

FOCUS

June 2021

**St Mary's Village
Carnival pull out inside**



90 Years of Whipsnade Zoo



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

Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45 - 10.45am
(Term time only)

Morning Worship 11am

Tuesday

Coffee Morning 10 - 11.30am
(Alternate weeks)

Wednesday

Home League 2.30 - 3.30pm
(Ladies meeting but all welcome)

Champion's Club (Term time only)
5.30-6.30pm (Ages 5 to Year 5)
6.45-7.45pm (Year 6 and above)

Thursday

Girls' Night Out
(1st Thursday of the month) 7.45pm

Ladies Fellowship
(Last Thursday of the month) 7.30pm

**For further details please contact us on
01525 222087 or email
eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk**

**NORTHALL BAPTIST
CHAPEL**

Chapel Lane, Northall

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Everyone is welcome to our Sunday
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talk together.

For more information contact:
John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com

Web: www.northallbaptistchurch.org

There has been a Baptist Chapel in Northall
for more than 200 years. Today we continue
to seek to worship God, serve him in our
daily lives and support and encourage one
another in the difficult and the joyful times.

**The Focus Magazine
Committee**

Editor: Sally Siddons 01525 221733

34 Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray

Email: sallysid@hotmail.com

Business Advertising: Sally Taylor, Butler's
Folly, South End Lane, Northall LU6 2EX
01525 221576 & Angela Dunford 221944

Email advertising@thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Chair/Leaflet Enquiries: Ken Coates
10 The Nurseries, Eaton Bray 220868

Circulation Manager: Angela Dunford
1 Knolls View, Leighton Road, Northall
01525 221944, angela.dunford29@gmail.com

Treasurer: Steve Dunford, 01525 221944

PCC: Sue Tucker

Design and Layout: Tracey Moren
(Moren Associates Limited) 01525 229695

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accuracy or content of any advertising or articles
published in 'this' magazine, neither do they
reflect the opinion of members of the Committee.*

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reproduced without permission.*

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

Kindly Note

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

✍️ Editor

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Diary



Weekly

- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468
- Mon-Fri (term time) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term time) Edlesborough Pre-School, Edlesborough Primary Academy, 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org
- Mon-Thu (term time) Totternhoe Pre-school, mornings, Totternhoe Lower School, Michelle Urbanowicz on 01582 668841
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45 – 9.45pm
- Mondays (term time) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall Village hall 2-3.30. Contact Jan 01442 864271.
- Mondays Curtain Call Youth Theatre 5-7.30pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Gavyn 01525 220525
- Mondays Curtain Call Theatre Group - 7:30-10:30pm Eaton Bray Village Hall, Sheila - sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk
- Mondays KFPA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFPA' for info
- Mondays Cubs (8-10 ½ years old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550
- Mondays Yoga, 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- Mondays Barre, 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11 am, 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
- Tuesdays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 07800 518654
- Tuesdays Beginner's Boxercise, 6-7pm Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtpinfo@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-12noon, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Anna on 07854 230243
- Wednesdays Caterpillars Baby and Toddler Group 10am to 11:30am, Grace Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough, £1 per family unit, Contact Alister 07572 395687
- (term time) Pilates 6.45 & 7.45pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Andrea andrea@naturalpilates.co.uk or 07855 138005
- Wednesdays Art of Ju Jitsu martial arts class, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 7 -7.45pm ages 6-15yrs
- Wed (term time) Art Courses, Whipsnade Village Hall, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Thursdays Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
- Thursdays KFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
- Thursdays 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 Beavers (6 to 8 years old), 6.15-7.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact: ebebeaverleader@ebescouts.co.uk
- Thursdays Explorers Scouts (14-18 years old), 8pm-9.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Simon Betts, lionheartsu@hotmail.co.uk
- Thursdays Intermediate Boxercise, 7.30-8.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtpinfo@gmail.com

Please get in touch with the relevant organisation to check if sessions are running

Village Diary

Thursdays	Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome
Thursdays	Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome. www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
Fridays	Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 10 - 11am
Fridays	Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, 07800 518654
Fridays	Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am, £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6 months free
Fridays	Scouts, (10½ to 14 years old), 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk, 07899 892344
Fridays (term time)	"Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes 10am-11.30am. Contact Emma Whitemore on 01525 376124
Fri (term time)	Art Courses, Whipsnade Village Hall, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Lorna Moore 078 9661 9660
Saturdays	Jazzercise, 9.30-10.30am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Angela Veryard, 01525 715208
Saturdays	KFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
Saturdays	Bootcamp Fitness, 9-10am, Dagnall Recreation Ground, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtptinfo@gmail.com
Sundays	Sunday Worship at 11am and 6pm Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL Contact Alister on 07572 395687
Sundays	Karate for kids & adults, 4-5:30pm, Eaton Bray Villaage Hall, Contact 07500 007779
Monthly	
1st Monday	Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except Jan-2nd Monday)
1st Monday	Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Margaret Jones on 01525 220991
1st & 3rd Mon (ex. Bank Hols)	Knit 'n Stitch at Edlesborough Village Hall, 1:45pm to 3:45pm. Contact Heather Westwood (01525 839083)
2nd Mon	Film Society, Sep to May, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 01525 220883
1st & 3rd Tues	Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm. For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147
1st Saturday	St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10:30am - 12 noon
1st Sunday	St. Mary's Edlesborough Open Days, 2-5pm, May to September inclusive
2nd Monday	SilverLink, 2.30-4.00pm, Grace Baptist Chapel Edlesborough – activities, talks, friendship & refreshments for the over 60s
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. Contact Sue Bingham on 01525 222522
2nd & 4th Tues	Dagnall Church Welcome Club, 2-4pm, Dagnall Church. Contact Catherine Hayden 01525 220527
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, 10:00-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church

Please get in touch with the relevant organisation to check if sessions are running

Wednesday Club Age Concern Northall

We require additional volunteer drivers to pick up our members from home and return them later in our minibus. It involves two hours on the morning and two hours in the afternoon, once a month on a Wednesday. If you are interested please contact Peter Barrow on 01442 842364 or Peter Williams on 01442 842506 for further information.

Thank you

Ronald (Bill) Pratt

Val and family would like to thank everyone for their kind condolences and to all those who waited at the church and on Dunstable Road for Bills final farewell.

They also wish to express their gratitude to those who have made a donation to Melanoma Uk. The total raised so far is £661.25.

Val would like to thank Dr. Mitchell and staff for their kindness and support.

Northall Village Hall AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is being held on
Friday 16th July 2021 at 8pm in the Hall, South End Lane.
Everyone is welcome – only Northall residents can vote.

- Come and see the improvements we've made to the toilets, the car park and the new environmentally friendly air sourced heat pump system.
- Come and hear about our plans for installing Wi-Fi, and a PA system.
- Come and tell us about further improvements you would like to see us make to the Hall and Playground.
- **Pimm's and Tea & Coffee will be available**



Thinking of hiring the Hall?

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For information about hiring the Hall, contact the Booking Secretary – 07857 318696

Village Info



EDaN Community Transport
Peter Williams: 01442 842506

Village Hall Booking Contacts

Northall: Lorna Cabbage Tel: 07857 318696 www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

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

Dagnall: Bev Way 07875 462128 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email DVH_Bookings@outlook.com

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

Typtetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Defibrillator Locations

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



Dagnall: Red Lion Public House & Munns Farm Shop

Eaton Bray: The Coffee Tavern

Northall: The Swan Public House

Edlesborough: Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Baptist Church, Summerleys



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We help people of Eaton Bray and adjacent villages

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousins

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

Curate: Rev'd Stephen Burge

Church Warden & Pastoral Matters: Catherine Hayden (01525 220527)

Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

Website: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk Facebook: St Mary's Eaton Bray

As I write this we are preparing for the next stage in the roadmap. Easing of restrictions means that we can begin to look forward to events which we hope will take place over the coming summer months. It is heartening to know that the restrictions we have endured have made such a difference along with the vaccination programme rollout.

St Mary's Eaton Bray and All Saints' Dagnall have both been open for Sunday services since Easter. That will continue with worship at 10am every Sunday at St Mary's and at 10.30am on the third Sunday of the month at Dagnall. The Sunday services from St Mary's will be livestreamed so that people who are unable to come to church can view them via the church website, YouTube channel and on the church Facebook page. In addition, midweek services of Holy Communion in St Mary's started again at the beginning of May. They are on Wednesdays at 10am. Everyone is welcome to these services.

On 22nd April Archdeacon Dave came to St Mary's for a special service to license Stephen as Associate Priest of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough. He has completed three years here as a curate. I'm sure you will agree with me that the time seems to have flown by! It is wonderful that Stephen is able to continue his ministry in the parish. We are indebted to him for his many skills, especially in enabling the online worship which has been so crucial during the past year of pandemic. Stephen will continue to be a self-supporting minister. He works in Higher Education teaching and doing academic research in the study of Islam. We are delighted that Stephen will stay in the parish and look forward to the future together.

Look out in Focus for information about upcoming events in June and July. On June 19th, Sally Taylor will be hosting afternoon tea in her garden at Butler's Folly, Northall. I'm sure it will be a real treat. Money raised will go to St Mary's flower fund. St Mary's village Carnival will be back on Saturday July 3rd on Edlesborough Green. This is a wonderful village event, an opportunity to celebrate and to meet up with friends and neighbours to have fun and to raise money for St Mary's and other good causes. Please put the date in your diary.

After the great success last summer of Open Gardens, this year's event will take place on Sunday 25th July. It was a real pleasure to visit some stunning gardens in our villages last summer. I hope you will be able to come along to Open Gardens and see for yourself this year. There will be concerts beginning again in St Mary's church later in the year if all goes smoothly with the easing of restrictions. You can find more information about St Mary's Village Carnival, Open Gardens and other events in this magazine and also on the church website.

As we begin to return to a less restricted way of living, I hope you will be able to join us at the Carnival and other occasions. Wishing you all a happy summertime.

✠ Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough.



Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month:

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

WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion

EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES.

PLEASE WEAR A FACE COVERING

DETAILS: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

In light of the current Coronavirus situation the Pastoral Care Team at St. Mary's, Eaton Bray welcomes your assistance in identifying any of our parishioners who might be sick or otherwise benefit from their support during this challenging time. Please contact us at admin@stmaryseatonbray.org.uk in this regard.

Dagnall Church Services



The All Saint's Dagnall Sunday service is at 10.30am on the 3rd Sunday of each month only.

All welcome. **Please wear a face covering.**

Any queries please contact Phillip Lee on 07977234453.

