

focus

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

St Mary's Village Carnival
Saturday 6th July

June 2013



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Focus Magazine Committee

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Copy for publication to the Editors or one of the following by the **10th of the month:**

Kevin Cabbage

'Larums', Eaton Bray Road, Northall

Val Barrow

3 Chestnut Close, Dagnall

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.

✉ Editors

Police Contact Numbers...making neighbourhoods safer together **Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)**

General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473418

Typetalk: 18001 01582 437418

Email: LPT.LeightonRural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

General Assistance: 101

PC Steve Brisley Mobile: 07817 817 562

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile: 07800 703 524

PCSO Natalie Hall Mobile: 07800 702 456

Email: WingSouthNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Village Diary June 2013



Weekly

- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468
- Mon-Fri (term time) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Pre-School, Edlesborough School, 01525 229529
manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Lower School, Ellie Deeley on 07913 529574
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, St.Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Mondays (term time) 2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7-10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm, Sarah 01525 229194
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- Mondays Weight Watchers, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- Mondays Zumba, Dagnall Village Hall 6.30pm
- Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731
- Tuesdays Baby's First Cafe (Support for Breastfeeding mums), 9.30 - 11 am, Ivinghoe and Pitstone Sure Start Children's Centre, Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
- Tuesdays Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, St. Giles Church Hall, Nadine Morgan 07823 447362
- Tuesdays Northall Baby & Toddler Group, 9:30-11:30am, (open in the Summer School Holidays) Northall Village Hall, Andie 07966437673
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Tuesdays Yoga, Dagnall Village Hall 7.45 – 9.15pm
- Tuesdays Zumba Fitness Class, 8.15-9.15pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
- Tuesdays Circuit Training Edlesborough - Edlesborough School Hall - 7-8pm - £5 per class
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's playtime, 1pm - 2.45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact Rachel on 07789 760007
- Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 01582 412426
- Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7.30-8.45pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya on 07976 964316 for more details
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna 221996 or Julie 220153
- Wednesdays Zumba Fitness Class, 9.30am, St Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Zoey 07595 986892
- Thurs Baby & Toddlers Group, Dagnall Village Hall, 12:45-2:45pm (12:15 if bringing lunch) £1 child 50p adult. Contact Faye 07746 120163 or Samantha 07882 903282
- Thursdays Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542
- 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
- Thursdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Thursdays Central Bedfordshire Children's Centres' Toy Library, 9-9.45am, Eaton Bray (School Lane) Public Car Park
- Fortnightly Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 01582 620576
- Fridays

Village Diary June 2013



- Fridays Hartbeeps Multi-sensory pre-school play & music sessions, Northall Village Hall. Bookings and information: Gemma 01525 381196
- Fridays Zumba Fitness Class, 9.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Zoey 07595 986892
- Saturdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Saturdays Drama Class for Children, 10.35am-12.35pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Claire Casey, 07792 508591
- Last Saturday Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- Sundays Grace Baptist Church (by the Post Office) prayer time 9.30am, main meeting 11.00am-12.00pm. All welcome, Nathan 07794 615626, or Peter 01525 221048.

Monthly

- 1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
- 1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Barbara Collier on 01525 221401
- 1st & 3rd Monday Knit n Stitch. 2pm-4pm. Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Eaton Bray. Knitting, crochet & needlecraft. Tel Wendy 07908 828414. www.wendy-poole.co.uk
- 1st Tuesday Bingo, 7pm, Dagnall Village Hall
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
- 1st Sunday May to September, St Mary's Church, Edlesborough Open Day, 2-5pm
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday TOTS, St Mary's, Eaton Bray, 2pm
- 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 St.Mary's Ladies Guild, 2pm, St.Mary's, Eaton Bray
- 2nd Wednesday Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions Club, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern
- 2nd Thursday CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Other Regular Events

- 2nd Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall
- 14th Leukemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. Plant bring & Buy
- 1st St. Mary's Eaton Bray Coffee Morning, 10am to noon
- 18th Dagnall Over 60's. Coach outing to Wrest Park
- 10th ELF walk from Eaton Bray church 10.00a.m.

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 6th Eaton Bray W.I. Coffee Morning 10am - 12 noon, Eaton Bray Methodist Hall
- 7-9th Edlesborough Festival, St Mary's Edlesborough, Tickets from Christopher Pallet Estate Agents. Information 01525 221926
- 8th Eaton Bray Methodist Church Ploughman's Lunch, 12 noon onwards, Chestnut Lodge, Leighton Road, Great Billington, LU7 9BR
- 9th Appledown Car Treasure Hunt, starts 10am -12noon from Appledown, £5 per car. Tickets £7.50 01525 222283
- 10th Eaton Bray Village Hall AGM, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Church Lane, Eaton Bray
- 13th ELF outing to Stowe Gardens
- 13th Edlesborough Green Public Meeting, 7.45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- 15th Dagnall Fun Day & Hog Roast, 3pm onwards, Recreation Green
- 17th Northall & District Age Concern AGM, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray

Village Diary June 2013



- 22nd Eaton Bray Academy Fun Day Summer Fayre, 12 noon - 3pm
22nd Luton Symphony Orchestra, 7.30pm, St Mary's Eaton Bray. Tickets: 01525 222283
- 23rd Play Tennis in Beds Open Day, Midday - 4pm, Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club, School Lane, Eaton Bray
- 23rd Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research Midsummer Family Fun Day, 11am - 4pm, Lifestyle Centre, Ashridge House. Free

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

This year the budget for Bedfordshire Police is £102.8million. That sounds like a lot of money until you remember that budget will have been reduced by £19million by 2015 due to the government's 20% cut to the police grant, a further £24million a year is lost to the Force because Whitehall doesn't give us what their own funding formula says we need, and the amount we pay locally for policing through the council tax is well below the national average. So Bedfordshire Police is a rurally funded force that faces some distinctly metropolitan challenges.

Bedfordshire Police staff and officers have therefore performed remarkably well reducing recorded crime across the county by 15% in the last year (1899 fewer across Central Bedfordshire as a whole) at the same time as going through significant re-organisation and a reduction in the number of police officers due to the budget cuts.

The government will unveil a new spending review shortly, which is expected to herald yet further police cuts. I am opposed to such cuts but my role is to deal with the world as I find it rather than as I would wish it to be.

So the challenge for the future for Bedfordshire Police, and indeed for all of

us, is how do we keep our communities safe at a time when the budget is still be shrinking?

The answer is that we need to forge a closer and stronger partnership between our local communities and their police and all recognise the police cannot and never have been able to fight crime on their own. Wherever we live in the county we all have a duty to support the police if we want our communities to be safe, whether this means passing on information about criminal activity, being prepared to support the local Neighbourhood Watch, Street Watch and Speed Watch scheme or, for the most committed, volunteering as a Special Constable so that each community has a visible policing presence.

There must be a genuine partnership, so Bedfordshire Police will work hard to value the support communities and volunteers give. Whereas in the past such close partnership has always been desirable, in the future it is clear that it will be absolutely essential, which is why this is such a priority for me as your Police and Crime Commissioner.



Olly Martins
Police & Crime Commissioner

Village Notices

Front cover photos by *Natasha Balletta*

FOR SALE

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Open Gardens Sunday 9 June

Sadly, it has been necessary to cancel this event due to there being too few offers of gardens this year. This is understandable given the very cold Spring we have experienced. But this event is far too enjoyable to lose altogether, so if you would like to offer your garden for next year please speak to Gordon Gray - 220136.

FOR SALE

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The White Horse

The White Horse will be closed for extensive maintenance and considerable refurbishment from 1st June to 19th June. There will be a "soft" opening on 19th June with a full opening and celebration of Tom and Jade's marriage on Saturday 22nd June. We are of course sorry for any inconvenience this may cause but are certain that the result will be well worth the wait.

Village Hall Bookings

To book your local village hall for an event please contact the following:

Northall: Lorna Cabbage
Tel: 01525 220361

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee
Tel: 01525 222831

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates
Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall:
Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358



EDaN Community Transport

Peter Williams:
01442 842506

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : **8.00am** HOLY COMMUNION
 10.00am PARISH SUNG HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month:

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

WEEK-DAYS:

Tuesday: **2.00pm** TOTS (Tots on Tuesdays) (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)
Wednesday: **10.00am** Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES



Alfie Bunting - 400k Sponsored Cycle Challenge

My name is Alfie Bunting and I am a year 11 student at Cedars Upper School currently studying my GCSE's. After my A Levels, I aim to go to University and follow my love of biology and animals as a career, whilst also incorporating my love of karate in which I am a black belt, and training for my 2nd Dan in September 2013.

I have been given the opportunity of a lifetime to be part of an educational expedition to Botswana and Namibia in 2014 through World Challenge. World Challenge has been running educational expeditions since 1987. They run the expeditions in the ethos of Challenge, Participation and Environment, to help open the minds and broaden the experience of young people, like myself, whilst also completing charity work. To participate in this expedition, part of the challenge is for me to raise the funds to cover the cost which includes all necessary equipment needed for the charitable project that we will undertake.

I have started raising the required funds by

working in my free time and will continue this over the next 15 months; however, with my dad, I am also completing a 400k sponsored cycle ride from Anfield Road, Liverpool, to Totternhoe Football Club, Bedfordshire in July 2013. We have planned our route, taking into consideration our safety, and the suitability of roads. We will be cycling on average 65k a day, over 6 days, and each night we will camp at different locations on route.

