FOCUSDecember/January 2016

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



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Focus Magazine Committee

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Printed by: Priory Press Dunstable 01582 699851

Copy for publication to the Editors by the

10th of the month

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

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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.

Village Hall Bookings

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

Northall: Lorna Cubbage Tel: 01525 220361 Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 01525 222831 Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Police Contact Numbers...

making neighbourhoods safer together

General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999
Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson Mobile: 07800 703 524 Email: NHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

VIMAGG DIAKY DGG/Jan 2016

Weekly Mon-Fri

Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468

(term time)

(term time)

Mon-Fri Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816

358342 (term time)

Mon-Fri Edlesborough Pre-School, Edlesborough School, 01525 220431

(term time) manager@edlesborough.bucks.sch.uk

Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Lower School, Michelle Urbanowicz on Mon-Thu

(term time) 01582 668841

Pilates, 10.45am, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489 Mondays

2nd Eaton Bray Brownies, girls 7-10 years, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 6 - 7.30pm. Mondays

Contact Sandra Counsell 07979 521900 (term time)

Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm

Mondays Weight Watchers, 7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall

Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall Village hall 2-3.30. Mondays

Contact Jan 01442 864271.

Curtain Call Youth Theatre 5-7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Gavyn 01525 220525 Mondays Mondays

Curtain Call Theatre Group - 7:30-10:30pm Eaton Bray Village Hall, Sheila -

sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk

KFPA ISTD Classical Ballet classes, 3+vrs, 4.15pm, Edlesbrough Memorial Hall, Mondays

www.kfpa.co.uk

Tuesdays Line Dancing, 1.30-3p.m., Eaton Bray Village Hall, Lyn Stubbs 220731 Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680 Tuesdays

Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.30am, St. Giles Church Hall, Ruth Allen, Tuesdays

01525 222468 or 07796 265174 or email ruthallen002@gmail.com

Northall Baby & Toddler Group, 9:30-11:30am, (open in the Summer School Holidays) Tuesdays

Northall Village Hall, Stacey Richmond 01525 222999/07957 607592

Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Tuesdays

01582 620576

Tuesdays Circuit Training - Edlesborough School Hall, 7-8pm - www.simplesfitness.com

Buggy Push Fitness Class - Edlesborough Memorial Hall, 10:30 - 11:15am - www. Tuesdays

simplesfitness.com

Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall,

Booth Place, Eaton Bray Fortnightly

Weds Cheeky Monkeys Under 5's playtime, 1pm - 2.45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact

Rachel on 07789 760007 (term time)

Wednesdays Pilates, 7.15pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07799 893489

Wednesdays Egyptian Dance Class, 7.30-8.45pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall. Contact: Soraya on

07976 964316 for more details

Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Wednesdays

Contact Anna on 07854 230243

Dynamic Yoga 6.30-7.30pm £5 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936 693696 Wednesdays

Caterpillars preschool parent and child group 10:30am to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Wednesdays

Church, Moor End, Edlesborough £1 per family unit, Rebecca Dennis 07920 062248 (term time)

Yoga, Northall Village Hall, 11.30am-1pm 01525 377542 Thursdays

Thursdays Baby & Toddler Group, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 9.30-11.30am

Keep Fit, Edlesborough School, 8pm Tel: 01582 668735 Thursdays

Thursdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208

KFPA Street dance classes 4+vrs 4pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, www.kfpa.co.uk Thursdays

Thursdays Box-Fit - 7:30 - 8:30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall - www.simplesfitness.com

Thursdays Central Bedfordshire Children's Centres' Toy Library, 9-9.45am, Eaton Bray (School

Fortnightly Lane) Public Car Park Village Diary Dec/Jan 2016

Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village

Hall, 01582 620576

Fridays Keep Fit class, Edesborough Mermorial Hall 10 - 11am

Fridays "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes 10am-11.30am. Contact Emma Whittemore

(term time) on 01525 376124

Fridays Kids Club 6:00pm to 7:00pm Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough

(term time) (across from the post office) Frances King 01525 229610

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

Saturdays KFPA Musical Theatre classes 4+yrs www.kfpa.co.uk, 10am, Edlesborough

Memorial Hall

Sundays Sundays Worship at 10:30am and 6pm Grace Baptist Church, Moor End,

Edlesborough (across from the post office). Barry King 01525 229610 or Peter

Feben 01525 221048

Last Sunday Messy Church, 3-5pm at The Salvation Army Booth Place

Monthly

1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tayern

1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact

Margaret Jones on 01525 220991

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 Saturday St. Mary's church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10am - 12 noon

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

2nd Saturday Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern Keira 07936

693696

3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall

3rd Sunday Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288

Last Saturday Coffee Morning, 10-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church

Other Regular Events

11th Dec & 8th Jan Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am. All

welcome.

15 Dec Dagnall Over Sixties party, 1:30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Members only

17th Dec ELF Lunch Halfway House.Dunstable.1p.m.

3rd Jan Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton

Bray Village Hall

25th Jan ELF walk from Eaton Bray church, 9:30am

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

2nd Dec Christmas Bingo, 7:30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 01442 842404

4th Dec Edlesborough School Christmas Fayre, 2pm

4th Dec Father Christmas around Dagnall, 6:30 followed by Village Hall Light switch on 5th Dec Eaton Bray Methodist Church Coffee Morning & Craft Sale, 10am-12 noon 5th Dec Dagnall School & Under Fives Christmas Fair, 1:30pm, Dagnall Village Hall

6th Dec Dagnall Children's Christmas Party

Village Diary Dec/Jan 2016



One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

6th Dec Quiz Night, 7pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, Tickets from Janes

10th Dec Christmas Shopping Evening at Edlesborough Flowers, Janes & Seventh Heaven,

6-8pm

10/11th Dec Lions Santa Sleigh in Edlesborough (provisional dates)

12/13th Dec Crib Festival at St Mary's church, Eaton Bray
13th Dec Dagnall Carol Concert, 3pm, Dagnall Village Hall
14th Dec Lions Santa Sleigh in Dagnall (provisional date)
17/18th Dec Lions Santa Sleigh in Eaton Bray (provisional dates)
18th Dec Christmas Carols around Eaton Bray village, from 7:30pm
20th Dec Eaton Bray Methodist Chuch Carol Service 10:30am

20th Dec All Saints' Dagnall Carol Service 3pm

24th Dec St Mary's Eaton Bray Candle Service 4:15pm and 6pm

31st Dec New Year's Eve Party, 8pm to 1am, Bellows Mill, Tickets £60 01525 220548
9th Jan Music at St Mary's, Eaton Bray, New Year Concert, Tickets: £7.50 Box Office:

01525 222283

The Focus Magazine committee wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We thank you for all your articles throughout the year, and thank the volunteers that post Focus through your letterbox. We would remind you that the continued support of business advertising enables us to distribute the magazine throughout

the villages for free. Please contact Sally Siddons on 01525 221733 or email sallysid@hotmail.com if you are interested in advertising next year.



EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL



Please come and help to run your village **BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR**

The Parish Council is nine members of the public



We come to each Parish Council Meeting in the Coffee Tavern on the 1st Monday of each month and spend on average around five hours each month advising and helping to run our village.



At present we have a vacancy – will **YOU** come and join us?

If yes, please contact the Parish Clerk

You can also view our website for more details



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]



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the difference. Please help us to help
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25th Anniversary Charity Christmas Puzzle

This year sees the 25th Anniversary of the annual Puzzle set by Gordon Gray. The Puzzle is rated by participants as one of the most enjoyable (and devious) they have tackled and, with a theme designed to help completion, it will appeal to people who enjoy doing word puzzles. Puzzlers have plenty of time to find the answers and Puzzles should be returned, with a donation, by 24th January.

Four highest scorers will each receive a £30 prize. Everyone who enters will qualify for one of five £10 prizes.

Copies of the Puzzle can be accessed from the web at www.christmaspuzzle.co.uk. You can register early to receive a copy on the issue date of 8 December.

Over £63,000 raised for charity £5,900 donated last year

This year's puzzle will support five charities nominated by Puzzlers.

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS: 8.00am HOLY COMMUNIÓN

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



Remembrance Service at St. Mary's Edlesborough Closure of A4146 and High Street - A Big Thank You

The village Remembrance Service took place at the War Memorial on the Main Road in Edlesborough this year. As in previous years, we were allowed to close the main road through the village to allow the service to take place in peace and safety. There must have been about 250 - 300 people, including many children standing in the middle of what is usually a very busy road! We have several people to thank for making this possible.

First of all, it would not happen without the help of Will Pratt, our farmer in Northall, who lends us the use of his big trailer, and helps me to distribute the signs and manhandle them into their positions on the morning of the service - and then turns out to help me collect them all again later in the day. Many thanks Will - we could not do it without your help.

I would also like to thank on behalf of all the people who attended a peaceful service, the six volunteers who manned the barriers when the road was closed and coped with organising the diversion route and directing - sometimes unwilling drivers along it. So a big thank you to Jim and Norma Wright who held the fort at the Memorial Hall, Mike Scott and Vince Taylor, who kept the Northall end secure, and Bob Stilliard and Kevin Cubbage who manned the barriers at the Pebblemoor end of the closure.

Finally another big thank you to the three PCSO's who helped keep things safe at the top of the hill while the service was happening. It is very reassuring to have you all there, so thank you all very much. A big thank you to Penny Pataky, the Parish Clerk, for all her help in organising the barriers and contacting various people to ensure that the closure went smoothly. Also thank you to all the residents of Edlesborough who live in the area of the closure for your patience during the closure. I tried to make sure that the closure was widely published in advance and I hope that you were able to make suitable arrangements and that you were not too inconvenienced.