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4 1RL

St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

March 2021

1st prize – Jennifer Maxwell

2nd prize – Alison Walley

3rd prize – Elizabeth Stagg

April 2021

1st prize – Elizabeth Stagg

2nd prize – Sheila Banks

3rd prize – Christopher Banks

Edlesborough Baptist Church

Pastor: Alister King

gbcepastor@gmail.com

**All are welcome to our 11am
service every Sunday**

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Are you looking for activities for your family over the next few weeks? Members of St Mary's church have put together three scavenger hunts, one each for Eaton Bray, Edlesborough and Northall. We hope you will enjoy seeing all the villages by foot or bike and seeing each village with a different focus. We would ask you for a donation towards St Mary's funds at this difficult time. We would suggest a donation of £5 per quiz, or all three for £10. Why not organise family teams?

For your copies of the scavenger hunts and answers, or for more information, please email: barbara.morton1@gmail.com

You can make your donation online. Thank you very much for your continuing support!





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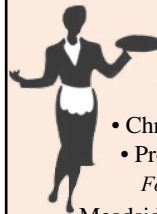
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TREETURE CREATURE AND FLOWERBUDS AUTHOR READING AT THE CARNIVAL

My name is Marian Hawkins and in mid June I am publishing my first, of a series of children's books, Treeture creatures and Flowerbuds, focuses on trees, flowers and exploring. A fun series of rhyming stories accompanied by fascinating facts and beautiful illustrations by Gaynor Volpi, the books are carefully put together to inspire the next generation to love trees and nature all whilst learning what makes trees so important.

I am attending this year's carnival where there will be the opportunity to purchase the book and hear some extracts from the Author. In the first story we follow Oaky the oak leaf on his exciting adventure as he tries to make his way back home to his mighty oak tree. Meeting some friends along the way Oaky learns more about the unique and special features of different trees.

From a young age I would always put pen to paper, jotting little stories and rhymes, so seeing my vision come to life into an actual book has been a dream come true. I am very grateful to Blue Falcon Publishing who have supported me throughout the whole process.

My idea for this series came to me from a happy memory as a brownie with Dunstable pack. I loved being outside and on one of the many outdoor activity days, we would go on a hunt for objects beginning with the letters of the word, Brownie. I found an oak leaf for my letter 'O'. Remembering that time of my life fondly, I saw an opportunity to develop characters that could help children remember and identify trees and leaves. I would like to invite parents and children to come and visit our stall on Carnival day. You can meet the Author and illustrator and view some of the original artwork. The

book will be available to buy on the day and signed by both author and illustrator. Complimenting the book, we also have pocket sized swatch booklets that will also be available to purchase at the carnival. The swatch booklets feature all the characters across all three books and are perfect for taking on days out and encouraging the kids in exploring the nature around us.

I look forward to seeing you on the carnival day and hope the weather is kind to us!

If you are not able to join us on the day the series of books will be available to buy at Amazon, Waterstones and Foyles.

Marian Hawkins

Instagram: @treeture_creatures_flowerbuds

Website: www.marianhawkins.co.uk





Dagnall Community Choir

Dagnall Community Choir is recruiting new members!

It's been a long fifteen months since the choir were last able to meet and sing together, but we are hopeful that this summer we will finally be able to restart rehearsals and resume making the music together that we love. We can't wait – we have missed it so much!

New members are particularly welcome as we relaunch the choir. Whether you are an accomplished chorist, or have never sung before, we would love you to join us. There are no auditions, and you don't have to read music to join our choir – a love of music is the only qualification required.

We usually meet weekly on Monday evenings from 7.45pm at Dagnall Church. An update on our restart date will be posted on our website www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk, so keep an eye on that, or telephone 07443 037227 for more information.

All being well, our Monday night rehearsals will restart in good time for us to prepare for our first public performance since the lockdown, which will be at the **Poppy Prom at St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray, on Saturday 13th November**. We will join the South Beds Concert Band for what should be a wonderful night of music, remembrance and celebration. We are all so looking forward to our community choir being able to meet and perform again!

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels

Sometimes we hear of a case so compelling that we have no choice but to step in. Florence Nightingale, a poodle cross pup, was found as a frightened stray with a severe leg injury. She was taken to her local dog pound, who were sadly unable to afford the amputation and aftercare necessary to save her life. Hearing of Florence's plight we knew we had to help. Thanks to our wonderful supporters, we were able to pay for her surgery and are delighted to report that she is recovering well – just a little camera shy! We will continue to give Florence all the love and care she needs until she is completely

healed and ready for adoption when she will be matched with someone on our list. **We can only help dogs like Florence due to the generosity of our friends and supporters.** It's easy to make a one-off donation of £3 simply by texting APPLE to 70111, or donate via Paypal using the 'DONATE Support a Cause' option and search for Appledown Rescue. Donations by cheque are very welcome too!

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Eaton Bray Methodist Church



Our first service in April was on Easter Sunday; it was a moving service led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings, reflecting on the moment when the pain of the Crucifixion turned to great joy as Mary Magdalene recognised the risen Lord. Like Mary we need to go and tell everyone that he lives and we have experienced his great love in our lives. For our second April service we were delighted to welcome back Tina Salmon as our leader. She focused on the case of Thomas, who refused to believe in Christ's resurrection unless he saw the Lord with his own eyes. By contrast, the spread of Christianity round the world has depended on those who had never seen him but had still experienced the wonder of Christ's love in their lives. If Jesus is a reality to us, we need to share that with others so the good news will reach further. Rev Wallace Edwards, another much valued preacher, visited our Zoom community on the third Sunday. His reflection was based on the Peter's encounter with the lame man at the door of the temple. The temple was a beautiful monument to the glory of God, yet this sick and impoverished man was excluded. However, Peter, through God's immense grace, offered the man a helping hand and healing. We, too, need to draw on our faith to cater for those in need. Martin Wallis came to lead our fourth service with an inspiring

reflection in 'The Good Shepherd'. Shepherds were an everyday reality to the people of 1st Century Israel and they well understood the complete devotion that a shepherd gave his flock. That devotion is freely offered to all and God works through us to help others. Martin challenged us to ask ourselves what we are doing to carry out these commitments.

A Warm Invitation

Our short online Zoom Sunday Service takes place at 10.30am. If you would like to join in, please contact our Zoom Service Host, Ed Syrett on 07814624628. You will be most welcome.



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Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Edlesborough Parish Council – Uncontested Election

The Council is pleased to announce that, following an uncontested election, a full cohort of Councillors continue to represent the Parish:

Ward of Edlesborough	Ward of Dagnall
Cllr Rosie Booth	Cllr Trish Owen
Cllr Chris Nevard	Cllr Lynne Wells
Cllr Christine Thomas	Ward of Northall
Cllr John Wilkinson	Cllr Kevin Cabbage
Cllr Alan Williams	Cllr Richard Harpley

Buckinghamshire Council elections

Following the elections on May 6th The following councillors were elected to serve the Ivinghoe Ward that includes our parish. Cllr Peter Brazier, Conservative Party; Cllr Chris Poll, Conservative Party and Cllr Derek Town, Conservative Party. Edlesborough Parish Council looks forward to working with the newly elected councillors.

Parking Issues

During the past month the Parish Council has been contacted several times about inconsiderate and dangerous parking in the Parish, in particular in the village of Edlesborough.

Council reminds all parishioners to consider how their parking affects others.

When leaving your vehicle:

- ***Does it restrict access of the pavement so as to force a pedestrian, pushchair or wheelchair user on to the road?***
- ***Does it restrict the view of other drivers exiting a junction or their driveway?***

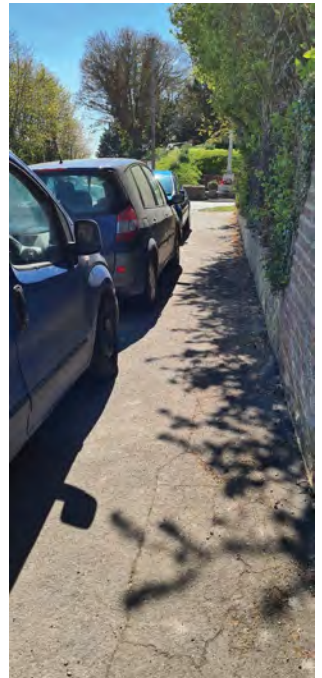
Council reminds all drivers that they should avoid parking on the white lines near the shops and school.

Edlesborough Parish Council does not have any enforcement powers over parking in the Parish only the police (Thames Valley Police for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall) have powers (outside of London and Wales) to enforce against pavement parking and they can do this where there is an obstruction (including to a buggy/wheelchair user) or a safety issue, such as parking within 10m of a junction.

The recent issues at the top of the High Street in Edlesborough have been drawn to the attention of both Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police.

Thames Valley Police have advised the Council that if a vehicle is parked with 10m of the junction of the High Street and the B440, regardless of who it is visitor, workman, or resident then Thames Valley Police will start issuing tickets.

Parishioners wishing to report dangerous or



obstructive parking should do so to Thames Valley Police.

Grass & Hedge Cutting in the Villages

Grass Verges

Now that the growing season is in full swing my Council requests that drivers do not park cars on the grass verges in the villages. Parking on the verges causes damage to them and makes it difficult for the Council's contractor to cut the verge.



Hedge Cutting

The Council contractor is scheduled to cut the Pastures hedge in the **last week of June/ first week of July.**

The hedge will be cut to the recommended height of 8ft.

The Council is aware of concerns about nesting birds and endeavours to do all it can to protect them. However the Council are also duty bound to ensure that the hedge does not overhang the footpath so as to:

1. Endanger or obstruct the passage of pedestrians
2. Potentially causes danger to the footpath.

EPC asks all parishioners whose hedges border the pavements to ensure that their hedges are kept well-trimmed ensuring that the maximum pavement width is available for pedestrians, pushchair and wheelchair users.

Edlesborough Pavilion

At the time of writing this report the construction of the Pavilion car park is taking place. Work to complete the building continues to progress. The project is now in its final stages and the Council is working closely with ECSC to help ensure the building is ready to open to the parishioners and sports clubs shortly after the green hoarding is removed (opening will need to be in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in place).

New Play Area on the Bellway Development

As part of the planning application for the Bellway Development in Edlesborough, the developers were required to provide a children's play area. Council and residents are pleased to see that the new play area is under construction. Once completed this play area will be open to all parishioners. The play area will be maintained by the management company responsible for the development not the Parish Council.

The Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the short Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th April 2021 can be viewed on the Council website. A new meeting format for parish organisations and parishioners to attend is under development. It is hoped that this can take place in July, subject to Covid-19 guidelines. Further information will be published in Focus and on our website when finalised.

Allotments

All Allotments in the Parish are let and the Council now holds a waiting list for anyone wanting an allotment plot.

Fly-tipping, Potholes, Pavement & Road Issues

Should you notice or witness **fly-tipping** in Edlesborough, Dagnall or Northall please report this to Buckinghamshire Council using the following link www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/

Issues with **roads & pavements** should be reported to Bucks CC using the following link www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/

IMPORTANT: If you consider the issue to be dangerous or an emergency, please call Transport for Bucks on: 01296 382416 (09:00 – 17:30 Mon-Thurs, 09:00 – 17:00 Friday) or 01296 486630 (out of hours and weekends).

