

**Revised Carnival  
pull out inside**

**Separate  
September issue  
this year only**

# **FOCUS**

## **August 2021**



**The local village magazine just for Us!  
Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall  
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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  
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eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk**

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For more information contact:  
John Hazell 01525 218142

Email northallchapel@btinternet.com  
Web: www.northallbaptistchurch.org

There has been a Baptist Chapel in Northall  
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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**

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**10th of the month**

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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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**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](http://www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk)**



# Village Diary



## Weekly

- Mon-Sun St. Mary's Edlesborough is open most days 10am-4pm, sometimes longer.  
Look for the OPEN sign below the notice board
- Mon-Fri (term time) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec
- 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-Fri (term time) Tottemhoe Pre-school, Tottemhoe CE Academy, 01582 662959, tottemhoeoffice@tot.dsamat.co.uk
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, Tottemhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
- Mondays Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45-9.45pm, w:dagnall-community-choir.co.uk
- 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 (8-10½ 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
- Mondays Zumba Gold, 4:45pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, contact Carolyn on c.syme26@gmail.com
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
- Tuesdays Tottemhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.15am, 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 Fortnightly Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-11:30am, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Tuesdays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon
- Wednesdays 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 Pilates 6.45 & 7.45pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Andrea andrea@naturalpilates.co.uk or 07855 138005
- Wednesdays Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact 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 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, simon\_betts@hotmail.com.
- Thursdays Intermediate Boxercise, 7.30-8.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, Josh Thompson 07456 574405 or jtpinfo@gmail.com
- Thursdays Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome



# Village Diary

- Thursdays Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome.  
[www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk](http://www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk) info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
- 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, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124
- 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 jtpinfo@gmail.com
- Sundays Sunday Worship at 11am, Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525 222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com
- Sundays Karate for kids & adults, 2:30-4pm & 4:30-6pm, Eaton Bray Village 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)
- 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
- 2nd Monday Film Society, Sep to May, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 01525 220883
- 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 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 Saturday Workshops Dynamic Yoga 9.30-11am £10 Eaton Bray Coffee Tavern, Keira 07936 693696
- 2nd Saturday Cafe Community, 11am-1pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church., October to May only
- 3rd Thursday Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Memorial Hall
- 2nd Friday Leukaemia Research Coffee Morning 2, Dunstable Road, Dagnall 10.30 a.m. all welcome. No meeting in September, June plant bring and buy, December Sherry & mince pies
- 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

## One Off/Annual/Irregular Events

- 28th August St.Mary's Village Carnival, Edlesborough Green

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

**Please advise any changes required to  
this diary to Sally Siddons (editor) on  
01525 221733 Email: [sallysid@hotmail.com](mailto:sallysid@hotmail.com)**

## September Issue of Focus

Regular contributors please note there will be a separate issue in September this year only

## Focus Diary

Focus would advise all clubs, committees etc. to check the diary at the front of the magazine as unless we are advised to the contrary, we do not know which entries are still current.



## **EDLESBOROUGH SURGERY & PITSTONE VILLAGE HEALTH CENTRE 2021 FLU CAMPAIGN**

We are planning our Influenza vaccination programme for this Autumn.

The Department of Health has indicated in the last week that they are hoping to offer patients a covid vaccine booster dose at the same time as receiving the flu vaccine.

At present we are waiting for clarification as to how this will work in practice.

Further updates will follow once we have more information. Please keep an eye on our surgery website [edlesboroughsurgery.co.uk](http://edlesboroughsurgery.co.uk) and our Edlesborough Surgery Facebook page for up to date details.

We also ask that you please advise friends and neighbours if they don't have internet access.

Thank you for all your support during this difficult time



## **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 in 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

# 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](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh)

Email: [northallvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:northallvhbookings@gmail.com)

**Eaton Bray:** Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

Email: [bookings@ebvh.co.uk](mailto:bookings@ebvh.co.uk) Website [www.ebvh.co.uk](http://www.ebvh.co.uk)

**Dagnall:** Bev Way 07875 462128 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email [DVH\\_Bookings@outlook.com](mailto:DVH_Bookings@outlook.com)

**Edlesborough Memorial Hall:** Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: [manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk)

## Police Contact Numbers...

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**General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101      Emergency: 999**

**Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)**

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

Email: [LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:LPT.LeightonBuzzardLinslade&Rural@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)**

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: [greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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



**Helpline: 07930987064**

**Manned phone hours:**

**9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday**

(An answering service is available for out-of-hours calls)

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*We help people of Eaton Bray and adjacent villages*



# Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousans

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](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk) Facebook: St Mary's Eaton Bray

'O Lord, I have heard of your renown, and I stand in awe, O Lord, of your work.' (Habakkuk 3:2)  
This year, in line with the International Climate Conference that is going to be held in Glasgow in the Autumn, the Church of England is encouraging all of its churches to dedicate some time to reflecting on creation, environmental issues and all the things we can do to try and do our bit to slow Climate Change, both as individuals and as a church.

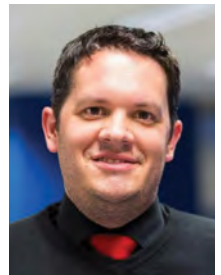
As Christians there is a lot that we can do to help climate change: small actions may seem like they don't make a difference but they really can add up, as the Roman poet Ovid once wrote 'Adding little to little, you end up with a big heap'. So, trying to use less plastic by having a refillable container, or making sure you don't fill a kettle up when it isn't needed, or making sure that computers and televisions are not left on standby, *will* make a difference, even if we don't notice it. While aspects of climate change can have an impact on our local areas, the effects of many developing countries can be catastrophic; places such as Bangladesh have seen more damaging weather that is a result of climate change. Very often, poorer countries struggle to respond to the impacts of climate change, so we need to respond both with charitable giving to organizations like Christian Aid, but also by changing the things that we do to help limit climate change.

Thinking about creation, though, is not simply about environmental issues – although they are certainly an important part of how Christians should engage with the created world. The Bible often describes the awe and wonder of creation, and at time we can lose that sense of awe and wonder. It does us good to remember how beautiful and amazing the world is and to think about what we can all do all to help protect it.

As part of our response, we are planning some events and services to celebrate God's creation. At the end of July we will be holding a Messy Church in the grounds of St. Mary's Eaton Bray, where children will be coming to learn about creation. We have a number of activities planned, like making a "bug hotel", a place where solitary bees and other insects can make a home and lay their eggs. The children will also be decorating an altar frontal with things found in the churchyard. We will be following this with an Outdoor Eucharist (weather permitting), where we will worship outdoors using the altar frontal the children have made. This will be held on **Sunday 8th August at 10am**, followed by a bring your own picnic in the churchyard. All are welcome! Although we will be able to supply a few chairs, we are encouraging people to bring a blanket or their own chairs to sit on.

We will also be welcoming Rev'd Canon John Payne-Cook on **Sunday 5th September, at 10am** who will be preaching during our normal Sunday service. Canon John has done a lot of research into environmentalism in Christian thought and has a wealth of knowledge and insight into the issues, so we are really looking forward to hearing what he has to teach us.

This month I encourage you all to think about the created world and about



the changes that you can make to help protect our environment. Above all, I hope that you manage to take advantage of some of the summer sun and stand in awe and wonder at the beauty of the created world.

God Bless

Rev'd Stephen Burge

### 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](http://www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk)**

## 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

### Excel 2000 Exercises with Pat Quartermaine

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## Edlesborough Baptist Church

**Pastor: Alister King**  
**[gbcepastor@gmail.com](mailto:gbcepastor@gmail.com)**

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

**Keep up to date by visiting:**  
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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](mailto:barbara.morton1@gmail.com)

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







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- R.R*



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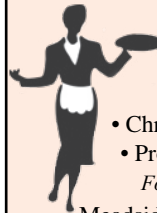
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# THE FOCUS ON FILM SOCIETY

We are delighted to announce that we will be starting our Sixteenth season on Monday 13th September.

We meet in Eaton Bray Hall at 2.00 pm on the second Monday of each month between September and the following May.

This season, members have chosen the following programme:

Bohemian Rhapsody  
Breath  
Military Wives  
Downton Abbey  
The Good Liar  
Little Women  
Judy  
Ordinary Love  
Jojo Rabbit

New members are always welcome and can be assured of a warm welcome, if you think you might like to join us, you can come for a trial visit for £4 which will be deducted from your membership fee of £20 for the 9 films.