I have purchased myself a road bike and we have starting training cycling around Totternhoe and the surrounding villages, out towards Cheddington, Little Gaddesden and Aldbury, covering routes of up to 45k. I am not a natural cyclist, and this will be a huge challenge for me to complete, however I am taking on this challenge for the brilliant experience that this exhibition will offer me.

Please visit my website for more information on me and my venture and to support my challenge through sponsorship.

You will also find me and my sponsorship forms at Edlesborough Carnival.

www.challengealfie.moonfruit.com

A Letter from Rev'd Coralie



Vicar: Coralie McCluskey

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

Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd John Heffer

Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

Church Warden: Catherine Hayden (220527)

Parish Administrator: Elisabeth Ryder (07890 718117)

Web contact: eatonbraychurch@aol.com

On June 9th we should all have been visiting the gardens of Eaton Bray and Edlesborough (I mentioned this last month) but sadly the inclement weather this Winter and Spring has put a stop to that. I am, I have to admit, relieved because my garden might have been a disappointment. I'm certain there would have been colour but mainly of the dandelion hue. At the moment all blooms in the Vicarage garden seem to be bright yellow but the rest is just green grass, green leaves and yellowish green moss - although we do have a glorious copper beech.

Our church, on the other hand, will be a colourful place in June with wedding flowers, constantly changing altar frontals and church hangings, as well as different coloured stoles (scarves) that I wear for Holy Communion services. It will be a riot of green, red, white and gold. Why? Because excluding the 13th and 21st June the Church celebrates the lives of at least one different saint on each of the other days.

There are some notable martyrs (red) including: Justin who was beheaded in the year 165, the martyrs of Uganda in 1885 and more recently in the 1970's and 1980's and of course St Alban, the first martyr of Britain, probably beheaded in the year 250. We remember St Alban on the 22nd when once again there will be celebrations in St Albans with a Pilgrimage Procession beginning at 11am from St Peter's Church and finishing at the West End of the Cathedral. This is followed by a Festival Eucharist at 12 noon. It might be a good idea not to drive into the town centre that day!

Fortunately not all saints are martyrs and the June selection includes Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, social reformers working in the East End of London in the late 19th century, a number of notable Bishops and the spiritual writer Evelyn Underhill who died in 1941. We use white or gold for these saints.

Being positive while I sit here I find myself humming '*June is bustin' out all over*' from the musical Carousel, which reminds me that the St Mary's Village Carnival on Saturday 6th July is fast approaching. Let's hope that this year it will be a dry sunny day and lots of money will be raised for the chosen charities. In the current climate many charities are finding it difficult to raise adequate funds to meet the needs of the groups and individuals they support. They need whatever support we can give, however small.

Gracious Lord, we pray for all those saints of today who dedicate their lives to the needs of others and we give grateful thanks for the good things that we have and for those who help us. Amen.



EDaN Community Transport

We would like to welcome 2 new drivers aboard from Eaton Bray, Mr Stuart Harding and his wife

Yvonne. This is great news and makes our total drivers from Eaton Bray 3.

Unfortunately we still have no drivers from Northall. Please would any car drivers from Northall consider joining the scheme, even if you can only drive very little, anything is welcome. We do have residents in Northall who are in need of Community Transport and are using our service. It would be really nice if we had some Northall drivers to help with these lifts.

More good news this month is that we have received a grant from The Burghope Trust to help us with driving residents of Dagnall, Northall & Edlesborough who are unable to use Community Transport

because they do not have sufficient funds to enable them to do so. If you are a villager who is struggling financially and you need to use Community Transport, please get in touch with me, in the strictest confidence and we may be able to help you. We are extremely grateful to The Burghope Trust for considering our request and making a grant to EDaN Community Transport.

As always, if you need to book a trip, please call Peter Williams on 01442 842506 or if you would like to discuss any other Community Transport matter or are interested in finding out what is involved in becoming a driver, please call Kathy Bovington on 01442 842796 or 0779 0537032.



History of Dagnall

<http://geoffspencer.info>

The above link will take you to Mr Geoff Spencer's website for The History of Dagnall. Geoff very kindly donates all the profits from his book to Dagnall School and has done so for many years. You can still purchase The History of Dagnall directly from Dagnall School (01442 842473) or you can now download an e-book from the above website.

The following is the front page of Geoff's website. There is also a link on this page for the e-book.

Welcome to Dagnall

Book is available for purchase here

[Dagnall Village](#)

[Early History](#)

[Randalls Charity](#)

[First World War](#)

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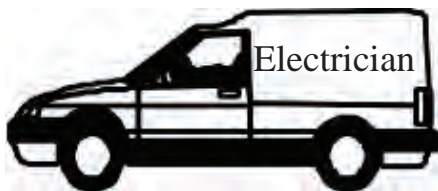
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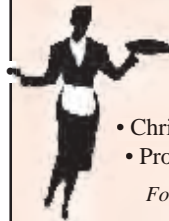
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Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan Consultation Coming Soon

Central Bedfordshire Council's Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan is set to open for public consultation on Monday, 20 May. The draft Plan, which includes a recommended 'short-list' of sites for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, will be open for consultation until Monday, 1 July.

Residents will be able to give their views via the Planning pages of our website, while paper copies of the documents will also be available at council offices and libraries.

Cllr Nigel Young, Executive Member for Sustainable Communities (Strategic Planning and Economic Development) said: "Our Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan has provoked some strong reactions and the 'short-list' of sites has certainly caused considerable debate. It's important that we try to meet the housing needs of all our local communities – yet we also want to fully understand the potential impact of our proposals. The upcoming consultation is the best opportunity for you to have your say on it.

"Those of you who have written or emailed already, please do so again via

the questionnaire from 20th, as this is the time to make your views count. This questionnaire gives you the freedom to say what you want, using the guidelines which are necessary to make it suitable for assessment by the Planning Inspector. You will also have the opportunity to ask to make a verbal representation to the Planning Inspector, who will be given all the comments made as part of the consultation."

All submissions made as part of this upcoming consultation will be provided to the Secretary of State, who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector to examine the Plan and process. A public examination will follow in early 2014 after which the Planning Inspector will make his final ruling - either to support the Plan or ask the council to look at it again. Details about how to fill out the consultation online will be provided before 20 May.

Updates will be posted to the Gypsy and Traveller pages of our website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/gypsytravellerplan



Jewellery Burglaries in Aylesbury Vale



Operation Arctic, a joint campaign to reduce burglary during the winter period has seen burglary offences reduce by 22% which equates to 36 fewer offences between 1st October 2012 to 31st January 2013 compared to the same period the previous year.

Nonetheless we have identified a small series of offences since January where thieves are targeting jewellery from unoccupied houses. These have been in sporadic locations of Aylesbury Vale.

In total there has been 18 offences linked to this series from 1st January 2013-5th March 2013 and these have been during the hours of 0800-2330 on varying days of the week. Entry has been gained by jemmying a side/rear window or door. Offenders have been taking jewellery and the odd electrical item.

We are appealing for the public to be alert and to report any suspicious activity as soon as it occurs. Note down descriptions and car registrations.

If you have any information please call Thames Valley Police on 101 or call

Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Police advice to protect your jewellery from being stolen:

- Ensure your home looks occupied when you are out – use a timer switch to set a radio and/or lamp to come on. As with other valuables, ensure that jewellery is not left on display.
- Ensure that your home has good window and door security and use it. Double lock uPVC doors using the keys as well as lifting the handle, even if going out briefly.
- If you have an alarm ensure that you always activate it at night and when you leave the property.
- Photograph your jewellery. By doing this the police will have a clear description of the items if they are stolen.
- Use forensic marking to identify your jewellery. Further information can be found at www.securedbydesign.com
- Ensure that all of your jewellery is adequately covered by your insurance.

Eaton Bray Village Hall

AGM

Monday 10th June

Village Hall, Church Lane,

Eaton Bray

at 7.30pm

All villagers and users/hirers are welcome to attend.

For any queries please contact

Ross Bagni 01525 221411

From Avril Davies

County Councillor

Thank you for your confidence in electing me on May 2nd as your County Councillor for the Ivinghoe Division for the fourth time. I will do my best to live up to your expectations, and will be keeping you regularly informed as usual through your local newsletters and at <http://AvrilDavies.mycouncillor.org.uk>, Facebook: Ivinghoe Division Lib Dems, Twitter@avrilpitstone.

Defensive Planting for Household Security

Nature herself provides one of the best solutions to many garden crimes. With careful thought and planning you can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of garden crime or household burglary, whilst at the same time creating an attractive garden.

Follow these top tips to transform your garden into a haven as well as a deterrent against intruders:

- **Defensive Planting:** Nature's own way to reduce crime. Criminals don't like climbing through prickly plants and hedges. They know that a small item of ripped clothing or blood can help the police identify them. Ideal plants to use are:
 1. Tall prickly shrubs such as Berberis Julianae or Ilex.
 2. Dense shrubs such as Berberis Stenophylla and Mahonia.
- **Thieves don't like to be heard:** Crunchy gravel on the approach to the house which gives away their presence is ideal.
- **Front Garden:** The general rule for the front of the house is to keep boundary fences and hedges low to allow as much natural surveillance as possible from neighbours, passing pedestrians and traffic. Keep shrubs and trees well pruned to avoid any hiding places.
- **The rear garden:** Back gardens should have a secure boundary and gates/fences which should be of sufficient height to make scaling them difficult. Thieves hate to be cornered and will always be looking for escape routes. The traditional country hedge provides an attractive and impenetrable boundary. Prickly shrubs planted along

an existing fence are effective and attractive but may take a long time to grow and thicken up.