Posting about it on Facebook can be useful to Parishioners but this does not, however, lead to roads/pavements being repaired or fly-tipped items being removed.

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

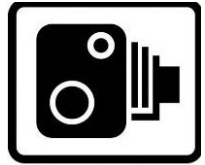
Thames Valley Police have relaunched and restarted their Community Speedwatch – more information can be found at

[Restart and relaunch for Community Speedwatch in 2021](#) ·

[Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner \(thamesvalley-](#)

pcc.gov.uk) Any parishioner interested in becoming involved with

the EDaN Community Speedwatch for Edlesborough Parish should contact Cllr Alan Williams via email at alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or on 07828 398371



Streetlights

Please report failed streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall to the Clerk for repair.

When making a report please ensure you provide the Clerk with the information displayed on the lamp post.

Council Meetings

In line with current Government legislation all council meetings of councillors must be held face to face, with the facility for public attendance where possible, and cannot lawfully be held remotely. Due to space restrictions allowing parishioners to physically attend Council meetings is proving challenging. Council is currently exploring live streaming Council meetings and allowing parishioners to join via the social media platform Zoom.

Any parishioner wishing to attend the Ordinary Council meetings should visit EPC's website for the latest information.

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- [Thursday 17th June 2021](#)
- [Thursday 15th July 2021](#)

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

Parishioners are welcome to attend all Ordinary Parish Council meetings and may ask questions, raise issues and give suggestions during the Open Forum before the formal start of the meeting. Alternatively, parishioners are encouraged to submit their questions, issues and suggestions in writing to the clerk.

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

All the [hyperlinks](#) in the information above can be accessed through the Edlesborough Parish website.

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky *Office hours Mon – Fri 9am – 12pm (Excl. Wed)*

Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk 01525 229358 Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

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The June Solstice

In the Northern Hemisphere, the June solstice (aka summer solstice) occurs when the Sun reaches its highest and northernmost points in the sky. It marks the start of summer in the northern half of the globe. (In contrast, the June solstice in the Southern Hemisphere is when the Sun is at its lowest point in the sky, marking the start of winter.) The word *solstice* comes from Latin *solstitium* from *sol* (Sun) and *stitium* (still or stopped), reflecting the fact that on the solstice, the Sun appears to stop moving in the sky as it reaches its northern or southernmost point (declination) for the year, as seen from Earth.

After the solstice, the Sun appears to reverse course and head back in the opposite direction. The motion referred to here is the apparent path of the Sun when one views its position in the sky at the same time each day, for example at local noon. Over the year, its path forms a sort of flattened figure eight, called an analemma. Of course, the Sun itself is not moving (unless you consider its own orbit around the Milky Way galaxy); instead, this change in position in the sky that we on Earth notice is caused by the tilt of Earth's axis as it orbits the Sun, as well as Earth's elliptical, rather than circular, orbit.

Does the Solstice Always Occur on the Same Day?

The timing of the June solstice is not based on a specific calendar date or time; it all depends on when the Sun reaches its northernmost point from the equator. Therefore, the solstice won't always occur on the same day. Currently, it shifts between June 20, 21, and 22.

The Year's Longest Day

The Summer Solstice is the day with the longest period of sunlight. Notice how the Sun appears highest in the sky at the solstice; its rays strike Earth at a more direct angle, causing the efficient warming we call summer. Because the Sun is highest in the sky on this day, you'll notice that your shadow (at local, or solar, noon, not clock-time noon) is the shortest that it will be all year. [Local noon is when the Sun crosses the local meridian (an imaginary line between the North and South poles) and is highest in the sky for the day.] For those who live in the Southern Hemisphere, this is the shortest day of the year and marks the arrival of winter.

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL FOCUS REPORT: APRIL/MAY 2021

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website: www.ebpc.co.uk. A hard copy of the minutes can also be viewed on the Parish Council's notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

FixMyStreet

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

Eaton Bray Youth Council

Representing the younger community members.

Eaton Bray Parish Council would like young people to come forward to set up a Youth Council. The aim of a Youth Council is for you to have your say. We want to provide equipment and activities, and to encourage a youth friendly environment - so we need your ideas. Interested? For more details, please go to the Parish Council website: <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/an-eaton-bray-youth-council/>

Village Parking Matters

The Parish Council has noticed an increase in the number of cars parking on pavements and wholly obstructing the path. It is in contravention of the highway code to park a vehicle on a pavement so that it fully obstructs the use of the pavement and forcing the pedestrian into the road or onto private property to pass. Any vehicles that are seen to be parked in this way will be subject to a notice that the vehicle details will be passed to both Central Bedfordshire Council Enforcement Team and Bedfordshire Police.

Please park considerately and do not obstruct the use of pavements by pedestrians.

Litter Pick Day

The Parish Council are organising a Litter Pick Day for Saturday 5 June 2021 from 10am. We will meet in the car park on School Lane at 10am. Please wear strong shoes. We

will provide litter grabbers, sacks, gloves and Hi-Viz vests but please bring your own if you have them. Social distancing guidelines will apply, litter pickers will go out in family groups, please ensure you have hand sanitiser with you, face coverings recommended. To sign up please contact Roy Michel 07931 520166 or email roytheboyfrance@hotmail.com

Village Gateways

Your views on the gates' future.

Eaton Bray Parish Council are exploring the future of the white wooden gates at the entry point of the village at the top of Bower Lane and Totternhoe Road. The idea behind the gates came originally from an initiative some years ago to add both character to English villages but also mark a village entry point with an aim of subconsciously slowing the traffic. The gates are made from wood and each year require maintenance. More recently, they have suffered from damage and are also starting to decay. The Parish Council is exploring the possibility of removing the gates all together as we are looking at a repair cost of up to £2000 this year and with a view to replacing them with something else that requires less maintenance but equally providing an 'entry point' for the village. With this in mind, it makes sense to seek the community's view and so we have created a simple poll to garner a consensus. Once we have the result of the poll, we will then be in a position to determine whether it is to repair them or remove them (with a view to replacing them with something else in the future).

If you would like to provide your view anonymously by selecting one of the two

options and submit this to us, the Parish Council will then discuss the result at the next suitable Council meeting. The closing date for entries is Friday 18th June 2021.

To let the Parish Council know your preference, please follow the link to the Village Entry Gates poll: <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/village-entry-gates/>

**MEETING OF EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12 APRIL 2021, 7:30pm via REMOTE/ZOOM
(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 10/05/2021)**

Due to social distancing measures, until further notice, attendance at Parish Council Meetings are being held remotely, all are invited to join the meeting through the ZOOM link provided on the EBPC website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

Cllr Philip Spicer - email: Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Greenways

The Parish Council has again raised with CBC the parking problems being experienced by residents in Greenways. Cllr Spicer is to raise the Parish Council's concerns with CBC regarding this location to try and raise capital for improvement works.

Harling Road

CBC will be installing 40mph signs in Harling Road, to slow down vehicles on the dangerous bends.

- UPDATE 10/05/2021: 40mph signs have now been fitted.

The Rye/Totternhoe Road

Due to concerns raised regarding the crossing of this road by pedestrians at the Totternhoe Road/The Rye junction, the Parish Council has asked Cllr Spicer to put to CBC the option of changing the currently 'triangle' into a mini roundabout, which would make this junction safer for road users and slow down traffic.

Sewage Pump Station – The Rye

Cllr Spicer and the Parish Council are still

waiting to hear back from CBC/Anglian Water regarding sewage overflowing from the pump station.

Village Gateways Poll my preference is as follows:

- Option 1: Yes, remove the gates.
- Option 2: No, keep the gates

Should you not have online access, please contact the clerk (email/in writing) with your preference:

Planning Applications-March/April 21

A copy of the Parish Council's response to planning applications can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

Monthly Payments - April 2021

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

Recreation Grounds

- The Rye – Fitness Rig: The Parish Council are waiting for confirmation of a delivery/installation date from the supplier.
- UPDATE 10/05/21: The possible planned delivery/installation of the Fitness Rig is w/c 7 June 2021.
- School Lane – play equipment: The Parish Council have looked at designs/quotations from four playground suppliers, reducing to their two preferred designs. They are now meeting with the final two suppliers on site to look at the proposals before a final decision is made.
- School Lane – the Parish Council has approved the purchase and installation of new benches:
 - Two picnic benches, together with ground works, for seating within the recreation ground.

- Two benches next to the skate park.
- UPDATE 10/05/21: The possible planned delivery/installation for all benches is w/c 14 June 2021.

Watercourse/Mill End Close

- The Parish Council met with two representatives from IDB who carried out an analysis of the bank and to discuss the necessity for the work. The Parish Council agreed to commission IDB to carry out the necessary work, however due to high costs have asked IDB to support the council. A decision by IDB will be made at their board meeting in May. Following high levels of winter rainfall, there has been further erosion of the island and the Parish Council agreed that urgent remedial work was necessary and advised IDB accordingly. The Parish Council are waiting to hear back from IDB with their recommendations.
- UPDATE 10/05/2021: The Parish Council has arranged for emergency repair works - to go onto the island, repair the gaps, weak sections and mend the breach.
- The Parish Council are in the process of obtaining quotations for new fencing to be fitting along the bank in Mill End Close.
- UPDATE 10/05/2021: Temporary safety fencing is to be erected along the bank, with the permanent fencing along the bank planned to be erected w/c 21 June 2021.

St. Mary's Church Trees

The Parish Council have put in a planning application (CB/TCA/21/00187) for maintenance work to trees in the churchyard, including the removal of Leylandii trees which have become exceptionally large/unsightly. These will be replaced by a mix of

native hedging. Awaiting CBC decision.

- UPDATE 10/05/2021: Planning Application CB/TCA/21/00187 has been approved by CBC. The Parish Council are looking for the works to commence September/October 2021.

Village Calendar 2022

The Parish Council has received several historic photographs and are now in the process of choosing the final twelve which will be used in the calendar. The Parish Council wished to thank everybody who took the time to send in their photographs.

Parish Allotments

All plots are now currently let. The Parish Council does hold a waiting list. Should you wish to be added to the list, please contact the Parish Clerk to register your interest.

Speedwatch

If you would like to get involved in trying to slow down traffic in the village or are concerned about road safety, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Next Parish Council Meetings

Due to social distancing measures members of the press and public are invited to join the meetings remotely through the ZOOM link provided on the EBPC website, www.ebpc.co.uk.

- Monday 7 June 2021, from 7:30pm
- Monday 5 July 2021, from 7:30pm

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

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



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: www.ebpc.co.uk

Parish Office: 17 Hammond Street, Aston Clinton, HP22 0AJ

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs

Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter

Keep up to date with what is going on in your parish



Dunstable Downs Rotary Club

How would you like to spend some of your spare time?