Next year, the service will be held at the Eaton Bray War Memorial.

A Letter from Revod Coralie

Vicar: Coralie McCluskey The Vicarage, 11 High Street, Eaton Bray - Tel: 01525 220261 Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd John Heffer

Honorary Assistant Priest: Revd John Ho Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

Church Warden: Catherine Hayden (220527) Email: admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

www. stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields keeping watch over their flock by night Luke 2 v.8.

Have you ever wondered about the Christmas Carols we sing at this time of the year? Whether you like them or loathe them there is no getting away from them beginning in the middle of November through to Epiphany on the sixth of January. We all have our favourites, mine is *Silent Night*. Why? It reminds me of the late evening starlit skies in Pembrokeshire when it was my turn to check the cattle in the nearby fields. I will always remember the cold no matter how many layers I was wearing but the silence and the clear starlight sky was mesmerising, a little bit of heaven come to earth.

The Twelve Days of Christmas, a fun song, not often heard in church was published in England in 1780, without music, as a chant or rhyme. It is a cumulative song thought to be French in origin. The twelve days start on Christmas Day, although in some traditions begin on December 26 (Boxing Day or St Stephen's Day). What do the various things represent?

1True Love refers to God

- 2 Turtle Doves refers to the Old and New Testaments
- 3 French Hens refers to Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
- 4 Calling Birds refers to the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
- 5 Golden Rings refers to the first Five Books of the Old Testament, the Pentateuch, which gives the history of man's fall from grace
- 6 Geese A-laying refers to the six days of creation
- 7 Swans a swimming to the seven gifts of the holy spirit
- 8 Maids a milking to the eight Beatitudes
- 9 Ladies dancing
- 10 Lords a leaping to the Ten commandments
- 11 Pipers piping to the 11faithful apostles
- 12 Drummers drumming to the 12 points of doctrine in the apostle's Creed.

If you don't want to sing *The Twelve days of Christmas* it's a useful resource for a quiz. There are many opportunities to sing Christmas Carols during December and then into January when we celebrate The Epiphany. The Churches together Christmas Card,

delivered to all homes in the 4 villages lists the

many Christmas services.

Have a relaxing, peaceful and love filled Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year.



oralie

Letter to the Editor...



Dear Editor,

I am the owner of a local cleaning company, 'Great Outdoors and In', which has been established since 2002. One of the key cleaning services we provide is 'Roof Cleaning and Coating' and over the years we have refurbished numerous roofs in local villages.

We have recently been contacted via a resident from the Orchards, Eaton Bray:-

He has had a 'door to door' canvasser, cold-calling and then a surveyor visit his property from a company called 'Roof Shield Solutions.'

During the 'hard sell', the company have told the owner that they have carried out the roof coatings in the Orchards. The resident knew that we had carried out coatings in his road, when he questioned the surveyor with this fact, the surveyor stated "we are affiliated with them". - This is a lie and complete nonsense. We are a family run independent company, and would never associate ourselves with other companies operating in this manner. On further investigation, 'Roof Shield Solutions' haven't carried out any coatings in this road.

If you have been approached by this company with similar false claims, please contact us as we are currently seeking legal advice.

Thank you for your time,

Regards

Mike Roberts, Great Outdoors and In, 0800 298 5883

Santa in residence at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo from 5 December 2015

Christmas is coming early at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, as the Zoo's magical Christmas grotto opens on Saturday 5 December.

Every weekend from

Saturday 5 December, and then each day from Friday 18 to Thursday 24 December, young visitors to the Zoo can **Meet Santa** and share their Christmas wishes in an unforgettably enchanting encounter.

Every child will receive a special gift and families can take away a festive family portrait. Mrs Clause will also be on hand with Christmas arts and crafts to keep younger ones entertained.

A **VIP Meet Santa** experience also launches required for the first time this year, the week before information Christmas. Lucky guests will get exclusive boots access to the Zoo before it opens, where org



they can see their favourite animals at first light.

Children will not only be able to meet Father Christmas and his elves but also catch sight of his

reindeer as they graze in their paddock. Having enjoyed an extra special Reindeer Talk, guests will sit down to a delicious breakfast.

From 5 December, ZSL Whipsnade's Zoo's magical **Meet Santa** and **VIP Meet Santa** experiences will give families yet another reason to enjoy a wonderful day with animals such as elephants, lions and hippos at the UK's largest Zoo.

Advance booking is required. For more information or to book, visit www.zsl. org









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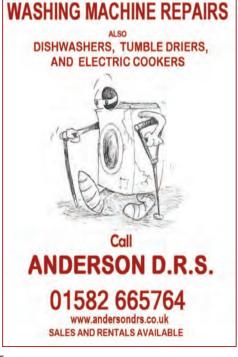
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Changes to Bus Services from 4th January 2016

In order to meet the requirements of the Medium Term Financial Plan which includes a reduction in the Local Bus support budget we have reviewed a number of subsidised bus services and identified journeys that can be revised or withdrawn with a low impact on regular passengers.

These journeys are largely at the beginning or end of the operating day and, when the "positioning" mileage the bus also needs to do is also taken into account, we will save over £10,000 p.a. I would point out that there are significant numbers of passengers travelling at other times on these services, both on peak time journeys and during the middle of the day and these journeys remain in place.

Service 162 Stewkley - Leighton Buzzard - Edlesborough

- 14:25 Bletchley to Leighton Buzzard Saturday journey withdrawn
- 15:00 Leighton Buzzard to Edlesborough **Saturday journey withdrawn**

An average of 1.5 passengers per day use these journeys on Saturdays.

Service 164 Aylesbury - Cheddington - Leighton Buzzard

• 16:30 Leighton Buzzard to Aylesbury on Monday to Friday will run as far as Cheddington

There are no regular passengers travelling beyond Cheddington

- 16:30 Leighton Buzzard to Aylesbury **Saturday journey withdrawn** *There are no regular passengers travelling.*
 - 17:45 Aylesbury Leighton Buzzard Monday to Saturday journeys withdrawn

All regular passengers can use other services.

Service 175 Thursdays only (Edlesborough – Dagnall – Hemel Hempstead)

• 09:00 return journey to Hemel Hempstead will be withdrawn

An average of only 6.7 passengers use this weekly service and all villages have alternative buses to Aylesbury, Tring or Leighton Buzzard.

Please note that Service 153, 154 & 167 continue unchanged.

Further information will also be available on the buses and on the BCC website www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport

Dunstable District Orbit Club

a quiz night at Northall Village Hall on 17th October. 11 teams took part and over £700 was raised and will be split between three charities:

- Cardiac risk in the young for heart screening
- · Arthritis Care
- Green House Mentoring who help young people with problems who need basic social skills and self esteem

Dunstable District Orbit Club held The money will be added to the charities a quiz night at Northall Village throughout the Orbit year.

Orbit is a social and charitable club and we meet every first and third Tuesday of the month at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. You will be given a warm welcome. For more information about our club, contact 01525 222441 or visit our website www.orbitclub.org.uk/dunstable.

SJill Richards, Publicity Team

Edlesbray Leisure Fellowship (FLF)

Hello everyone,

Autumn has arrived, Halloween has gone, Guy Fawkes night is over but Christmas will soon be here. Beautiful coloured leaves are falling, and plants are fast going to sleep for the winter. However, red berries are appearing to delight us.

There will be NO walk in December. The next one is on January 25th 2016.

The walk on Monday October 26th was led by Brian F. In pleasant weather, the group began at Whipsnade common and took the following route:- through the Church grounds to join Studham Lane, then the Zoo Boundary, Crossing Whipsnade Park Golf Club, through Mason's Plantation to Studham Village Green, then via Studham Church and back to the start. The distance covered was 4¾ miles.

Our Christmas Lunch on December 17th will be taken at The Halfway House, Dunstable. A report will be in the first edition of Focus in 2016.

A report of the walk on Monday November 23rd will also be in the first edition of Focus in 2016.

We wish everyone a Pleasant, Peaceful Christmas and we must all try to remember the reasons why we celebrate this Festival.

Also, we wish everyone A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2016.

Whatever your plans are, ENJOY.

December/January Dates

Thurs Dec 17th

Lunch Halfway House. Dunstable. 1 p.m.

Mon Jan 25th 2016

Walk from church 9.30a.m.

Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our visiting preacher on the first Sunday in October was Colin Quine, who drew his message from the life of Elijah, encouraging us to quiet, prayerful faithfulness which makes things work. On the second Sunday, Karen Drayton led us in a lively Cafe Worship and set up a challenging discussion on our attitude to possessions, reminding us to always be alert to material and other things which block us from full commitment to God. On the third Sunday, Robin Gurney made a welcome return to our pulpit. He fascinated the children by showing them a 'Promise Box', a family heirloom containing tiny scrolls bearing promises from the Bible. His message to the adult congregation concerned the difference between worldly greatness and spiritual greatness; Christians achieve stature in the eyes of God, not by seeking to enhance their own position but by serving others. Our Communion Service took place on the last Sunday, led as usual by our Minister, Rev Nigel Wright, who talked movingly of supporting our fellow human

beings and asked us the searching question, "Do we always do enough?"

Our Saturday Cafe Community restarted in October and was a happy, friendly event with a colourful craft stall, full of beautiful and skilled work for sale. Thanks to all who helped or attended.