- **Patio furniture:** Large numbers of hammocks and parasols are stolen from gardens every year. Take time to mark the items with your post code using a UV pen or a DNA liquid property marking kit (for example Selecta DNA).
- **Water features:** A pond can form part of a defensive boundary as well as the finishing touch to your garden.

For more information visit www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/community-living

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

100 Club Winners

May 2013

£25	Angela French	No. 41
£10	Mary Jarrett	No. 4

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

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Pick Up After Your Pooch

Central Bedfordshire Council are asking dog owners to be responsible and bag and bin their dogs' waste to keep the area clean and healthy.

Not only is dog mess a nasty business, it also poses serious health risks. It can carry roundworm - containing the parasite *Toxocara canis* which can cause blindness, epilepsy, asthma and infections. So it's vital to reduce dog fouling to protect others and particularly children.

Keep Britain Tidy's latest report (2010) suggested that the UK dog population was estimated to be 8 million, with dogs producing approximately 1,000 tonnes of excrement each day.

Failing to clean up after your dog when in a public space is an offence and you could face a £75 Fixed Penalty Notice or a court imposed fine of up to £1,000. The Council is stepping up its efforts to tackle the problem and Dog Wardens are actively patrolling the area and can issue on-the-spot fines to owners for dog-fouling offences.

Councillor Brian Spurr, Executive Member for Sustainable Communities, said: "Dog fouling is anti-social behaviour which we take extremely seriously. We know that it is a matter of concern to lots of local residents too because they have been letting us know. Unfortunately the problem lies with a selfish minority of people who don't take the legal responsibility of dog ownership seriously enough.

"We're working hard to ensure that Central Bedfordshire continues to be a great place to live and work and have upped the Dog Warden patrols and made sure that there are around 625 easy to find dog waste bins around the area. We would encourage anyone who witnesses an incident of

dog fouling to report it immediately by emailing customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or by calling 0300 300 8302."

So if you're walking your dog please take a doggy bag, pick up after and use the dog waste bins provided. Remember you can also use the normal litter bins if there are none nearby, or alternatively bag it and bin it at home - there are no excuses!

To report a dog fouling incident or to suggest a location for a dog waste bin please email customer services on customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or visit the council's website www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/ for further details. You can also call 0300 300 8302.

The Salvation Army, Booth Place - Weekly Activities		
Sunday		
Footprints (Sunday School)	9.45-10.45am	
Morning Worship	11.00am	
Songs of Praise	4.00pm	
3rd Sunday of the month May to December		
Tuesday		
Coffee Morning		
(alternate weeks)	10.00-11.30am	
Music practices (all welcome)	7.30-9.00pm	
Wednesday		
Home League		
(Ladies Mtg but all welcome)	2.30-3.30pm	
Champions Challenge Club (term time)		
(Ages 5-10 years)	5.45-6.45pm	
Thursday		
Parent and Toddler Group		
(Term time)	9.30-11.30am	
Haberdashers' night		
2nd Thursday of month	7.45 pm	
Ladies Fellowship		
(Last week of month)	7.45pm	
<i>For further details please contact Captain Jenny Dibs dall T:01525 221156/07717 813682 E: jenny.dibsdall@salvationarmy.org.uk W: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eatonbray</i>		

Edlesbray Leisure Group (ELF)

Hello everyone.

The past month has flown by. With the better weather arriving, the ELF group has had a very busy month, with all three arranged outings having been accomplished.

On April 14th, we all enjoyed a Sunday Lunch at the Belvedere Hotel Restaurant in St Albans. We all agreed that the venue and food were very good and we were made very welcome by the Staff. We then proceeded to the St. Albans Organ Museum to enjoy a very entertaining afternoon. It was very interesting to hear about and listen to all the different types of musical instruments, ranging from very early to more modern. The very knowledgeable staff made the visit special. We were entertained by a gentleman playing their Mighty Wurlitzer Organ. Refreshments at the half-way break were very welcome. A great outing arranged by Norman. A big Thank-You to him.

April 22nd saw a walking group led by Brian, the Co-ordinator, enjoying, in good weather, a walk in the area around Woburn.

Our third successful outing was a visit to Blenheim Palace. The guided tour of the Palace was very interesting. We had a very excellent guide who was able to explain everything to us, objects, tapestries, ceilings etc. The Churchill Exhibition was very informative, especially the Second World War. The theatre show was extremely interesting. The actors came alive from the many graphics, almost life-like. All very technical but amazing. The lunch break was very happy as we had managed to secure a table which took us all. An amazing day which was organised by Alan.

The details of our proposed visit to Stowe Gardens on June 13th will be in the North Porch of Eaton Bray Church.

JUNE DATES

Thursday 13th Stowe Gardens

Monday 24th Walk from Eaton Bray Church 10.00a.m.

NORTHALL & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN

Annual General Meeting

**Monday 17th June
at 7.30pm**

The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray

**Interested members of the public
are very welcome to attend**

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For more information contact:

John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

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.

Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights from the Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 8th April

Central Beds Representative (CBC)

- **Gypsy & Traveller Plan:** The Executive Committee has recommended the Council approve the draft Gypsy & Traveller Plan for publication and submission to the Secretary of State. The draft plan, which includes a recommended 'short-list' of seven proposed sites will now go to Council on 18th April and then will be open for full public consultation in May or June.
- **Tenancy Strategy:** A new approach for how people can access and benefit from social housing in Central Beds has been approved by the Executive. From April, the Council will give tenants a 12-month introductory tenancy, followed by a flexible tenancy for a fixed period of five years. Those tenants, who remain in need, will be able to renew their existing tenancy for a further five years or move to a different home if their existing one no longer matches their needs.
- **Free NHS Health Checks:** These are available to anyone aged between 40 and 74 years who have not already had a stroke, heart disease, chronic kidney disease or diabetes. The checks take only 20-30 minutes. Those eligible for a Health Check should look out for their letter of invitation or contact their local GP.
- **Bag it and bin it!** Dog owners are being urged by Waste Services and Community Safety to bag and bin their dogs' waste to keep the area clean. Dog mess poses serious health risks; it can carry roundworm containing the parasite *Toxocara canis* which can cause blindness, epilepsy, asthma and infections. Failing to clean up after

our four legged friend in a public space is an OFFENCE and the Council will issue a £75 Fixed Penalty Notice. *Dog wardens are monitoring areas across Central Beds.*

Police

- There have been 4 reported crimes for March: 1x theft from motor vehicle, 1x criminal damage to vehicle, 1x interference with motor vehicle, 1x theft to property; in addition there was 1x incident of anti-social behavior which the police have actioned upon.
- The Parish Council raised residents concerns regarding the increase in burglaries in the area. The police are aware of this matter and confirmed that it is mainly down to one particular group. They wanted to reassure residents that they are monitoring and dealing with the situation.

Election Result – Parish Councillor

The election took place on Thursday 4th April last: Numbers of electorate 2109, Ballot papers 402, turnout 19.05% - Teresa Stack-Murray 132 votes; Lorna Tribbick 270 votes – Elected. The Parish Council welcomed newly elected Cllr. Lorna Tribbick to Eaton Bray Parish Council.

Publication Of Parish Council Minutes

The *draft* minutes of Eaton Bray Parish Council (*subject to ratification*) are published along with the notice of the next Parish Council Meeting/Agenda, with the Focus highlights of that meeting being published after the minutes of that meeting are ratified at the following meeting.

Miscellaneous Items

- The old circular seat, once sited on Market Square is being relocated to a new position on the Three Corners.
- Hopefully with the improvement of the

weather, the next phase in the planting of the village tubs will be underway.

Eaton Bray Parish Council – Next Meeting Date/Venue

Monday 3rd June 2013; 7:30pm at The Coffee Tavern (1st floor)

Parish Council Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

For full detailed copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council please visit the Parish Council website.

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

Heidi Head, Parish Clerk & RFO

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk - Telephone/Fax: 01525 221464 - Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs [messages can be left on answerphone]

Ashridge Estate Events

01442 851227 ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk



Badger Talk and Walk

Saturday 8/6/2013, 2-4pm

Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre

Adult £10, FoA £8, Child £6

Explore Ashridge

Saturday 8/6/2013, 7-8:30pm

Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre

Adult £7, FoA £6, Child £5

Totally Batty

Wed 12/06/2013, 9-11pm

Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre

Adult £10, FoA £8, Child £6

Gentle Stroll

Friday 14/06/2013, 10:30am, £2.50

B4506 End of Monument Drive

Extended Discover Ashridge Walk

Saturday 15/06/2013, 10am - 4pm

Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre

Adult £7, FoA £6, Child £5

The Hills are Alive

Saturday 29/06/2013, 2-4pm

Steps Hill Car Park

Adult £7, FoA £6, Child £5

All Saints' Church Dagnall

Services in June 2013

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun. 2nd June | 9.00 am | Eucharist |
| | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service with Holy Communion |
| Sun. 9th June | 10.30 am | Morning Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Eucharist |
| Sun. 16th June | 10.30 am | Family Communion |
| | 6.00 pm | Evening Service |
| Sun. 23rd June | 10.30 am | Family Service |
| | 6.00 pm | Eucharist |
| Sun. 30th June | 10.30 am | Informal Worship |
| Sun. 7th July | 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 except when there is a Family Service.