Have you ever thought that you would like to help the local community, something more national or even international? If the answer is yes then **ROTARY** could be the answer.

Several years ago, a Rotary Club was formed for people who lived in the local villages and who could not get to a town lunch meeting. Our meetings are held of an evening locally at Tilsworth Golf Club (COVID permitting) where we have interesting speakers and good chats between ourselves.

The past year has changed all of this, as it has for all of us, but the **Dunstable Downs Rotary Club** has held regular zoom meetings and has remained active in supporting local and national charities; ranging from Mercy Ships, running and financing the children's Christmas party

at the L&D Hospital, Keech Hospice, to the local "Men in Sheds" group with many more in between.

We have always supported the Edlesborough Carnival and you may even have seen us at local supermarkets, usually around Christmas time complete with our very own Father Christmas and singing bear! We would like to thank all those who have supported us in the past.

Basically, Rotarians try to do some good but, in so doing we look to good friendship and fun.

Rotary is open to all genders and if you might be interested in finding out more, please call Tony on 01525 223004 or Alan on 01525 220014 then when we get back to more normal times, we can invite you along to a meeting.

Tony Tucker

Dunstable Downs Rotary Club

Nigel's Thoughts

Dear Friends,

I hope that you are on the way to enjoying some of the freedoms that we always took for granted, and are slowly being restored to us as more and more people are being vaccinated.

We are now in the season of Pentecost, during which the church celebrates the gift of something called the 'Holy Spirit'.

When we think of the work of the Holy Spirit (if we do so at all), I suspect that our thoughts are of God providing power and gifts for our lives as individuals, and for the mission and ministry of the church.

Individual faith is, of course, most important, but on the day of Pentecost it was when they were "all together in one place" that the Holy Spirit came to them, as individuals, to give them the gifts that would build the church. There is something about the work of the Holy Spirit whose real power is most authentically expressed in relationship, where people are 'together' in the context of community. Why?

Because the Spirit's whole purpose is to guide us, to encourage us, to nudge or kick us into a life where we follow the way of love, the way of Jesus, and love always happens in relationship.

We are emerging from a time in which it has been hard for us to sustain such relationship, whether with our families, with our friends, or in the life of the church.

As we begin to 'unfurl' and relax into whatever the future may hold for us, may we treasure the renewed closeness that we are able to have with one another once again, maybe a handshake or possibly a hug.

May we also invite the Holy Spirit to send us out in love for one another, and into a needy world which needs God's love and ours so very much.

Love and God bless,

✍️Nigel



ST MARY'S, EATON BRAY, OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 25th July, 11am – 5pm



A special afternoon in the villages

Hopefully lockdown is coming to an end and we will soon be enjoying warm summer days again. What better way to enjoy a day in the countryside than to visit some of the fantastic gardens in our villages?

July 25th is the date of this year's Open Gardens event – one of the most delightful events of the summer. At the time of writing we have eight gardens to visit, a mix of small and large including some of the more noticeable gardens in the villages. Among properties you can see will be a manor house reputed to be the haunt of highwayman Dick Turpin.

Programmes, price £7.50, giving access to all the gardens, are available from a gazebo that will be erected in the churchyard near St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray. Refreshments will be served during the afternoon both in church and in one of the gardens

At this stage of planning we would welcome one or more offers of gardens. I can assure you that people's response to those who open their garden is incredibly positive. If you can help please contact me on 220136. Thank you, Gordon Gray

St Mary's Village

Carnival

Edlesborough Green

Carnival
Programme



Heroes

3rd July 2021

**Free
Admission
Free
Entertainment
Free
Parking**

Welcome to St Mary's Village Carnival

Each year, on the first Saturday in July, St Mary's Church and our village communities gather to provide a day of fun for everyone with a blend of familiar and new attractions. We very much hope this will be possible this year and until we are told differently the plan is to proceed. However please note the date is subject to change if the UK's planned lifting of restrictions are amended.

Run entirely by volunteers, the Carnival Organising Committee aims to provide our community each year with a special event such that, in the future, our children will be able to look back and say 'Our villages were a wonderful place in which to grow up'. Thanks are due to an outstanding Organising Committee and to hundreds of volunteer members of our community and local businesses who are so generous with their money, time and support.

Over the past 30 years St Mary's Village Carnival has grown to become one of the largest events of its kind in the country. Part of our success is down to the beautiful location of the event, sitting as it does at the foot of the Chiltern Hills, and the large level area within which we are able to operate. The Organising Committee is very grateful to members of Edlesborough Parish Council who allow and enable us to use the Green and with whom we have an excellent working relationship, facilitated by Penny Pataky the Parish Clerk, being a member of the Organising Team.

The serious side of the event is to raise money for local good causes—the Carnival Committee has distributed almost £228,000 in the past 20 years. Through your generosity we are able to maintain our 13th century Parish Church and support a host of local good causes including, this year the Dunstable Food Bank.

Whether you live locally or are a visitor to our villages I hope you enjoy this year's event and that you will dress yourselves, your houses and your vehicles to the theme. Have a great time at the Carnival and please be generous with your spending.

Lastly just a note to say thank you to Gordon Gray, my predecessor, who spent many years making the carnival what it is today and has stepped down from the role this year. The villages owe Gordon a great deal for his efforts over the years.

Mark Kilfoyle, Chairman of the Carnival Committee



Best Decorated Homes Competition

You could be a GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE medal winner!!

The decorated houses along the Carnival Procession Route are always a major attraction.

Have a go this year! The Theme is "Heroes"

Points are given for: Originality, Work involved, Fun, Good ideas, Crazy inventions, Home Made Decorations, family and friends involved, and the wow factor!! Balloons and Bunting are lovely and much appreciated but you do need to follow the "Heroes" theme to qualify for a medal.

The Best Overall winner in both Eaton Bray and Edlesborough receive a Cup and every house decorated with the "Heroes" theme will receive either a gold, silver or bronze medal award.

The Judges start their rounds by 11 am on Saturday morning and what they can't see, they can't judge.

If possible please leave your decorations up so that people can enjoy them in the evening.

The Carnival Procession

We anticipate there will be a good number of groups marching and travelling on floats and if your organisation or family would like to take part in the procession, please contact Iain Stubbs on 01525 220731 so he can send you important information. They will also be joined by classic vehicles on the way to Edlesborough Green. Please line the route and show your appreciation for the work put in by the people and organisations in the parade.

Join the procession at The White Horse to enjoy the atmosphere, to have a drink and get close up views of the Classic Vehicles. The Procession will follow its usual route along Eaton Bray High Street then turning into Moor End. When the procession reaches the shops in Edlesborough it will travel via Brook Street, The Green, Brownlow Avenue and Pebblemoor. Enjoy the decorated houses along the route. We will take steps to ensure that the floats etc enter Edlesborough Green in close order. Collectors will be in the procession with collection buckets, so please be generous.



Carnival Openers and Principal Charity

Mike Pittam retired from his position as Consultant Surgeon at the L&D hospital in 2012 and has been Operations Manager for Dunstable Foodbank since 2014.

Helen Pittam works part time as a Surgical Care Practitioner. She helps with food deliveries and organises Christmas present parcels for children visiting the Foodbank Distribution Centres.

Dunstable Foodbank was launched in 2012 to fulfil a need in the local area to help feed local people. It highly values the support received from the villages, both in terms of regular donations of food and the hard work and the commitment of village-based volunteers.



Carnival Timetables *

Procession timetable

- 11.00 Judging of Best Decorated House starts
 - 11.15 Floats assemble in The Orchards, Eaton Bray
& classic vehicles assemble outside The White Horse
 - 11.40 Judging of the floats
 - 12.15 Winners announced and rosettes presented
 - 12.30 Procession leaves The Orchards
 - 13.30 Procession arrives Edlesborough Green
- (*subject to change)

Arena timetable

- 11.00 Dog Show Registration
- 11.45 Dog Show (9 Classes)
- 13.10 Appledown Dog Parade
- 14.00 Magic Dave Performance
- 14.30 Revelation Majorettes
- 15.00 KF Performing Arts
- 15.30 HOT Academy
- 16.00 The Big Raffle/Show close

St Mary's Charity Stalls

As usual, all the money raised by the St Mary's Church Stalls and the volunteers from the congregation and local community will be included with the income from the Carnival Organisers to be distributed among the good causes. So please support these stalls if you can - you will recognise them by the St Mary's banner prominently displayed. This year's stalls include:

The Big Raffle

With St. Mary's Carnival returning this year in an understandably socially aware form, we will be replacing (for one year only) the Grand Draw, Silent Auction, and Tombola with a "Big Raffle". We're usually inundated with prizes from local businesses and individuals – but it's been a tough year for us all, so it should be of no surprise that some have asked for a year's grace.

Nevertheless, the number of prizes will still be in double figures with several favourites still being generously given.

So please give generously. Please encourage your friends and family to do the same. Please stay safe. And, who knows, you could be a winner of a food hamper, a case of wine, a spa pass for two, golf for two, something for the garden and covid permitting, a weekend for two in Rome. Good luck!

The Tea Tent

We are delighted to say the tea tent will be back in its usual place for this year's carnival – we missed not seeing you last year!

At the time of writing this article we are uncertain as to what the rules will be regarding social events. We are currently thinking of how to incorporate certain measures to ensure we can serve you all with a smile and laugh, whilst keeping you safe. The first thing you will notice as you approach the tent is the introduction of a one-way system. The entrance will be clearly marked and the number of people entering being monitored to avoid over-crowding. As you enter you can select your goodies from the savoury and sweet treats available as well as pick up your hot or cold drinks. You can pay just before exiting the tent. We would love it if you can come by to say hello as well as purchase some yummy goodies but don't forget to bring cash as we will have no card reader available.

Any donated cakes will be gratefully received before the carnival or on the day. Please call Karen Mustoe on 07958491266 if you need any donated cakes collected.

Evening Carnival Open Mic and New Pavilion Opening

Once the carnival stalls have departed and everything is packed away this year, we'll be welcoming local musicians to entertain us at a new Carnival Open Mic from 6pm. The pavilion will be serving drinks and hot food; subject to their builders finishing on time. If you think you can give us a song, then please let us know - no previous experience is necessary! We have a few volunteers already, so if you'd like to request a slot, or just know a bit more about it please contact Richard Brandon by email on richardbrandon@hotmail.co.uk

The BBQ

This will be operating all day on the Green from 10am until close of play with the usual BBQ delights to choose from. Our quality meat is provided by Browns Butchers, Eaton Bray. Choose from:

- Quarter pound beefburger
- Jumbo Bunker's sausage hotdog
- Best back bacon rolls
- Add hot onions to your order
- A selection of tasty sauces
- Ice-cold canned drinks & water



Join us on the Green for a hearty bite in a bun direct from the St Mary's BBQ!



