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NOTICE TO FOCUS READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

One of our team, George Crutcher, will be giving up the role of joint Editor on 15th June 2016. He will continue in his role for the June and July editions of the magazine, so contributions for those can still be sent to him. Thereafter all contributions should be sent to Sally Siddons. In the meantime the committee will be looking for a new joint Editor and his or her contact details will be published in the magazine in due course.



The 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

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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.

ÆEditors

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Diary May 2016

Weekly

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

(term time) Mon-Fri

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

(term time) 358342

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

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

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

(term time) Contact Sandra Counsell 07979 521900

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

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

(term time) Contact Jan 01442 864271.

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

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

sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk

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

www.kfpa.co.uk

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

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

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

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

01582 620576

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

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

simplesfitness.com

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

Fortnightly Booth Place, Eaton Bray

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 to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Church, Wednesdays

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

Wednesdays Pilates 6.45-8.45pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Andrea on 07855 138005 or andrea@

naturalpilates.co.uk

Art of Ju Jitsu martial arts class, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 7 -7.45pm ages 6-15yrs Wednesdays

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

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

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

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

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

Circuit Training - Edlesborough Green - 7:15 - 8:00pm - www.simplesfitness.com Tae Kwon-do, Dagnall Village Hall, 5.45-7.30pm 07813 755785 Thursdays

Clubbercise 7.30 - 8.30pm. Eaton Bray Hall - Gina Flitton 07846421756 Thursdays

Mare Diary May 2016

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

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

Hall, 01582 620576

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

Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, Fridays

10-11.30am, £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6months

free

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

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

Memorial Hall

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

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

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

Monthly

1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except January-

2nd Monday)

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

Margaret Jones on 01525 220991

Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby 1st & 3rd Tuesday

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

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

Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Lions Club, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern 2nd Wednesday

CAMEO Coffee, tea & chat, 10am-12noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church 2nd Thursday

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

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

Last Saturday Coffee Morning, 10:30-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church

Messy Church, 3-5pm, Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, 07932 057490 Last Sunday

Other Regular Events

1st Beds Area Narrow Gauge Model Railway Club Meeting, 11.30am-4.30pm, Eaton

Bray Village Hall

7th Cafe Community, Eaton Bray Methodist Church, 11am to 1pm

Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning, 2 Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 am, All 13th

17th Dagnall Over Sixties meeting; Ploughmans lunch in the village hall at 2pm follwed

by Bingo with Christie Smith.

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

EDaN Beautification Team Car Boot Sale, Edlesborough Green, Sellers 8:30am 2nd

£10 per car, Buyers 9am to 12 noon

Music at St Mary's Eaton Bray Caduceus Brass Quintet, 7:30pm, Tickets: £7.50 7th

Box Office: 01525 222283.

8th Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels Fun Dog Show, 11am

Village Diary May 2016

One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

10th-21st Bringing in the May Art Show, Tues to Sat 10am -4pm, Upstairs Gallery 268 High

Street, Berkhamsted

14th Plant & Teapot Sale, 10am to 3pm, Valley Farm, Valley Close, Studham

15th Ashridge Spring Plant Fair, 11am - 4pm, National Trust Ashridge Visitor Centre,

Monument Drive, Ringshall HP4 1LX

15th Great British Tennis Weekend, 2-5pm, Eaton Bray Tennis Club

15th - 21st Christian Aid week

MICHAEL McCLOSKEY

June 1949 - February 2016

Theresa and family would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and kindness received at Michael's recent death. They were much appreciated by us all.

NORTHALL & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN

(The Wednesday Club)

Annual General Meeting Thursday, 9th June 2016

At 7p.m.

Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray

Members of the public are invited to attend



Stay & Play Toddler Group

Musical Monkeys

Eaton Bray Village Hall 10-11.30am on Fridays

£4.50 for one adult and child £1 for extra children/adults 0-6 months free

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

Village Notices

Front cover photo: Whipsnade Zoo Butterfly House by Shelagh Bagni



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it at my house. Please
phone 07882731203 to
claim.
Mr Brammer



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Please call:
07734 111654

Village Hall Bookings

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

Northall: Lorna Cubbage Tel: 07587 318696 Email:northallyhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 01525 222831

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

Dagnall: Elizabeth Coates Tel: 01442 842550

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Police Contact Numbers...

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

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: LPT. Leighton Buzzard Linslade & Rural @bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

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



We believe in life before death!

Then - Feroza Begum and her family were flooded out of their home five years ago. Income 66 pence a day! "I feel like crying when I think of those days" says Feroza.



Now - four years on with the

help of Christian Aid in training, cattle and poultry her current assets are more than £3,500!

Now - Feroza has status in her community, owns land, and is ambitious in her dreams and hopes for the future - "There is no sign now of that time I struggled a lot"

This is just one story of success of **Christian Aid** at work in over 60 countries and your gifts, always goes direct to the people in need – not to governments.

All are welcome to Afternoon Tea at St Mary's on Saturday, 14th May from 3pm – good talk and food for thought!

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May

A Letter from Reved Corafie

Vicar: Coralie McCluskey

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

Reader: Gordon Gray (220136)

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

www. stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

Christian Aid Week runs from 15th – 21st May and the familiar Christian Aid red and white envelope will once again drop through your letter box and the hope is that every household will contribute something to helping those in dire need across the world.

The theme this year is **Love your neighbour**. Jesus calls us to love our neighbour as ourselves but not just the ones who are like us who live next door or take the same Newspaper. There are many biblical references stretching back to Leviticus 19 v.18 *You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the LORD*.

I am sure that there are times when all we find it difficult to love some people. This may include family, neighbours, work colleagues or the person sitting next to you in Church or at a Parish Council Meeting to name just a few. One of my daughters when she was about 8 years old came home from school and announced that she and her friend did not quite like another girl in their year group to which I replied, "pardon could you repeat that please". She replied, "I'm sorry I don't like her that much but I do love her in the way Jesus loves us".

This year's Christian Aid Week focuses on Morsheda, a young mother of four living in Bangladesh. She has no land, few assets and no savings. For Morsheda's family living on low-lying islands in the Brahmaputra River, floods are a terrifying part of everyday life. Morsheda cannot even count on having a safe place to call home: the single-room, corrugated-iron house she shares with her children has been flooded four times. "I feel very scared of the river. When I look at it I keep thinking it is coming" she says.

Very few of us probably have much experience of major flooding and the havoc that it can create. Last winter however opened our eyes to the devastation that it can cause. News headlines included, Communities in Cumbria have been flooded again, some for the third time in less than a month, following torrential rain and high winds. Worst affected have been the Appleby, Keswick, Kendal and Glenridding areas, where river levels have risen. Defences in Appleby were breached when the River Eden burst its banks, flooding 40 properties and prompting several rescues.

Morsheda and her children live a precarious life. They know that the floods will come again, and soon. Just £250 is enough for a Christian Aid Home Safety Package. It could flood-proof Morsheda's home, raising it eight foot on an earth plinth, so that she has a safe place to rebuild, keep livestock and grow crops. It could also buy a goat, seeds and a wormery to help produce compost

– all of which will give her a long-term income and a solid foundation for a new life. Let's give generously this year.



