of its community is shared by the highly committed staff and excellent governors. This is set to become more firmly realised with the building of a new nursery with facilities for the local community and visiting professional from children's services."

Please come and visit our friendly village school. Phone 01525 220468 or email eaton@deal.bedfordshire.gov.uk



COMING SOON: EBLS Nursery with extended School provision and wrap-around care in a modern, light, environmentally-aware building - due to complete Spring 2008 - please call at the school (01525 220468) to find out more



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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

June turned out to be rather a dry month after almost a one-inch of rain fell on the 3rd. There was little temperature change apart from a couple of hot days in the middle of the month and, on the 16th, a colder night dropping down to 4.9°C.

The wind was stronger in the second half of the month. For the first 16 days the wind was coming from the NNW, which is a little unusual for June, then it changed to the dominant W.

Below I show the high wind speed and the “Wind Run”, this is the measurement in miles of the ‘amount’ of wind that passes through the weather station in a day.

If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email me: aonb-weather@tiscali.co.uk

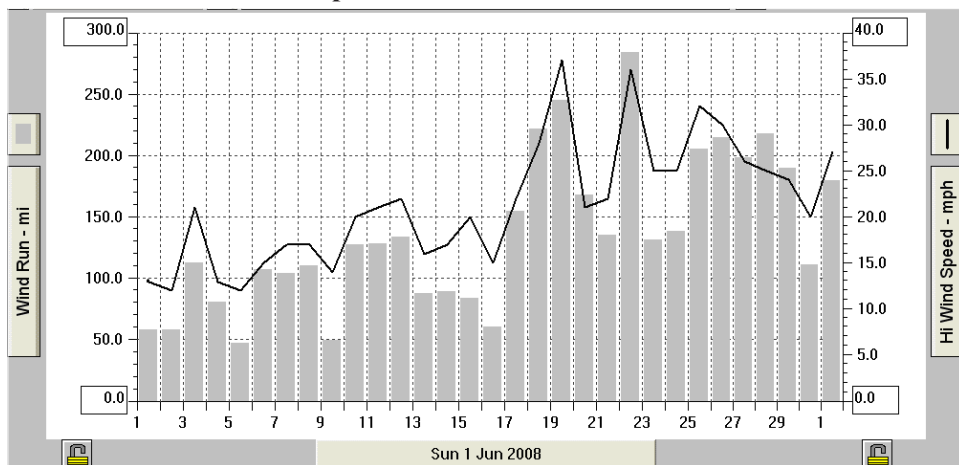
David G Killick, Station Owner

Weather Conditions for June 2008

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	27.0°C	9 June 16.30	4.9°C	16 June 05.30
Mean Temperature	14.7°C			
Dewpoint:	16.0°C	8 June 15.30	3.8°C	15 June 05.00
Humidity:	96% for 9	Hours 2/3 June	41%	16 June 17.30
Barometer:	1025.4 hPa	9 June 11.00	1002.6 hPa	19 June 04.00
Wind Speed	37 mph	19 June 02.00	Mths Avg.	5.6 mph
Wind Chill:	26.6°C	9 June 16.00	4.9°C	16 June 05.30
Dominant Wind:	W			
Rainfall				
Rain Days: 13	Wettest Day	3 June	22.2 mm	0.87 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	June	39.4mm	1.55ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	6 Months	383.0mm	15.08ins

Hi wind speed and ‘wind run’ for June 2008



Will You Have To Sell Your House To Pay Care Costs?

Background:

Could you become one of over 70,000 people each year who have to sell all their assets, including their home, to fund care home fees? This is one of the worrying facts revealed by recent research carried out by Partnership, a financial company, which also found that 37 per cent of British adults over 50 have a close relative in residential care. The current rules state that anyone with capital - which includes savings, investments and the value of the person's home - worth more than £21,500 must pay their own care home bills. The cost of care can reach £1,500 per week.

How Couples & Those Recently Widowed Can Minimise The Risk

Couples: Experience tells us that local authorities very rarely seek an enforced house sale to meet long term care fees when a property has a debt to a trust on it. To achieve this, a couple's Wills need to incorporate an appropriate trust and their house should be owned as tenants in common rather than as joint tenants.

At the time of the first death, the deceased's share of the house is held in trust for the ultimate benefit of whoever they chose, typically children, whilst any wish that their surviving partner continue to enjoy the benefits of the home during their lifetime is invariably honoured by the trustees, the surviving spouse often being one of the trustees. Trusts in Wills are also used to protect other assets from the impact of long term care fees and to optimise inheritance tax avoidance.

Trusts ensure that their beneficiaries, typically children, receive the gift left by the first to die no matter what path the surviving partner's future life takes. For example, the surviving partner may in time enter a new relationship or incur unlimited long term care fees. All couples need to arrange to have a trust in their Wills whilst they are both alive and well ahead of any need for long term care.

If you have been widowed in the last two years a Deed of Variation can often be used to provide the protection of the home from the future impact of long term care fees and to reduce or remove any future inheritance tax liability.