Information for Local Businesses

The carnival is the perfect opportunity for businesses and organisations to be part of a local community event which is attracting an ever-increasing number of visitors and gaining a reputation as one of the best rural carnivals around. In order to make sure you have a presence at the carnival the committee are urging local businesses, schools, youth groups and organisations to make contact and be part of this brilliant event. With visitors attending from all over, the carnival offers the perfect platform for businesses to gain new customers. Just a few ways the carnival can help are:



- Advertising in the carnival arena, offering prime exposure within the heart of the carnival.
- Having a stall at the carnival. Prices unchanged from last year.
- Donating a prize towards The Big Raffle.

To book a stall, arrange advertising, offer prizes or for a chat about how the carnival can work for your business or organisation, visit the carnival website: www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com

Lost Property / Children

Any 'found' property or children should be brought to the arena. We will take care of them until an 'owner' is found. Any found property not returned on the day will be listed on the Carnival website www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com.



Health & Safety at the Carnival

The organisers of St Mary's Village Carnival are fully committed to the prevention of accidents and to limiting the consequences of accidents to persons and the environment. A copy of the Health and Safety Policy is available on application to the Chairman if required, along with a copy of the relevant Public Liability Insurances. St Mary's Village Carnival Committee recognises and accepts its duty to take reasonable steps, within its powers, to protect the health and safety of all visitors to the Carnival. However, all members of the public and every individual associated with the event have a duty of care. Please take reasonable care of your own and other people's welfare and report to the Organisers any situation which you believe may pose a threat to the well-being of any other person.

All injuries, however small, sustained by a person at the Carnival should be reported to the First Aid tent where accurate and comprehensive accident records will be maintained. Please note that for insurance purposes, should any incident occur, those involved must immediately report the circumstances to the announcer in the arena to ensure the matter is recorded and addressed.

Possible Disruption to Traffic and Bus Services



Road closure requests have been placed with both Aylesbury Vale District Council and Central Bedfordshire Council. As a result, roads on the procession route will be closed for a short time while the procession goes past. All the relevant authorities have been duly notified, including local bus companies. Bus services may not run to time, and may not follow their usual routes.

PLEASE PARK SENSIBLY

Please park sensibly when you come to the Carnival. Remember, it is essential for Emergency Vehicles and buses to get through so please do not block the roads or block driveways.





Music at St Mary's

Diary Dates

Saturday 14 August- Ladies sing Duets

Featuring Min Min Peaker & Karen Lomax
Programme includes:
Lakme's Flower Duet,
Rossini's Cat Duet

Saturday 13 November - Poppy Prom

Featuring South Beds Concert Band
Dagnall Community Choir
Soloist Linda Watkins

Saturday 15 January 2022 - New Year's Concert

Featuring Aylesbury Concert Band

Saturday 19 March 2022 - Noah Scape

Featuring Mark Niel, Linda Watkins and Miriam Wedley

Saturday 10 April 2022 – Concert & Cakes

Featuring The Linsdale Singers



Box Office – 01525 222283

Photography in Focus

In this series, John Hockey shares some tips

CHURCHES

This month I am going to explore another theme, following on from ‘trees’ last time, using a few of the design elements you might want to incorporate in your photography. For this month I have chosen ‘churches’.

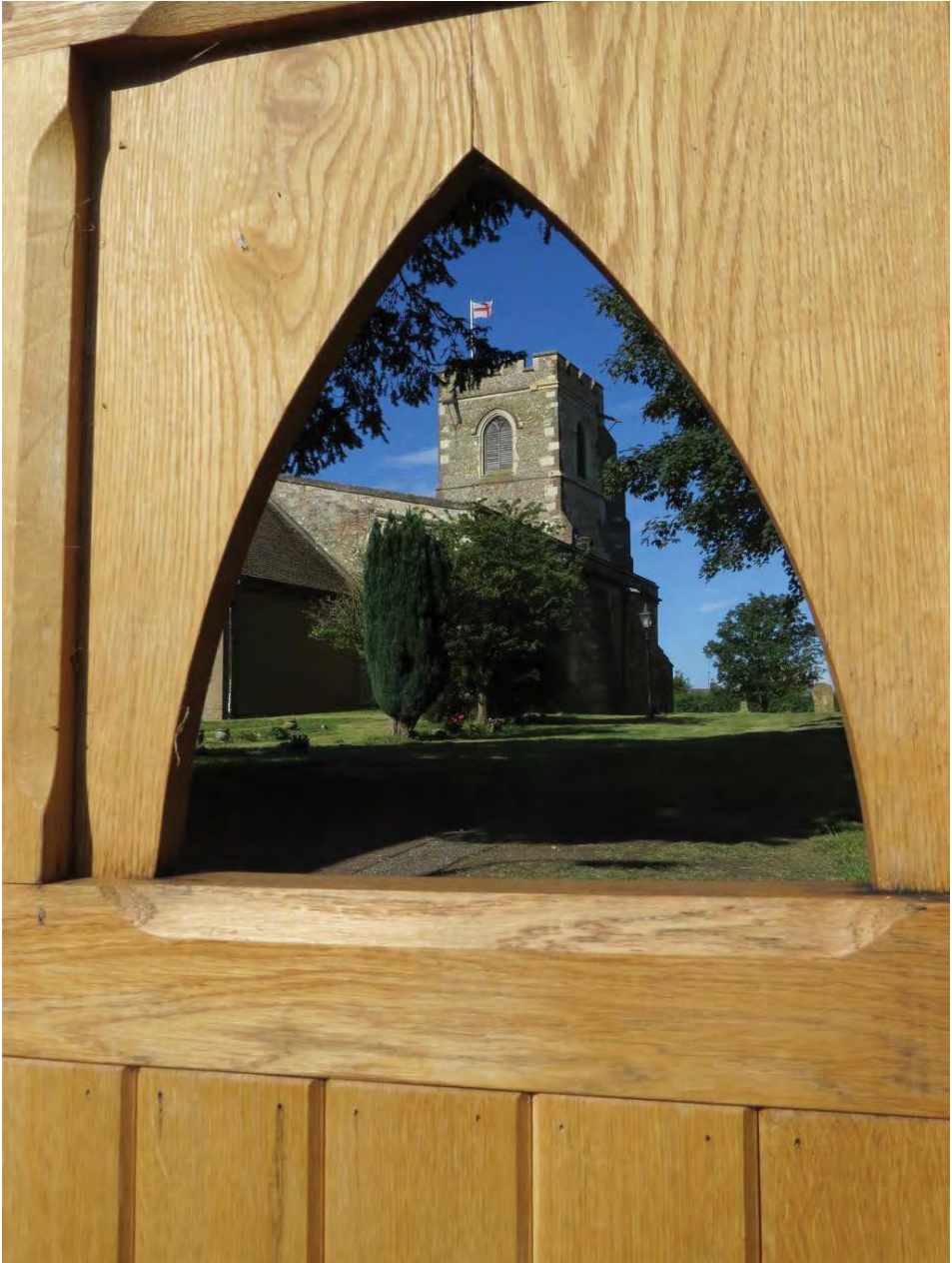
LIGHT

Mostly, we photograph churches during the daytime but occasionally there is the chance to take a picture at night. This shot was taken when the ‘church on the hill’ – i.e. St. Mary’s Edlesborough, was newly lit with floodlights. You may need to experiment with flash and exposure to get what you want but as it is so unusual, it usually turns out satisfactorily:



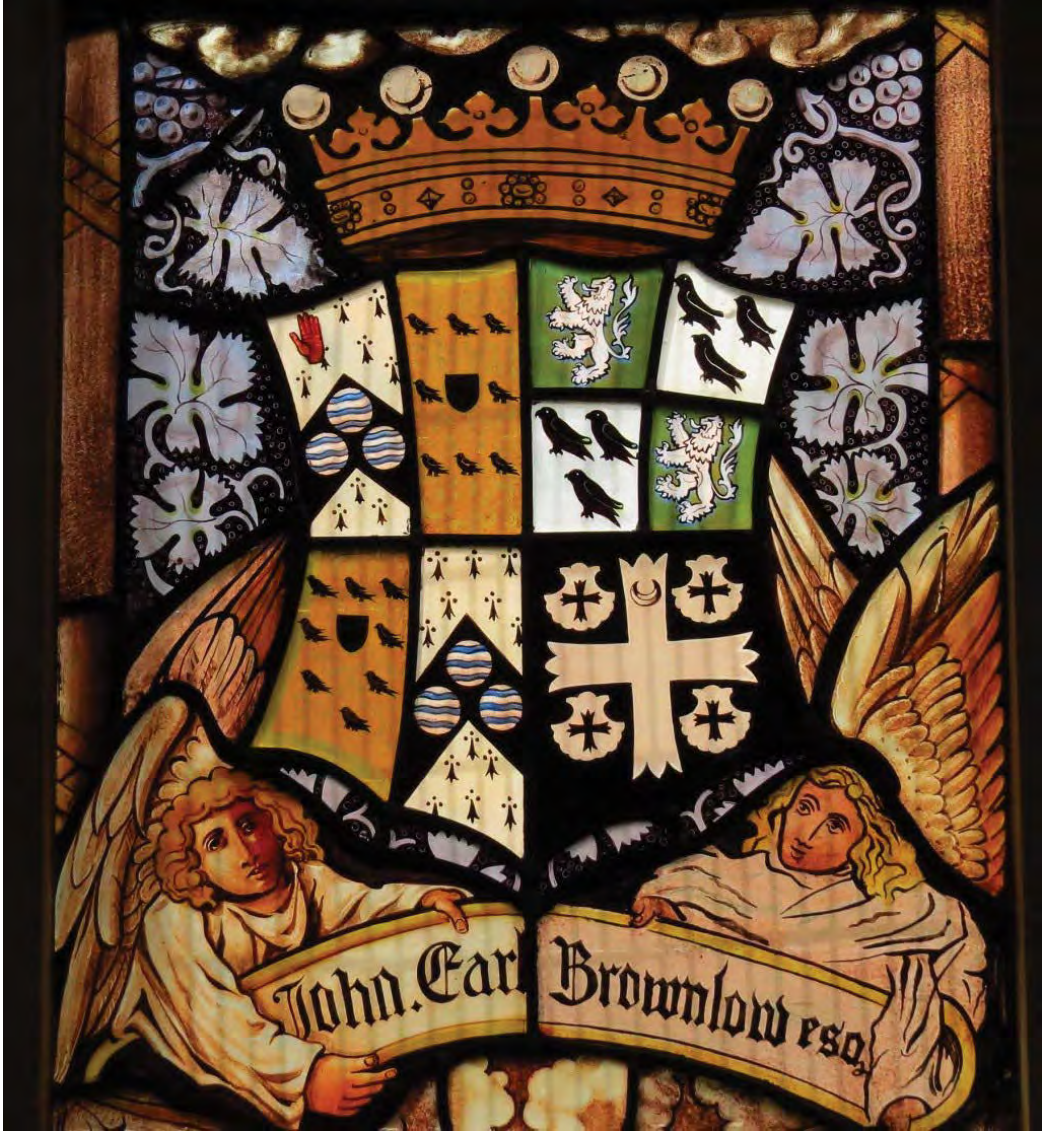
VIEWPOINT

This is the church at Streatley, not far from Luton, taken through the gothic arch of the churchyard gate. Hopefully it gives an unusual viewpoint and did require squatting down to frame the building, but that is a small price to pay to gain a more creative picture.