St Mary's Village Carnival 2016





www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

Carnival Queen 2016

This year's Carnival Queen, Princess and attendants were chosen by draw on Sunday 17th April. You'll see their names in the June edition of Focus, and keep an eye out for pictures in the local newspapers.

Carnival Procession for ALL Families

A reminder that this year there will be a new category in the procession; <u>FAMILIES</u>. Decorate your car, van and/or trailer or even bicycles. This will open up the carnival procession to anyone who wants to have a go!

Can You Donate A Prize or Your Time?

The Carnival Committee is always looking for people who can help in a variety of ways:

- Manning stalls
- Helping in the tea tent
- Driving a vehicle
- · Acting as a marshal for the procession
- Supervising the car parking
- Picking up litter
- Baking cakes
- Tossing a sausage at the BBQ

There are other ways of supporting the Carnival by donating equipment, money or prizes for our Grand Draw, Silent Auction and Tombola. For those with green fingers perhaps you could take a few cuttings and donate to the successful plant stall.

As vital as these activities is help with bringing equipment to and from the Green before and after the event. It's never too late to offer your help for this year. Whether you can spare an hour or all day to help we can find something for you to do and I can assure it's as much of a hoot spending an hour or two at a stall or meeting new people setting up the carnival as it is attending the event itself!

For any specific questions or if you would like to get involved with organisation of

the carnival either by helping for a few hours on the day or providing assistance in the months before July contact Gordon Gray on 01525 220136 or through the carnival website www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.









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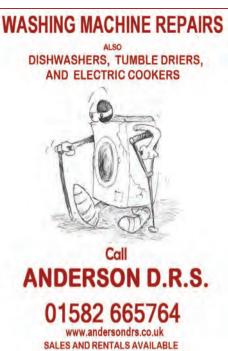
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EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINUTES

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

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

Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council (PC)
Held on Monday 7th March 2016 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

Cllr. Janes confirmed that the HGV Weight Restrictions are in force and that vehicles
breaking this restriction should be reported to CBC Highways who will review and
write to the owner of the vehicle highlighting the new restrictions. It's important to get
the registration mark of the vehicle and if possible the branding of the vehicle owner.
A photo of the vehicle is also useful.



- Reporting of HGV restriction offences: Central Bedfordshire Council, Highways Department
- Telephone: 0300 300 8049 Email: highways@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Bedfordshire Police

mmunity

If you wish to contact your Local Policing Team then please contact: Non-emergency call 101 / All emergencies 999.

Planning Application: CB/16/00717/OUT; Land Off Totternhoe Road/The Rye, LU6 2BQ The Parish Council objected to the above planning application and sent their recommendations to

Peter Vosper, Planning Officer, CBC. To view the council's full response follow the link: www.ebpc.co.uk/letters/160308

Highways Matters

It has again been brought to the Council's attention the problem of poorly parked cars within the parish - parking on public footpaths, blocking access for pedestrians, causing obstruction and parking opposite junctions. Parking on the pavements/blocking junctions is a highways offence and enforceable with a fixed penalty notice. It is also dangerous to these who have to walk out onto the road to poss the vehicle and for those wing he

to those who have to walk out onto the road to pass the vehicle and for those using hazardous junctions. The Council request that vehicle owners do not park their vehicles on the pavements or park opposite junctions. The Police will be informed and enforcement action taken.

Parish Council Meeting Dates: April 2016 to March 2017

Held in The Coffee Tavern from 7:30pm (unless otherwise stated): Make a note of these dates in your diary

* Monday 4th April 2016 * Monday 9th May 2016 (Annual Parish Meeting 7:00pm & Annual Meeting of Eaton Bray Parish Council 7:30pm) * Monday 6th June 2016 * Monday 4th July 2016 * August – no meeting * Monday 5th September 2016 * Monday 3rd October 2016 * Monday 7th November 2016 * Monday 5th December 2016 * Monday 9th January 2017 * Monday 6th February 2017 * Monday 6th March 2017



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]

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

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

Dear Eaton Bray Resident,

A big thank you to all Residents who have completed the attached survey. I will be contacting you all shortly to arrange an initial public meeting in early May. This will be held at the Salvation Army Church in Booth Place. So please watch out for the date! If you haven't completed the survey, please just tear out the page and return to the collection points listed or keep it to hand for future reference.

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) is looking to work with local residents to set up a Good Neighbour Scheme to help people living in the village. We would be very grateful if you could please let us know if you might like to join us <u>or</u> if there is any way in which we might be able to help you.

Over the page you will find a list of some of the possible services that we might be able to offer through the scheme and two columns for you to tick the services that you might use and/or the help that you might be able to give. Thank you for your help, Simon.

What is a Good Neighbour Scheme & how does it work?

A Good Neighbour Scheme is a voluntary group run by local residents who recognise the value in having 'good neighbours', particularly where public transport and other local services can be limited and where people's family may not live close by.

Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer, how much and when. They do not undertake jobs best left to qualified professionals but can help with things like occasional lifts, befriending or shopping. All volunteers are fully insured for extra peace of mind. Anyone who needs a bit of extra help can ring the group's phone number. Calls are answered by a volunteer phone-handler, who matches the request for assistance with an available volunteer.

For more information or further copies of the survey please contact Simon Patterson on 01582 419 487 or email simonp@bedsrcc.org.uk

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

If you would like the assistance now or in the future we have listed below the services we think a Good Neighbour scheme could offer that might be useful to people in the area. Please read the list and tick the boxes to show whether you might use the service listed or might be able to volunteer your help. You can tick boxes in both columns.

If you think you might like to help, the amount of time you volunteer is entirely up to you - even a couple of hours a month helps! All volunteer expenses are reimbursed and all volunteers are fully insured and DBS checked, (formerly CRB), for free (as appropriate).

Possible Services	I might need this myself	I might be able to help with this
Occasional lifts to doctors, lunch clubs, shops, etc.	,	
Befriending - popping round for a chat over a cup of tea		
Form filling / letter writing / help with using a computer		
Collecting prescriptions, pensions, etc. / Occasional help with shopping		
Small household repairs/practical tasks (such as changing a light bulb)		
Pet-care / dog-walking etc.		
Indoor plant watering / light gardening Being part of the phone rota, to answer callers and match them to a suitable volunteer		
Being part of the organising group - helping with publicity, fundraising, etc.		
Other - please specify		

you are happy to be contacted, please add your name and address here:	
ame:	
ddress:	
elephone:Email:	

Please return this survey to: NISA Store -High Street, or Edlesborough Post Office, or Eaton Bray Parish Clerk, #20, Good Intent, or Simon Patterson, BRCC, FREEPOST BF522, Cardington, Bedford, MK44 3BR Thank you for your help.



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

EDLESBOROUGH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Following the six public meetings we held in January we formed a large enthusiastic Steering Group to manage the overall development. The 23 members comprises 5 members of the parish council and 18 parishioners from the group of around 80 people who volunteered to help with the process of preparing the plan proposals. The Steering Group has representatives from all three villages. As part of the development the Steering Group contributes to defining the key elements of the plan.