News from the Lions Den...

Every year, a tragedy quietly strikes thousands of families. While it may not be mentioned in the news or in your local papers, measles takes the lives of 380 children each day or 139 300 children per year. Of those who survive, nearly 30% suffer complications such as loss of vision, hearing loss, brain damage, pneumonia or vitamin A deficiency.

Measles is a highly contagious, viral disease spread through close contact with an infected person. If there is just one person infected with measles on a crowded bus of 100 passengers, 90 of those people will become infected if they have not had a vaccination.

Measles remains a heavy public burden in developing countries where parents do not have access to immunization services that could protect their child from this disease. We could have been forgiven for thinking this is all far removed from our lives until November last year when the Measles epidemic swept through Wales at an alarming rate and is predicted to be heading our way shortly. At the end of April, almost 900 people had been infected in the Swansea outbreak, with 80 needing hospital treatment and one suspected death.

The measles outbreak shows no sign of ending, with the number of cases rising to 886 – up 78 in five days and 121 in a week.

Eighty people have now needed hospital treatment in Swansea alone since the outbreak began in November and more than 10,000 people across Wales have been given a triple jab against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). Public Health Wales (PHW) says there is still an "urgent need" for more children to be vaccinated. It is believed that many children may

not have been vaccinated following the publication of Dr Andrew Wakefield's now discredited research in 1998, which linked the MMR jab with autism.

In 2010 Lions began to try and eradicate measles within four specific regions, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mali and Nigeria. The efforts of the Lions was extremely successful, resulting in 41 million children being vaccinated within these four countries. By October 2012, Lions had vaccinated 150 million children across the globe.

There remains much work to be done in the fight against measles but Lions have the power to eliminate this disease. Lions are now helping children in ALL countries where measles remains a public health burden. To this end, our club has been making donations towards the measles campaign. Not only does this money help children all over the world but it stands us all in good stead if the disease continues to spread at the rate currently predicted. It is only a matter of time before the epidemic reaches us and we are proud to have donated money towards ensuring we are prepared.

To find out more about the work we undertake the other projects we support, please contact me in the usual way, by calling 01525 229 656 or by emailing me at president@ebelions.org.uk. I sincerely look forward to hearing from you

Rachel

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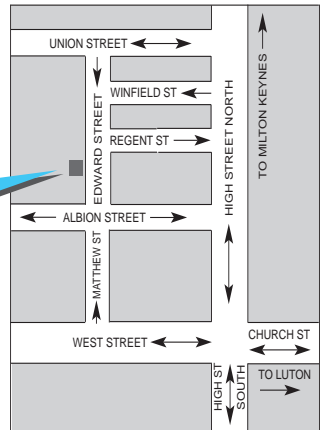
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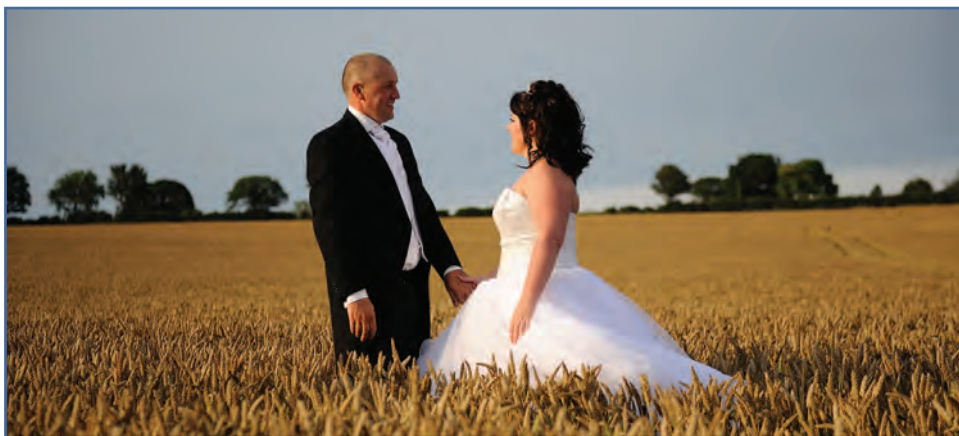
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- Toddlers' tricycle, children's relay
- Ferret race

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ENTER OUR FAMILY BAKE OFF : children £0.50 - adults £1.00 - family £5.00

6 categories: children's best decorated 6 small cakes; men only cake of choice; Victoria sponge; 6 scones - savoury or sweet; savoury bake (sausage rolls, quiche etc.); bread of choice. All entries to be sold off afterwards.

For more info on the bake off, contact ann.tobin1@btinternet.com or call into Dagnall Playgroup, Village Hall, 9.15 - 12.15

TICKETS FOR THE HOG ROAST (including salads and live music) available from Dagnall Playgroup, Dagnall School (tel. 014423 842473). Or email pascale.searle@googlegmail.com or ring on 07900 498476.

Price for hog roast tickets : family (2 adults and 2 children): £20 ; adult : £8 ; child : £4

All proceeds to go to Dagnall School, Dagnall under Fives, Dagnall Village Hall and Dagnall Church



Fun day





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Breakfast Club



Curriculum Days

Quotes from parents

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"We like learning French!"

Quotes from children

"I like it when we do our work."

"Early Reading is good. I love doing my letter sounds!"

"We are all learning!"



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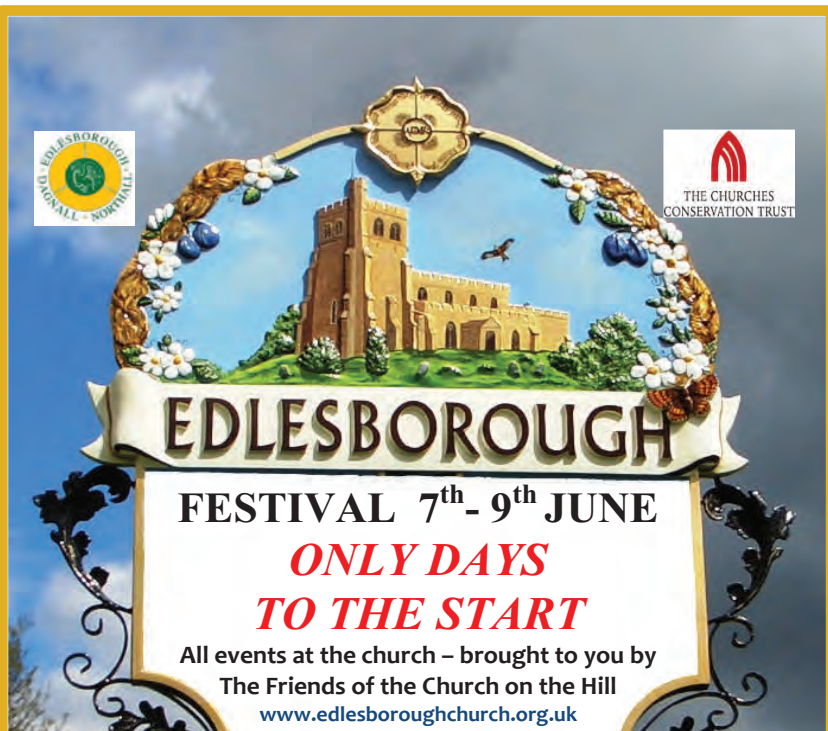
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- Fri 7th:** 10am-3pm ART WORKSHOP: local artist Megan Howells (*)
3pm-5pm Flower Arranging Workshop by Edles. Flowers (*)
7pm Regina Whyatt, BAGPIPER playing at the war memorial
7.30pm-9.30pm SOUTH BEDS CONCERT BAND - £8 & £6 (#)
- Sat 8th:** 2.30-3.00pm: Warm up with DAGNALL COMMUNITY CHOIR
3.00pm Festival opening by the RT HON JOHN BERCOU M.P.
followed by THE CHOIRFEST, featuring 6 local school choirs
7.00pm: "A BIT OF A DO!" starring TINLIN – think Simon & Garfunkel: UNSAFE SAX – saxophone quart: JESS BERGMAN
Mezzo soprano opera singer. Links to artists on our website
Tickets (evening event) including food & wine - £10.00. (#)
- Sun 9th:** 2.-3.pm CHILTERN WEST GALLERY CHOIR – music & dancing
3pm-4.30 music by THE DICEMEN and STARLIGHT BARKING
Local vocalists- Folk & traditional - guitar, fiddle, mandolin
5.30pm THE BELLS, THE BELLS!
6pm-7pm SONGS OF PRAISE– Grand finale with Rev. Coralie
(#) **Ticketed event - Tickets available from Christopher Pallet, Sales and Lettings, Moor End, Edlesborough.**

For further information and tickets see the Friends website or contact Alan on 01525 221926 or 07828 398371 or by e mail to: ajrwilliams@hotmail.com

Eaton Bray Academy's



FAMILY FUN DAY

SUMMER FAXRE

Saturday 22nd June 2013
12.00pm - 3.00pm

- traditional family races
- egg & spoon / sack races
- biscuit decorating
- sponge splash
- hot & cold refreshments
- treasure hunt
- sweet tombola
- gift stalls
- puppet show

- childrens street dance display
- bouncy castle
- candy floss
- face painting & tattoos
- homemade cake stall
- pocket money games
- adult tombola
- b.b.q.
- penalty shoot out



plus lots more to see and do!..... hope to see you there, everyone welcome!