COLOUR

Sometimes the insides of churches can appear a little drab, but where there is bright stained glass this can lift the whole inside of the building. This is a window at Belton House church in Lincolnshire and those of you who know I have an interest in Heraldry will understand why I was taken by this most interesting coat of arms, having a link to Ashridge with the Brownlow family:





STORYTELLING

Above is a wonderful piece of decoration in St. Matthias church in Budapest. I could have placed this in the section on colour as the hues are quite complimentary, but the opportunity to tell a story won out. The way the artist has drawn the deer drinking near the streams that run from the offset circles of the window is just magical.

TEXTURE

Back home for this last picture which focuses in on the texture of the wonderful door of St. Mary's, Eaton Bray. It is handy when you have old metal to try to highlight the shine if you can, and that is all to do with light, which is where we started!



Next time: Modifying Images

LOCAL HERALDRY

BY JOHN HOCKEY

In this series, we take a look around local towns and villages to find interesting and unusual heraldry.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR

No doubt many of you watched in awe as the funeral of His Royal Highness Prince Philip took place in St George's Chapel, Windsor.

There is much heraldry there as it is the church of The Most Noble Order of the Garter, the premier British Order of Chivalry, instigated by King Edward III in 1348.

One notable knight honoured there is Sir Reginald Bray, of Eaton Bray fame, who was responsible for the redevelopment of the chapel in the reign of Henry VII. He was made a Knight of the Garter in 1501. Here are his arms with the encircling garter:



The description or *blazon* is 'Argent a chevron between three eagles legs erased* Sable'

*'erased' here means 'torn off'.

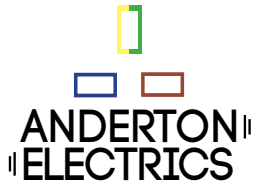
Incidentally, in the last article I mentioned the Grosvenor family and how they lost their 'Bend Or' and instead were given a golden wheat sheaf in its place. Well, if you look at the banners shown here, about half way down on the right hand side you will see the banner of the Grosvenor

family, 'Azure a garb Or' (blue with a golden wheat sheaf).

Additionally they are Dukes of Westminster, and the design also includes a portcullis as Westminster takes precedence over their own coat of arms.



Next time: More Local Heraldry



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Eaton Bray Cricket Club

It's been a decent start with all 3 senior sides picking up victories.

Results

April 24th. Milton Bryan 161 ao. Sri Kalai 3-16 Eaton Bray 2nd X1 163-4 Marc Flack 55 no. Eaton Bray won by 6 wickets.

May 1st. Eaton Bray 1st X1 251-7 James Flecknell 68 Andy Norris 54. Old Bradwell 165 ao James Flecknell 5-5. Eaton Bray won by 86 runs.

May 1st. Shenley Church End 197 ao Dave Emmerson 5-27 Eaton Bray 2nd X1 158 ao. Shenley Church End won by 39 runs.

May 2nd. Great Brickhill 190 ao Ollie Harris 4-44 Eaton Bray Sunday X1 193-3 Jaco Jacobs 75 no. Eaton Bray won by 7 wickets.

May 8th. Printers v Eaton Bray 1st X1 and Eaton Bray 2nd X1 v MK Stallions. Wash out.

May 9th Biggleswade 144-9 Peter Robinson

6-21 Eaton Bray Sunday X1 149-3 Lee Gauntlett 54. Eaton Bray won by 7 wickets.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club are always on the hunt for new players of any age ability or gender. We run 2 senior teams in the FCCL on Saturdays and 1 in the Beds Sunday League. We also have a side in the newly formed Village T20 League played midweek. The club have a very good junior section with 6 teams at age group U9 2xU11 2xU13 and u15.

The club would like to thank our sponsors Meadow Marquees, ECL Howard Watson Smith LLP, Topps Tiles, SMSS Ltd, Houghton Insurance and the Focus Magazine for their support during the 2021 season.

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Down the Lane

Let's hope that we have a flaming June after the cold and wet of April and the beginning of May! My tulips have enjoyed the cool weather and are having a long flowering season, except a few planted in a flower bed which a muntjac deer fancied. In the pots by my front door I decided to be bold and planted 3 different varieties of tulip with clashing colours which, the labels said, flower in April. The orange ones have been amazing and had three large flowers per stem. These have been followed by deep red



Globe flower

ones and the pink ones are just beginning to appear – not quite what I intended but they are giving a long display. They should keep going until I can replace them with geraniums for the summer.

It's been too cold for most bumble bees but when they are around they love lamiums (dead nettles) which come in

several colours and some have variegated leaves. The wild ones are thugs and are banished from the flower beds.

There has been a lot of frost damage in the garden but most plants have survived. The autumn raspberry canes have brown tops, all the flowers and some of the foliage on the bergenia died but new growth is coming from the bases of the plants. A lot of my herbs were looking very sorry for themselves but when I cut away the dead growth new shoots were appearing. I also realized that I need to trim them during the summer to encourage new growth. This contains more concentrated oils which will give a much stronger flavour to the herbs for cooking.

My perennial meadow has cowslips and heartsease flowering. There seem to be lots of buttercup plants but I have left them to grow because the leaves are a different shape from wild buttercups. They are now flowering and I have discovered that they are globe flowers (*trollius*) which I'd never heard of before. There are lots more seedlings growing so no doubt there will be several more plants that are new to me!

✍️ Sally Taylor



Lamium



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90 Years of Adventure

Celebrate the UK's largest Zoo's 90th birthday at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo



Anyone who feels they have missed out on their share of celebrations over the past year needs look no further, as ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is about to pull the streamers on its 90th birthday.

The UK's largest Zoo is about to turn 90 years old, and, although there will be no blowing out of candles this year, it is marking the date with eleven days of special activities, that can be safely enjoyed by families, across its 600-acre site.

Throughout May half term (29 May – 6 June), the Zoo will be running a fun, birthday treasure hunt. Any child that finds a treasure token hidden somewhere in the huge Zoo will win a prize! Families can also follow the birthday trail around the Zoo and collect a free sticker when they have completed it.

Back at the Event Hub, visitors can create birthday-themed crafts including origami elephants to celebrate one of Whipsnade's most iconic animals, as well as take a look at how the Zoo's keeper uniforms have changed over the decades. Visitors looking to learn more about the Zoo's fascinating history as a centre for conservation, as well as a glimpse into the quirky Whipsnade of yesteryear, can sign up for a "What makes a Whipsnade?" family-friendly tours, running throughout half-term (advance booking required).

Even the animals will be getting in on the fun, with keepers giving some of the Zoo's 3500 animals special 90th birthday treats, from colossal snacks for elephants to the kind of party food that a bear likes to get its paws on.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, or Whipsnade Park Zoo as it was then known, first opened to visitors in 1931 as the first "open zoo" in Europe to be easily accessible to the visiting public. The Zoological Society of London was founded in 1826 with the

aim of promoting worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats, and, while London Zoo was already part of their work, there was a desire to expand the charity's remit to include an "open zoo" in the countryside.

A derelict farm on the Dunstable Downs was purchased by the Zoological Society of London in 1926 for £13,480 12s 10d and building work began immediately. Animals began arriving at Whipsnade in 1928, with pheasants, llama, wombats and skunks among the first to arrive.

When Whipsnade Park Zoo opened on 23 May 1931, it was an immediate success and welcomed tens of thousands of excited visitors in its opening week. The Zoo's distinctive, chalk, hill figure of a white lion, which measures a gargantuan 147m from nose to tail, was completed in 1933. During the Second World War, the Whipsnade White Lion had to be camouflaged with green paint, turf and netting. The Zoo also acted as a refuge for animals evacuated from London Zoo during the war years.

Now best known for its colossal beasts that graze enormous enclosures, like the Zoo's herd of endangered Asian elephants or its two species of



rhinoceroses, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is home to 3,500 amazing animals, including brown bears, Amur tigers, spritely squirrel monkeys and adorable otters. Proudly helping to protect endangered species, Whipsnade has contributed to reintroductions of extinct-in-the-wild species, such as the Przewalski horse and the Scimitar Horned Oryx.

Families, animal lovers and those looking for a new adventure can book advance tickets for the whole summer now at www.zsl.org.

Drawings including cover by Bill Pendar and Louise Meara from the book 'Whipsnade Wild Animal Park 'My Africa' by Lucy Pendar



Baby Boom at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Spring has sprung at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, where zookeepers are celebrating a baby boom, after a flurry of animal births. While visitors have been flocking back to the large, open spaces of the UK's largest Zoo, its keepers have also had an eclectic array of other new arrivals to welcome, including a baby saki monkey, a yak calf and a litter of woolly, Mangalitsa piglets.

The as-yet-unnamed baby White-faced saki monkey (*Pithecia pithecia*) was born to mum Kaituma and dad Milagre on 10 March, but keepers are not yet able to tell the sex of the tiny primate. If female, the white-faced saki monkey will retain its brown and golden coat, but if male will go on to develop the distinctive black hair and white face that gives the species its name. In photos snapped by the Zoo's keepers, the tiny brown monkey can be seen poking out from between its mum's legs, as it hangs onto her belly.

Animal Manager Matt Webb said: "This week for the first time, the baby saki monkey has begun to move around onto mum Kaituma's back, where he or she will spend the next few months before venturing out on its own. The other female of the group, two-year-old Inca, has also taken her turn babysitting, carrying the baby around for a while on her back to give Kaituma a break. That's how female saki monkeys learn about child-rearing – they get hands-on experience from a very young age."

A larger arrival delighted keepers on 20 March, when female yak (*Bos grunniens*) Hermione gave birth to a calf, named Snape by his keepers.



Matt continued: "Little Snape was up on his feet and bouncing around the paddock within hours of being born. He loves to play with the other young yaks, Fred, George and Ginny, and we can already see the very beginnings of his horns, which start growing from birth.

"Hermione is a wonderful mum. Yak mothers are very protective, as, in the wild, they have to protect their young from snow leopards and wolves. That's why they have such big horns."



Yaks grow long hair and store fat very efficiently in their bodies which enables them to withstand incredibly low temperatures in the Himalayas.