Dates for your Diary:

Coffee Morning and Craft Sale Saturday 5th December 10am-12 midday Carol Service

Sunday 20th December at 10.30am





Comes to Eaton Evay

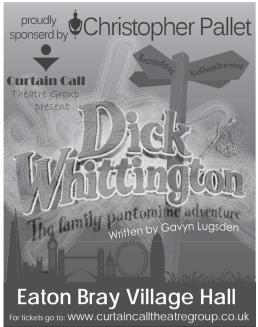
A purrrfect Tail of Guaranteed Family Fun

Last year we gave you a beanstalk that grew right before your eyes; this year we give you a cat with super powers. It can only mean one thing, the village panto is back... Oh yes it is!! Along with some of last year's favourite cast returning to the stage, this vear's panto also welcomes some new local familiar faces to the cast to give you this year's sparkling performance of Dick Whittington, the tale of a penniless boy and his loyal cat on their way to London (via Eaton Bray and Edlesborough!) to seek his fortune. I would like to write that his journey will be fairly straightforward but I've heard there's something lurking in the water at the ford in Edlesborough ready to stop young Dick's journey short.

Come and cheer, boo and sing along with us the last weekend of January as our magical story takes you to exotic lands and faraway places with plenty of slapstick comedy and dazzling dance routines and of course plenty of audience participation and find out if Dick ever makes it to London.

You can find out more and how to book tickets at: https://www.facebook.com/curtaincallLB/ Elle Laird

*Although we have already started rehearsals we would always be happy to welcome new members to join the chorus or backstage to help us with costumes and set design. We rehearse on a Monday night in Eaton Bray village hall from 8pm and would love you to join us.



Fri 29th Jan 7.30pm Sat 30th Jan 2pm & 7.30pm Sun 31st Jan 2pm & 6pm

Tickets: £7 Adults £5 Consessions





All Saints' Church, Dagnall

Services in December 2015 & January 2016

Services in December 2013 & january 2010		
Sun.6th Dec.	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun.13th. Dec.	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 20th Dec.	3.00 pm	Dagnall Village Carol Service
Christmas Day	9.00 am	Eucharist
	10.30 am	Family Service
Sun. 27th Dec.	10.30 am	Carol Praise
Sun. 3rd Jan.	3.00 pm	Covenant Service
Sun. 10th Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 17th Jan.	10.30 am	Family Communion
Sun. 24th Jan.	10.30 am	Family Service
	3.00 pm	United Service for the Week of Prayer for
		Christian Unity at St Mary's, Eaton Bray
Sun 31st Jan.	10.30 am	Morning Service
Sun. 7th Feb.	9.00 am	Eucharist

10.30 am Morning Service Sunday School meets each Sunday at 10.30 am except when there is a Family Service.



Appledown's Ressue Dog of the Month

This is **Oberyn Martell**, a German Shepherd aged about 5 years. Even though life has not been kind to him, Oberyn has a lovely temperament. He needs a special home with experienced understanding owners

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Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on the road towards Leighton Buzzard) Everyone is welcome to our Sunday worship each week between 11am and 12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to talk together.

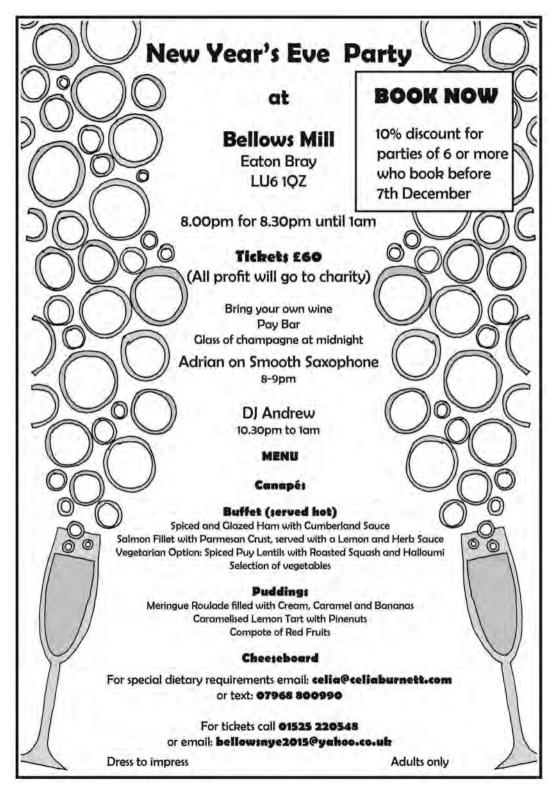
For more information contact: John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com 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. who will help him to gain confidence. He needs plenty of company but would not be suitable for a family with children younger than teenagers. Oberyn needs to be an only dog. We are sure this lovely boy will blossom in the right home.

If you feel you could offer Oberyn 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 are happy to offer advice and information. Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years of age. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website or call the kennels.

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The Friends Of The Church On The Hill, Edlesborough

Want to learn more about us?

St Mary's Church Edlesborough is owned by a charity known as The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). It is classed as a 'redundant' church, the ownership transferred from the Church of England to the CCT and the congregation was combined with the Church of St Mary's Eaton Bray. The church is still consecrated and there are several services held each year.

On the 1st March 2012, a group of local people, interested in helping to support the preservation of the building, met to learn more about the CCT and ideas for supporting the church. They formed a group known as The Friends Of The Church On The Hill, Edlesborough (FOTCOTHE) to help to meet the long term objectives of the CCT. We are not a religious organisation – we are a mixed group which includes the vicar and other committed Christians, Atheists, Agnostics and others. All are welcomed to our group regardless of their beliefs or lack of them. Our aim is to support this historic building far into the future.

When the EDaN Parish Plan was launched in 2008 one of the teams was set up to 'Beautify' the villages of the parish. That team proposed a plan to floodlight the church. This built on a plan originally proposed by Edlesborough Parish Council several years before.

In discussions with the CCT they made it clear that they were not prepared to support a 'one-off' project for the church. They wanted a long-term plan to engage the community and bring more people into the church. They also want the church open all day, every day. Since forming, the Friends have developed a long-term plan with the CCT to bring more people into the building. This is important as some of the government funding for the

charity is dependent on having the church open and used. The CCT has over 340 such churches across the country and they have been put to a variety of community uses. One in Bristol is used to train trapeze artists! The Friends of the Church on the Hill. Edlesborough has organised an annual music Festival in June that has been well attended for the past three years. Additionally, the Friends have organised the 'Heritage' event in support of the national 'Heritage Open Days' initiative. On those days at the church you will find details of the history of the parish and genealogy information on the people of the parish. The Friends also clean the church before each major event. The Friends have also planted daffodils on the bank around the War Memorial.

As part of EDaN, the Friends come under the umbrella of the parish council. The Friends group has its own trustees and has a membership scheme for those who would like to donate annually. The scheme is approved by HMRC for 'gift aid'. If you are interested please contact the Treasurer, wyn.

johns@gmail.com

By the time you read this the floodlighting project will have been implemented. The lights were turned on at approx. 6pm on Saturday 14th November. It has taken years of negotiation with the CCT but we finally got there. Significant funding came from the parish council since it was their idea in the first place. Added to that was money from the EDaN Beautification Team's Firewalking event that took place some years ago plus money raised by Friends events.

All the income and expenditure for the Friends is managed by the Friends for the benefit of the church. External scrutiny

comes from the EDaN Treasurer and the parish council as all transactions are recorded in the parish council's monthly financial statements. The parish council holds the funds raised by all the EDaN teams including the Friends' monies. Each team's costs and revenues are stated separately. For some events, the funds raised are donated to other charities. For example, the money raised at the Floodlighting switch-on went to Children in Need. Most of the funds raised by the Friends will be used to improve facilities at the church. In addition to the Floodlighting the plans include opening the tower to visitors, installing toilets, improving car parking provision for the Festival at the church, and much more. The Friends, with the help of Community Service people have also made a start on clearing scrub from the churchvard with the side benefit of revealing old gravestones. We also plan to create an online map together with names of all the gravestones that can be identified.

To keep up to date with all our activities and to explore the church online check out our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Church-on-the-Hill-Edlesborough and don't miss our website

either! http://www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk

You do not have to be part of the formal membership scheme to be a member. We need help of all sorts to put on events, clean the church, help with the projects. To get involved please contact us via our Friends administrator, **chrisroddis@hotmail.co.uk** If you would like to hire the church for an event please contact Abigail Rawlings, Administration Officer with the CCT. To contact Abigail please call 01223 324442 or email her on **arawlings@thecct.org.uk**

The next event is the Carol Service on Saturday 19th December at 3pm. Mince pies etc. provided by the Friends. See you there! The Friends would like to acknowledge the continued support of Edlesborough Parish Council on the grass-cutting of the churchyard and other activities to support the church. We also wish to acknowledge the outstanding support from Jack and Joan Horne as well as the ladies who organise the church openings on the first Sunday of each month in the summer. Jack, in particular, has been the local contact and caretaker for the church for many years.



Eaton Bray Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone and to every business that contributed to the 2015 Eaton Bray Poppy Appeal.

The total from the house to house collections and the boxes on the counters in the village came to £2,259.69. This is about £54 less than last year, which was a record year probably because that appeal took place in the centenary year of the start of WW1 and there was an awful lot of publicity about it. This year's appeal is still a sterling effort from everyone involved in Eaton Bray – especially those of you on the team who went out and

knocked on doors.

Our thanks also go to those who have stopped knocking on doors and a big welcome and thanks go to those who knocked for the first time this year.

We are not sure if the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal is organised in or covers Edlesborough in the way that Eaton Bray is. If any Edlesborough resident is reading this and fancies becoming an organiser, then please phone us on 221137 so that we may meet and show you what is actually involved.