So far we have developed a draft vision for the parish and identified key aspects of the parish that we need to provide more information to contribute to the development of policies that will guide the planning of future housing etc. in the parish. We have had two full Steering Group meetings at the time of writing this and expect to have one a month going forward.

When the Steering Group began to identify the characteristics of each of our three villages it became clear that we should dedicate groups to each village to establish key requirements. These village task teams will bring their information to the Steering Group where we will identify the common elements and highlight the differences.

The purpose of all this work is to bring forward proposals to you, the parishioners, to give you the opportunity to comment and input to the development of the plan. We expect to have more public events to do this in late June/early July.

You will remember that we are required to develop a plan that will meet the requirements of AVDC's Local Plan for housing until 2033. This is a challenge as their plan has not been finalised. At the moment we are working with notional housing numbers and some indistinct policies. We expect more definition around these as we go through the summer. Virtually everything we will cover in the Neighbourhood Plan will relate to Planning. Not just the number of houses to be built but the location, style of housing and in some cases the type of tenure. In addition, we will have the opportunity to define our key green spaces, views, buildings etc.

This is the opportunity for our parish to shape the development for the next 20 years so it is vital that you participate to get, as far as we can, the villages and parish that we want to live in. As a reminder, those of you who are on the Electoral Register will get to vote on the final proposals before it becomes part of the planning specifications for the parish. When approved they will be used by AVDC to assess all future planning applications until 2033 when the cycle will begin again.

Look out for further announcements in next month's Focus for an update on our progress and plans to share our proposals with you. We may also ask you to complete a survey to get your opinions on the proposals. We are at a very early stage in the development and your input will be helpful to shaping the final proposals. In the meantime if you want to know more please contact Alan Williams, email address ajrwilliams@hotmail.com.

EDLESBOROUGH FESTIVAL 2016 LAUNCHES LINE UP!

Get set, get ready and get your tickets for the Edlesborough Festival! Now in its fourth year, we are preparing to welcome a superb line up of musicians and local voices, and serve up a



huge slice of community pride. This fabulous three day mini festival is taking place on Friday June 24 - Sunday 26th at our atmospheric Church on the Hill.

It will be offering a superb two day musical menu featuring local, established and a world renowned artist. Young voices will sing out on Saturday afternoon for a charming popular Choirfest and throughout the festival we will be serving great real ales, local brews, cuppas and light refreshments. On Sunday, the glorious sound of church bells will pull the community together for Evensong led by Rev'd Coralie McCluskey.

Music undoubtedly has the power to bring people together for memorable shared moments, so please put the date in your diary. We invite you to come and hear the harmonies, enjoy the music, smell the flowers (we've also got a flower arranging workshop), taste the local beers, and be part of an incredible gathering. It really is special.

We've got two great nights of music and more. A formidable Friday of sea shanties and song, followed by an intimate sit back and relax Saturday!

Friday June 24:

Kimber's Men - 'Singing up a Storm'! Support Act – Wesley Russell

Kimbers Men: This steady strong unit sing sea shanties and traditional sea songs from around Europe and beyond. They've travelled far and wide thrilling audiences with

their close harmony vocals, their wonderful wit and their wide range of instruments - guitar, banjo, whistles and pipes. Described as 'one of the best sea shanty sides in the country', they are not to be missed.

Wesley Russell: He's a local gem. A young, multi- instrumentalist with talent far beyond his years! Wes is a self-composed singer songwriter whose music and style flows like a gentle stream.

Tickets: £12.50 in advance. £15.00 on the night subject to availability.

Doors open 6.30pm. Music 7.30 - 10.30pm. Bar and light refreshments. The view is free!

Saturday June 25th Martin Simpson Support Act – Tinlin

Martin Simpson: One of the world's greatest acoustic guitarists and twice winner of the Musician of the Year at the BBC radio 2 Folk Award. This renowned songwriter and fingerstyle guitar and banjo player will bring to Edlesborough an intimate solo

performance of traditional American folk and blues and his own compositions. Martin has been performing for 40 years and is universally acknowledged to be one of the finest ever acoustic guitar players. Don't miss!

Tinlin: Festival favourites from 2013, brothers Rolf and Alex Tinlin perform their own brand



of acoustic music with classic and contemporary influences. Don't miss their distinctive compositions, their easy harmonies, cool cover versions and guitar and mandolin magnificence. We welcome them back

Tickets: £13 in advance. £15 on the door subject to availability. Doors open 6.30pm. Music 7.30 – 10.30pm. Bar and light refreshments. The view is free! TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: JANES OF EDLESBOROUGH OR EMAIL: wyn.johns@gmail.com or call 07974 921923

Flower Power at the Festival!

Come and help fill the Church on the Hill with the sweet scent of summer flowers. We invite budding or experienced flower arrangers to join us for a Flower Workshop tutored by Phrena Wilkinson. Your beautiful blooms will be used to adorn the church throughout the festival adding colour, fragrance and a fresh feel good factor.

Simply gather some flowers and greenery from your garden, fields and meadows and bring them to the Church on Friday June 24th at 10.00am. Don't forget your secateurs. This session is free of charge. Refreshments provided. Contact: chris@brooklyns.org. uk or call 01525 220739. You are welcome to take your arrangement home after the Festival or leave it to be sold.

Choirfest

Our ever popular Children's Choirfest will take place on Saturday June 25th for all to enjoy. Sit back and be serenaded by local school choirs. Enjoy the voices, harmonies, the cakes, cuppas, Real Ale and the awesome atmosphere of our wonderful Church on the Hill. The Choirfest will be opened by the Rt Honourable John Bercow MP at 2.15pm. Free event

Evensong – Sunday June 26th

There is no finer way to end our three day festival than with the sound of the bells ringing

out across our villages. Enjoy those 4pm peals and please come and climb the steps of the church for Evensong at 5pm led by Revd. Coralie McCluskev.

Tickets will be on sale from May 1st. Further information on the festival on our website www.edlesborough.church. org.uk and Friend of Church on the Hill Facebook page Spread the word!





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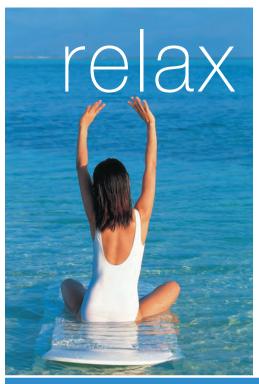
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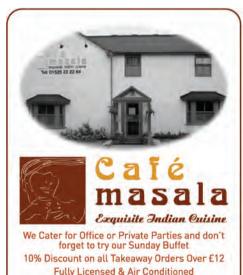


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Eaton Bray Methodist Church

On the first Sunday in March John Enejo reflected on confession in Lent and led us thoughtfully through the process of admitting mistakes, repentance and asking for forgiveness. At a lively and good-humoured Cafe Worship on the second Sunday, Steve Jones helped us to examine our reactions to the story of Mary anointing Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. We came to the

realisation that timing is significant; there is a time to be actively busy, a time for austerity and a time for making extravagant gestures in wonder and awe. On Palm Sunday Robin Gurney

was a welcome visitor to our pulpit. Reminding us of the Jews' rejection of Jesus because he didn't fit their idea of the Messiah, he urged us to overcome disappointed expectations and continue to obey our God and share his love. The Family Communion Service on Easter Sunday was a joyful celebration of the Resurrection

Dates for your Diary: Café Community

Saturday 7th May 2016, 11am – 1pm We will be delighted to see you if you come to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and/or a light lunch.