Luton Symphony Orchestra

7.30pm Sat 22nd June

St Mary's, Eaton Bray

Programme includes:

Barber's "Adagio for strings"

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PUBLIC MEETING

MAKING EDLESBOROUGH GREEN A GREATER COMMUNITY RESOURCE

7.45pm EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL 13 June 2013

2012 was a momentous year for Great Britain – the Olympics were a wonderful celebration of sport and community spirit, and demonstrated what we can achieve as a nation. But twelve months on the onus is now on how we can provide a genuine legacy for the health and wellbeing of future generations.

Therefore we would like to make a proposal to all residents of Edlesborough:

Should the village explore the opportunity to develop a multi-sport and community facility on The Green?

The Green is something we can all be proud of, it is a wonderful open space that serves as a focal point for the entire village - but is there a way we can make it an even better facility for all residents without it losing its charm?

As a consequence we would like to invite you to join us in a preliminary meeting on 13 June to discuss what we could create on The Green. We have the opportunity to replace the current pavilion and develop a new sports-orientated community facility that could incorporate a wide range of sporting and social activities for all age groups.

Your views on this potential project are very important – as we would like to create something 'for all' we naturally welcome your thoughts, ideas and participation.

The evening will feature a couple of guest speakers – Graham Keen, Regional Manager at Sport England who will talk about the Olympic Legacy, and another from a Parish which has previously completed a similar project. In addition all the current sports clubs will share their plans for the future, followed by an interaction session where you'll be able to tell us what you'd like to see on The Green.

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~ on ~

Sunday 14th July 2013

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Ofsted March 2011

This is a good school. It has several outstanding features, particularly the pastoral care, guidance and support it offers its pupils and the excellent links it has with the community.

Pupils are confident, very happy at school and curious to learn.

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Dagnall School offers

- **small classes**
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- **excellent care and support**
- **a school that has excellent community links**

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Nowadays, many of us spend a great deal of time driving. A study found that people driving over 25,000 miles a year averaged just over 22 days a year off work with a 'bad back'.

Here are few tips to improve your posture and help your back when driving:

1. **Ensure the controls are within easy reach.** Bring your seat forward so that you can easily reach the pedals without over-stretching, which can cause increased strain.
2. **Your backrest should provide adequate support.** The driver's seat should provide good support to the lower back, both lengthways and sideways. Many cars have a lumbar support which you can adjust. If not, consider purchasing a lumbar roll which can be attached to the backrest by a strap.
3. **Ensure the headrest is in a comfortable position.** Comfortably rest your head on the headrest with your neck and shoulder muscles relaxed. Avoid sitting with your chin poking forwards.
4. **Take care getting in and out the car.** To avoid twisting, slide your seat backwards. To get out of the car, turn your whole body towards the door, lower your feet to the ground and then

stand up. To get in the car, sit on the edge of the seat first and then rotate your whole body into position.

5. **Be careful loading or unloading items from your vehicle.** Careful lifting items in and out of the boot. Minimise stretching and lifting by placing loads nearest to the bumper edge.
6. **Keep calm and carry on.** Don't grip the wheel too tightly - this can increase muscular tension. In a traffic jam, take some deep breaths, lift your shoulders to your ears and then relax. Take regular breaks on long journeys. Get out of the car and have a short walk round and do a few gentle stretches.

For further information on posture or back care, contact your local Chartered Physiotherapist:

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Eaton Bray Village Hall 100 Club Winners May 2013

159	Barbara Morton	£100
10	Helen Steel	£25
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111	Elaine Timberlake	£25

Drawn on 8th May 2013 at Eaton Bray Academy. Please direct any correspondence to Ross Bagni 71 Bower Lane Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire LU6 1RB Telephone: 01525 221411.

Bucks DA of the National Vegetable Society Talk Tuesday 18th June 6 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us in John & Jill Branham's garden at Chiltern Place, Nup End Lane, Wingrave, HP22 4PX for a completely informal evening, with freedom to enjoy the views over the Vale of Aylesbury whilst enjoying a glass of wine, cup of tea or coffee.

No charge. Free to all.

Further details from David G Elkins, Secretary to NVS Bucks DA on 01296 630659 or <http://www.nvsuk.org.uk/>

Dagnall News

Over 60's

The Over Sixties welcomed Kensworth to our Ploughmans Lunch in May which was followed by lively games of Bingo. We are very grateful to Carrie Smith who kindly agreed to be our caller, and to Sheila Thorne who organised the books for us.

This month we are visiting Wrest Park. The gardens have recently been restored to their former glory and should be looking amazing after some fine weather. In addition there are 24 sites of interest for the visitor to see, which include the mansion and a number of other buildings. In July we have our Garden party in the beautiful garden of John and Chris Yorke. In August we have speakers from the Ark wildlife rescue centre. Paula and Margaret were very entertaining the last time they talked to us.

Anyone wishing to join us for any event will be welcomed with open arms. You only have to be Over Sixty!! Just call Rosemary 01442 843202 for any further information.

Community Choir

Bubble Burster

At one of our recent Monday rehearsals our tenor section took great encouragement when Stuart Harding, our highly valued conductor and entertainer-in-chief, said, "Well done boys. That was very good!" Unfortunately the bubble was burst almost immediately when he went on to say, "It wasn't right - but it was very good!" Such are the trials and tribulations of our Community Choir at this time of year when we are beavering away on new additions to our, now quite extensive, repertoire.

We will be featuring some of our new songs at two short appearances in June.

The first will be on the Saturday afternoon 8th. June at The Edlesborough Festival in "The Church on the Hill". This short session will be by way of introduction for the arrival of our honoured guest The Right Honourable John Bercow, our MP and Speaker of The House of Commons, followed by junior choirs singing throughout the rest of the afternoon

Our second session will be a week later on 15th. June, in the early evening at "Dagnall Fun Day" (we will soon put a stop to that!) and Hog Roast etc. We hope that many of you will come along to hear for yourselves the results of our efforts.

Morris Dancers at the Red Lion, Dagnall

Now that spring/summer has finally arrived we are looking forward to some outside events. We have the Morris Dancers here on Monday 15th July dancing in the garden from 8.30 p.m. and then afterwards a few snacks and some singing so come along and join in. Another date for the diary is our American night on Saturday 6th July with ribs, sliders and slaw!

We are in the process of building a new patio area to enjoy the summer evenings. Our function room has been refurbished and is available for events so have a look if you want to have a party or meeting there. Don't forget our fresh cod and homemade crinkle cut chips on Friday evenings and Sunday lunches served until 4pm. We have a website www.redlionsdagnall.co.uk which has all our opening times and events.

Dagnall School

Athletics Festival

Mrs Smith took 6 children from year 2 children to the Athletics Festival run by students at Cottesloe School. They competed in various athletics activities

against other local schools. All the children had to try a range of sports and Matthew was particularly good at keeping the score as they went round. Phoebe really liked the jumping challenge, trying to jump as high as possible and hit her hand against the wall. Kian showed real talent with the foam javelin. Max and



Aimee were both really pleased at their attempt at hurdling, and Matthew and Kian took some time but eventually worked out what was required when taking part in a relay race. Tegan used her long legs to leap and jump. Well done to all the children representing Dagnall School. Mrs Smith was particularly pleased with the responsible way they behaved, listened to the instructions and tried their very best at all the new things. They all deserved their medals and certificates!

Dagnall Gardener's Society

Advance notice that the Annual Garden Show will take place on August 31st this year to avoid clashing with other local shows.

You are reminded that dogs should at all times be kept on a lead in the allotment area.



Appledown's Dog of the Month

Meet Ted a 2-year-old Parson Jack Russell. He is good with people and mixes well with other dogs but would not live with a

cat. Ted is house-trained and travels well. He is an active little dog and, although he can be left on his own for a couple of hours, he needs a home where he will have plenty of company.

If you feel you could offer Ted, or any of our other dogs, a loving and secure home please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Our staff will be happy to offer advice and information. (Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years of age, so please ask for details).

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Sunday 9th June

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a.m. and 12 noon. £5 per car. Cream teas available! Prizes! Fun for all the family! Tickets available from Appledown.

CAKE STALL

Saturday 15th June

Visit our stall at Leighton Buzzard Market and choose from a selection of delicious home-made cakes.

ELVIS NIGHT & BBQ

Saturday 13th July

'Elvis' and sixties music band 'Carnaby Street' will be providing the entertainment at Totternhoe Memorial Hall. 7.30 -11.00 p.m. Barbecue, licensed bar and raffle. Tickets £10 available from Appledown and the Memorial Hall.

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Edlesborough Book Group

Dark Eden by Chris Beckett

When we discussed our forward reading list for 2013, it was pointed out that we rarely read Science Fiction. This we set out to rectify and Dark Eden was nominated by one of our members. Both the book and its author were unknown to most of us, but it proved to be an excellent choice.