News from the Lions Den...

We can't hide from the fact that Christmas is just around

the corner now and as a Lions club, this is always one of our busiest times. Community service projects are an important part of any Lions club program and we try and offer a wide range to cover all age groups. This month will be all about Christmas for us. Santa knows how reliable Lions are so he has asked us to help him reach all of the children in Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and the surrounding villages. He has given us special 'Santa Mail' post boxes which we will be putting in convenient locations. Children wanting to write to Santa with their wish list can deposit their letter in these boxes and a personalised letter from Santa will be sent by return.

There will be a post box in Edlesborough store, Eaton Bray store, Eaton Bray Academy & Edlesborough School

Please, where possible can you let us have your child's name and age so that we can tailor each personalised letter. This is a community service project that we are running so there is no charge for this service but as Santa is feeling the austerity pinch too, a stamped addressed envelope for our response would be most helpful.

In addition to this, we will be out and about with Santa and his sleigh across Eaton Bray, Dagnall and Edlesborough as Christmas draws closer giving the younger members of our community a chance to see Santa. We will be conducting bucket collections at these times with all money raised being donated back into local causes within our community.

The provisional dates for our sleigh runs (slightly weather dependent) are as follows:-

Edlesborough

Thursday 10th December Friday 11th December

Dagnall

Monday 14th December

Eaton Bray

Thursday 17th December Friday 18th December

For up to date information on our sleigh runs, please refer to our facebook page. As always, we are very grateful for any assistance on these sleigh run events so parents, friends or family who are able to come along for what's always an enjoyable evening, please do get in touch so we can advise you where we will be meeting for each of the nights given above.

Hopefully our efforts will make Christmas that little bit more magical this year for everyone in our villages.

The situation remains, that new members will always be made very welcome to our club so please do feel free to make contact in the usual way if you are interested in finding out more about the organisation and the work that we do by calling 01525 229656 or by emailing me at president@ebelions.org. uk. I sincerely look forward to hearing from you

. ≪Peter doing amazing things

St Mary's 100 Club

Congratulations to the following winners:

October 2015

1st Prize – Celia French 2nd Prize – Philip Gadd

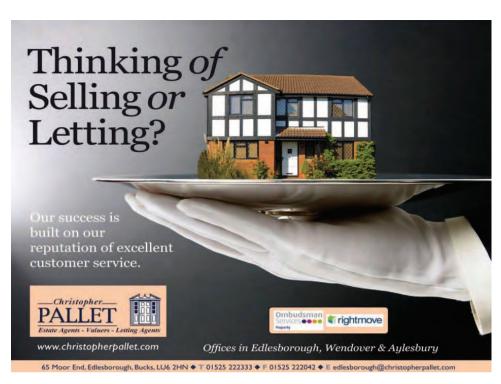
3rd Prize – Elisabeth Ryder November 2015

1st Prize – Barbara Morton

2nd Prize – Rosemarie Allen

3rd Prize – Roger Wilkinson

If you would like to join the 100 Club please collect a form from www. stmaryseatonbray.org.uk/Groups/100-club or from St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray.





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Dagnall School

On Friday 9th October Dagnall School became Dagnall Church of England School and we welcomed Bishop Richard of Bedford to our extra special Harvest Assembly

> at All Saints Church. Dagnall.

The service included spinning

dancing, a Harvest acrostic poem and some prayers written by the children as well as a talk about an onion from Bishop Richard. Something for us to think about! The Bishop then blessed the school and led us from the church back along the road and through the allotments.

card to each child with some wise words as a keepsake for the day. The Bishop was very interested in our small but welcoming school (any faith or no faith) and could readily

see how families from neighbouring communities

well as Dagnall. would want to be a part of the school. If you are interested in having look round please contact Mrs Bovington on 01442 842473

Our thanks to all the families and villagers

who have supported us in the consultation process and today. It was lovely to see so many of you celebrate with us at Church.

Edlesborough School

The Year 1 children have enjoyed learning about animals through our 'Fur, Feet and Feathers' topic. As they were aware that the Harvest had just passed, making less food available for animals, they made

> bird feeders to help. The children enjoyed to make these and took them home for their wildlife in your garden











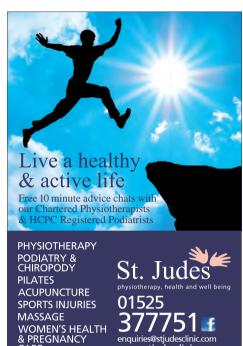






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Refreshments served all day - Lunches - 12.30 - 2.30pm



Admission FREE

Saturday 12 December

10am – Nativity performed by children from Eaton Bray Academy 10.30 – 11am - Mary and Joseph travel to St Mary's 11am – 12 - Nativity performed by children from Dagnall School and Dagnall Under 5s Playgroup

11.30 visits by local shepherds

Story telling:- 2 pm – Mary and Joseph

3 pm –The shepherd's story

4 pm - The wise man's story



Story telling:- 2 pm – Mary and Joseph 3 pm – The shepherd's story 4 pm – The wise man's story

6pm – Festival of lessons and carols





Christmas Eve Candle Services 4.15pm & 6pm St Mary's Church Eaton Bray



2.00pm Edlesborough School

It's coming to that time of year again where we all wonder what we are going to give our friends and families for Christmas. Let Edlesborough School take all your worries away with our amazing Christmas Fayre. All goods are made by our own students. This Fayre has proved to be very popular in the past so come early to avoid disappointment.

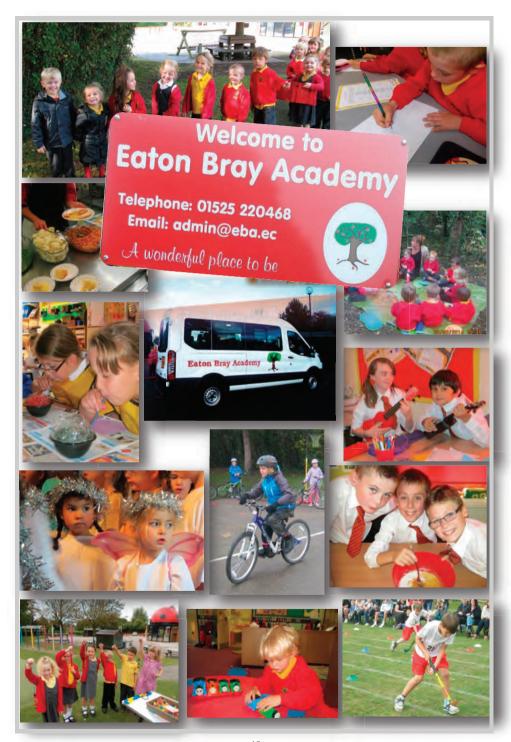
Dagnall School & Dagnall Under Fives

Christmas Fair

Saturday 5th December
Dagnall Village Hall
1pm-3pm

Lots of festive fun for everyone
Visit Father Christmas in his
magical grotto, games, crafts,
tombola, raffle with amazing
prizes, refreshments, homemade
cakes, gifts and craft stalls,
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and lots more.

The raffle draw will take place in the Red Lion, Dagnall from 8pm.





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Christmas 2015 in Dagnall

Friday 4th December
Father Christmas Around
the Village, 6,30pm
Father Christmas Switches on
the Village Hall Lights, 7.30pm

Other Christmas Events in Dagnall
Christmas Bingo, Weds 2nd December
Christmas Fair, Saturday 5th December
Dagnall Children's Party
Sunday 6th December (Dagnall children only)

Carol Concert, Sunday 13th December

Dagnall Over 60s Party # Tuesday 15th December (Members only)

Best decorated house competition Saturday 19th December

Carol sérvice at the church **

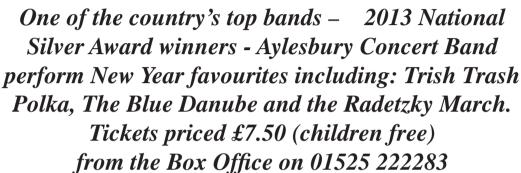
Sunday 20th Decémbér * .



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Celebrate Christmas with EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Enjoy ...

Christmas Carols & Brass Ensemble Around The Village



Friday 18th December 2015 - From 7:30pm

To help us all get in the Christmas spirit, the Parish Council have again arranged for the brass ensemble to play Christmas Carols around Eaton Bray on the evening of the 18th December.



The evening commences from 7:30pm at Three Corners moving to Market Square/White Horse at 8:15 pm.





CELEBRATE IN STYLE



The Lions Club of Eaton Bray & Edlesborough are delighted to partner MacMillan Cancer Research on the Mammoth Quiz 2016

> Friday 26th February 2016 **Dagnall Village Hall** 7.45pm

Teams of 8 players - £10.00 per person including a hot supper Cash bar available Raffle Prize for winning team All profits raised to be donated to MacMillan Cancer Research

> HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CANCER -JOIN YOUR LOCAL QUIZ EVENT Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017) Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604)

News from Santa



All GOOD boys and girls should now be compiling their wish list for Christmas for presents from Santa

These letters can be posted in Santa's special post boxes that can be found in Edlesborough Post Office Shop,
Eaton Bray store and Dagnall Farm Shop

The Lions will then transport every letter to Santa for him to respond to.