Church Picnic at Ashridge

Sunday 12th June, after the Service You are very welcome to join us.

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

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

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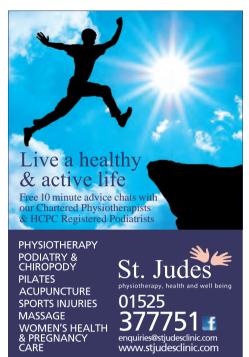


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10am to 12 Noon

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Ashridge Spring Plant Fair

Sunday 15th May



11am-4pm Free parking No entry fee

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AGM followed immediately by Village BBQ and Queen's 90th Birthday celebration!

AGM 2016

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OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL 24 July 2016 Wanted - Gardens In Eaton Bray, Edlesborough or Northall Would you be willing to open your garden for the day to

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



Dunstable & District Local History Society Tuesday 10 May, 7.45pm

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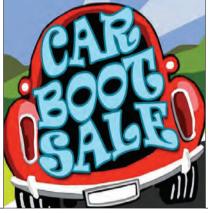


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St Mary's 100 Club

The April draw for St Mary's 100 Club, was made by some of those who attended this month's coffee morning in the church.

The lucky prize-winners are:

April 2016

1st Prize	£59.00	No. 100	Rosemarie Allen
2nd Prize	£35.40	No. 101	Tanya Watkin
3rd Prize	£23.60	No. 53	Rachel McVeigh

Since its inception, the club has raised nearly £3,000 for the fund to build toilet facilities at the church, and has given away the same amount in prize money!

If you'd like to join the fun, for just £2 per month, then please contact me (Gary Freeman) for an application form – gary@old-wrestlers.demon.co.uk

Good Luck!!

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Friday 10th June/Saturday 11th June



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For more information visit: http://www.MarsworthSteamRally.co.uk

We're looking for enthusiastic people to help on the day. Can you spare a few hours? It would be very much appreciated. Volunteering can be fun and a great way to meet new people.

Register your interest via the form on our website.



Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

May 5th Police & Crime Commissioner Election, and June 23rd Euro Referendum. Are you registered to vote? To check your registration and register call 01296 585807 or go online www.gov.uk/registertovote. More information can be found at www. aboutmyvote.co.uk

Edlesborough Parish Neighbourhood Plan

See separate report in Focus.

A4146

The A4146 through Dagnall, Edlesborough and Northall is to become the B440 shortly after the completion of the A5/M1 link. Currently no progress has been made on putting weight limits on the B488 at enforceable points to prevent the displacement of HGV's to the west rather than the M1. Unless this requirement can be satisfied it is unlikely that we will get the weight limit on the B440 (old A4146) through our parish.

Litter Picking in the Villages

In the run up to The Queen's 90th birthday on 21 April 2016, many people have been inspired to take action and enjoy a few hours together litter-picking to make the places where we live more beautiful. It would be great if this new found inspiration continues long after the Queen's birthday, and parishioners continue to attack the blight of litter and reclaim our beautiful villages, countryside, parks and waterways.

Volunteers are needed to help with litter picking in the three villages. The Parish Council will provide litter pickers and bin bags and the rubbish can be either placed in household bins or AVDC provide free collection of picked and bagged litter, but need litter pick organisers to inform us prior to their event, please contact communityspaces@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

Bucks CC Devolution

Following a recent tender process EPC have appointed MW Agri Ltd as their contractor to carry out the Bucks CC Devolution tasks within the parish. These tasks include grass and hedge cutting, siding out, maintenance of identified public footpaths (Rights of Way), weed killing and maintenance of street furniture, street signs, etc. Any complaints about any of the above services must now be reported the clerk, Penny Pataky etc. Compliments are welcome also!

New Handyman

EPC have appointed Mr Darren Pearce of Northall as their primary handyman.

McCann Planning Application for 57 Houses on land off Edlesborough High Street Following the decision on this application EPC have written to Anglian Water regarding the ability of the village's sewage system being able to cope with an additional 57 houses.

EPC have also written to the case officer Ms Clare Gray insisting on being consulted on the allocation of the S106 money and various other aspects of the development including the open space, playground, streetlights, new pavement, layby and vision splay, bus shelter, yellow lines, pedestrian crossing and the ongoing issues with the sewage system.

Parking & HGVs

Inconsiderate parking continues to be an area of concern to many parishioners and the council. Once again the council request that all parishioners park considerately, especially near junctions, the school and shops and refrain from parking on the white lines around the parish. Parking offences which block a vehicular access or footway should be reported to Thames Valley Police 101 as they have sole enforcement powers. Now that the HGV Weight Restrictions are in force in Eaton Bray it is important that residents support our neighbouring parish in reporting vehicles who break the restrictions. Reports should be made to CBC Highways (0300 300 8049 or highways @ centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) who will write to the owner of the vehicle highlighting the new restrictions. When making a report please try to provide the following information:

- · Registration mark
- · Branding of the vehicle owner
- A photo of the offending vehicle

Reporting Pavement, Pothole, Fly Tipping & Rights of Way Issues

Please report any pavement issues, potholes, and Rights of Way issues to http://www.transportforbucks.net/Tell-us.aspx If possible please take a photo of the problem and upload it when making the report.

Please report fly tipping to http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/environment/waste,-recycling-and-treatment/fly-tipping/report-fly-tipping/ or call 01296 480771 or 0845 330 1856.

Allotments

Edlesborough Parish Council currently has vacant allotments. Anyone wishing to take on an allotment should contact the Parish Clerk. Fees are £1:80 per pole and plots range in size from 5-20 poles.

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 843123 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 19th May 2016. This evening will include the Annual Meeting of the Council and will be followed by the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.
- Thursday 16th June 2016.

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

All Parishioners are welcome to attend all Ordinary Parish Council meetings and may ask questions, raise issues and give suggestions during the Open Forum before the formal start of the meeting. The full minutes of the Parish Council meetings are normally available to view on the website or from the Parish Clerk.

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Penny Pataky, 15 Summerleys, EDLESBOROUGH, LU6 2HR 01525 229358 Office hours Monday – Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

ETidy Villages - Your Response

I thought that I would let you know how I got on after my article about the state of the Villages in March Focus. Well, I did rather well, better than I expected, although not the overwhelming(!?) response I had been hoping for. I am always an optimist!!