More information and a brochure can be obtained from Graham Chappell on 01525 220883 or visit our website at: <http://www.eatonbray.com/cinema/>

Or, just come along to one of our films. It makes a nice afternoon out and we serve Tea and Biscuits after the film with time for a chat.



## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2021 (HODS)

HODS offer free entry to a wide range of attractions around the UK, giving you an opportunity to discover local treasures and national gems that might not normally be open to the public to explore. W: [heritageopendays.org.uk](http://heritageopendays.org.uk)  
For the first time ever, both of our St. Mary's will be part of this dynamic programme of over 5,000 events. HODS is England's largest annual festival of history and culture, and runs for ten consecutive days from the 10th to the 19th of September. Both of our Churches will be manned on Saturday 11th September. Please see the related "Focus" article for more information on events at Eaton Bray.

**The Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough will be setting up on Friday September 10th. We will be manned on the Saturday and Sunday 10 - 4pm, hoping that on the Sunday afternoon we can have our Bell Ringing team, followed by a "Songs of Praise".**

Each year HODS has a national theme and this year it is "Edible England". At the time of writing, one of our local beekeepers will be on hand with advice on the conditions and equipment required for healthy productive bees within the ecosystem. We are talking to a local business, who may be able to add to the Edible England' theme. There may be examples of local foraging opportunities and there will be pictures and stories of our village history, and the families that lived here.

As well as enjoying all that the Church building has to offer it is also an opportunity to explore the Churchyard; it is much bigger than you might think. We have retained our wildflower banks and they should be a picture at the time, hopefully alive with bees and other insects.

We will add our event to our website: [edlesboroughchurch.org.uk](http://edlesboroughchurch.org.uk)

If you are a Facebook user please search for us: Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough and like our page. See you in September.  
Friends of the Church on the Hill.



  
heritage open days



at

# St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray

**11th September 2pm - 5pm**

**Activities include:**

**Local History**

**Church Records**

**Churchyard trail**

**Pictorial Quiz**

**Refreshments will be available**



Come and join in the fun and learn something new about where you live. This year, St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray is holding a free 'Heritage Open Days' event.

**Saturday, September 11th, 2-5pm**

'Edible England' is this year's theme. Discover all about the Aylesbury Prune, or prune plums as they were otherwise known. There will be quizzes, a churchyard trail, activities for children plus more.

Were you or your ancestors baptised or married in St. Mary's, Eaton Bray? The church records will be available for you to look up special events from the past.

Refreshments will be available to round off an entertaining afternoon.

Why not combine a visit to St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray with a visit to St Mary's, Edlesborough for more foodie fun.

*We look forward to seeing you*



# Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

## Edlesborough Pavilion

At the time of writing this report the new Pavilion is almost at completion. EPC is working hard to finalise the lease between themselves and ECSC who will operate the Pavilion. All parishioners are welcome to become members of the ECSC and if they have not already done so are encouraged to join using the following link <https://escomembers.azurewebsites.net/>

## Edlesborough Green

Edlesborough Green is now being widely used by parishioners for dog walks, exercise, and carefully coordinated sports activities.

EPC reminds all parishioners to:

- **Keep dogs under control. If your dog does not have excellent recall it must be kept on lead** to ensure that it does not spoil the enjoyment of Edlesborough Green for other users.
- Use the litter bins provided or preferably take all rubbish and recycling home.

## Dagnall Outdoor Gym Equipment

After many delays EPC is pleased to announce that the purchase order for the installation of six pieces of outdoor gym equipment on Dagnall rec has now been raised. The equipment includes;

- Supply Adult Air Walker
- Supply Adult Seated Leg Press
- Supply Adult Self-weighted Rower
- Supply Adult Cross Country Skier
- Supply Classic Cycle
- Supply Single Seated Chest Press

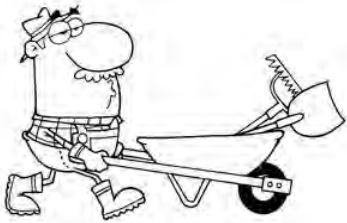
EPC reminds all parishioners to take care when using the equipment and to ensure that they do so within the limit of their own abilities.

## EDaN Community Car Share Scheme

This is a group of local volunteers who support parishioners with journeys to hospital etc. The group has been inactive due to Covid-19. It is hoped to resume the service sometime in September 2021.

The group is in need of more volunteer drivers. Any parishioner interested in volunteering should contact Cllr Alan Williams via email at [alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) or on 07828 398371.





## Allotments

The annual allotment rent for 2021/22 is due to be paid at the start of October 2020. The rent due is £2.10 per pole.

EPC requests that payments are made by internet banking. Any tenants not able to pay by **internet banking** please contact the Clerk ASAP to discuss an alternative payment method.

Please ensure rent is paid by 11th October 2021, late payments will incur a £10 administration fee.

EPC currently holds a waiting list for all allotment sites, anyone wishing to be added to the waiting list should contact the Clerk.

## EDaN Beautification Team

The EDaN Beautification Team have been working hard tending to the various planters in the villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall which are all looking lovely.

Do you enjoy gardening and have some time to spare?

The EDaN Beautification Team is running low of volunteers for the tidying and watering of



these planters. Anyone interested in getting involved or helping out with the watering should contact Mrs Christine Yates on 01525 220739 or [chris@brooklyns.org.uk](mailto:chris@brooklyns.org.uk)

## Planning Applications in the Parish

Each month EPC considers planning applications for Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall that have been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council for approval.

Parish Councils are statutory consultees and as such EPC is invited to comment on most planning applications within the Parish. When the Council is advised of a new application, Cllr Wilkinson reviews it against the current national, local and neighbourhood planning policies and then makes a recommendation to the other councillors. The Parish Council then consider that recommendation and either agree it or amend it, before it is sent off to the local planning authority as EPC's formal response.

The planning officers are obliged to consider EPC's comments but they do not have to agree with them. If their assessment differs from EPC's, it is their view that prevails and not the Parish Council's.

When commenting on an application EPC has three options. 'Support', 'Oppose' or 'No Objections'. If EPC considers that a proposal is contrary to any of the relevant planning policies the Council will usually oppose the application. If EPC considers that the proposal conforms to the relevant policies and is for the benefit of the general community as a whole, the Council will usually support the application. For most other proposals (which are the majority), EPC sends in a no objections response.



Parishioners need to understand that because EPC represents the Parish as a whole, the Council has to view applications on their impact on the general community and not individual parishioners. Where parishioners have differing views over planning matters, EPC cannot take 'sides' because the Council represents both parties. EPC also confines its comments to issues that are material planning matters and not such things as, loss of views, the possible intentions or reputation of an applicant etc. Some planning policies are quite definitive and it is relatively clear cut whether or not a proposal complies. Other policies however are somewhat general and it is very subjective whether or not they comply. Where a judgment is very subjective, EPC usually draws attention to the possibility that it might not comply, but leaves it to the planning officers to make that final decision.

EPC publishes all its responses to planning applications on the Council website and these can be viewed at <https://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/>

### **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](mailto:alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) or on 07828 398371



### **Council Meetings**

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 16th September 2021
- Thursday 21st October 2021

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

In line with current Government legislation all council meetings must again be held face to face, with the facility for public attendance where possible, meetings can no longer be held purely remotely as allowed for the past year. Any parishioner wishing to attend the Ordinary Council meetings should visit EPC's website for the latest information.

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. Council requests that where possible questions, issues and suggestions are submitted in writing to the Clerk by the Tuesday preceding the meeting.

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](mailto:clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk) 01525 229358 Website: [www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk)

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## Methodist Lay Worker's Letter

Dear Friends,

It has been a long time since I last wrote to you, and this will be my last letter as a Lay Worker in the local Methodist churches, as my contract ends in August.

The long pause has been because I had a diagnosis of cancer in November, and have been undergoing chemotherapy, which while horrendous, has been successful in controlling the disease. I am now on a 3-month break from treatment, and looking forward, as we all are, to enjoying the summer!

This last period of my life has taught me a few lessons which I have found invaluable – the first is that angels are everywhere. People I expected to help have offered, but others who I never expected – one particular lady has undertaken to cook our Sunday lunch every week, which has been a real blessing – and she's a great cook too!