Trusts in Wills and Deeds of Variations need to be set up properly. It is essential to obtain expert guidance. Sovereign Will & Probate provide this service locally, together with a Probate service and Lasting Powers of Attorney, for a very competitive fee and starting with a no obligation home visit.

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and support and encourage one another in the
difficult and the joyful times.



Edlesborough W.I.

We have just enjoyed another month of varying activities, and enjoyed each occasion.

We began with our monthly meeting when we welcomed Mary, daughter of Mrs Morton who was one of the founder members of Edlesborough W.I. A letter from Edlesborough Methodist Chapel was read, thanking us for our help in their recent flower festival.

Mr Brian Fisher, M. Hort. RHS, was our speaker on 'Plants for Outside Containers'. Semi-retired now, he originally trained for two years at Wisley RHS Gardens. Assisted by slides, Mr Fisher demonstrated how beautiful and varied plants in containers can be. Some of the advantages of these kinds of displays are: they can be planted in different types of soil, they can be prevented from spreading too widely, and can be moved around the garden at any time. The displays shown were beautiful and so varied in arrangement. Some contained vegetables as an alternative. It was certainly a very popular subject with the ladies.

Thanks to Christine Yates, Kathie Froud and Elizabeth Braiden, three more events were enjoyed. These were a coffee morning, an evening meal at the Plough Inn, Wingfield and another visit to Mr & Mrs Roger Skipper's lovely garden.

Val Harris



Incapacity Benefit - Checks for Fraud and Error

From May, Jobcentre Plus will be reviewing claims of incapacity benefit for possible fraud and errors. Full case checks will be carried out on about 1,000 claimants from across the UK during this financial year. Cases are randomly selected and a two-part check will be undertaken. The first part is to identify if there is any official error in the case, and will take place in the office. The second part is a home visit to review the claimant's circumstances and to identify any fraud or customer mistake. Claimants identified as vulnerable will be notified of the visit. Other claimants will not receive any prior notification.

Claims for jobseeker's allowance, income support, pension credit and state retirement pension are already checked for fraud and error.

For more information contact the Citizens Advice Bureau, Grove House, High Street North, Dunstable. Tel: 01582 661384

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July 2008

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£25	Chris Garthwaite	No.71
£10	Terry Flitton	No.19

Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by F.A. Hawkins and M&M Properties

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meetings

1st Monday of every month

7.30pm The Coffee Tavern

Next Meeting: Mon 4th Aug 08

Edlesborough

Parish Council Meetings

3rd Thursday of every month

7.30pm Memorial Hall

Next meeting: Thurs 11th Aug 08

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our Harvest Celebration will be a Family Service on Sunday September 28th at 10.30am and led by Rev. Vindra Maraj Ogden with the help of our young people. Following the Service we are to serve a Hot Lunch and tickets are available from Graham Carter on 01525 220742 or Chapel members. This year the lunch will be in place of the Harvest Supper which is normally served on the Saturday evening of our celebrations. We look forward to seeing our regular supporters of the usual supper after their own worship. A warm welcome awaits you.

The regular Saturday Monthly Lunches will resume on October 11th serving from 12.00 noon until 1.30pm. We offer a choice of 3 or 4 hot main meals and a variety of desserts in friendly surroundings and a chance to support various local and global charities.



Edlesborough Book Group Review

Last month we read Q and A by Vikas Swarup



Ram Mohammad Thomas, a poor, orphan youth from Mumbai enters an Indian television Quiz show and wins one billion rupees. Ram is arrested by the authorities as the television company thought that he must have cheated or had been aided by somebody in the audience. They felt that nobody from his background could possibly have known the answers to all thirteen questions. Awaiting torture in a prison cell, Ram is about to sign a false confession when a young lawyer bails him and takes him home. They view a recording of the Quiz show and Ram explains how he was able to answer the thirteen questions.

Vikas Swarup tells a fast paced story in a unique way, each chapter linked to a question from the show. This narrative framework manages to re-create much of the tension of watching the show and tells us the story of Ram's life in a non-chronological way, each chapter being identified by question values ("1,000 rupees", "2000 rupees", etc). Ram led a fascinating life and knew the answers to the questions, as through pure chance each one touched on something he had learned in his eventful past.

The framework of the book is brilliant; it is an easy read, and it takes the reader with it in a swirl of amusing and moving stories woven into the rich tapestry of modern India, warts and all. The entire group enjoyed the story, although we thought the characters could have been better drawn and the book suffered from too many coincidences. A film is on the way and the book should lend itself well to being adapted for the big screen.

Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners June 2008

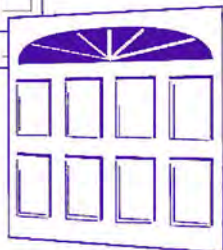
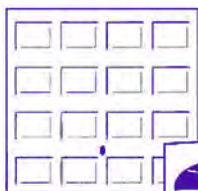
166	Anne Crofts	£100
162	Brian Andrews	£25
124	Madeline Di Matteo	£25
151	Theo Gray	£25
175	Anita Johnson	£25

Drawn on 25th June 2008 at Eaton Bray Playgroup. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni, 71 Bower Lane, Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, LU6 1RB, Telephone: 01525 221411.



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