I had two direct responses to the article offering help and support and quite a few since. Many people have agreed that there is a problem and said that they do try to clear up litter from the immediate vicinity of their homes. This is great – the only problem is that because we are a rural location, there are areas in all the villages away from houses which aren't so easy to keep clear of litter. After I had written the March article, I cleared the stretch of Eaton Bray Road from my house to the bridge and arrived home with 13 bags of assorted litter including one full of cans and bottles, and the contents of a dustbin which some thoughtful person had emptied on the bank of the river by the bridge and then thrown the bin into the water. You wonder at the mentality of some people! The bin had been full of disposable nappies, general rubbish and cuttings from a rose bush. Why couldn't they just wait for the dustman like normal people??!!

So what to do about this? Well, we can all keep on collecting litter from outside our homes. That's a big start. The EDaN Beautification team have contacted the Community Workers Scheme and they have agreed to help us with the hard bit on the Main Road. And then Jane, who has just moved into Northall, came up with a brilliant idea!

We could organise groups of volunteer litter pickers to meet – say – once a fortnight – or once a month, on a mutually convenient day, for a morning or an afternoon, to concentrate on a particular area of the village and then either have a cup of tea and cake somewhere (mine?) or perhaps go for lunch together at the local hostelry which would help the local economy as well. I am not thinking of large groups – maybe six or seven at any one time. Here in Northall, I already have interest from four ladies – is there anyone else out there? Are there any similarly minded people (not just ladies, you understand!) who would consider forming a group in Edlesborough, Eaton Bray or Dagnall?

Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) has been very supportive and has agreed to supply the groups in our Parish with pickers, gloves and bags, as I now understand that AVDC don't supply bags any more, although they will happily collect the full bags when we are finished. Provided the names of volunteer litter pickers are registered with EPC, volunteers would be covered by EPC's insurance. I am sure that were a group to form in Eaton Bray, their Parish Council would be similarly supportive.



I would love to hear from you if you are interested in helping. Look for my efforts to contact people on Facebook in the future – if I can ever decipher its mysteries!! The problem of litter is not going to go away. We need to do something about it – and we might as well make it fun!!

∠Lorna Cubbage 01525 220361



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LOCAL ENTREPRENEUR BRINGS HER DREAM TO LIFE!

Rebecca Christer began dancing at the age of three in a ballet class for Toddlers as many young children do, and quickly fell in love with the art of dance. As she grew so did her talent, and she went on to master the traditional styles of Modern and Tap whilst embracing new and innovative dance styles, which quickly became an integral part of her passion for dancing.

Now Rebecca is realising her dream and has launched; 'The Dance House', a specialist Academy in Caddington dedicated to nurturing and developing the love of dance and performance in young people and adults.

Located at the new Eden Brae Business Park in Caddington Bedfordshire. The Dance House is a fully equipped state-of-the-art dance studio, with high-quality, specialist wooden flooring, ballet barres and mirrors and a built-in sound system. There are also changing rooms and washroom facilities available within the studio to accommodate dancers requirements.

Rebecca said; "I have always dreamt of launching my own Dance School to enable me to share my love and enjoyment of dance and performance, not just for those who want to achieve recognised qualifications in dance, but also for those who dance for pleasure. Enjoyment and fun are intrinsic to the exercise and health benefits that dancing can provide! "I am looking forward to working with my students to help give them the confidence to succeed, to believe in themselves and to work towards exams and achieving their goals, whether it be for pleasure or assisting them in launching a career in dance."

"My goal", said Rebecca; "is to provide an unequalled specialist environment for Bedfordshire, that will enable those training in the fields of dance and performance to have access to a dedicated space that will allow them opportunity to train, perfect and master their skill, strength and love of dance and movement."

"I am also looking to build on my portfolio of specialist Teachers and Trainers who have the opportunity to hire my studio for their own classes. We already have a timetable of specialist classes available of which the details can be found on my website; www.thedancehouse.org. uk I hope The Dance House will soon be able to offer classes and workshops in everything from Ballet to Zumba!"

We welcome those who would like to come along to a class and find out more. For more information contact; Rebecca Christer - School Mobile: 07825 865 685

'The Dance House' can be hired for:

- Fitness classes
- Personal training sessions
- Group activities
- Group meetings
- Parties

The Dance House

Unit 1, Eden Brae Business Park,

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EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL Edlesborough Parish Council and Anglian Water

- **Problems what problems?**Your council has pressed the point about the problems residents of Edlesborough the the surface water and foul drainage system in the village at each of the recent

have with the surface water and foul drainage system in the village at each of the recent large planning applications. However, AVDC have no powers to compel Anglian Water to do anything to the existing system.

As a result, the council directed their concerns to Anglian Water in a letter detailing the problems that have been represented to us by parishioners. Anglian Water responded but have not addressed our concerns. Further to that they said that they have had only two reports in the past 8 years relating to the Edlesborough part of the system, neither of which was system capacity related. They wrote:

"My understanding is that the Parish Council has concerns that surface water is entering the foul system particularly in Brownlow Avenue, Brook Street and the High Street. We have one recorded instance of external flooding in Brownlow Avenue which occurred in 2008. The cause of this flooding was not capacity related.

For Eaton Bray Road in Northall, all flooding issues investigated have been coded as caused by blockages as opposed to hydraulic capacity issues. There was one overloaded incident created 7 February 2014 for Good Intent, Edlesborough, however, investigation found this to be caused by blockages in the sewer"

We are not in the complaint loop and so we are unable to challenge their statement though we are very surprised by it.

To give us some better data we would be very grateful, if you have experienced problems in the past few years, if you would please complete the following information with your name and address and send it to our clerk Penny Pataky (contact details below).

- 1 Is there still a problem with downstairs toilets backing up?
- 2 If so, when does it occur (e.g. after periods of heavy rain)?
- 3 How frequently are problems experienced (e.g. how many times per year)?
- 4 Are the problems being reported to AW on every occasion?

Please help us to help you.

Penny Pataky Clerk to Edlesborough Parish Council

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Penny Pataky, 01525 229358 Office hours Monday – Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Speeding is a problem in this village

Why don't you become a volunteer with Speedwatch and help us to reduce the menace of speeding.





If you would like to get involved in trying to slow down traffic in the village and are concerned about road safety please contact Cllr. Mark Tomkins, on 07810-753878 or email councillormarktomkins@gmail.com.

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Right Whipsnade Zoo sign at the end of the day by John Hockey

Below: A Special Place: The Gade valley where the three shires (Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire meet by John Hockey (as written about in the April issue of Focus - page 7)







Below:: Ashridge by Phil Wood

Bottom: Roadside daffodils, village sign and St Mary's church, Edlesborough by John Hockey





Edlesborough W.I.

Normal service was resumed at our March meeting as Jenny, our President, was back

from her holiday.

After the traditional singing of Jerusalem followed by business matters and the presenting of seven birthday plants and cards, we settled down for our talk for the evening entitled "The Amber Room" given by Mike Bartley.