The other lesson is that we must never underestimate the power of prayer. There have been people praying for me from as far away as Sweden and Argentina, as well as friends from Nigel's and my respective home churches, and local Christians too. I am convinced that, together with the chemotherapy and the amazing scans the

NHS have at their fingertips these days, all this has worked together to make me as well as I am today.

I would encourage you, if you are struggling either with health issues or maybe work-related problems, family or mental health difficulties – ask your local Christians to pray for you. We don't need to know all the details, your first name is quite sufficient – God knows all the issues and cares deeply about you. I can vouch for this from my own experience – when I have been too ill to pray, the prayers of others have held and supported me.

St. Paul writes in the Bible that God said to him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. . . I will boast all the more gladly (says Paul), about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me . . . for when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12: 9-10)

My prayer for you is that you will know God's strength in your times of weakness too, as I have.

With blessings and love from

*Elisabeth Bibbings*

# EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

## **EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL FOCUS REPORT: JUNE/JULY 2021**

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://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/>

### **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.

### **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/>

---

### **EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 7 JUNE 2021, from 7:00pm via REMOTE/ZOOM**

*(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 05/07/2021)*

### **CBC CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (CBC)**

Cllr Philip Spicer - email: [Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Spicer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

CBC Website: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

CBC Email: [customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) -

CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

### **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. Cllr Spicer to chase up the water company.

### **GREENWAYS**

- Parking: The Parish Council are still working with CBC to improve the parking conditions. Awaiting details from CBC on this matter.
- Garages: The Parish Council are working with CBC to understand areas of responsibility/ownership of the garages, courtyard/entrance. Awaiting details.

### **LANDSCAPE BUFFER/MILL END CLOSE**

The strip requires tidying up, the Parish Council are obtaining quote for this work and look into adding this location to the current Ground Maintenance Contract and the additional costs incurred.

- UPDATE 05/07/2021: The Parish Council agreed to the tidying up of the buffer strip and to the amendment of the current Ground Maintenance Contract to include regular maintenance of the strip.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – MAY/JUNE 2021**

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.

### **LITTER PICK DAY, 5 JUNE 2021**

Fourteen bags of rubbish plus miscellaneous items were collected. The Parish Council wished to thank the Parishioners that took part as well as Roy Michel for all his help and support.

### **MONTHLY PAYMENTS, JUNE 2021**

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

# EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

## **RECREATION GROUNDS**

- The Rye – Fitness Rig: The contractors have finished the work ahead of schedule and the gym is now ready for use. For more details, please visit the Parish Council website.
- School Lane – play equipment: The two preferred suppliers/designs were put to the council who approved the design by Komplan. Parish Councillor representatives to meet up with chosen suppliers to finalise design.
  - UPDATE 05/07/2021: Final design was presented to Parish Council and was approved by all. An application has been put into CBC for a Community Asset Grant to go towards these improvements. Waiting decision. Possible planned work to the play area September onwards.
- School Lane – play area gate: The Parish Council are looking to install a second gate into the play area, obtaining quotations for this work.
- School Lane – youth shelter: The Parish Council are looking into the installation of a youth shelter, currently looking into designs/costs/location.
- Litter Bin – The Parish Council have agreed to install a litter bin on Holmans Field side of the bridge. Awaiting delivery/installation.

## **WATERCOURSE/MILL END CLOSE**

Emergency Repair Work – the council contractor has repaired the main island (down-stream). However there was still water flowing into the stream. Water appears to be running out near the sluice (up-stream), the island will have to be cleared to be able to assess the problem.

- UPDATE 05/07/2021: The island has been cleared to enable full access for essential works needed to stop the leakage and alleviate potential damage to properties down-stream. The council have a statutory duty to provide clear access for the water board onto this section of land. Debris from the island will be cleared as part of the ongoing work.

## **VILLAGE CALENDAR 2022**

The Parish Councillors have viewed the submitted photographs and made their preferences.

- UPDATE 05/07/2021: Decision on final twelve photographs to be made at the September Parish Council Meeting.

## **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.

## **VILLAGE GATEWAYS**

The Parish Council to obtain quotes for work to the Village Gateways, pending result from village poll.

- UPDATE 05/07/2021: The village poll response suggested strong support to keep the gates, the Parish Council agreed to approve the work to sand/repaint the gateways.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Details can be obtained from the EBPC website, [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6 September 2021, from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 4 October 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](http://www.ebpc.co.uk)



**Heidi Head, Parish Clerk**

Email: [clerk@ebpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ebpc.co.uk) – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: [www.ebpc.co.uk](http://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





## Down the Lane

2021 has been a glorious year for roses, except when they were lashed by the winds and rain in June. I grew some patio roses from seed a few years ago. They are now growing in a raised bed and flower their socks off all summer. I remove the dead heads and back they come, as you can see in the photo. The bed hums with bees as I grow lavender with the roses. I trim it back at the end of the summer and prune in the spring so that the plants stay a good shape. I must remember to cut some lavender flowers to dry to make lavender bags.



*Patio Roses*

I planted some new, bare-root roses in the spring but a muntjac has taken a fancy to them, eating the new foliage, so they are rather small with very few flowers. I have decided that companion planting deters muntjac so the roses are now surrounded by catmint (nepeta) which seems to be working and attracts lots of bees.

Last year I bought a hanging basket of strawberry plants, thinking that would be an easy way to grow them. Unfortunately, it's difficult to give them enough water in a basket so there was a very poor crop. I then planted them in the ground for this year and netted them to protect them from the birds. When they were growing



*3 bumble bees on Miss Willmott's Ghost (eryngium giganteum)*

in strange shapes, during a dry spell, I gave them lots of water and we had some lovely fruit until, one day, all the ripe fruit disappeared! I blame that on mice. I have dug up the plants and consigned them to the compost heap and won't bother growing strawberries again; life is too short! I grew raspberries last year and they are producing a good crop this summer. They're much easier to pick and also freeze well. I also have a standard gooseberry bush which doesn't take up much space. The bush has vicious thorns but short branches so the fruit is easy to reach.

After all the rain we have had, everything is growing like mad, including the weeds. At least they are easy to pull out when the soil is damp. There's always something to keep me occupied in the garden!

✍️ Sally Taylor



# Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going

A little Church with strong local links

## Local summer surprises

What heralds summer for you? Is it flaming June? Is it the meteorologists telling us that summer is here? Is it the well-kept gardens and hay fever? Sunstroke then thunderstorms? Are you looking forward to holidays? There seems to be a whole flurry of summer sport - Wimbledon, the Olympics, the Euros.

The farmers begin a very busy period, planting, spraying, watering and then harvesting. We see that the fields start to show signs of considerable growth. Each year we wonder what has been planted in the field next to us. It's often wheat or barley, sometimes rapeseed. One year was corn on the cob.

This year it was a mystery for quite some while. Following considerable flooding, leaving huge puddles, there was little to show for weeks apart from some wispy stems around well-watered weeds. Was anything actually growing there? Very gradually the crop began to materialise. But what was it. Certainly not wheat! We waited some more until we noticed a subtle blue sheen over the field.

After some investigations a delicate blue flower became apparent but only when the sun shone. When the sun went in the blue hue



*Northall flax fields 2021*

disappeared and it returned to a green glow. The blue carpet though looks amazing. It is flax!

So what is flax used for. Well linen is made from it as well as linseed oil. How long has flax been around? Is flax mentioned in the Bible? I was reminded that in Joshua the two spies were sent to spy out the land around Jericho – the land that they were later to report was flowing with milk and honey. A prostitute, Rahab hid the spies on the roof of her house under some drying flax. Rahab was rewarded for her faith in this by being saved, along with all her family, when Jericho was captured. Later at the beginning of Matthew's gospel, Rahab is named in the genealogy of Jesus as the great, great grandmother of King David. Jesus is known as King David's greater son many generations later. Rahab's faith was therefore significant and the flax pivotal.

Linen was a symbol of purity in Biblical times, and it is recorded in the prophets that angelic beings appeared, wearing fine linen garments (Ezekiel Chapters 9 and 10; Daniel Chapters 10 and 12; and Revelation Chapter 15).

It still seems that flax was and remains very useful today.

We are holding our Sunday services in Church at 11 am. If you would like to join in the worship, music and song, you'll get a very warm welcome. 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/>

✉ Ruth Cox Tel: 07791 425625



*The flax flower*

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St Mary's Village

# Carnival

Edlesborough Green



Heroes  
28<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Free  
Admission  
Free  
Entertainment  
Free  
Parking**

Carnival  
Pull out

## 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. This year we have had to move that date to 28th August due to restrictions in place at the beginning of July. We plan to return to the usual date in 2022.