Parents, please refer to our news article in this magazine for more details

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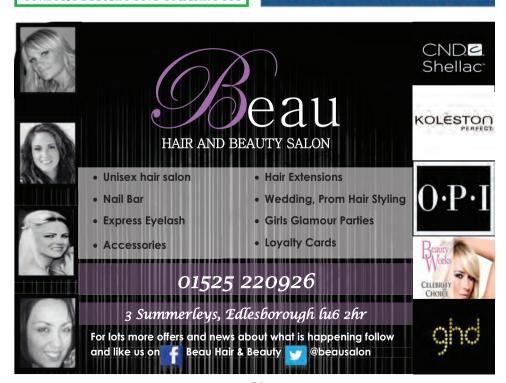


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Here are few tips to improve your posture and help your back when driving:

1. Ensure the controls are within easy reach.

Bring your seat forward so that you can easily reach the pedals without overstretching, 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.

Be 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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↑ www.stjudesclinic.com enquiries@stjudesclinic.com

The Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray Weekly Activities



Sunday

Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45-10.45am Morning Worship 11am

Messy Church 3-5pm
(Last Sunday of the month)

Songs of Praise 4pm

(3rd Sunday of the month from May to Dec)

Tuesday

Coffee Morning

(Alternate weeks) 10-11.30am Music practices (all welcome) 7.30-9pm

Wednesday

Home League 2.30-3.30pm

(Ladies Mtg but all welcome)

Champions Challenge Club (term time)

(Ages 5-10 years) 5.45-6.45pm

Thursday

Parent and Toddler Group

(*Term time*) 9.30-11.30am

Sewing & Craft Bees

(2nd Thursday of month) 7.45 pm

Ladies Fellowship

(Last week of month) 7.45pm For further details please call Envoy Hilary Chadwick. T:01525 222087 / 07932 057490

E: hilary.chadwick@salvationarmy.org.uk W: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/eaton-bray

Eaton Bray Parish Council

Highlights of the Meeting Minutes of the Eaton Bray Parish Council Held on Monday 5th October 2015 from 7:30pm at the Coffee Tavern

Central Beds Council (CBC) Councillor Ken Janes

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk - Customer Services: 0300 300 8302 / Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uK

 There was no representative from CBC in attendance.

Bedfordshire Police:

REPORTED CRIME – YEAR TO DATE		
RECORDED CRIME		
Crime Type	01/09/14 – 30/09/14	01/09/15 - 30/09/15
Violence against the Person	0	1
Sexual Offences	0	0
Robbery	0	0
Domestic Burglary	2	1
Burglary Other	0	0
Vehicle Crime	0	1
Other Theft	0	1
Criminal Damage	0	1
Drugs	0	0
Other Notifiable Offences	0	0
Total	2	5

ASB INCIDENTS			
Anti-Social Behaviour	01/09/14 – 30/09/14	01/09/15 – 30/09/15	
Total	3	10	

Eaton Bray has had 10 reports of antisocial behaviour this month.

- (1) 5x youth hanging around Wallace Drive, causing some issues
- (2) 3x noise complaints, Bottom Drive
- (3) 1x off-road motor vehicle going around the area
- (4) 1x street drinker

News from the team: If you wish to contact your Local Policing Team then please call 01582 473411 or email LPT. LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk. Non-emergency call 101/All emergencies 999

Vacancy - Parish Councillor

There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor on Eaton Bray Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the council please email the Parish

- Clerk or visit our website for more details.

Neighbourhood Plan: The first Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) took place on 28th September 2015; those attended were residents who put themselves forward as volunteers [15 attendees]. The PC will be obtaining professional advice in setting up a Neighbourhood Plan and funding for the plan is being looked into. Training is being set up for Steering Group members and the NPSG was on 26th October.

Speedwatch

Speedwatch are to be carrying out more sessions in the near future. However they do have vacancies for volunteers to help with the speed checks. If you would like to get involved, please contact Cllr. Mark Tomkins, email councillormarktomkins@gmail.com expressing your interest.

Christmas In The Parish

The Parish Council would like to thank all the businesses/individuals who sponsored the Christmas Wreaths last year, 2014. Due to the popularity of the Christmas Wreath's the Council are starting to collate requests for this year's Christmas Wreaths. To express your interest in sponsoring a wreath for Christmas 2015, please contact Cllr. Philip Spicer with your details: Email-philip.spicer@gmail.com.

Felling/Trimming Trees On Parish Council Land

The Parish Council wanted to remind residents of their policy with regards to trees on Parish Council land.

In line with procedures set out by Central Bedfordshire Council it is PC policy not to top/lop or fell otherwise healthy trees that would otherwise need no maintenance to alleviate problems such as: the build of leaves, seeds, berries or other minor debris on a neighbouring property; to allow more light to a property,

where the trees in question would not otherwise require any surgery; to improve television or satellite reception or to prevent roots entering already broken pipes. That if a tree/hedge does not have birds nesting or if a tree does not have a tree preservation order, the council will only work on it if there is a health and safety risk or the tree is diseased.

Notice Board/Market Square

The PC have considered the proposal to move the notice board on Market Square from its current position, not in the best position and spoiling the ambience of the square itself, to the other side of the road on The Pound (green space next to the bench/bus stop). It was agreed that this would be a more suitable location and are now in the process of organising for the notice board to be relocated to its new position.

Next Eaton Bray Parish Council

Meeting Date

Monday 7th December 2015; from 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 Tayern.

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] Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter. Keep up to date with what is going on in the parish.

Ecton Bray Parish Council Your Neighbourhood Development Plan

Since April 2012 communities, such as the villagers of Eaton Bray, have been able to lead future planning of their local area through Neighbourhood Development Plans if they receive a 50% yes vote in a public referendum. Eaton Bray Parish Council set up a Steering Group of Eaton Bray residents to draw up and write a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The Group has met twice to establish the way forward and as a result chosen three main areas to concentrate effort on with smaller focus groups, and those are as follows:

Community Facilities

Covering a diverse range of subjects from inside and outside recreational spaces to village events, and anything in fact that helps to maintain and grow a community spirit.

Environment

Includes; green spaces, green belt, and diversification of existing and new green space, ecology and sustainability.

Site analysis

Encompassing existing and planned housing

and developments, monuments, businesses, shops, etc. Design and development of spaces will include the relationship of space and properties occupying it.

The NP is not going to be just a building and planning guideline strategy document, but will also encompass many other criteria that will serve to help to put some heart back into the community. It is not yet clear exactly how long this project will take but is likely to be around 12 months before the NP is put forward for approval by Central Bedfordshire Council and followed by a referendum so that all the residents of Eaton Bray can approve the Plan.

The Steering Group will be reporting progress through the Focus Magazine so that residents can keep up to date. If you would like your voice to be heard, please feel free to attend the next Steering Group meeting. Meetings are planned for the last Monday of the month (excluding Bank Holidays) at 19:30hrs at the Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray.

Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Edlesborough Parish Council wishes all its parishioners a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Edlesborough Parish Council are pleased to announce the co-option of two new Councillors.

Cllr Scott Mineikis will join Cllr Mrs Trish Owen in representing the Ward of Dagnall. Cllr Mrs Christine Thomas will join Cllrs Alan Williams, John Wilkinson, Chris Nevard and Mrs Finola Woodhouse in representing the Ward of Edlesborough.

The Ward of Northall is represented by Cllrs Kevin Cubbage and Robert Pratt.

New Trees on Edlesborough Green



Permission is currently being sought from Bucks CC for the planting of trees and a bench on the grass area at the top of Cow Lane adjacent to the Chapel.

Any parishioner wishing to sponsor a tree should contact the Parish Clerk.

Thames Valley Police

PCSO Tina Hobson attended the October EPC meeting on behalf of Thames Valley Police and reported the following incidents/reports:

- · One fallen tree.
- One theft of cooking oil.
- Six reports of anti-social behaviour including:
 - One party.
 - · Two barking dogs
 - Three incidents at the same property.

Parking issues in the villages were also discussed. TVP can take action against illegal parking or parking causing an obstruction.

Changes to bin collection days at Christmas

Normal Collection Revised Collection Day Day

Friday 25th Dec Friday 1st Jan Tuesday 29th Dec Mon 4th Jan

Allotments

Following this year's collection of rents and renewal of allotment agreements EPC

currently has vacant allotments. Anyone wishing to take on an allotment should contact the Parish Clerk.

Your chance to shape the future of Aylesbury Vale

Aylesbury Vale District Council is asking local residents, businesses and community groups to have a voice in the future of housing, jobs and key policies, as consultation on the next stage of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) gets underway.

Following approval by AVDC councillors, a document setting out the issues and options for the VALP has been produced and is available to view at www.aylesburyvaledc. gov.uk/valp Residents now have until 4 December to view this document and give their views and ideas on what the plan should achieve, how new homes and jobs should be distributed, and what new policies could be introduced to manage development between now and 2033.

Councillor Carole Paternoster, Cabinet Member for Growth Strategy, said: "We need to build another 31,000 new homes in Aylesbury Vale by 2033 and the new Local Plan will provide the framework for how the Vale will grow and develop to accommodate this. It is really important that people take this opportunity to get involved by letting us know what they think about the different options we have identified and by raising

any issues they feel need addressing."

The Local Plan, which is still in its early stages will, once finalised, provide firm guidance on how planning applications should be considered and say where new development should or should not take place. This is the second public consultation stage in the new Local Plan's preparation and it includes nine potential options for distributing new development.

The options include developing urban extensions at Milton Keynes/Bletchley; using land more efficiently by raising the average density of new development; creating a whole new settlement somewhere in the Vale; and a combination of these.

People can view the consultation and give feedback via the website www. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/valp The responses received will inform the development of a draft local plan. There will be two further consultation periods prior to the Local Plan being considered at a public examination in 2017.