The Amber Room in Catherine Palace of Tsarskove Selo near St Petersburg has had a chequered life. It began in 1701 and, although it was originally intended for installation at Charlottenburg Palace (the residence of Frederick, the first King of Prussia), it started its life in the Berlin City Palace. Peter the Great of Russia admired it during a visit in 1716 and was presented it as a gift from Frederick's son (Frederick William I) which forged a Russian-Prussian alliance against Sweden. Sadly, both Peter and his wife, Catherine I, died before its completion so it was Peter's daughter the Empress Elizabeth who decided it should be installed in the Catherine Palace which was where the Russian Imperial family typically spent their summers. The original Berlin design was reworked in Russia and after several other renovations, the room covered more than 55 square metres (590 sq ft) and contained over 6 tonnes of amber. Because of its unique features and singular beauty it was sometimes dubbed the "Eighth Wonder of the World". In 1917, as a consequence of the Revolution, the Palace became a museum and the Amber Room was not visited for the next 24 years and fell into disrepair.

Shortly after the beginning of the German invasion in WW2, the curators tried to dissemble and remove the Amber Room but it was impossible without crumbling the amber so they tried to hide it behind mundane wallpaper. This cover-up failed and within 36 hours of the German soldiers discovering it, it was taken to Konisberg Castle in East Prussia for display. August 1944, Konisberg was heavily fire bombed by the RAF and it suffered further extensive damage from artillery from the advancing Red Army before final occupation on 9 April 1945. Several theories abound as to whether there are still surviving parts of the original room. one being that panels were moved to the cellars by the Red Army allegedly still in good condition. In 1968, despite protests worldwide, President Brezhnev ordered the destruction of Konisberg Castle, thus making any onsite research of the last known resting place of the Amber Room all but impossible. In more recent years, searches have continued in different locations including near Wupperal, Germany.

In 1979, the Soviet government decided to construct a replica of the Amber Room, a process that was to last 24 years and require 40 Russian and German experts in amber craftsmanship. Using original drawings and photographs, every attempt was made to duplicate it including 350 shades of amber in the panels and fixtures at a cost of approximately 35 million The new room was dedicated dollars. by Russian President Putin and German Chacellor Schroder in 2003 on the 300th anniversary of the city of St Petersburg.

To help bring the talk alive. Mike showed several slides of this room at various stages of its life and to see it in its final glory is a sight to behold. It is now one of the places on my "to see list"!

This talk, along with the two that have

already taken place this year, is part and the RHS Flow of our diary of events for 2016 for the Edlesborough W.I. Other subjects to be covered in the following months include "The Wonderful World of Willow", and "My Life in Tennis". We will also be going on coach trips to Hampton Court Maggie Hawes

and the RHS Flower Show at Wisley. Our membership stands at over 60 at present but we would love to have new members join us. Our meetings are held on every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.



All Saints Church, Dagnall Services in May 2016

Sun. 1st May 9.00 pm **Eucharist** 10.30 am Morning Service Morning Service Sun. 8th May 10.30 am Sun. 15th May 10.30 am Family Communion Sun. 22nd May 10.30 am Family Service Sun. 29th May 10.30 am Informal Worship



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



Dagnall Church Sunday School

meets between 10.30am and 11.30am on Sunday mornings.
Our team helps children to learn about God and Jesus through bible stories, games, puzzles, drama, craft activities, songs and prayer. We cater for children aged between 5 and 12. Parents are welcome but do not need to stay.

For more information, please call: Liz Coates 01442 842550 Or Stephanie Ralphs 01442 842402





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

Raspberry Pavlova Roulade

If you're a fan of the Great British Bake Off, you'll have seen a fair few roulade disasters on the show. And

yet, a simple roulade is actually very achievable at home and it always looks great when served to family and friends. The meringue here is basically a quick-cooked pavlova, meaning it is incredibly light and fluffy.

This recipe is based on a beautiful roulade which was made for my show by pastry expert Simon Northcott. He made his with a whipped cream and Nutella filling and topped it with hazelnuts. I've made mine a little more fruity, with an easy cream and raspberry filling. Technically the addition of raspberries means that a slice of the roulade can (just about) qualify as one of your five a day!

If you do want to make the nutty version, replace the raspberries with two tablespoons of Nutella and top the roulade with chopped hazelnuts.

For the meringue:

3 large egg whites

175g white caster sugar

1/2 tsp vanilla extract

1/2 tsp white wine vinegar

1 tsp cornflour

For the filling:

300ml double or whipping cream

200g raspberries (or any similar red fruit, or a mixture)

Icing sugar, to dust

(Optional) grated chocolate to decorate

Serves up to 8

Pre-heat your oven to 180C/Gas Mark 4

Prepare a rectangular swiss roll tin (or just a shallow baking tray) by lining it with baking parchment (you can stick it down with a few spots of butter).

In a large, grease-free mixing bowl, whisk the egg whites to soft peaks. While continuously whisking, slowly add the caster sugar one tablespoon at a time, until you have a stiff, glossy meringue mixture.

Whisk in the vanilla extract, followed by the

vinegar and cornflour.

Pour the mixture on to the baking tin. Leave a gap around the edges or else the meringue will stick. Smooth it over with a knife or spatula so



you get a nice, regular spread.

Bake this for 15 minutes or until the meringue is a light golden colour but still soft on the inside. Take the meringue out of the oven and leave it to cool. It will be quite flexible and malleable now. Cut another sheet of baking parchment. Turn the meringue over and put it on the new sheet of paper. Carefully pull away the baking parchment which the meringue was baked on.

Whip the cream to soft peaks and fold in the raspberries, allowing some of them to crush up a little. Carefully spread this evenly over the cooled roulade and then simply roll it up tightly, with the longest edge closest to you, leaving the greaseproof paper behind as you go. Put the roulade, seam down, on your serving plate.

You can serve immediately but I find an hour in the fridge helps firm up the roulade. Just before serving, dust with icing sugar and grate some chocolate over the top too if you fancy.

Hear wonderful recipes on Nick Coffer's Weekend Kitchen every Sunday morning on

BBC Three Counties radio at 11am. You can also join Nick every weekday afternoon at midday for brilliant local guests with great stories to tell and all the music you want for your early afternoon.





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Crocodile Prepares to Lay Eggs at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Keepers at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo are about to get eggxactly what they've been waiting for, as the Zoo's only female crocodile prepares to lay eggs.

Amara and Kojo, the Zoo's two 39 year old West African dwarf crocodiles last produced offspring in 1998, but on



Example crocodile egg

Christmas Eve 2015 the pair were seen mating, and now, according to keepers, female crocodile Amara is showing all the signs of being about to lay eggs.

Team Leader Alex Cliffe said: "It's been so exciting to see Amara preparing her nest. She has dug up soil, leaves and bark chip and dragged huge amounts of it into a large mound, ready to lay her eggs. She's been very protective of the nest. Ordinarily we can enter the edge of the enclosure during feed-times, but Amara has made it very clear that we are to stay out now!"

The crocodile enclosure within the tropical Butterfly House, which opened last year, was specially designed to encourage breeding, and features a large, deep pool and lots of space for nesting.

Amara could lay up to 20 eggs, which is great news for the keepers, as the offspring could be of key genetic importance to the European Studbook (ESB) for West African dwarf crocodiles.

Alex Cliffe continued: "Once Amara has laid the eggs, there will be a three-month wait until they hatch, and we'll monitor them very closely during that time, ensuring they are kept at the perfect temperature and humidity levels.