Run entirely by volunteers, the Carnival Organising Committee aims to provide our community each year with a special event so 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 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 after spending many years making the carnival what it is today has decided to step down from his role.

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 annual 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 but 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

Please note that this year there will not be a procession. Most of our usual procession participants are on their summer holidays and unable to attend. However, the procession will be back in 2022! The procession collection buckets will be on the village green throughout the day, so any donations will still be much appreciated.

### 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

(\*subject to change)

### Carnival Principal Charity

Dunstable Foodbank was launched in 2012 to fulfil a need in our 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.



# Heroes

28<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## 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

#### Tickets on sale 1st August

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, and 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. Who knows, you could be a winner. Good Luck.

Advance purchase of raffle tickets can be made during August at:

Janes (Flooring), 4-8 High St. Edlesborough  
Gibbins Property, 2a Wallace Drive, Eaton Bray  
Alternatively contact, [kate@old-wrestlers.co.uk](mailto:kate@old-wrestlers.co.uk)

#### Prizes include:

A weekend for two in Rome  
Spa and golf vouchers for Luton Hoo  
A hamper from Vatax  
Treatment voucher from St Judes  
Ornamental tree from Grassroots  
& of course, many other excellent prizes.

### 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.**



### 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

Best back bacon rolls

A selection of tasty sauces

Jumbo Bunker's sausage hotdog

Add hot onions to your order

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](http://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](http://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

As there is no procession this year there will not be any road closures. However, parking restrictions will be in place along Edlesborough High Street to ensure there is no disruption to traffic and bus services.

### 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 driveways.**



# Eaton Bray Methodist Church



For the first time in fifteen months we gathered as a congregation on the afternoon of Sunday, June 13th. The gathering took place, not in our lovely chapel building due to the constraints of Covid safety regulations, but in the green and peaceful surroundings of School Lane Recreation Ground. It was a service of praise and thanksgiving with hymns and a few short prayers. It was very special to meet, greet and worship in safety in the cool shade of the beautiful trees.

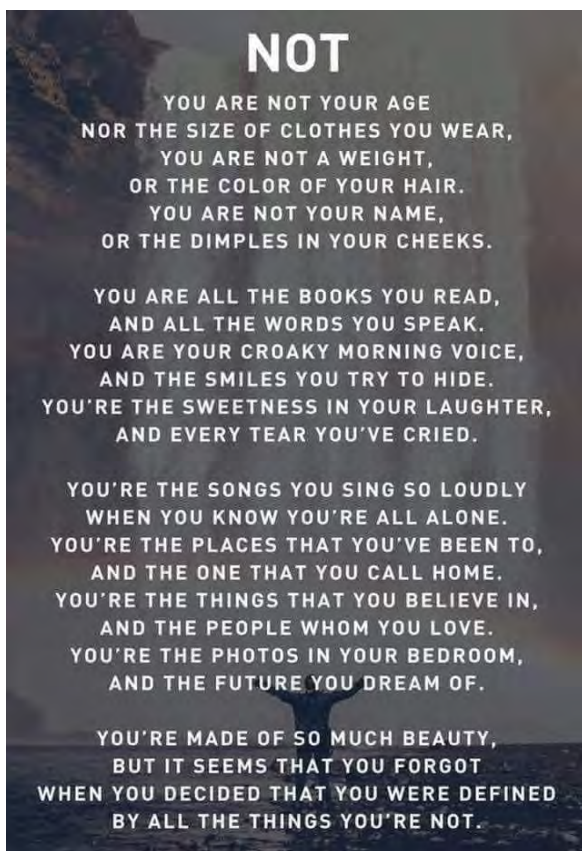
Our morning services have continued on Zoom. Our first service in June was led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings. In his Reflection he contrasted the strictly church-focused Sundays of our childhood with those of today. However, in the past, services sometimes represented the letter rather than the spirit of the law. Faith should be gracious, joyful and generous, an aim we strive to achieve in our services nowadays. On our second June Sunday we were glad to welcome Geoff Best as our leader. His Reflection centred on Jesus as an inspired story-teller, his parables drawing on the everyday lives of his rural audiences, encouraging people to test, analyse and reach their own conclusions. The point was clear and the message was memorable. Steve Rogers joined us on the third Sunday, celebrating both Father's Day and Refugee Day. He reminded us that our heavenly father encourages and enables us to make the world a better and safer place, reassessing our priorities by concentrating on those things we do best. Sadly we were unable to hold our Zoom service on the 4th June Sunday due to technical difficulties but we are

very grateful that this is the first time that has happened in over a year.

## 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.**

**There will be another outdoor service at 3.00pm in the afternoon of Sunday August 8th in the School Lane Recreation Ground. Provided the final Covid regulations are lifted on 19th July, all comers are welcome – but we suggest you bring a chair with you!**





# Photography in Focus

John Hockey shares some tips

## CAPTIONS

Sometimes it is useful to add a caption to a photograph in order to put it in context or to add a description that enhances our understanding. This may be simply for recording purposes or, for example, if at a later date a photograph is to be published. In any case, some basic recording of what you have seen and what you have found out by research, can be valuable.

I quote from the Chiltern Society PhotoGroup web site: "Remember, good captions communicate your curiosity about the subject to the reader."

To this end there are certain web sites which can help:

- Listed British Buildings
- British History Online
- Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service

But just for fun, here is a picture of my mum when she was very young taken by my grandfather (known in the family as Mr Happy Snaps). I think the caption in his own hand is really amusing and as he was also an amateur card player I can see where he got the idea from!



Sometimes, a caption can be almost unnecessary but can bring a smile to the onlooker. This is a bench I came across on a walk in the Lake District with my own pithy comment:

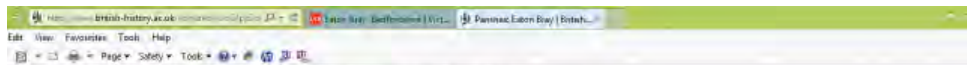
At other times, you may want to give the viewer more detailed information about, say, a prominent building. This example is in Toddington and the Listed British Buildings web site provided detailed information, backed up by a local printed guide:



Coming closer to home, I'm sure we are all aware of the delightful door in Eaton Bray parish church:



Information may be found in guides but also online in websites such as British History Online, which is effectively a digital version of the Victoria County History. Here is a page from that website:



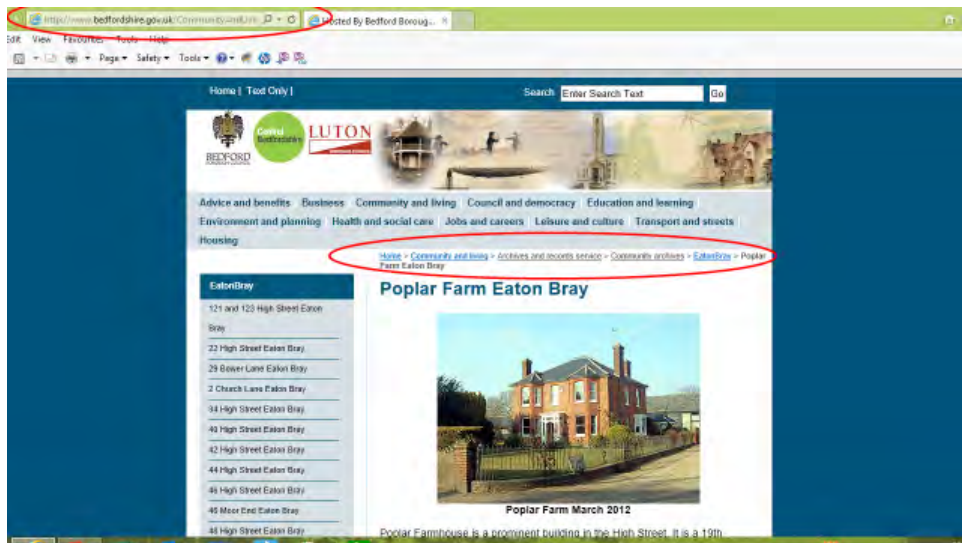
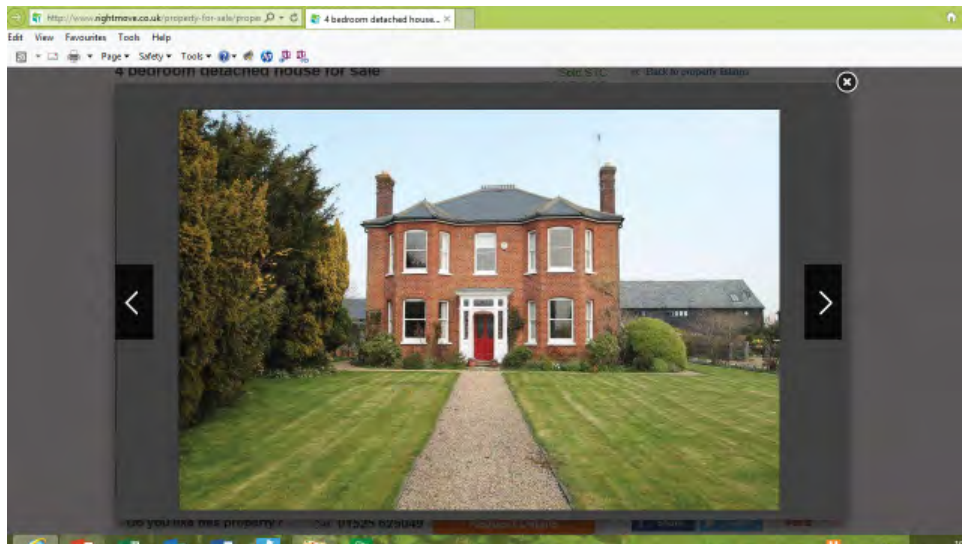
The font is of 13th-century character, with a round head on a central and four detached columns having capitals carved with foliage like that of the north aisle, but only the four and central shaft are set. There is a 16th-century altar with a screen containing six Gothic niches. At the top of the choir is a window with an Elizabethan canopy with ribs with a carved top rail and balustrade base. On the south door is some very fine late 13th-century ironwork, consisting of three hinges with ornamental scroll work and a scroll ornament at the top of the door.