All across the Zoo, free-roaming animals, such as Red-necked wallabies (*Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus*), which bounce all over the 600 acre site, have also been expanding their families in the spring sunshine. Visitors to the Zoo may spot wallaby mothers with joeys in their pouches. Female wallabies, unlike most mammals, are able to have a “conveyor belt” of babies, sometimes simultaneously carrying an embryo in their uterus, a small joey nursing in their pouch and a larger (“toddler”) joey alongside them.

Meanwhile, at the Zoo’s farm, two large litters of woolly, Mangalitsa piglets (*Sus scrofa domestica*) – a rare, Hungarian breed of pig – were born to mums Blanka and Marja, delighting the Zoo’s younger visitors. Born stripey, the pigs are already beginning to grow their strangely sheep-like woolly coats.



Matt Webb continued: “After such a difficult year, seeing the Zoo filled with people, as well as new life, feels like just what the doctor ordered. We’re looking forward to safely welcoming back many more visitors and members over the spring and summer, so it’s lovely that there will be brand new animals for them to discover upon their return.”

Families and animal lovers can book tickets for ZSL Whipsnade Zoo at www.zsl.org.



Skylark Unlocked over Totterhoe

The day dawned calm and tranquil; the air was clear and chill
As I walked a skylark rose above the sun splashed hill
Soft at first its happy song came trickling through the trees
A song to its creator carried heavenward on the breeze
As it rose up higher and the liquid warble fell
The melody was echoed round the valley wood and dell
My heart and soul soared with it as at one with space and time
The sweetness of its carefree life spilled over into mine
Anon

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for April 2021

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

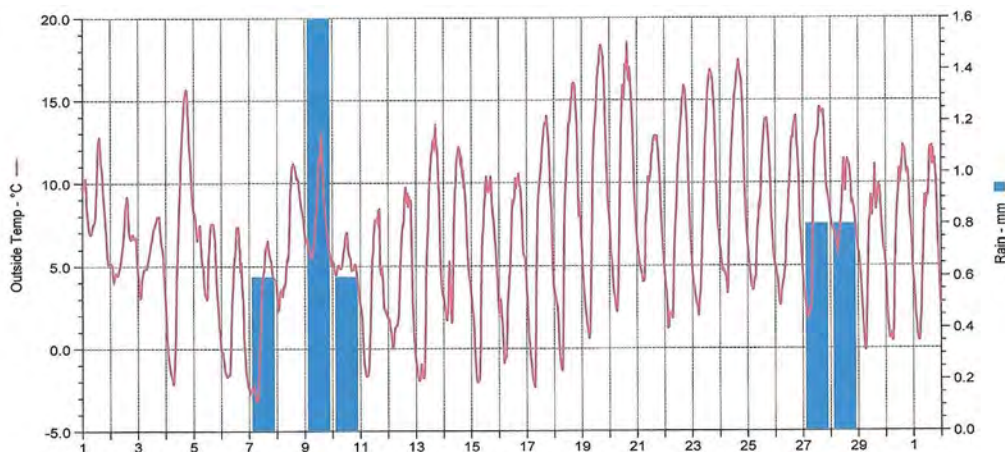


April started mostly settled, but soon turned very cold, bringing frosty mornings. It was dry and sunny, which remained the pattern for the rest of the month. On the 7th, we recorded our lowest temperature of April, at -3.3°C, with a sprinkling of snow on both the 9th and 10th. By the 19th, it was slightly warmer, but at night it was still down to 2 and 3°C. Then temperatures dropped again as we moved into the end of the month.

April's stats: there were 21 frosty mornings and 68.5 hours when the temperature dropped below zero (compared to March with only eight hours). Rainfall was only 10% of the average at 4.4mm and it was a much sunnier month than normal. Altogether, it was an unusually dry, cold and sunny month.

	High	Date/Time		Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	18.9°C	20 April 15.3		-3.3°C	7 April 07.00
Mean Temperature	6.8°C				
Dewpoint:	8.4c	29 April 16.00		-8.9°C	5 April 15.30
Humidity:	97%	19 April 08.00		29%	23 April 16.30
Barometer:	1033.8 mb	15 April 07.30		1004.8 mb	28 April 08.00
Wind Speed	33mph N	5 April 06.00		Months avg.	4.8mph
Wind Chill:	18.5°C	20 April 15.30		-4.8°C	7 April 03.30
Dominant Wind:	NNE				
<u>Rainfall</u> * T = total rain days and moisture. R = Actual rain					
*Rain Days: 15(T), 15(R)	Wettest Day 9 April			1.6 mm	0.062ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April 2021		4.4 mm	0.173ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	4 Months		224.1 mm	8.819ins

April 2021 Temperatures showing cold nights warm days and lack of rain



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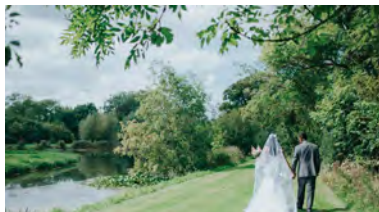


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Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going

A little Church with strong local links

Suffering today....

You may have watched the Real Marigold Hotel on TV? It's all about elderly celebrities spending several weeks in India to research the best place to make their retirement pots go a little further. If you've seen it you will know about the busy city streets, the entrepreneurship to make a living as there is nothing equivalent to our NHS or state help to fall back on when sick or unemployed.

We were there in 2014 and it struck as a country of extreme contrasts. One of my cousins was brought up in St Andrews Colonial Homes for children run by Dr Graham at Kalimpong near Darjeeling where we spent a number of days. Darjeeling is better known for its narrow gauge steam trains which run through the streets in the area and is an eye-opener. They run with much whistle blowing to avoid the cars and people going about their business occasionally having to stop where someone has parked on the line. Before the end of the British Raj in 1947, government administration and similar at Shimla, was moved into these areas at altitude in the summer where it was cooler. There is so much to see in India – monkeys in the street, stealing any food that has been left around. Elephants in the street are not unknown and cows are everywhere, mingling in with the traffic, trains and people. A view of Everest in the background was spellbinding. It was also where we first saw funeral pyres in the street.



Christ Church - Shimla (2014)



Preparing food street side Amritsar
(2014)

It feels so much more personal when you have visited the country, now seeing the current situation with so much suffering due to the spread of coronavirus and not knowing how to help. With over a billion people India is hailed as the world's largest democracy and an emerging global power, but despite this, COVID has clearly overwhelmed the resources they had available. It is made worse for those Indians living in this country who are unable to help their families so far away, concerned for their health and those unable to work to feed their families.

As I write, it is really distressing to watch so much suffering. Aid Agencies continue to help the poor and underprivileged there and our Church has contributed to the work of some including *Christian Aid*.

Psalm 145 says '*The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.*' Follow this with the hymn '*All things bright and beautiful, the Lord God made them all.*' Ephesians 2 tells us that we are God's workmanship. He cares for each one of us, wherever we are.

We are continuing our Sunday services on Zoom for the moment at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you'll get a very warm welcome. Please ring the number below or contact us via our website.

For those interested in the history of Northall Baptist Church, a free copy of the booklet, *Rebels in Green Pastures* can be supplied or downloaded from our website: <http://northallbaptistchurch.org/>

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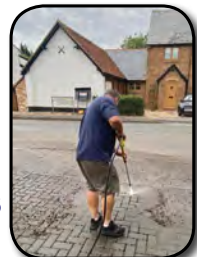
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What to do in the Garden in June

Courtesy of www.thompson-morgan.com

The longest day of the year falls on June 20th, bringing warmer temperatures and extra sunlight. Flowers are blossoming, there's lots to harvest in the vegetable garden, and keeping on top of bolting plants is a priority — particularly weeds!

Timely Tips



Keep on top of your watering

1. Check plants daily and water them if the soil is dry — especially newly planted fruit trees and shrubs that are still getting established.
2. Harden off any remaining half-hardy bedding plants ready for planting out. To learn more about making your beds & borders look great across the seasons, head over to our bedding hub page.
3. Use blinds or apply shade paint to prevent your greenhouse from overheating. Remember to open vents and doors on warm days.
4. Keep on top of weeding. Your plants shouldn't have to compete for precious water, light, and nutrients.

In the flower garden

- Harden off and move hanging baskets and containers growing on in the greenhouse into their final position. If your hanging basket plants become leggy, trim off the excess to encourage bushy new growth.
- Continue to thin out drifts of hardy annual plants if they're overcrowded.
- Lift and divide clumps of snowdrops and bluebells once the leaves start to yellow.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps

of flower bulbs and tubers.

- Wait for bulb foliage to die down naturally before cutting back.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias to encourage a bushy habit and more flowers. For more information about getting the most out of your fuchsias, check out our fuchsia hub today.
- Start to pick sweet peas as soon as they flower to encourage more blooms.
- Dead-head your roses if they're repeat-flowering types. Otherwise, leave the seed heads on for decoration.
- Dead-head and cut back oriental poppies after flowering. Cutting them close to ground level will stimulate new foliage.
- Stake tall perennial plants to prevent wind damage.
- As new shoots grow, use soft ties to train climbing plants such as honeysuckle and clematis to their supports.
- Prune out overcrowded or dead stems of evergreen clematis once they have finished flowering, to maintain a good shape.
- Towards the end of June, if your hardy geraniums have finished flowering, cut them back to encourage new foliage and flowers. For more information about growing your own gorgeous geraniums, head on over to our new geranium hub.
- Harvest flower heads from your lavender plants to use in baking, crafting, or as a garnish to your meals.

In the vegetable garden



Check and earth up your potatoes as they grow

- Continue to earth up potato plants as they grow. Read our potato growing guide for more advice on growing the best spuds.
- Keep the compost of newly planted container potatoes moist, but take care not to overwater, as this compacts the soil, squeezing out the oxygen, and prevents the developing tubers from swelling.
- Pinch out any side shoots from your tomato plants. You can pot these up to create new tomato plants. Start to feed once the first truss is setting fruit. For more information about growing your own delicious tomatoes, head on over to our new tomato hub.
- Harvest salad crops, and resow every 2 weeks for a constant supply of tasty leaves.
- When planting out cabbages, use brassica collars to prevent cabbage root fly attack.
- Harvest first early potatoes — these are normally ready about 10 weeks after planting.
- Keep an eye on your onion and garlic. When the leaves start to yellow and die back, they're ready to harvest.
- If you haven't already, harden off and plant tender vegetables such as courgettes, squash, tomatoes and sweet corn.
- Protect crops from carrot fly by covering with horticultural fleece.
- Although fruit trees will naturally shed some fruit (called the 'June drop'), aim to thin out congested branches further for bigger and better fruits.
- Protect any developing fruits from birds and squirrels by placing netting around your plants.
- If you have plants fruiting in containers, remember to give them a high potash liquid feed to keep them healthy and productive.
- Top-dress patio dwarf fruit trees with fresh compost and a slow-release fertiliser.
- Peg down runners on your strawberry plants to create more plants for next year. If you don't need more plants simply remove the strawberry runners completely. Visit our strawberry hub to learn more about growing this quintessential summertime fruit.
- Always water potted blueberry plants with rainwater, as the lime contained in tap water reduces the acidity of the soil over time.