The book is set beyond the solar system in outer space, on a planet lit only by strange trees and plants which emit light and warmth, and by animals with glowing eyes. It is inhabited by human beings, descended from two astronauts who were marooned there after a failed space mission. Now, one hundred and sixty years later, their descendants number five hundred, but genetic dysfunction and mental limitations, caused by continual inbreeding, are beginning to take their toll. Also the "Family" as they have dubbed themselves, have been confined to just one area for all this time and have gradually drained its resources. "Family" is divided into groups with leaders and follow rules laid down by the original founders, Tommy and Angela, of whom memories are vague and only maintained by artefacts left behind by them, about which stories are told.

But, a serpent enters Eden in the shape of a young teenage "new hair" who sees the inherent dangers of remaining static and

urges the elders to look into the future and explore new ways and ideas before they all starve. No one has ever dared to leave the Valley before and cross into the Darkness beyond but John Redlantern defies the elders and leaves the group, inspiring a small number of young people to follow him. In doing so, he also upsets the equilibrium of the society and the first violence ever erupts.

We are then taken on their expedition into the unknown and the development of their various characters in the face of hardship. John is a charismatic but flawed leader and his restless spirit proves difficult for his followers.

The story is told in the first person by a group of characters, telling a chapter each. This gives us multiple views of the situation, but also tends to cause the narrative to hiccup. That is only a minor criticism. One has to admire the sweep of the author's imagination; his ability to create a totally new world with an idiomatic language and way of life, complete with strange flora and fauna.

The comments of our group were largely favourable. Our imaginations had been made to work overtime and the points raised had given us a good discussion. We thought that with a rather open ending, Chris Beckett had left room for a sequel.

Stone's Fall by Iain Pears

Stone's Fall is an epic historical thriller spanning the mid nineteenth century until the early twentieth century giving a detailed account of the banking and industrial systems of the time and how deeply enmeshed they were. In 1953 Matthew Braddock an ex reporter is reminded of his youth by an invitation to the funeral of a wealthy woman who

had once employed him. In her will he has been left a package to be opened after her death. He remembers their meeting in 1909 after the death of her husband, the industrialist John Stone. Stone, although incredibly successful and very rich, was something of an enigma. He controlled an enormous international empire seemingly single handed, with very few of his

employees given his trust. He died in an unexplained accident falling from a first floor window of his home and his will contains a bequest to a child of whom his widow, Elizabeth is unaware. She asks Matthew to help her unravel the mystery. She is young and very beautiful and Matthew finds himself fascinated and intrigued by her.

From 1909 the novel moves back in time, to Paris in the 1890's then to Venice in 1867 when John Stone tells his own story and helps us to understand and solve the

puzzle of his untimely death.

Each of the three parts of the story are extremely detailed and closely written. In the second part the building of Stone's organisation and his financial dealings are plainly set out and easy to understand making this a very satisfying and unusual book to read.

Our meeting was not very well attended, only five of us met to discuss the book; but we had all liked it very much and would like to read more of this author's work in the future.

Edlesborough W.I.

Our last meeting was the annual members' evening, when the committee have the arrangements carried out by other members. Brenda Shields and her team organised the evening for us. Christine Yates reminded us all of the forthcoming EDaN car boot sale and the Edlesborough Festival on the 7th, 8th and 9th of June. She also reported on the EDaN trip to the houses of parliament, at the invitation of John Bercow (Speaker of the House), and how much we all enjoyed the experience. Our speaker that evening was Colin Oakes. Using the words of Mr. Macmillan some years ago, "you've never had it so good", he took us back to the fifties and sixties. It was amazing how many memories came flooding back. He reminded us that food rationing didn't end completely until 1954, and that there were still many bomb sites in London at that time. Coal fires were still used for heating, and we all suffered the smog caused by the smoke. In fashion, ladies adopted the new look by lengthening their skirts, and many men dressed in "spiv suits." However, there were some exciting new experiences, amongst which were the opening of Chinese and Indian restaurants. Wimpy Bars started up, and foods such as

hamburgers, pizza's and pasta appeared. Different varieties of salads and dressings could be sampled, and coffee and milk bars became very popular, especially those with juke boxes. One big difference between now and then was the greater choice of employment available in those days. Mr. Oakes certainly revived some very interesting memories.

The Committee and June and Jill (who set out the Memorial Hall for us each month) each received a large box of chocolates. This was followed by tea and a great selection of cakes. A big 'thank you' goes to Brenda and her helpers.

Two visits were made by groups of members later in the month. One was to the Bucks. Federation Annual Council Meeting held at the Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury, when Michael Portillo was a guest speaker. We all enjoyed his accounts of his political life and his new venture into television filming regarding train journeys he undertakes in connection with Bradshaw's Railway Guide. Another visit made by some members was to the half-yearly Council Meeting of the Beacon Group. We certainly know how to enjoy ourselves!

✍️ Val Harris

Edlesborough Parish Council

Chairman's Report

Presented to Edlesborough Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 18th April 2013

This is my third report as Chairman and covers the period April 2012 – March 2013.

During the year, further progress has been made in the Council's continuing endeavours to encourage **more parishioner involvement and interest in Council and community affairs**. For the first time ever, a Parish Council Meeting was held in each of Northall and Dagnall, where eleven and sixteen parishioners respectively attended for the whole meeting. Probably much to their surprise, many of them found the proceedings very interesting and informative! Their contributions and feedback were certainly much appreciated by the Council. It is now the Council's intention to hold meetings in the villages of Northall and Dagnall on an annual basis.

During the year the Council continued to publish regular 'News Reports' in 'Focus' each month, and on occasions, supplemented this by using its e-mail list to share some issues with parishioners. The website www.edlesborough.gov.uk still remains as the main notice board for all Parish Council activities and local news, and it appears to be used more and more by parishioners

The Council has also instigated a series of meetings with the existing four Sports Clubs so that their members can take a more active interest and responsibility in the running of the Pavilion. This has now led to a Public Meeting being planned for the 16th June 2013 in Edlesborough Memorial Hall.

The Meeting will be hosted by

representatives of the Parish Council, existing Sports Clubs and others interested

in improving the sports and social facilities in the village.

The Council hopes that as many parishioners as possible will attend, as it is their opportunity to help shape and influence the future sporting and social life in Edlesborough - and in particular - the future of Edlesborough Pavilion.

Of course, strong community involvement is still very much at the heart of the highly successful **EDaN** (the Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) Parish Plan Steering Group and its various Action Teams:

- the **Transportation Team**, whose **Community Car Scheme** has just celebrated its second anniversary. With 16 drivers, 43 registered passengers and some 424 trips so far, the Scheme has gone from strength to strength in providing car lifts for residents on local journeys to hospitals shops, doctors' surgery etc. More drivers would be very welcome, especially from Edlesborough and Northall. Please contact Peter Williams on 01442 842506 to learn how you could make a valuable contribution to your community.
- the **Traffic Management Team**, which is now focusing its attention on the width/pinch points and inappropriate use of the A4146 by heavy goods vehicles, especially London waste lorries. The Team is also aiming to raise funds to replace the existing 'Speed Watch' radar equipment (three volunteers needed for each session), with the latest 'Sentinel' version which



can be operated almost remotely.

- the **Cycleways, Pavements and Footpaths Team**, whose work has stalled somewhat during the year, but it should be reinvigorated by interest and possible funds from the Local Area Forum of Bucks County Council, who are beginning to provide some help on new cycleways.
- the **‘Friends of the Church on the Hill at Edlesborough’ Team**, whose mission is to make much more community use of this wonderful part of our heritage and thereby help to safeguard it for centuries to come. They have met with the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT), and the Historic Buildings Officer of Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), who have been very supportive of the Friends’ plans to install a kitchen and toilets, and who made some constructive suggestions. Further progress has also been made in pursuing the Beautifying the Villages Team’s project to flood-light the church, and the CCT’s desire for the church to be much more freely open to visitors. There are a lot of ‘stakeholders’ to satisfy to get anything done, but the Friends are very strong in numbers and resolute in achieving their objectives.

The ‘Friends’ are hoping that lots of parishioners and others will attend at least one of the many ambitious events being held in the first ever **Edlesborough Arts Festival**, which will take place at the Church on the 7th, 8th and 9th of June 2013.

Although the ‘Friends’ will continue to work closely with the Parish Council and the EDaN Beautifying the Villages

Team, they are planning to become an independent entity, with their own constitution, trustees and bank account etc. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Alan Williams for his determination and leadership in playing such a pivotal role in helping to get the ‘Friends’ established.

- the **Beautifying the Villages Team**, whose work in Edlesborough over the past few years was particularly recognised by the judges when they awarded Edlesborough as the winner of the Best Kept Village in Buckinghamshire competition for 2013.

Since the Council originally began work on preparing a Parish Plan in 2005, it has provided total funds of £14,245 and EDaN has been very successful in raising its own funds of £17,535, making a total EDaN income of £31,780. Expenditure to date has been £25,069 leaving a balance of £6,711 to be carried forward for projects



in 2013/14.

On behalf of the Council, and indeed all parishioners, I should like to place on record our very grateful thanks and appreciation for the splendid work being carried out by all the **EDaN** teams.