This entry says:  
 On the south door is some very fine late 13th century ironwork, consisting of three hinges with ornamental scroll work and scroll ornament at the top of the door.

The Listed Buildings web site tells us that the ironwork is by Thomas Leighton and that he was responsible for the scroll ironwork above the tomb of Eleanor of Castile, d.1290, at Westminster Abbey.

Another local building is Poplar Farm, Eaton Bray and the first picture was taken from an estate agent's web site some time ago. The next web page can be found at the 'Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service' web site:



The site continues: Poplar Farmhouse is a prominent building in the High Street. It is a 19th century red brick building with a hipped slate roof and some timber detailing. There is a single storey range of pantries, sheds and outbuildings attached to the rear. The house is not listed. [Though the outbuildings are].



Study boards at nature sites often have a wealth of information, such as this one at Studham Common:

Without such boards, I certainly would not have known that the Common is one of the few breeding sites for the Hazel Dormouse – and how lovely to have it depicted in the heading at the top of this most interesting board. Finally, a word about detail, which is important. Here is part of a picture of a well-



known building in a nearby village down the ‘A5’.

Again from the Chiltern Society PhotoGroup web site: “Saunder’s Almshouses in Flamstead, Grade II\* listed, erected in 1669 for poor pious widows and widowers; built of narrow brick in Flemish bond with chamfered brick recessed doorways and window jambs.”

It would have been so easy to have just recorded this building as “A typical old building in the

High Street” or some such, but a little research brought out a bit more interest and maybe sparked the quest for more information.

Well, folks, this article on Captions brings to a close this series on hints and tips for photography. I have really enjoyed writing the tips and I thank Sally Siddons for the opportunity.

I hope you liked the tips, even though you may not have agreed with all of them, but please do bear in mind these important points which should make for better pictures:

- Light
- Composition
- Viewpoint
- Colour
- Texture
- Cropping
- Portraiture
- Storytelling
- Quirky
- Captions

...and the greatest of these is...**LIGHT**

✍ John Hockey



# LOCAL HERALDRY

## BY JOHN HOCKEY

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

### JOHN OF DUNSTABLE

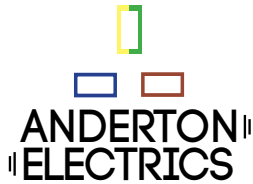
John Dunstable (or Dunstaple, as there are more manuscript references with a 'p' rather than a 'b') was a celebrated 15th century musician and composer who was buried in St. Stephen's, Walbrook, London. It is thought he was born around 1390 in Dunstable.

He appears to have been in the royal service of John of Lancaster, 1st Duke of Bedford and was also an astronomer and mathematician (indeed his epitaph records that he had 'secret knowledge of the stars') as well as being a prolific composer, though only about fifty of his compositions survive. He was keen on music for religious masses and was one of the first to compose such works using a single melody. He is widely known for his expertise in the transition between mediaeval and Renaissance music.

Heraldically, he was granted a coat of arms in the fifteenth century by the College of Arms. As was quite common, the design is simple and geometrically appropriate for a pointed shield, with a chevron dividing the shield so two charges (in this case staples, a pun on his name) are in the top half of the design and a single staple in the base. It is thought the chevron, which means rafter in French, may have been a bracing piece on the back of the shield.



Next time: More Local Heraldry



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# Music@St Mary's

## Ladies Sing Duets – 14 August 2021

As I write this it is 550 days since our last concert prior to lockdown. It has been a long wait but to kick off St Mary's concert season we are delighted to present two of our most popular and talented performers, Min Min Peaker and Karen Lomax, who, on 14 August 2021, will present 'Ladies Sing Duets'.

The two ladies gave a beautiful rendition of Lakme's Flower Duet at the St Mary's Poppy Prom in 2019 following which there was an immediate demand for more similar music from the two mezzo sopranos; the pity is that we have had to wait so long.

The programme for this concert is still to be finalised but I understand it will open with Purcell's 'What can we poor females do' and then proceed to tell/show what the ladies can indeed do! They will sing duets including one from Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutti, the Cat Duet, Offenbach's Bacarolle and the Flower Duet concluding with duets from recent musicals - I Know Him So Well from Chess and For Good from Wicked. In addition, each of the ladies will perform a number of solos accompanied by Richard Heyes. Richard studied piano at the Royal Academy of Music and was Organ Scholar of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; after 26 years as Head of Keyboard at Bedford Modern he is currently a teacher at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts. I'm sure we are in for an outstanding evening's entertainment – an evening you won't want to miss. Tickets priced £10 are available from the Box Office, Tel: 01525 222283. Tickets for the next 5 concerts are also available from the same number, priced £48.

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# Eaton Bray Cricket Club

Congratulations to James Flecknell who has taken his 1000th wicket for Eaton Bray. James began

with the club in the early 1990s and has been a massive part of our success over the years.

## Results

12th June MK Warriors 94 a/o Euan Palmer 3-27 Jamie Osborne 3-33. Eaton Bray 1st X1 95-2. Eaton Bray won by 8 wickets.

12th June Eaton Bray 2nd X1 193-8. North Crawley 78 a/o Neil Scott 6-15. Eaton Bray won by 115 runs.

13th June. Eaton Bray Sunday X1 247-4 Lee Gauntlett 80 Thomas Maynard 72. Gt Brickhill 194 a/o Euan Palmer 4-30. Eaton Bray won by 53 runs.

19th June Eggington 222-8. Eaton Bray 1st X1 226-9 Paul Harris 69 James Flecknell 60 n/o. Eaton Bray won by 1 wicket.

19th June Eggington 2s 157 a/o Neil Scott 3-30 Eaton Bray 2nd X1 159-6 Peter Robinson 73. Eaton Bray won by 4 wickets.

26th June Cranfield 184-7 Jaco Jacobs 3-26. Eaton Bray 1st X1 130 a/o. Cranfield won by 54 runs.

27th June Flitwick 149-6 Joe Moss 3-15. Eaton Bray Sunday X1 85 a/o. Flitwick won by 64 runs.

3rd July Old Bradwell 101 a/o James Flecknell 7-20. Eaton Bray 1st X1 103-3. Eaton Bray won by 7 wickets.

3rd July Shenley 159-8. Eaton Bray 2nd X1 140 a/o Shenley won by 19 runs.

4th July Eaton Bray Sunday X1 121 a/o.

Harrold did not bat. Abandoned rain.

Been going very well in the new Village Cup 2020 and have secured top spot in our group and guaranteed a home Quarter final draw.