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If you are interested in renting a plot please contact the Parish Clerk on 01525 229358 or clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk for more information.

Speedwatch



The EDaN Traffic Management team are looking for volunteers to help man their Sentinel device. If you have an interest in slowing down traffic in the villages or are concerned about Road Safety please contact Louise Turner on 01442 834123 or by email at louisefanthorpe@yahoo.co.uk

Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings
The next Edlesborough Parish Council
Meetings will take place in Edlesborough
Memorial Hall on:

- Thursday 17th December 2015.
- Thursday 21st January 2015.

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

All Parishioners are welcome to attend and may ask questions, raise issues and give suggestions during the Open Forum before the formal start of the meeting.

The full minutes of the Parish Council meetings are normally available to view on the website or from the Parish Clerk.

Contact Information

Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council: Clerk: Penny Pataky 01525 229358 Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk Facebook:

www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil Please note office hours are Monday – Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm. Messages may be left on an answer phone outside of these hours.



Dunstable & District Local History Society

Tuesday 12 January, 7.45pm The Secrets of IQ Central

The underground communications centre at RAF Stanbridge was a crucial factor in establishing the code-breaking station at Bletchley Park and the Met Office at Dunstable. Paul Brown of Leighton Buzzard History Society, tells the story. Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable

Visitors always welcome £2

Neighbourhood Planning for Edlesborough Parish

At the parish council meeting in July your council agreed to make an application for the parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area. An application was made to Aylesbury Vale District Council(AVDC) for a Neighbourhood Area Designation and following a sixweek publication period it has been confirmed that we are able to take this forward to you, our parishioners.

Meetings are planned for the parish with two meetings in each village but parishioners are free to attend any of the meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to explain the requirements of a Neighbourhood Plan and to seek your help to develop it.

Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011. Communities can shape development in their areas through the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

Neighbourhood Development Plans become part of the Local Plan and the policies contained within them are then used in the determination of planning applications. Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders allow communities to grant planning permission either in full or in outline for the types of development they want to see in their areas.

It must be stressed that the policies produced cannot block development that is already part of the Local Plan, what they can do is shape where that development will go and what it will look like.

The new Vale of Aylesbury Local Monday 25th January

Plan(VALP) by AVDC development so we will have an idea of what is required of us. Our plan can be about more than housing development and could be seen as a strategic plan for the parish to cover the next 15 to 20 years. It can include such issues as commercial development. facilities in general. protection of the environment and so on. There is a wealth of information online under Neighbourhood Planning, Many parishes all over England are in the process of developing their plan or have developed their plan.

In 2008 we helped to bring the Parish Plan into being. In the plan there was mention of the type of housing you would like to see in the parish. The Neighbourhood Plan is different in three respects. Firstly, once created it has to be voted on in a local referendum. Secondly, it has to pass an independent test by a government inspector and thirdly, once passed it has support in law.

Without your involvement in the development and ultimately your vote we cannot do any of the above nor enjoy any of the development protections it brings. Please come along to a meeting to find out more about how it can apply in Edlesborough Parish. The dates and venues follow.

Thursday 14th January
Edlesborough Memorial Hall 8pm
Saturday 16th January
Northall Village Hall 3pm
Tuesday 19th January
Dagnall Village Hall 8pm
Saturday 23rd January
Edlesborough Memorial Hall 2pm
Monday 25th January

Northall Village Hall 8pm Saturday 30th January Dagnall Village Hall 2pm We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings and engaging with you to

Edlesborough Book Group

The Colour of Magic by Terry Pratchett / Skios by Michael Frayn

This month, we were given a choice of two books to read, humorous books that were completely different both in their writing style and the humour contained within. As humour is such a personal thing, the idea was to give us all a chance to read something that was in accord with our own taste. Unfortunately due to various difficulties the meeting did not take place, so the opinions of the group cannot be documented this month. However, here are brief summaries of the two books, so that perhaps someone will be tempted to start reading one or both of these two very popular authors.

The Colour of Magic is the first of the Discworld series and is the introduction to that very individual world. Somewhere on the frontier between thought and reality exists the Discworld, a parallel time and place much like our own, but looking very different. It is a place carried through space on the back of a giant turtle. But Discworld's serenity is being threatened by the imminent arrival of its first ever tourist, upon whose survival rests the peace and prosperity of the land. Unfortunately, the hapless tourist's guide is a very inefficient wizard and the story proceeds from there.

Skios by Michael Frayn is set on a Greek island where the Fred Toppler Foundation is preparing for its annual convention. Dr Norman Wilfred, an eminent academic, is flying in to give the main speech of the occasion. By chance, Oliver Fox a charming young ne'er do well, who lives by his wits is on the same flight. Due to a mistake made by the events secretary who has been sent to meet

Dr Wilfred, Oliver Fox assumes the identity of the professor and Dr Wilfred, minus his luggage is sent to another part of the island. The plot then relies on mistaken identity and misunderstandings for its comedy effect, which becomes more theatrical farce than comic novel. In fact it is easy to visualise this as a film, the twists and crises of plot seeming easier to assimilate that way rather than on the page.

However, Michael Frayn writes beautifully and his wit, directed at the idle rich, is made with humour and observation. This an easy read but the pace is rather frenetic and so it is recommended if possible to read it in large chunks in order to keep up with the many disasters and twists of plot.

London Luton Airport

With an increase in aircraft in the area and in particular when the wind is from the East, we are getting some aircraft flying directly over the village to join the flight path into the airport. If you are disturbed by the traffic flying over the village, there is a complaints hotline number: 01582395382. This is an airport number where you can register your concerns. It is important to do this if we are to reduce these disturbances over our village.

If you need to complain about Heathrow flight noise the number is 0800 344 844. Email: noise_complaints@heathrow.com

Eaton Bray W.L.

how they had sprung up in the disturbed ground of the burials

Deirdrea welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished Susan, Jill, Judy and Brenda a very happy birthday. Members were reminded of the Christmas evening on the 7th December. Toys and gifts for the Salvation Army collection for under privileged children at Christmas will be gratefully accepted at the December meeting. The group W.I. Christmas evening will be on 11th December at Caddington.

The speaker for the evening was Simon Gregor on Art and Remembrance. Simon is a professional photographer who, after many years working for the government, decided to leave the civil service and pursue his passion trying to create striking and memorable images. His speciality is architectural, historic/archival and event photography.

Simon gave a most interesting talk using images from the WW1 Battlefields of both France and Germany. He created his project to understand the conflict and the role of Remembrance, and to encourage others to share their photographs. Simon showed images from the book, 'Still Quiet on the Western Front' by Gene Smith 1964 which goes back to battle fields 50 years on. Simon had made many trips to the Battlefields and always with a photographer. He tried not to focus entirely on the cemeteries and some of his slides included The Angels of Mons, The Bowman, Arthur Makim, Ypres and One very sad headstone which read "Day by day how I miss you. Mum"

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

The sight of these delicate, vibrant red flowers growing on the shattered ground caught the attention of a Canadian soldier by the name of John McCrae. He noticed

disturbed ground of the burials around the artillery position he was in. It was during the warm days of early May 1915 when he found himself with his artillery brigade near to the Ypres-Yser canal. He is believed to have composed a poem following the death of a friend at that time. The first lines of the poem have become some of the most famous lines written in relation to the First World War.

The origin of the red Flanders poppy as a modern-day symbol of Remembrance was the inspiration of an American woman, Miss Moina Michael after reading the poem by John McCrae. After reading the poem she campaigned for several years to get the poppy recognised as we know it today.

By 1920 Moina Michael was beginning to lose hope that the Memorial Poppy idea would ever come to fruition. She was in a dilemma about whether to pursue her own academic career or abandon it in order to devote herself entirely to the Memorial Poppy campaign. However, in the early 1920s a number of organizations did adopt the red poppy as a result of Moina's dedicated campaign.

Margaret thanked Simon for his talk and the meeting continued with social time and a raffle.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners December 2015

£25 Mr R Roberts No.54 £10 Russ Bennett No.126 Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by Meadow Marquees, Houghton Insurance & Gastex Services



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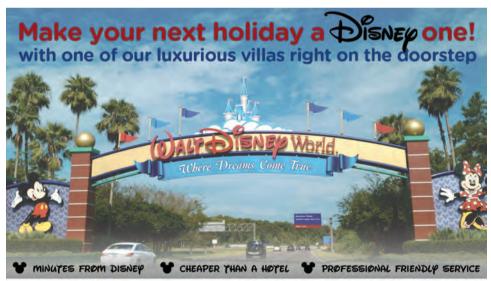
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Police Thank Residents for Petition Support

'Thanks for your support!'

That's the message from Police and Crime Commissioner Olly Martins and Chief Constable Jon Boutcher after a huge show of public support for a petition calling for more Government funding.

The electronic petition, launched just a few days ago, has already attracted more than 4,300 signatures – meaning it's well on its way to achieving its 10,000 target to ensure the Government responds to the petition. At 100,000 signatures, the petition will be considered for debate in Parliament.

Mr Martins has urged the public to spread news of the petition among family and friends, via word of mouth, telephone and social media, so as many people as possible get the opportunity to sign.

He emphasised that Bedfordshire Police has just 169 police officers per 100,000 population against the England and Wales average of 232 and 388 in the Metropolitan Police.

He added: "We have to make it completely plain to the Government that we as a county really value our police force and are not prepared to sit back and see it jeopardised by an unrealistic level of funding.