In the fruit garden



Water blueberries with rainwater to get the best from them.

- Start to prune your plum or cherry trees now.
- Recut lawn edges, or install lawn

Looking after your lawn



Make lawn maintenance easier by adding edging.

- If there hasn't been much rain, raise your lawn mower blades to reduce stress on the grass.
- Water your lawn during hot weather, particularly newly seeded or turfed lawns. Keep new lawns well-watered.
- Warm weather encourages rapid weed growth — apply specific lawn weed killer to tackle them.
- Feed your lawn with a special lawn fertiliser to encourage healthy green growth.
- Recut lawn edges, or install lawn

edging to make future maintenance easier.

Other jobs about the garden

- Use water butts as much as possible and water your containers and baskets well in hot weather. Start to feed them with a balanced liquid fertiliser every 2 to 4 weeks.
- Make small 'wells' around individual plants so that the water can soak the soil to about 25cm (10in). Merely wetting the surface wastes water, encourages weeds and can lead to surface rooting making plants more vulnerable.
- Keep removing blanket weed from your pond to allow the plants and fish room to breathe.
- Keep an eye out for white powdery mildew on plants. If possible, remove the affected parts and spray with a fungicide to prevent further spread.
- Look for aphids on the underside of leaves — rub them off by hand or spray with an insecticide to prevent them multiplying. Alternatively try using a natural pest control such as Lacewing larvae.
- Keep an eye out for scarlet lily beetles on your lilies — remove and crush any you see. Also check for the sticky brown larvae on the underside of leaves.
- Check for vine weevils by tipping your plants out of their pots and looking for 'C' shaped creamy maggots amongst the roots. Treat with nematodes if vine weevils are spotted.
- Invest in pest control to prevent slugs attacking your young plants.
- Clip evergreen hedges such as privet, box and yew while they're in active growth.
- Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days.

- Check plants in your greenhouse daily and water them if the soil is dry.
- Damp down your greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and deter red spider mites.
- Turn the compost in your bins every month to keep it well aerated.
- Keep bird baths topped up in hot weather.

From your armchair

- Order popular plants and vegetable plants online if you didn't get round to sowing seed this year.
- Beat the drought and order ground cover shrubs for years of easy-maintenance colour.

Information courtesy of
Thompson and Morgan

www.thompson-morgan.com



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& Morgan**

Experts in the garden since 1855

Why Was June Made? by Annette Wynne

Why was June made? - Can you guess?

June was made for happiness!

Even the trees

Know this, and the breeze

That loves to play

Outside all day,

And never is too bold or rough,

Like March's wind,

but just a tiny blow's enough;

And all the fields know

This is so -

June was not made for wind and stress,

June was made for happiness;

Little happy daisy faces

Show it in the meadow places,

And they call out when I pass,

"Stay and play here in the grass."

June was made for happy things,

Boats and flowers, stars and wings,

Not for wind and stress,

June was made for happiness!

Eaton Bray History

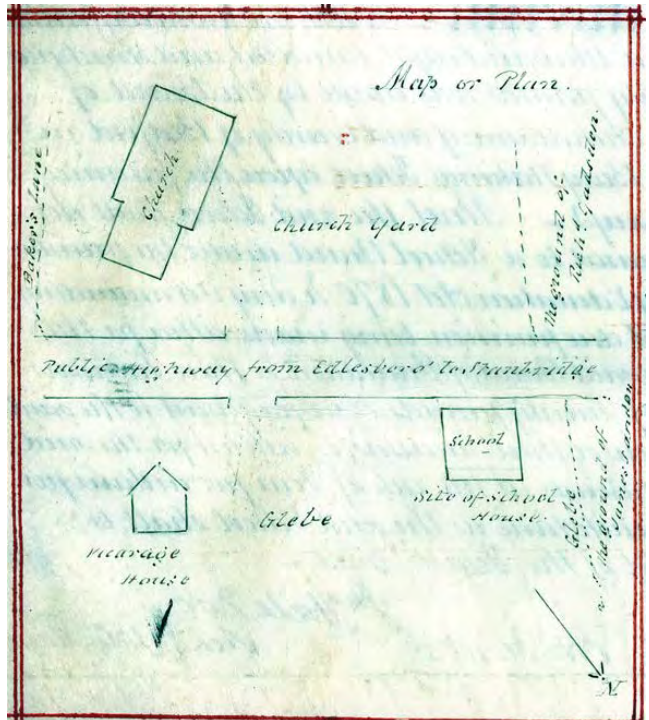
Courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives Eaton Bray National School

In 1846/7 the Church of England made an enquiry as to all its church schools. This was against the background of a new Whig government which championed secular education and the increasing importance of nonconformists, particularly Wesleyan Methodists, and Roman Catholics in providing schools.

The return for Eaton Bray recorded an Anglican Sunday School, which was attended by 46 boys and 40 girls and the church's daily school by 30 boys and 26 girls. The vicar (George Edward Whyley) wrote: "The vicarage is in the patronage of Trinity College, Cambridge, which subscribes £5 yearly, and the lessee £10, which subscription it is feared will cease next year, the lease expiring then. The former mistress had £20 per annum, but the sum was too much to be continued. The population is very poor". The daily school is elsewhere called a National School.

A note in a minute book of the church restoration committee from later in the century reads: "The National School opened April 1842, erected without any subscription from the Squire or any of the parishioners". The trust deed is dated 1841 and records that the vicar gave eight poles of glebe land as the site for the school. The first trustees were the vicar himself, his two churchwardens, James Gadsden and William Wood and the two overseers of the poor Wood Pearson and Sam Brown. The deed is endorsed with a statement to the effect that £20 was provided by the Department of Education in 1872 provided the school was not transferred to a School Board.

The first Education Act was passed in 1870 (more correctly it was known as the Elementary Education Act). It was a milestone in the provision of education in Britain demonstrating central government's unequivocal support for education of all classes across the country. It also sought to secularise education by allowing the creation of School Boards. These were groups of representatives, elected by the local ratepayers and the Board had the powers to raise funds to form a local rate to support local education, build and run schools, pay the fees of the poorest children, make local school attendance compulsory between the ages of 5 and 13 and could even support local



Plan of the site of the National School

church schools, though in practice they replaced them, turning them into Board run schools (known as Board Schools). Naturally, and luckily for local historians, the Act required a questionnaire of local schools in 1870.

The return for Eaton Bray read: “Existing: Wesleyan Day School. Accommodation for 112 boys and girls and 32 infants. Required: A school for 108 boys and girls and (A) a school for 68 infants, both at Eaton Bray. If the Eaton Bray National School be at once made efficient by supplying school furniture and appointing a certificated teacher, the accommodation required will be reduced to the item marked (A)”. This reference seems to imply that the National School was still in existence but was clearly not very well run.

It is impossible to say for certain when the National School closed. In 1875 Lord of the Manor Arthur Macnamara wrote a letter to the newspapers criticising the Vicar of Eaton Bray. One of the vicar’s shortcomings was that: “He peremptorily closed his school, which caused the Wesleyan school to be enlarged at an expense of £550”. The vicar in question was Rev. John Hall Doe who was appointed in 1871. This suggests a date between 1871 and 1875 for the closure of the school. Against this is the fact that the Post Office Directory for Bedfordshire for 1877 records Miss Priscilla Brown as mistress of the National School. This is the last directory in which the school appears (though the next Bedfordshire directory is not until 1885). However, the building is noted - as “School (Boys and Girls)” - on the 1st edition 25 inches to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1880. By the time of the next map, 1901, the building is marked as a Sunday School.

On 29th September 1887 a parish vestry meeting discussed education: “The matter of the future education of the Parish having been discussed it was intimated that it was impossible any longer to provide the same by means of a purely voluntary school unless such school were supported by a Voluntary rate. The suggestion therefore arose as to whether a Voluntary rate could be collected for this purpose or whether it was desirable to close the existing school and allow the law to take its course, which would mean a School Board. The majority of those present being in favour of an attempt being made to collect a Voluntary Rate it was proposed by Mr. George Shaw, seconded by Mr. H. Lane that the Parish be canvassed with a view to ascertain what number of rate payers were willing to pay to a Voluntary Rate in support of the Existing School and thus avoid a School Board”. This existing school was probably the Wesleyan school since at the next meeting, 3rd November, it was noted: “That the names of Mr. George Shaw, Mr. Harold Buckmaster and Mr. William Groom be added to the Existing Committee of the management of the Wesleyan School”.

All this evidence points to the National School finally closing at some date between 1880 and 1885. The building was still in existence in the 1940s, between 1945 and 1952 £43/13/- was expended on repairs to the large hall, small room, kitchen, entrance hall, main entrance and gents’ lavatory. The buildings, however, are no longer extant. Today [2012] 7 and 9 High Street stands on the approximate location of the old school.



The former Eaton Bray National School about 1900



Salvation Sound

Eaton Bray Salvation Army

'THE POTTER'S CRAFT'



Recently on the television there has been a series of programmes where people have been introduced to the art of pottery using the potter's wheel to make pots. At school I loved the pottery lessons and learned a great deal about making pots, firing in the kiln, decorating, and being pleased with my finished article. I still have an owl that I made when at school and it holds pride of place with all my sentimental things that I have collected. When we look at finished pottery and china products we see things of beauty, but it is easy to forget the hardship and poverty faced by the early artisans who spent much of their time working in filthy and dangerous conditions and noisy factories returning home at night to appalling scenes of squalor.

Originally, the women who worked in the factories were given the menial tasks, and yet women today play a prominent part in production and design. Several years ago Moorcroft insured one of their designers for 1.5 million pounds.

In the Bible we are told '*that we are made in the image of God.*' (Genesis 1:27)

Out of dull, lifeless clay, things of great beauty and usefulness can be shaped and formed.

In Florence in Italy in 1502 a large block of marble was given to the church in Santa Maria. The church immediately hired who they thought was a professional sculptor to work on this enormous piece of marble. The man was however not a professional sculptor and soon after commencing work on the marble drilled a large hole at the bottom of the piece of marble destroying it.

The church decided to drape a large sheet over it not knowing what else to do with it as it was damaged beyond recognition. A certain man called Michelangelo caught word of the stone and told the church authorities that he thought he could do something with the marble. After a time, the sculptor worked on the piece of marble and what was once thought a lost cause became one of the greatest statues of David ever sculpted.

We are all unique, but God can use us each day. Just the little things, the kindness shown to someone, the phone call, the card, or letter all can brighten up someone's day and we can be used by God in so many ways.

Every blessing.

✍ Allison Gaudion (Major)

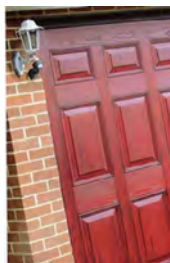


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