## 2020 Results

10th June Winslow 193-6 Eaton Bray Outlaws 168-3 Joe Moss 58 Jaco Jacobs 52. Winslow won by 25 runs.

17th June Eaton Bray Outlaws 145-4 Eggington 116 a/o Jamie Osborne 4-18. Eaton Bray won by 29 runs.

24th June Milton Bryan 101-7 Paul Harris 3-10 Eaton Bray Outlaws 104-4. Eaton Bray won by 6 wickets.

1st July Eaton Bray Outlaws 151-6. Winslow 136-5. Eaton Bray won by 15 runs.

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.

If you would like to be part of a progressive family friendly club please contact us via Facebook or Twitter @EatonBrayCC.

Please enjoy your cricket with Eaton Bray in 2021.

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# Love Your Boiler

Hello, my name is Wayne Bettess, Managing Director of YourNewBoiler.com. I have recently moved my family to the beautiful village of Eaton Bray and would like to introduce myself and my business to you all. We have settled quickly into village life, and our four children are loving it too.

We, as a society, have just come through the most challenging 18 months most of us have ever experienced and likely ever will; the last thing many will need right now is an unreliable or, worse still, an unsafe boiler in your home.

In this article, I'm going to share a few tricks of the trade that could stop you from being left in the cold this coming winter.

To give you some context about me, I have been in the heating industry for nearly *two decades. Most of which has been running my own local, family-owned and operated business* installing new boilers across Herts, Beds & Bucks. We recently achieved Worcester-Bosch Partner status (very prestigious in the industry) & of course; we are Gas Safe Registered.

## Homeowner Step 1-

The first & most crucial step to ensuring your boiler is working correctly and safely is to get your boiler serviced. Servicing a boiler has to be done by a gas safe registered engineer. Boilers must be serviced every year. The best time for this is in July / August / September time.

Most likely, your boiler has been running to provide you with hot water during the summer months, but the central heating side of the system has been off. Now this is where you can do some basic but essential checks to help ensure you're not left in the cold when winter hits.

## Homeowner Step 2-

Time to get the air out of your system,



commonly known as bleeding the radiators. You will need a radiator bleed key (send me a message on 07970 333999, and I will drop one off to you) and some kitchen roll. With the heating and hot water turned off, you simply go round all the radiators and, using the kitchen roll and radiator key, you slowly open the air release valve on the top left or right of each radiator. You then leave open until the hissing stops and water starts to eject from the area; that's what the kitchen roll is for.

## Homeowner Step 3-

Turn your central heating on once or twice a month for a 45 min period. A great way to do this is to set a reminder on your phone or write it into your calendar. Doing this will ensure that no component on the system is left idle for long periods and significantly reduces the risk of a component failure.

## Homeowner Step 4-

Most people will have thermostatic radiator valves. A prevalent problem we have around autumn time is seized valves. To combat this, you simply turn them on and off a few times can stop this problem from escalating into a repair be required.

## Homeowner Step 5 -

Check for sludge build-up in your system. Sludge gets produced in the radiators due to a chemical imbalance within the system, and It is a major cause for breakdowns to

boilers and system components. To check if you have a sludge build-up, go round your radiators when they are on ( do this when carrying out Step 2 above). With your hand, feel the entire face of the radiators; if you notice a drop in temperature from the top ( hot ) to the bottom ( noticeably colder ), this is a warning sign that you have a sludge build-up.

### Homeowner Step 6 -

Failing to prepare is preparing to fail. Every home will have what is widely known as stop cock. This is a water valve designed to turn the incoming mains water off to your home. So firstly, make sure you know where your stop cock is; more than likely, there will be one outside in the driveway area and one in the house itself. It can generally be found under the kitchen sink. Once you have located it, you need to turn it off and open the cold kitchen tap until the water stops. This

will prove that the stop cock is working correctly. If the water doesn't stop, or you can not turn the valve or worse still can not even find it, it will be time to call in a professional to assist you.

I would like to end this article by saying a massive thank you to everyone who has warmly welcomed us to the village. I look forward to getting to know you all over time, whether through my work or the social side of life. On a side note, my company YourNewBoiler.com has proudly become the kit sponsor of the new EB LIONS AFC U8 Football team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that are part of this great club for all their hard work and dedication to the children of all the local villages.



## News from Appledown Rescue Kennels



Oh Carol, what a brave and sweet-natured girl you are! Carol has won all our hearts since she came in as a stray in a very poor state. She had serious eye problems that had been neglected and sadly her left eye could not be saved. Once she had recovered from that operation she needed soft palate and nasal surgery to improve her breathing difficulties. Throughout all this she has remained happy and affectionate and rather enjoying all the attention! Sadly, dogs coming in with badly neglected health issues is not unusual and we do

everything we can to get them well again, but **we can only help dogs like Carol 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 History

## Eaton Bray School 1904 County Survey courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives

Bedfordshire County Council became Local Education Authority for the county in 1903, following the Education Act 1902. In 1904 the County Surveyor reported on the condition of all the council and voluntary schools in the county under LEA control, excluding those on Bedford and Luton Boroughs which had their own executive arrangements. The surveyor's report took the form below.

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### **Eaton Bray School and House (Council)**

This is a large block of brick built and slated buildings, fairly strong, but not apparently provided with proper damp courses.

**Infants' Room.** 56 feet 9 inches by 16 feet by 12 feet 6 inches to 16 feet

Lighting by six windows, all of which open.

Ventilation by windows named above.

The bottom sashes should be blocked up three inches, and an Exhaust Ventilator provided.

This room needs thoroughly renovating.

**Class Room.** 20 feet by 13 feet by 12 feet 6 inches to 16 feet.

Lighting by four windows and ceiling openings.

Ventilation by open sashes. Bottom sashes should be blocked up three inches, and an Exhaust Ventilator provided.

Heating by an open fire.

This room needs thoroughly renovating.

**Lobby.** 13 feet 6 inches by 12 feet 6 inches by 8 feet 8 inches to 12 feet.

The window should be made entirely to open, the walling repaired, and the Lobby renovated.

**Lobby.** 15 feet by 8 feet by 9 feet.

This needs similar treatment to above.

**General School** – 37 feet by 19 feet by 13 feet 6 inches to 16 feet 6 inches.

Lighting by seven windows.

Ventilation, as before. These windows should be altered also to admit air past meeting rails of sashes, by blocking up bottom sash 3 feet.

An Exhaust Ventilator is necessary.

Heating by Stove. This needs repairing and making sound.

A 28 foot Cooking Stove is provided for lessons in cooking.

All in this room needs renewing.

The walls are damp and the floor rotting. The ground should be taken out, and the cause of the damp ascertained, and further damage prevented.

**Room N. E. of Main Room.** 29 feet by 19 feet by 12 feet 6 inches to 16 feet 6 inches.

Lighting by seven windows, as before.

Ventilation by window sashes; these should be treated as before named. An Exhaust Ventilator to roof should also be provided.

Heating by a Shorland's grate and hot air flues.

This room needs entirely renewing.

**Class Room.** 15 feet by 15 feet by 12 feet 6 inches to 16 feet 6 inches.

Lighting by four windows, as before.

Ventilation by sashes. These should be treated as before suggested, and an Exhaust Ventilator provided.

Heating by an open fireplace.

This room needs thoroughly restoring.

**General.** The sashes in some parts are

looking very much like decay; new ones should therefore be provided, where necessary, before painting.

All the Stoves need thorough repair; the inside cones are burnt through.

**Porch.** 13 feet by 4 feet by 9 feet 6 inches.

Lighting by windows is fair; these are made to open.

Lobby. 15 feet by 8 feet by 9 feet 6 inches; windows as above.

Both these need renewal and repairs.

### **School Offices**

Boys' – These are close up to the School windows; the range starts with a Lavatory, next a Urinal, and then three pail Closets.

Girls' – In next yard, very near to the Infants' windows, is a block of six pail closets.

These receptacles, without a proper deodorant and cleansing, smell as offensively as pits, and as they are exposed to the full Sun in Summer, are dangerous to health.

They should be converted into proper earth Closets, with the needful dry earth shed, etc.

**A Coal Barn** is provided at rear, next to girls' open shed.

N. B. A large moat and pond, full of water, lies alongside [one] of the two Main Rooms, East of the block, which keep the buildings very damp. Permission should be obtained to put a clay puddle wall, 3 feet wide and 12 inches down into the solid clay, the whole length of the building, and as much beyond as may be affected, and for the laying of a 6 inch sub-soil drain to the outfall which passes under the main road, to the village water course.