"It would be brilliant to have some baby crocodiles at the Butterfly House, and amazing timing if they hatched in time for the launch of Zoorassic Park, this summer's huge dinosaur experience here at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo!"



A Day To Remember

Sunday 8 May 2.30pm, Tickets: £12/ £10 May. a Bedfordshire.

Sunday 8 May, a momentous point in British history back in 1945, and

one that is still considered so today - VE Day. The Grove Theatre, Dunstable invites you to celebrate that day with A Day To Remember on Sunday 8 May at 2.30pm.

As a special commemorative celebration of VE Day, **A Day To Remember** gathers local dance, drama and music groups to entertain and join forces as a supportive and celebrated community. Expect all the pomp and circumstance of the proms whilst being entertained by the brilliant talent in Central

Why not make it a truly memorable day by enjoying a delicious **Afternoon Tea** before the show, at an additional cost; during which time you will be entertained by the **Memphis**

Belles singing toe-tapping classics.

Tickets for A Day To Remember are £12 or £10 with discounts for concessions, wheelchair users, Friend of the Grove and groups of 10+ people. For more information or to book, call the Box Office on 01582 60 20 80 (opt 7) or visit the website at www. grovetheatre.co.uk.

We'll Meet Again

Wednesday 11 May 2.30pm, Tickets: £12.50

In celebration of wartime entertainment which kept spirits high for many, the **Grove Theatre**, **Dunstable** will be raising your spirits by bringing you all the entertainment of **We'll Meet Again**, on **Wednesday 11 May at 2.30pm**.

With live music by the Martyn St James Band and many other variety acts, this show will create an uplifting atmosphere for everyone. In a tribute to the nation's Armed Forces of yesterday, today and tomorrow, there will be performances of some of the greatest songs of the 40s, by artists such as Vera Lynn and George Formby. The cast includes comedy entertainer Steve Barclay, Andy Eastwood, Maggie O'Hara, Mervyn Francis and Pete Lindup.

With all the great entertainment of the war years, this is damp eye nostalgia that will leave you with a warm and sentimental glow. And to further celebrate the pride of our nation, why not experience a truly British afternoon, with a delicious **Afternoon Tea** in the theatre's Upper Foyer before the show, at an additional cost.

Tickets for We'll Meet Again are £12.50

with **discounts for concessions**. For more information or to book, call the Box Office on **01582 60 20 80 (opt 7)** or visit the website at **www.grovetheatre.co.uk.**



SUMMER FILM SEASON 2016



Date: May - July 2016

Box Office: 01582 60 20 80 (opt 7) Book Online: www.grovetheatre.co.uk

Film releases at the start of 2016 set a high bar for the upcoming season but the **Grove Theatre**, **Dunstable** has picked out the cinematic releases set to be the summer's blockbusters this year, with a wide range of films ready for your viewing on one of Europe's biggest screens!



Highlights include a number of critically acclaimed actors starring in dramatic crime thrillers, such as **Dame Helen Mirren** playing a military officer under immense pressure in **Eye In The Sky (15); Gerard Butler** defending world leaders as he uncovers sinister plots against them in **London Has Fallen (15)**; and **Sandra Bullock** bringing comedic moments to political matters in **Our Brand Is Crisis (15)**.

For comic book lovers and fans of action films following their favourite superheroes, the theatre brings you the latest action of both DC and Marvel characters. **Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice (12A)** creates a questioning world deciding what kind of hero it really needs, and leaves you wondering if you really did spot a sneak peak of The Flash? For Marvel fans **Captain America: Civil War (12A)** rounds off the Captain America trilogy and sets up an exciting start for Avengers: Infinity War.





If you're looking for something a bit more light-hearted this summer, then catch some of the theatre's comedy and animation films, including the "legendary adventures of awesomeness" in **Kung Fu Panda 3** (**PG**); the true story of Eddie Edwards, notoriously tenacious British underdog ski jumper of the 1988 Winter Olympics in **Eddie the Eagle** (**PG**); and the adventurous animation of a bunny cop and con artist fox in **Zootropolis** (**PG**).

For full listings of the Summer Film Season, contact the Box Office on **01582 60 20 80** or **visit www.grovetheatre.co.uk**.

Tickets for film are £7 with discounts for concessions, wheelchair users and Friends of the Grove Theatre. Or if you want to feel even more like a VIP, there are Front Row Film Experience tickets available at £14 with discounts for concessions and Friends of the Grove Theatre, including your choice of free drink.

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

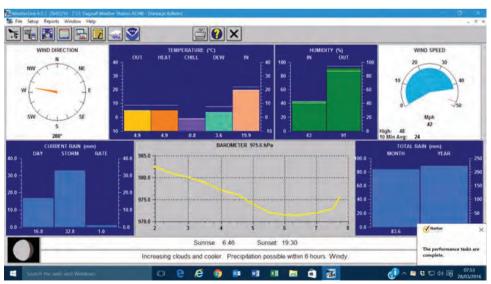
Weather Conditions for March 2016

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

We started of the month with low pressure sitting over us which brought very unsettled conditions for a few days. From the 5th we had 4 days of cold mornings falling as low as -3.3° c. On the 9th we had the wettest day, recording 23.60 mm of rain. The middle of March was settled with sunny days it looked like spring was here, cold winds from the east continued, taking the edge off of temperatures. At the end of the month the rain returned with high winds and on the 28th reaching 48mph.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	14.6°c	25 March 14.3	- 3.3°c	8 March 04.00
Mean Temperature	5.6°c			
Dewpoint:	11.0°c	26 March 17.30	- 4.5°c	8 March 04.00
Humidity:	98%	27 March 07.30	40%	14 March 15.30
Barometer:	1035.0 mb	13 March 21.30	971.5 mb	28 March 06.00
Wind Speed	48 mph W	28 March 02.00	Months avg.	6.0 mph
Wind Chill:	13.9°c	25 March 16.30	-4.1°c	5 March 06.00
Dominant Wind:	NE			
*Rain Days: 22(T), 18(R) Wet		ettest Day 9 March	23.6mm	0.929 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	March 2015	92.6mm	3.645 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	2 Month	230.4 mm	9.070 ins

Instead of a chart this month I have shown what I see on the monitor (the bulletin page). From this I can see the overall information, below is the view at 07hr. 53mins 54sec 28th March 2016, I was sitting waiting for the wind speed to rise which it did recording 42 mph. This is a live page and the readings are changing all the time the wind speed and direction change every 2 seconds. I hope this is of some interest to you, I will show other information throughout the year.



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15 mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.

co.uk and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall this site forecast and much more. 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.



Are Laptops Damaging Your Health?

Are laptops damaging your health? Although they offer versatility and portability they are

not designed for long-term static use.

As far back as 2005 laptops outsold desktops and this had led to a huge increase in posture related back pain and repetitive strain injuries.