The Parish Council continues to spend a lot of its time on **Traffic Calming**, speed and parking matters. Following the hard-fought for implementation of the delayed Speed Review in April 2012, Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC), had to be chased relentlessly to paint the various and much needed 30mph roundels on the roads in Northall. BCC continue to be chased to remove all the redundant speed sign posts in Northall, Edlesborough

and Dagnall. New “dragon’s teeth” on the relocated 30 mph A4146 entry to Edlesborough near Sparrow Hall Farm, will be installed by BCC when the old teeth have worn out.

The Parish Council had originally campaigned for the speed limit on the whole of the A4146 from Travellers Rest to Edlesborough to be reduced from the national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph. In the event, the 40mph limit was only approved for the first 300m from Travellers Rest. The Council has, however, continued its campaign because of parishioners’ real concerns about traffic turning into and from Ivinghoe Way and Cocks Close/Pebblemoor, and the lack of a “buffer” zone entering the 30mph limit at Church End. BCC have re-affirmed their view that the stretch of 60 mph 4146 does not meet Government guide lines for 40mph, but there might be a remote possibility of a 50mph limit, subject to further speed analysis. To enable this analysis to go ahead the Parish Council has agreed to pay the costs.

Following AVDC’s introduction of the new re-cycling bin scheme last autumn, the Parish Council provided additional bin stickers to maintain weekly continuity of the campaign to make drivers aware of the appropriate 30 and 40mph speed limits in the parish.

In June, the final section of white ‘no parking’ lines was installed by BCC - between the bus stop cage in the High Street and its junction with the A4146. This has certainly helped deter inconsiderate and illegal parking which otherwise makes it so hazardous for vehicles entering and leaving the High Street at this dangerous junction with the A4146.

BCC has been requested to provide a school crossing patrol in Dunstable Road, Dagnall. The outcome will depend on the

results of a survey regarding the volume of traffic using the Dunstable Road between 8.20am and 8.50am whilst children and parents are endeavouring to cross this very busy road on the way to Dagnall School.

The long delayed opening of the ‘Gaddesden Walk’ in Dunstable Road, Dagnall now depends on BCC’s safety audit of a proposal to erect 10m of road side barriers to prevent children rushing out of the footpath and into the busy road. Many parishioners have complained over the years of the chronic car parking at the surgery in Cow Lane. The Parish Council’s suggestion to utilise some of the amenity land between the surgery and the rear gardens of the houses in Wren Walk was, unfortunately, ruled out by AVDC because of the original legal restrictions placed on the land by the donor developer and AVDC.

This report will be continued in the July issue of Focus



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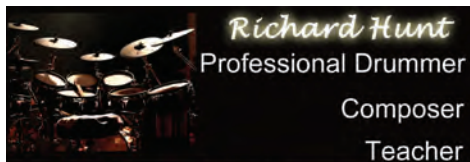
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Eaton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

I'm writing this as I huddle around my campfire, outside my tent on Dunstable Downs, utilising a rudimentary system of rubber bands and AA batteries to power my typewriter and torch. Dinner was a small piece of humble pie. Why, you ask? As you may recall from last month's article, this is my penance for forecasting the wrong result at last month's village hall quiz! As such, I am sadly not 10 million pounds richer and living in Barbados, but awaiting a call back from William Hill to see if they'll kindly please return my house and car. I feel it only fair, as my fancied winners, Keith's Best Mates, were only nudged out of first place by one point, by Muck and Bullets. And the Chocolate Hoarding Ladies were narrowly beaten for last place by Chemo Warriors 2. So I was close. But nothing is fair in love and war, hence me here in my little tent, the betting shop with a new house and car, the Ladies with no chocolate, Keith's Best Mates winless (and hence wine-less...) and my £250K a week contract with EBLTC for writing this stuff is under threat, as the Chairman needs someone who can afford their subs. And has access to e-mail. Worse of all, it was the wife's car I lost. I haven't told her about the house yet.

So on to more important things. A couple of dates for you diary. First, remember our Family Doubles Tournament on Sunday 9th June where young and not-so-young from one family (the more distant the alleged relationship the better - we won't be asking for birth certificates..) are paired together to take on another couple of far-flung relatives. Do let us know if you'd like to take part, and we can do a spectacular joining deal for you at the same time.

Second, and this is the big one, it's National Play Tennis Day on Sunday 23rd June, where clubs from all over the UK fling open their court doors and heartily encourage everyone and anyone to come along to see what this tennis lark is all about. Hit a few balls (or miss them, as most of us do...), and chat to some members over a coffee and a burger; the burger is free if you've come up for the first time! Then meet our coach Sara, and enjoy a free tennis taster session. There'll be competitions such as Beat the Coach (no sticks allowed) and Longest Rally, plus Cardio Tennis. Our infamous but temperamental Ball Machine, Billy, will be allowed out of its secure accommodation to automatically hit balls to you, but be warned it has a mind of his own! It doesn't like being beaten! And for the youngsters there'll be Mini Tennis and Face Painting (but not at the same time).

You don't need to book, you don't even need a racquet, we'll lend you one for the afternoon. There's absolutely no obligation, other than to turn up with a smile! If you do decide to join, then there will be healthy discounts available, or even free coaching. So put the Sunday lunch on a slow setting, and work up a bit of an appetite with us (or even have lunch from the BBQ)!

We'll be there from midday until 4pm, so please do come along even if just to say hello and have a cuppa from Kevin the kettle. He's looking forward to putting on a good few free brews that afternoon, with his new friend Freda the fridge in charge of keeping things chilled, as they should be on a Sunday.

For any further information about the club, including when we get together for our social tennis sessions up at the School

Lane courts, or our various activities, you can visit our website at www.ebltc.org.uk; Alternatively please call Chairman Stuart Adolph on 07773 816320, Coach Sara

Leavy on 07561 571578, or if they're all out and I'm not warming up a can of beans on my stove, then me, Andy Cross, on 07783 667338.

Carnival 6th July - Science Fiction



**St Mary's Village
Carnival 2013**

www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

It is now the beginning of June and our SCIENCE FICTION Carnival is only four weeks away. The Carnival only happens because people from the villages make it happen. Do you have you any plants for the plant stall? Would you like to offer an hour of your time on the day at one of the village stalls? Can you offer a prize for the tombola or the silent auction .. now is the time to speak as the Carnival is upon us.

ALL profits from the Carnival organisation are directed to local charities.

Here is a reminder of some important bullet points if you would like to be involved with or provide items for the Carnival:

- Would your Business, Charity or Local Organization like to book a stall location on the Green for the day? Contact Bob Stilliard on 01525 222283.
- Can you provide any prizes for the silent auction? Contact Gordon Gray 01525 220136.
- Do you have items for any of the many charity stalls? For example: book stall, white elephant, plant stall, adult and children's tombola. Contact Sharon Stilliard on 01525 222283.
- Are you able to provide your time on the day or the evening before to transport materials or set up the Carnival tents and help with moving items around the Green? A free breakfast is available to all early morning helpers. Contact

Gordon Gray on 01525 220136.

- As above; can you provide the Carnival with some urgently needed transport? Contact Andy Tourney on 01525 210584.
- Finally take a look at the Carnival website for any further information you may require at www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.

Here are some more ideas for science fiction possibilities when decorating your house or choosing a personal costumes on the day; from the second half of the alphabet.

Naked Sun, Nineteen Eighty Four, The Phantom, Planet of the Apes, Power Rangers, The Pretenders, The Prisoner (Someone please come with a big balloon!), Quantum Leap, Quatermass and the Pit, Red Dwarf, Robocop, Silver Surfer, Six Million Dollar Man, Sonic the Hedgehog, Spider Man, Star Trek, Star Wars, Star Gate, Star Ship Troopers, Stingray (Marinaaa .. aqua Marinaaaaaa....anything could happen in the next five minutes!), Super Car, Superman, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Terminator, Thunder cats, Tomorrow People, Transformers, Wonder Woman, Land of the Giants, X-Files, X-Men, Yogi Bear (?), Zorro; The Next Generation!?

Even more to come in July Focus just before the Carnival, watch this space!

For any general enquiries on how you can get involved with this year's "out of this world" Carnival or anything else contact: Gordon (Flash) Gray : 01525 220136 OR Richard Evans : 01525 222512



Salvation Sound



“I don’t believe it!”

Already we are halfway through this year, how time flies. June brings forth an abundance of wild flowers; the margins of our country lanes are enlivened by the white umbels of cow parsley, and the flat headed clusters of pink or white yarrow; the golden flowers of cinquefoil, which is often mistaken for buttercups, and on some slopes the tall pink flowers of the rosebay willow herb; and dandelions, which seem to be always with us. On the Downs, harebells and many kinds of different grasses can be found. Tiny flowers like the scarlet pimpernel, and a little blue flower, which from childhood I have called “bird’s eyes”, and of course buttercups and daisies.

When we really look at our surroundings there are so many different species of plants to be seen. I say plants not weeds, for all that is cultivated nowadays started life somewhere by being a wild flower.