### **Playground**

This needs a spring water drain at S. E. corner, and the general surface readjusting.

### **Master's House**

This is a small House, containing:

Hall and Stairway 9 feet 3 inches by 5 feet 6 inches.

Two Living Rooms each 12 feet by 12 feet.

Kitchen only 8 feet 4 inches by 8 feet 3 inches.

The latter has no chimney flue. The smoke pipe from the stove used here goes through floor above into the Bedroom flue. This is very questionable, and most unwholesome.

There are three bedrooms over first named.

A detached Scullery is on the other side of small yard; this, and the lobby space, might be occupied for a good kitchen, by extending the front into yard to allow a room 10 feet wide and 14 feet 9 inches long for a Kitchen, which could be coupled up to the house by a passage, about six feet long, covered by a flat under school window, with a doorway therefrom to yard.

Such a provision is really necessary for the comfort of the occupants of the house.

The large dust bin in the Master's yard, under the School window, should be cleared away, the yard floor made over the space and a sanitary dust bin provided, but set clear of the windows.

The closet, being close to school windows, should be converted into an Earth Closet.

### **Coal Barn for House**

This is at the end of the scullery.

### **Water Supply**

The drinking water, for the whole of the premises, is obtained from the House pump.

Soft water from the Lavatory pump.

**House and Offices** – Internal repairs. Cleansing, whitening, painting and papering, generally are necessary, with a few exceptions regarding paper.

### **External Repairs and Painting**

External repairs are needed throughout the whole of the buildings, viz: to chimneys, roofs, walls, fences, doors, windows, steps, sills, eaves troughs, down pipes and painting of all as previously done.

### **Drains**

These should be put into good order.

N. B. The Lavatory sinks should be disconnected from direct contact with drain, by discharge on to a trapped surface gully.





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# A Raptor-ous Day Out

Zoorassic Park at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Something massive is coming to ZSL Whipsnade Zoo this summer, as the UK's largest Zoo will become home to the most colossal creatures ever to walk the earth, dinosaurs! Summer visitors to the Zoo will be transported to Zoorassic Park, a prehistoric world where they will come face-to-face with immense, moving and roaring dinosaurs, including an 11m tall brachiosaurus and a 12m long tyrannosaurus rex. Included in Zoo entry, visitors to ZSL Whipsnade Zoo will step back in time into the sights and sounds of the Mesozoic era, to encounter lesser-known creatures like the camiverous utahraptor and winged archaeopteryx, as well as spot dino-fan favourites like the triceratops and stegosaurus.

Children can find out for themselves if they have what it takes to be a paleontologist by grabbing a brush and taking part in a Dino Dig, getting to work unearthing three buried species. Families can follow two different trails around the mega-beasts and Dino Detectives gives 4-7 year-olds a chance to hunt for missing equipment and try to get them back to the researcher on time. Meanwhile, Research Rangers, aged 8-12 years, can investigate and identify equipment back at the research station and use it to solve challenges. The whole family can scan QR codes around the creatures to take on more fun challenges at home and pop-up talks give visitors a chance to learn all about the fascinating creatures that lived 65 million years ago. With only six weeks of school holidays to get your claws on tickets, Zoorassic Park at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is a roar-some delight to be snapped up! Tickets can be booked now at [www.zsl.org](http://www.zsl.org).



*Maiasaura with hatchlings*



## Incubated Flamingo Eggs Hatch at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Zookeepers at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo are celebrating the arrival of four, fluffy, flamingo chicks, after the eggs spent a month in an incubator to ensure their survival. The American flamingo eggs (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) spent 28 days in an incubator before being returned to their giant nests, where they have now hatched and met their parents.

Keepers found that some less experienced parents in the "flamboyance", (a group of flamingos), weren't staying on their eggs for the required 28-32 days.

In order to give the chicks the best chance of survival and the adult pairs some practice caring for eggs, the keepers carefully swapped their real eggs for "practice eggs", placing the real ones in an incubator, until it was almost time for them to hatch. Zookeepers made sure to return each egg to its parents at the nest-site, in time for them to bond with their newly-hatched chicks.

Gary Ward, Curator of Birds at ZSL said: "Flamingos are brilliant parents, working together, usually as a monogamous pair, to care for their eggs and chicks. However, sometimes younger birds haven't got it all figured out yet, and so we stepped in to give a helping hand. Now the chicks are growing and developing in their nests, watched over constantly by alternating parents. Both flamingo parents feed their fluffy, grey chicks with bright red crop milk, which is made in the linings of their digestive tract, and contains fat, protein and blood cells. You can usually spot the new parents in a group, because they give so much of their own pigment to their chicks that they almost turn white!"

Flamingos have one of the longest lifespans of any bird in the world, with an average life expectancy of 40 years and with some flamingos having lived up to 70.

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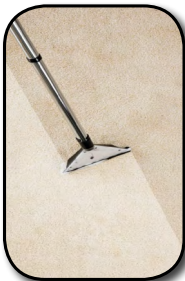
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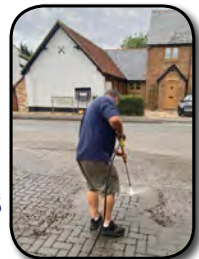
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# What to do in the Garden in August

Courtesy of [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)

The last official month of summer is the perfect time to enjoy your garden while it's still at its best. Children are on school holiday, lawns are in full use, and there's plenty of delicious fruit and veg to fill your dinner plate.

## Timely Tips

August isn't the time to take your eye off the ball in the garden. Here are some of the main jobs:

1. Top up ponds and bird baths regularly.
2. Water fruit and veg plants daily.
3. Prune all summer flowering shrubs once the blooms are finished.
4. Keep on top of weeds as they compete with your crops for nutrients and water.

## In the flower garden



- Water evergreen shrubs like camellias and rhododendrons thoroughly this month to make sure that next year's buds develop well.
- Keep patio container plants well watered and feed with a liquid fertiliser every fortnight.
- Stake tall or top-heavy dahlias and lilies to prevent wind and rain damage. Dead-head lilies for a better flower display next year.
- Dead-head annual bedding plants and perennials to encourage them to flower into the autumn and stop them self-seeding.
- Cut back faded perennials to keep borders tidy.
- As penstemon flowers fade, cut them back to just above a leaf to encourage more flowers.
- Cut back herbs now to encourage a new flush of tasty leaves you can harvest before the frost.
- Prune wisteria after flowering by removing

all the whippy side-shoots from the main branch framework to about 20cm from their base (about five leaves from the main stem).

- Trim any lavender plants after they've finished flowering to keep them compact.
- Collect ripened seeds and store them for next year. Leaving some seed heads in place can be attractive and allows the plant to self-seed in the surrounding soil.
- Mow meadows now to help scatter established wildflower seeds.
- Take cuttings of your favourite tender perennials such as pelargoniums and fuchsia to propagate them for next year.
- Finish dividing clumps of bearded Iris now so they have time to form roots and flower buds for next year before the cold weather arrives.
- Prune climbing roses and rambling roses once they've finished flowering (unless they're repeat-flowerers in which case leave them).
- Spray ground elder (and other perennial weeds) with a glyphosate-based weedkiller, the plants now have plenty of leaf surface area with which to absorb it.
- Look out for symptoms of 'clematis wilt' including black discolouration on the leaves and stems of your clematis. Cut out any infected plant material and dispose of it in your household waste.

## In the vegetable garden



The vegetable garden comes into its own in August, with plenty of delicious home grown produce to harvest. Here are some tasks to keep you busy this month:

- Water sweetcorn plants regularly and feed



with tomato food to get the best cobs.