The human head is very heavy — balanced evenly between the shoulders is its ideal position. However, by using laptops we tend to position our ears in front of our shoulders which equates to holding a weight out at arm's length. This in turn increases the load through the spine and causes neck, upper back and arm problems. There are some ways that you can minimise the risks associated with laptops:

- 1. Make sure your laptop is on a stable base and not on your lap.
- 2. Sit up straight with your lower back supported, not slouched on the sofa!
- 3. Avoid upper body strain by taking regular breaks from the screen.
- 4. Use a separate keyboard and mouse so that the laptop can be put on a stand and the screen opened at eye level.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club 100 Club Winners April 2016

£25 GBC Pearson £10 Emma Fountain Eaton Bray Cricket Club is kindly sponsored by Meadow Marquees, Houghton Insurance & Giblin Property. 5. For long-term working, use your laptop with a separate monitor and keyboard. If you would like further help why not ask for a

If you would like further help why not ask for a home or workplace assessment with our expert ergonomic advisor.



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Eaton Bray W.I.

Our April meeting, held in NSPIRING WOMEN Eaton Bray Methodist Hall. was well attended. As part

of the meeting would include the Annual General Meeting, Pam Plumb, our WI Adviser also attended

After the regular notices and announcements, the Annual General Meeting followed on. The Accounts and President's Report were agreed. The present committee agreed to continue for a further year, apart from one member. Our President, Deirdrea Ellins, agreed to continue her superb work for another year.

The WI Adviser explained the two Resolutions and encouraged the group to vote at the next meeting in May. Members were encouraged to bring some discussion ideas and case studies to the next meeting. She stressed that our vote and support for such resolutions were often persuasive

in government issues. They also form the basis for NFWI campaigns and educational activity.

A hilarious part of the evening followed, when a game was played culminating in all members taking two presents home. Members chatted and had some social time over refreshments which had been wonderfully prepared by the committee.

The next meeting of Eaton Bray WI is on Monday 9th May. Meetings are always the first Monday of the month (except Bank Holiday when it is the second Monday). The Meetings commence at 7.30 pm and are held in Eaton Bray Methodist Hall. The contact for Eaton Bray WI is: Margaret Jones, on 01525 220991. A warm and friendly welcome awaits new members. At each meeting there is an interesting speaker or demonstration, followed by social time and refreshments.



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she deserves. She would be ideal for retired owners but we are sure she would consider other offers! She cannot live in Luton.

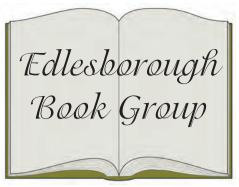
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The White Tiger by Aravind Adiga

Aravind Adiga was born in India in 1974, and was educated in New York and Oxford. He went on to some success as a political journalist, writing articles for the New York Times, The Sunday Times and the Financial Times. This, his debut novel, won the Man Booker prize in 2008 and was recommended to us very highly by several people.

The White Tiger of the title is a young entrepreneur, who has taken advantage of

the rise of India's fortune in the world markets. Balram Halwai was dubbed White Tiger by his teacher who noticed his intelligence and considered him a rarity in the poverty stricken area in which he lived. Taken away from education prematurely by his family, in order to earn money for them, he vows to escape from the "Darkness" in which he lives and to rise into the "Light" where the affluent classes reside.

His opportunity occurs when he learns to drive and obtains a position as second chauffeur to one of the landlords from his village. With his new master and his wife, Balram moves to Delhi and his eyes are opened

to the contrast between the ways of life of master and servant. Unlike the other servants he is aspirational and soon finds ways to better himself within the household. Balram is opportunistic, amoral, completely self centred and focussed on material success. The novel is written in the form of a letter to the Chinese Prime Minister, who is due to visit India in the coming weeks. Over the course of seven nights he tells his story, half self congratulatory, half confessional and with vivid descriptions of the new commercial India.

Adiga pulls no punches as he presents India as a corrupt and brutal place for the poor majority. His hero boasts of his success as he plays the system to his advantage, but of what cost to his character. Adiga writes well and paints a colourful picture of the changing society in India. Our group enjoyed reading the book and would recommend it as a good subject for discussion.



Salvation Sound



We can say now with certainty that spring is here. Two of the things which impress me in spring are, one, the newness, after the dull greys and browns of winter, the riot of colour in the gardens, and on the verges. The shrubs too,



and the brightness of the sunshine – oh yes, we have seen it all before, but yet it is new and fresh, stirring, something inside us as though we were looking at the world though someone else's eyes.

The other thing is that although it is the same season again, it is always different. Sometimes things bloom early, sometimes late, sometimes they last for ages, the early flowers still blooming when the later ones appear. Daisies and violets on my lawn together peonies budding, while blackthorn blooms! Shrubs flowering in the wrong season; – so what is the "right" time? When will the cold winds cease? As I write these thoughts a storm is lashing our countryside. High winds have brought down mature trees, uprooted young ones – electric power is denied to many. So many things in nature we cannot understand. I've pondered over this little poem.

"I cannot understand the reason why, The seeds I plant, so very brown and dry,

Warmed by the earth, and fed by the sun and dew can grow to perfect flowers of every hue.

I cannot understand – but this I know: God makes them grow.

Oh how this speckled egg, so sweet and small, that lies within my hand, a shining ball,

Can hold a living bird, to chirp and sing, and fly from tree to tree on graceful wing.

I cannot understand – but this I know: God made it so

But higher still than these, I cannot see how such a wondrous thing can ever be...

That the Lord of heaven, of flowers and birds will come, And make my humble heart his daily home.

I cannot understand – but this I know It will be so!

As someone who enjoys a garden I know that uncultivated soil is resistant to seed planting and growth, but plant good seeds in well prepared soil, with heaven's sunshine and rain doing their part and a harvest will come; that and God's blessing are essential for fruitfulness; not only in gardening but also in Christian living.

There is in our world today a storm of evil brewing; it is being whipped and lashed to enormous proportions by the passions and greed of man. Violence spreads like a canker, sickness, pollution and poverty threaten the lives of all, rich and poor, good and evil.

In Hosea ch. 10 v.12 - 15 God's prophet tells his people that having planted evil they are now reaping its harvest. We living here in this community are sheltered, thus far. Remember the Easter story – those who welcome Jesus on Palm Sunday, were those who called 'Crucify Him' less than a week later. (How fickle is man.) We may not be able to do much to stem the storm but we can help the fallen, feed the hungry and proclaim the saving power of Jesus Christ.

In Ecclesiastes it says "For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven"

I know we have to consider the serious and the solemn as we go through life but, as Oscar Hammerstein, the lyricist, once said, "I know the world is filled with troubles injustices, but reality is as beautiful as it is ugly." A naturalist, WH Hudson stated, "One man's weeds, are another man's wild flowers."

As I grow older I tend to spend quite a lot of time thinking about the past, when the world seemed to be a much better place. (I'm glad that wrinkles don't hurt!) The familiar quotation springs to mind "What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare." How easy it is to take too narrow a view and miss out on the many wonders of everyday life; time passes so quickly – well it stands to reason doesn't it when you think that we used to have 7 days in a week, now we've only 3!! "Yesterday, which is gone and done with; today for living now; and tomorrow which will come in time and is full of mystery." Three special days – yesterday, with its memories, today with its possibilities and tomorrow with its hope and promise.



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