Sadly I have become a little bit of a “sitting-room botanist” but why not put your powers of observation to the test next time you go for a walk, or a day out. Over the centuries, many of our flowers have taken on a public significance. “The rose of England”, the daffodil of Wales”, Scotland has the thistle, Ireland the shamrock. Then we relate Christmas with holly, mistletoe and ivy, Easter with primroses and lilies, and Palm Sunday with pussy willow and catkins, which give us the sense that Spring has arrived. Summer, well that is for daisy chains and plantain catapults. Autumn, conkers, hips and haws and so we come back to winter. Plants and flowers connect us with the seasons. In the Bible there are not many references to actual flowers, but it does speak of the farming year and agriculture,

and in the book of Isaiah chapter 40 it tells us that “All mankind are like grass; they last no longer than wild flowers. Grass withers and flowers fade but the word of our God endures for ever.”

Wrreathing honeysuckles, self entwined and twig entangled bush and briar o’er run. “Gather ye rose-buds, while ye may, old time is still a’flying and this same flower that smiles today, tomorrow will be dying”.

Probably because familiarity breeds neglect there are people who every day, and perhaps throughout their lives, pass by such beauty without noticing it, as if their eyes were shut. Only when asked to name or describe do they become aware of their lack of knowledge. With so much building going on around our villages the sad fact is that we are seemingly determined to destroy the ties which through the ages have linked man and nature. Cultivated gardens with manicured lawns are lovely but, “Here in the country’s heart where the grass is green, life is the same sweet life as it e’er bath been, trust in a God still lives, and the bell at morn floats with a thought of God o’er the rising corn. God comes down in the rain and the crop grows tall. This is the country faith, and the best of all!...so wrote Norman Gale.

Plants and gardens, overgrown cemeteries, thickets, and fields, avenues of trees, many a flower is contained by these “So the earth produced all kinds of plants; and God was pleased with what He saw”.

Pray don’t pass by the humble weed that in the hedgerow grows. Remember in God’s eyes it’s as lovely as a rose.

For He implanted loveliness in every single seed, **SO LOOK AND SEE THE BEAUTY, IN THAT LITTLE TINY WEED!**

Church Mouse

St Mary's Parochial Church Council met for the first time since the Annual Meeting and the main business of the evening was to appoint officers to the Council and sub-committee members. Following this we received the treasurer's report and were pleased to hear that changes to legislation concerning Gift Aid now enable us to claim back tax paid on cash gifts made through open-plate collections.

Catherine reported that plans for the proposed toilet extension and the process of obtaining a Faculty (official permission) are progressing well. She has had further discussions with the church architect and plans to meet with him and members of the project committee in June when they will also discuss the kitchen-in-a-cupboard proposal. Our projected date for completion of the extension is December 2014.

Another exciting development at St Mary's is the commissioning of a new altar table for the North Chapel. This will be of modern design but will reflect existing designs on the pulpit and choir stalls. This altar will give flexibility to our worship

as it will be possible to re-locate it when required, to the chancel step. A further faculty will be required for the project which is being funded by anonymous donors to whom we are extremely grateful for their generosity.

The PCC reviewed the House Groups which took place during Lent which were all well attended and enjoyed. They included one which met at Edlesborough Café on 3 Thursday evenings - this was a new idea for us and most successful.

Coralie said how much she had enjoyed the Easter services; the 10am service on Easter Sunday with many children present was a very happy occasion and the quiet reflectiveness of the Good Friday devotions which followed the more rumbustious but delightful happenings of Messy Church earlier in the day, was most uplifting. She is very pleased by the growth of Messy Church and TOTs and thanked all who are involved in making these happen. St Mary's is growing and developing and looking towards the future.

All Saints Church, Dagnall

2013 is a very special year in the life of Dagnall Church. This historic building first opened its doors one hundred and fifty years ago.

Originally a 'Chapel of Ease', built by Lord Brownlow in 1863, the building was later consecrated for the use of the Anglican congregation, before welcoming the Methodist church members in the 1970's.

The building is also the site of the first school in Dagnall, so has many links with the community.

We are planning a special service to mark

the occasion, which will take place on 3rd November 2013, at 4.00pm. We also wish to include reference in an exhibition, to special memories, photographs, events and celebrations that have featured our treasured village Church.

If you would like to have something included, or to find out more, please contact:

Rev. Coralie McCluskey: 01525 220261

Jenny Foale: 01442 842557

Vicky Lee: 01442 843361

More information will be published in future editions of Focus.



Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for April 2013

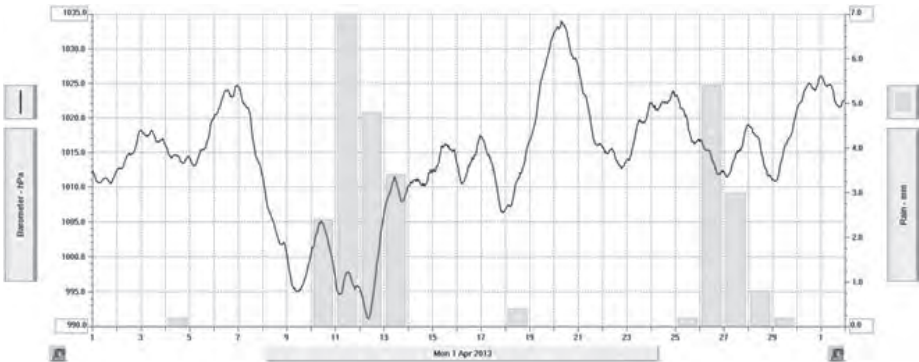
April is known for showers that bring forth May flowers but with only 27.2mm of rain it was dry, compared with 2012 which was one of wettest April's on record with 142.2 mm. It was not only a dry month but with the dominant wind coming from the East for the second month running it felt a cold month as well.

In the plot below I have shown the effects of a low pressure system coming across the UK. The barometer starts to fall on the 8th of the month and continues to fall bringing us rain for 4 days. For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk. If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: david@dagnallweather.co.uk or telephone: 01442 843883

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

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	21.3°C	25 April 15.00	-2.4°C	6 April 05.30
Mean Temperature	7.8°C			
Dewpoint:	13.2°C	24 - 25 April	-6.9°C	2 April 19.00
Humidity:	100%	6 April 07.30	30%	14 April 17.00
Barometer:	1033.2 hPa	20 April 03.30	991.2 hPa	12 April 08.30
Wind Speed	38 mph SSW	16 April 17.30	Months avg.	7.0 mph
Wind Chill:	19.8°C	23 April 17.30	-4.9°C	April 06.30
Dominant Wind:	E			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 11 (T), 11(R)	Wettest Day April		7.01 mm	0.276 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April 2013	27.8 mm	1.09 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Months	205.6 mm	8.09 ins

April's Pressure and Rain Chart



Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our next Cafe Worship Service will be held on June 9th at 10:30 am and led by Mr Bob Harris.

As is our custom our Cafe Community Lite Bite Lunches will not be held during July, August and September but will

recommence on Saturday October 12th from 11am until 1pm, when we look forward to welcoming friends old and new.

Our Cafe Worship Services will continue on the 2nd Sunday of each month throughout the summer as usual.

St Mary's Ladies Guild

Deirdrea welcomed members and handed out birthday cards to June Morton, Jean Bates, Dorothy, Barbara Ilic, Fay, Pam Courtice, Anne Hunt, and Wendy Watson. As it was also Deirdrea's birthday she was presented with a plant, and Happy Birthday was sung to all.

Devotions followed led by Christine.

Notices: The coffee morning raised £250 for RNLI, and thanks were given to all those who had contributed to this event. The Guild is now in a position to send £500 to RNLI as part of our mission project. Members were asked to suggest a new project for the next 12 months.

The cost of the outing to Stratford on Avon on 13th August is £18 and members were asked to let Jenny have payment in the envelopes provided at their earliest convenience.

The next meeting on 12th June will be a "Coronation" themed tea sharing event, with members requested to bring plated food enough for two people. The speaker will be Mr John Cornwall on Amnesty International.

The W.I. coffee morning will be held on 6th June 10-12 at the Eaton Bray Methodist hall.

Deirdrea introduced Paul Healey who gave a presentation on his visit, with a small group of people including two of

his sons, through and from Kathmandu (Nepal) to Lhasa (Tibet) on motorcycles. There were many slides accompanying this very interesting and humorous talk. The journey took them over high mountain passes at 13,000 feet, the road conditions were not good; a sea of mud in places. The accommodation they stayed in throughout the journey was less than comfortable, sanitation unbelievable (hole in the ground and in one location hole in the roof of a building) and water was scarce, the food was less than appetising and content a mystery. They witnessed preparations for funeral pyres and were amazed to find barley strewn over some roads so that traffic riding over it would thresh the barley. They visited monasteries, a carpet factory, and markets where beautiful wall tapestries and trinkets were sold, and a live animal market. The journey from start to finish took 17 days and Paul's final description was one of incredible scenery, strange food, unbelievable accommodation and dreadful roads.

Deirdrea thanked Paul for a very entertaining and interesting presentation. It was then time for refreshments and the raffle drawn before members made their way home.

World Challenge Ball at Pendley Manor



We just wanted to write to say a massive thank you to all the people who supported us in the Ball we held back in April. We had a fantastic night and thanks to all those who donated raffle prizes and Auction items we raised a massive £2700. This

would not have been possible without our friends and family helping and supporting us.

Thank you all so much.

✍️ Alex and Karen Mustoe

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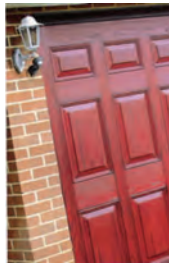


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