"The force has bent over backwards to make efficiencies, best use of technology and collaborations with neighbouring forces and partners, but there is a limit as to how much further we can go. We have been cut to the bone."

Mr Boutcher added he was 'overwhelmed' by the initial support shown by the public, saying it highlights an increasing public understanding of the position the force finds itself in.

He warned that with more cuts looming, he fears the force will become unsustainable and be unable able to deliver some services or respond to incidents in the way it currently does.

He said: "Bedfordshire Police has a proud tradition of protecting the public and fighting

crime, together. It means a lot to me, my officers, staff and volunteers to see the public rallying around to fight our corner.

"Bedfordshire may be a small county, but it is incredibly complex to police. We have an international airport, busy road network and some of the highest levels of gun crime, knife crime and serious acquisitive crime in the country and a level of terrorism that is only matched by Metropolitan forces, yet have one of the lowest rates of officers per head of population."

The PCC launched the petition after a letter from Policing Minister Mike Penning which outlined proposed "refinements" to the way in which central Government policing budgets will be allocated to forces.

Under the proposal Bedfordshire, which has long argued it has been unfairly treated by the funding formula, is set to receive no additional funds. By contrast many larger forces, with far more reserves, will.

Sign the petition here: https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/110333





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What: Fitness4Fun with Kay Where: Edlesborough Memorial Hall When: Every Friday, 10:00-11:00 am

75



Edlesborough W.L.

Our October meeting was held in the Memorial Hall on 13th October, when we

had the double pleasure of celebrating our birthday dinner and being entertained by our excellent speaker, Gail Stuart, daughter of Eric Morecambe, who spoke on the subject 'Morecambe Moments. Life With My Family'.

The interior of the Memorial Hall was a sight for sore eyes. The WI ladies excelled themselves at decorating the tables. However, particular mention must be paid to 'Pauline's Pots'. You did a marvellous job Pauline, thank you. Having enjoyed the delicious meal the ladies sat back and enjoyed a very amusing talk.

Gail started her affectionate talk by reminding the audience that it was thirty one years since her father died. We found it hard to believe. Gail spoke fondly of her grandmother, Sadie, who at 4 feet 10 inches was the tallest of her nine sisters and one brother and was the mother of Eric. Apparently she was the guiding light in helping Eric achieve his show business career. Gail made clear that her grandmother was not the 'pushy' character that some people had made out she was. Sadie and her husband George had been married eight years before Eric was born. George, at six feet two inches, was the polar opposite of his wife. He was a dapper dresser and resembled Clark Gable, George was a keen ballroom dancer who worked for the council digging roads. Later on he became the manager of the indoor market. George was always happy and contented. He was one of thirteen and had a brother who played rugby for England.

Gail firmly believed that her father would have been diagnosed as having ADD if the diagnosis had been available when he was a child. She also wondered if there was an element of Aspergers and being dyslexic. Her father had always been known for being a mischievous child. When he was three years old Eric was found in the middle of the road, directing the traffic. From the age of seven years he played truant from school and was often found entertaining the workmen on building sites. Throughout his childhood Eric was the best of friends with his cousin. The friendship remained even when his cousin was found blue and hanging from a tree; the result of the game they had been playing.

Sadie realized Eric was a live wire and that he would not be able to conform to an ordinary, everyday routine. A cousin of Eric's attended a dance class. Sadie took the opportunity and enrolled Eric. That was the beginning of his future. Eric was told he had talent with his dancing. Sadie took numerous jobs in order to support her son. He was nine years old when he started in show business. Eric kept winning competitions and so came to the attention of Jack Hilton when, aged thirteen, Eric auditioned for a show at the London Palladium. At the same time, a young lad was living in Jack Hilton's house. That lad was Ernie. A very successful song and dance performer. Sadie was besotted with Ernie because he was everything that Eric was not. Gail informed her audience that next year will mark the 75th anniversary of Eric and Ernie performing together. When Eric was 21 years old, Sadie wrote a letter to Ernie, asking him to look after Eric; which he did. However, the war occurred and separated the boys. Ernie went into the navy and became a cook. Whereas, Eric became a Bevan Boy and went down the coal mines. After the war the boys found themselves working for ESNA in the same circus. From then on they worked as the straight man / funny man team. They had mutual respect for each other and never produced sub - standard work. Those were the reasons why their partnership lasted 45 years.

Eric was five feet ten inches and weighed only nine stones when he married in 1952. Gail's mother was a beauty and tall at five feet ten inches. She was starring in Gypsy Rose Lee, having taught herself to play the piano, sing and dance.

Gail was brought up in a loving and close knit family, where her paternal grandparents played a significant part. She told us the tale of the day she started school at the age of five years. Her grandfather George took her on the bus, a very busy bus during the rush hour, packed with men going to work. Her grandfather informed her he wasn't sure whether or not he would be able to take her all the way to school or meet her at home time. In fact he had to get off the bus before they reached the school. Before leaving her, George told her to, "follow the kiddies." She did and managed to get herself home as well.

Gail described her childhood in one word, 'embarrassing', particularly during her adolescence. She described at length her father's antics and humorous remarks, which

had the WI ladies in tears. These included the time when a prospective boyfriend phoned up to speak to Gail. Eric said he was very sorry but there was no phone there. On another occasion Gene Pitney, a favourite of Gail's, was appearing on stage and she was in the audience. Eric was on stage with his camera, which did not work. He announced to Gene, in front of everyone, that Gail loved him. Another really embarrassing time was when the family was seated on a plane waiting to fly off on their holiday. On the same flight was Tom Jones. There was a long wait before Gail's family had to gather up their belongings in front of the entire plane and walk off because they were on the wrong plane. Finally, Eric was very fond of appearing unexpectedly in front of his children. Apparently, one of his favourites was to step out of a hedge whenever his son was off to play football with his friends. His son used to ask, "Whose father does that?" Gail told us it was a man whose second nature was to be naturally funny.

Thirty one years after his death, Eric Morecambe is still remembered with great affection by many people.



Degrall Community Choir

The choir have had a busy time of it in the last few weeks. Towards the end of October we staged our now annual Autumn

October we staged our now annual Autumn Concert at Eaton Bray Village Hall. I am pleased to say we received a number of positive comments on our performance, which is encouraging. Then on November the 7th we again took part in the Poppy Prom at St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray. This was, as always, a wonderful occasion to be part of, I am sure the audience went home with happy hearts. We in the choir certainly did.

Our final appearance for this year will be our Carol Concert at Dagnall Village Hall, commencing at 3 o'clock on Sunday 13th December. We will be serving mulled wine, mince pies and nibbles. Father Christmas is expected to be putting in an appearance. This Carol Concert is free to all, however due to the size of Dagnall Village Hall numbers will be limited, so should you wish to be in the audience for what promises to be a wonderful afternoon, please telephone the box office for tickets on 01525 220189 or speak to any member of the choir.



Ecton Bray Lawn Tennis Club

The brilliant coaching work of Sara Leavy & her trusted band of

helpers continues.

That comment was made in the October article in the Focus magazine. Good news within the Tennis community travels fast & in support of our "in house" opinion we recently received an email from the Chair of Awards Panel for the Bedfordshire Lawn Tennis Association advising that Sara Leavy had been selected as the Bedfordshire County Winner of the Aegon British Tennis Coach Award and as such her name will go forward as a County winner to a Regional Award selection process whereupon the Regional winners will progress to be judged for the National Award.

Sara also received an invite to the County's Presentation Evening to be held in mid -November at Venue 360 in Luton as a guest of Bedfordshire Lawn Tennis Association to receive her award.

So where did Sara come from?

She started playing tennis at the age of 4 when her mum took her to short tennis at Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre. She joined Linslade Tennis Club when 10 years old and represented the club for 8 years supporting both the junior & adult teams. Aged 12 Sara started playing for the Bedfordshire senior teams and has continued up to the present time. She is now coach and captain of the U12-18 county girls' team & captain of the county ladies team.

At the age of 18 Sara gained a tennis scholarship to America for 4 years where she attended the University of Tennessee at Martin. Throughout her college career, in a team of 6-10 players, she continuously played at No 1 and / or No 2 position in both singles and doubles & was awarded Freshman of the Year at the start & Athlete of the Year in her senior year recording a

10-0 record within the Conference. Sara is currently the Bedfordshire ladies County singles & doubles champion in addition to holding similar titles in South Bedfordshire. Sara gained her tennis assistant qualification when 16 years old and helped out at Linslade for several years. Whilst in America she attended Malibu Tennis Camp where she worked with John McEnroe's daughter, Arnold Schwarzenegger's son & many more such names. Not surprising then that Sara had said to her U.K. friends "I'll be back" and she returned in 2010 and gained her PTR qualification & LTA level 3 qualification & licence two years later. Sara has recently upgraded her qualification to an LTA level 4 Senior Club Coach.

Sara recently became involved in disability tennis & has set up many sessions throughout South Bedfordshire for visually impaired, deaf, learning difficulty as well as wheelchair tennis.

No surprise then that some of the *Sara gold* has rubbed off on to the junior members of Eaton Bray Tennis Club & as recorded in the last article, recent results in the South Bedfordshire junior leagues have been most impressive. Girls U16 & Boys U14 winter league winners 2014/15; Girls U16, Boys U16 & Boys U12 summer league winners this year. More junior trophies to collect at the Presentation Evening than Dunstable, Flitwick or Luton & Vauxhall. Congratulations too to the Mini Green, Mini Orange & Mini Red players who have been a credit both to Sara Leavy & to our Club.

Keep an eye out for Max Freebairn, Philip Clarke, Ben Williams, Laura Williams, Rosie Dickson, Heather Kerr, Cameron Brown, Thomas Noithip, Finlay Tarvit, Theo Delahunty Nicholas Clarke, Jamie Williams, Ben Wagstaff, Lewis Brown, Alex Delahunty, Ethan Brace, Alex Sherwood, Hannah

Johnson, Keir Langford, Sam Johnson, Leon Dixon & Xavier Hendicott as they may feature strongly in future competitions, both in-club & in the South Bedfordshire Leagues. The final placings for the three senior teams are now known.

Men's A Division 3 champions. Men's B Division 4 champions. Mixed team 7th in Division 1 & relegated. No disgrace as the top section was always going to be a difficult place to stay.

Even within our relatively small club we have an age range of players spanning 70 years. Success at junior level courtesy of Sara Leavy & her youngsters and with Debbie Williams continuing to organise the fixtures. Success in the open divisions thanks to players who turn out in summer & winter, in rain or sunshine. Success. Maybe too strong a word achievement in the senior county teams with Roy Cook travelling the country with the Over 65ies and Peter Hale representing the Over 70ies. I had the honour, today, November 6th 2015, of being a member of the Bedfordshire Over 70ies Tennis Team which reached the National Final of the Senior Inter-County Championships for the very first time, the event taking place at the David Lloyd Centre in Dudley.

A mention here of Stuart Adolph, our outgoing chairman who has helped to keep the club running smoothly over recent years, also of Marion Wright who, like Debbie, goes quietly about her tasks without complaint. Thank you.

To conclude, Eaton Bray Tennis Club continues to prosper at all levels & to provide coaching, social & competitive tennis to the local community. New members are always welcome. Information is available on our website ebltc.org.uk

MARCAT LIFEDOS POFC

Everyone involved **EDaN** Community Transport would like to wish all our passengers a very Happy

Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Thank you also to all our drivers and all the people involved in the running of our scheme. If it wasn't for the wonderful people we have in our 3 villages this scheme would not be operating.

Special thanks to Peter Williams for running the scheme on a day to day basis and to Viv Hill for taking care of the money side of things. Let's hope that 2016 is as successful as 2015 has been!!

Please, it really would help us if you would consider becoming a volunteer driver and joining our friendly team. The next couple of months can be our trickiest with the ice and snow, so please consider helping us out, if only on a temporary basis, in the bad weather, if you have a 4x4 vehicle.

If you would like any further information about the EDaN Community Transport Scheme, whether you are a driver or a passenger, please get in touch with me.

Kathy Bovington on 01442 842796 or 0779 0537032.

If you are a villager in need of transport, please call:

Peter Williams on 01442 842506

remember 48 hours minimum notice required

EDaN Community Transport volunteering in the local community

who collected for/donated to This year we raised £810.05 the annual Poppy Appeal for the Mrs Pat Bleakley

I would like to thank all those Royal British Legion in the Dagnall Area.

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

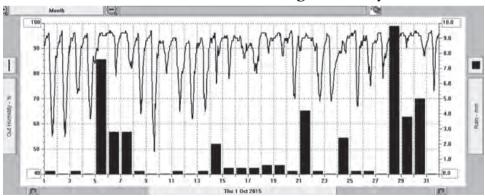
Weather Conditions for October 2015

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

October was a relatively mild month with temperatures remaining fairly constant. As normal, the highest and lowest temperatures were poles apart high 21.1°c, low 1.4°c. The rainfall was 25% below the 8 year average with only 44.6mm which mainly occurred from the 5th-7th and again at the end of the month. You will see from the plot below the number rain days but that's not quite right. The rain gauge is so accurate it measures in 0.2mm (1/128 inch) segments. At this time of year when the humidity is high, temperature and dew point lower we have misty, foggy mornings. This moisture commonly known as dew collects in the gauge and is recorded. Although it as recorded 23 days only 14 were actual rain days.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	21.1°c	2 Oct 15.30	1.4°c	25 Oct 07.30
Mean Temperature	10.9°c			
Dewpoint:	15.5°c	12 Oct 13.30	0.9°c	6 Oct 07.00
Humidity:	97%	On 8 days in Oct	49%	9 Oct 15.30
Barometer:	1032.8 mb	1 Oct 00.00	993.8 mb	6 Oct 16.30
Wind Speed	31 mph SSE	30 Oct 07.30	Months avg.	4.6 mph
Wind Chill:	19.9°c	Oct 15.30	1.5°c	25 Oct 07.30
Dominant Wind:	E			
Rainfall * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 23(T), 14(R) Wet		test Day 28 Sept	9.8 mm	0.350 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	Oct2015	44.6 mm	1.756ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	Month	525.3 mm	20.681ins

Plot shows rain / dew & high humidity



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 1 mins, visit: http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall this site forecast and much more and the original site 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. Dagnall weather now has an app for your ipad & iphone! Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.



How to be a Careful Consumer Online this Christmas

The internet has been with us since the mid 90s. Whilst it has of course brought some fantastic benefits to our lives, it has also

created some absolute headaches as well. The fact the entire world is accessible in our homes is a wonderful thing, but it is worth noting that there are lots of internet companies out there, particularly those in other countries that can provide a less than desirable service. So how can you protect yourself against these companies, particularly when making purchases for Christmas?

The most important thing you can do, is to of course avoid buying items from dodgy internet companies in the first place. It sounds simple, but you'd be amazed how many people still find some weird company online that nobody's ever heard of and hand over hundreds of pounds. They are then amazed when they find themselves out of pocket without the goods they've ordered. Therefore, always make sure you research the internet company you are planning to buy from. Find out where they're based, look for a UK telephone number, check reviews and complaints about them so you know exactly who you're dealing with. Ensure that their delivery timeframe will ensure your gifts will arrive in plenty of time for Christmas.

Make sure you're paying a sensible price. If a company is selling an item at a ridiculously low price compared to all other companies, there's usually a reason why. Often the items are fake. Over the years I'd dealt with my fair share of customers who thought they were getting a great deal with 'Ugg boots' or 'GHD hair straighteners', only to find they've bought fakes from a company abroad.

You should always pay for goods by credit card but particularly when buying over the internet. It is worth noting that you are not protected by the consumer credit act unless you're paying over £100, but you're still more likely to get your money back than debit card, cheque or bank transfer. I would go as far as to say you should NEVER buy goods from a company that asks you to transfer money directly into their account. If you decide you're going to buy Christmas presents from an online auction site like ebay, it is worth familiarising yourself with their safety advice. You generally have fewer rights when buying goods in this way, particularly if they are second hand. Paying by paypal and ensuring that you NEVER collect items in person will go some way to protecting yourself. Only buy from highly rated sellers, based in the UK. It is worth remembering that when you buy brand new items over the internet, you are protected by the distance selling regulations. Because you haven't had the chance to see the item in the flesh, you have 7 days from delivery to change your mind and send it back for a full refund. Unless the company specifies their returns postage policy, then they are liable for the postage too. Make sure you order things online in plenty of time to allow for this, after all, you don't want unhappy friends and relatives whose presents are NOT under the tree.

Jonathan Vernon Smith is the Sony Award winning mid-morning show presenter for BBC Three Counties Radio. During his consumer hour he helps listeners with their

consumer problems and now shares his advice with you.





Salvation Sound



A Christmas Carol...

Dark was the night, a single lamp shed a ray of light;

Bitterly cold, the wind did blow, harbinger of winter's snow.

A group of children, standing there, heads were bowed in silent prayer.

The only sound, the stamping of feet, as they tried to generate some body heat.

Suddenly they burst forth in song, it sounded like an angel throng -

Their voices raised, in carolling, singing praise about an infant king.

The time of year...

It was the eve of Christmas Day; The night when Santa would ride his sleigh -

Passers by hurried along, called to church, by the bells ding-dong -

Into that holy place they went, some a year of sin to repent!

Because it was the place to be seen - But what to them did Christmas mean?

The story goes on-

The children in their innocence applied no claim to their pretence;

The coppers collected in their ploy, afforded them so little joy.

They went home to a damp, dark, hovel,

Where on bended knees did grovel, to find a sacking bed upon the floor,

Whilst wind whistled strong, through cracks in the door

So dawned the longed for day, I wonder for what did the children pray?

For a fire? a bucket of fuel? or a loaf of bread to supplement their gruel?

Joy to the World...

Oh you, who with annual cheer, wish to each other "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year"

Would you welcome a poor child in, think to yourself "What can I give to him?"

As you partake of your Christmas Fayre,

I want you each one to be aware, of those who are in need this day -

Then some of your blessings you can repay.

Back to Bethlehem...

Long ago, one early morn, Our Lord in Bethlehem was born; he entered our world, this child, a stranger, and lay sleeping in a manger.

He came to bring us light and love; God's gifted Son, from heaven above;

And still today the prophet's message rings; That He will come again, as King of Kings -

No Vacancies!!

The sign that greeted Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. That experience was the symbol of things to come. Jesus found no room in the hearts of many throughout his ministry and continues to find no room in the hearts of many today. We may imagine that we are different, the truth is most of us only half-open the door.

How will you respond to God this Christmas?

Remember "He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not recognise him". John 1.v10.niv. Our prayer should be "Teach us that the glad tidings proclaimed at Bethlehem all those years ago is 'good news' for us today, here and now" Amen.

Charles Dickens wrote of Scrooge that in the end "He knew how to keep Christmas well" - "May that be truly said of us, and so, as Tiny Tim observed. God bless us, Everyone".

≪Maureen



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