- Apply a high-potash fertiliser such as tomato food once fruits start to form on peppers, cucumber and aubergine plants.
- Continue to feed tomato plants with tomatofood and remove lower leaves to help with air circulation and prevent disease. Pinch out the top of tomato plants to concentrate the growth into the fruit that has already formed. Aim to leave 5 or 6 trusses of fruit per plant.
- Cut back herbs to encourage a new flush of tasty leaves that you can harvest before the first frosts. Dry or freeze excess herbs to use in the kitchen later on.
- Thin parsley to help it establish a good root system before winter. Leave 25cm between each plant.
- Pinch out the tips of your runner bean plants once they reach the top of their support. This encourages side-shooting and more beans at a manageable height for picking.
- Pinch out the growing tips of your aubergine plants once they have 5 or 6 fruits. Pick fruits while they're young and shiny.
- Limit the fruits on a squash plant to about three, but make sure these fruits are well established before pinching out the surplus.
- Spring-sown carrots and beetroot will be ready to harvest now although they can be left in the ground to keep growing.
- Continue to harvest second early potatoes now - perfect for salads!
- Start harvesting your main crop potatoes as the leaves yellow and die back. Store your potatoes in hessian sacks which exclude light but allow ventilation.
- Sweetcorn is ready to harvest when you can pop a corn with your thumbnail and the juices are milky.
- Lift and dry onions, shallots and garlic once the foliage has flopped over and yellowed. Store them in onion bags to prevent mould

developing.

- Harvest French and runner beans little and often to prevent them from setting seed. Pick runner beans regularly to prevent them becoming stringy and to make room for developing pods. Leaving mature pods to set seed can prevent further flowers developing and reduce your crop.
- Keep harvesting courgettes before they become too big!
- Take cuttings of herbs such as rosemary, sage or mint now to bulk up supplies. Put cuttings in moist, well-drained potting compost (one part grit to one part compost) and place in a cold frame. Established clumps of chives can be divided now.
- On a sunny day, collect seeds of herbs such as dill, bronze fennel, caraway and chervil and dry in a warm spot out of direct sunlight. Chervil must be sown immediately.
- Keep an eye out for potato and tomato blight and remove and destroy any affected plants immediately to prevent its spread.
- Check for cabbage white butterfly eggs under brassica and leafy green leaves and squash any that you find. Alternatively use nematodes to kill the caterpillars.
- Clear away any diseased and spent foliage around your veg plants to discourage pests and diseases spreading.

### **In the fruit garden**



Here are the main jobs to do in your fruit garden this month:

- If you have plants fruiting in containers, make sure you give them a high potash liquid feed to keep them healthy and productive.
- Remember to feed your lemon tree (and other citrus fruit trees) throughout summer

with a special citrus fertiliser.

- Plant out any rooted runners of strawberries for a good crop next year.
- Keep birds and squirrels off your berries with netting or old net curtains.
- Protect your crops with a bird scarer made from CDs tied to strings.
- Harvest your fruit trees - cherries, plums, peaches, nectarines and apricots should all be ripe now! Early varieties of apple trees will be ready towards the end of the month.
- If you have a glut of autumn raspberries, blackberries or loganberries, freeze them on trays for a couple of hours and then bag them up to use over winter.
- Tidy up strawberry plants and remove any old straw from around the plants to improve ventilation and reduce the risk of pests and diseases.
- Prune the fruited stems of your blackcurrant bushes after harvesting.
- Cut back the fruited canes of your summer raspberries, leaving the new green canes for next year's crop. Tie in next year's raspberry canes to support wires or fencing.

### **In the greenhouse**

Here are the main jobs to do in your greenhouse this month:

- Check plants daily and water them if the soil is dry.
- Damp down your greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and deter red spider mites.
- Open vents and doors on warm days.
- Use blinds or apply shade paint to prevent the greenhouse from overheating in sunny weather.
- Try hanging sticky traps to catch flying pests and help determine which pest control is needed.
- Tidy up fallen leaves and flowers to discourage disease.

### **Looking after your lawn**

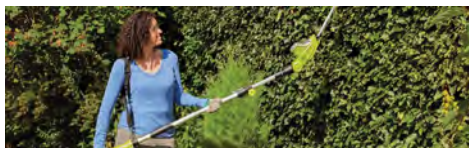
Here's how to look after your grass this month:

- Don't worry if your lawn is looking brown,

the autumn rains will soon make it green again.

- Don't feed your lawn with a high-nitrogen fertiliser now as this will encourage lots of lush new growth which is easily damaged by autumn weather.
- Lawn growth slows down in late summer so raise the cutting height of your lawn mower to help the grass cope.
- If you're planning on laying a new lawn this autumn, prepare the area now to give it time to settle.
- Recut any lawn edges. Install lawn edging to make future maintenance easier.
- If your lawn is infested by ants, brush out the nests on a dry day. Always brush them away before mowing.

### **Other jobs about the garden**



Here are some other jobs to keep on top of during August:

- Use a hedge trimmer to give your hedges a final trim before they stop growing.
- Water plants thoroughly when needed, instead of small amounts every day. Thorough watering supports plants for up to 14 days, while merely wetting the surface wastes water, encourages weeds and can lead to surface rooting making the plants more vulnerable.
- Use water butts as much as you can to water your plants. Recycle your water inside the house - collect washing up water in a bucket outside for watering beds and lawns.
- Turn the compost in your compost bins every month to keep it well aerated and to speed up decomposition.
- Scoop floating weed and algae from ponds.
- Remove rampant pond plants like bulrushes or irises before they go to seed

and make the problem worse.

- Now is a good time of year to treat lawn chafers and leatherjackets with nematodes.
- 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.
- If your plants are wilting, 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.
- Prevent slugs attacking your young plants by using slug control.
- Use boiling water as a weed killer on your paved areas. Weeds wilt and die within a

few days.

### **From your armchair**

August is a great time to enjoy your garden, but also a good moment to cast a critical eye over your domain and decide what you'd like to change for next year. Here are some tips:

- Make rough sketches of your flower borders and vegetable plot to help plan for next year.
- Take lots of photos of your garden if you want to rearrange things over the winter - it's much easier to do this if you have a reference point.
- Think about which bulbs you would like to see blooming next spring - now's the time to order ready for autumn planting. Think colourful drifts of narcissus and tulips in borders, beds, and containers.
- Order your perennial plants online now ready for autumn delivery.

**Information courtesy of  
Thompson and Morgan**  
[www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)



# Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

## Weather Conditions for June 2021

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



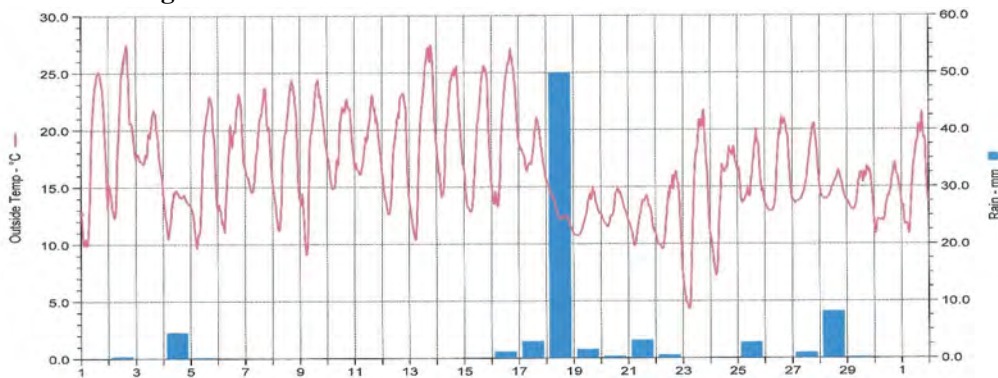
June started warm and dry and remained the same until the 17th when we had a few showers. On the 18th, it rained continuously for 24 hours, totalling 50mm (2ins) which is just under the 13-year average for June – all in the one day! It felt more like November as the wind and rain was coming from the NNE. It remained on the cool side for the rest of the month with temperatures dropping to 4.3°C on the 23rd. There was more of a contrast in June than normal between day and night temperatures. For example, it was 4.3°C early in the morning on the 23rd, but up to 22.1°C by 5.30pm.

The dominant NNE wind gave that cool feeling during the month when we would normally expect a south wind to bring Flaming June. The month's rain was 77.4 mm – 138% of the average rainfall. When the temperature reached 27.6°C at the beginning of the month, it looked like summer had come, but as it's England, we knew it wouldn't last.

	High	Date/Time		Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	27.6°C	2 June 16.00		4.3°C	23 June 05.00
Mean Temperature	16.4°C				
Dewpoint:	18.8°C	16 June 21.30		3.3°C	23 June 05.30
Humidity:	96%	29 June 04.00		35%	1 June 07.00
Barometer:	1027.5 mb	13 June 07.30		1006.9 mb	17 June 03.00
Wind Speed	25 mph NNE	18 June 08.30		Months avg.	6.0mph
Wind Chill:	27.4°C	13 June 19.00		04.3°C	23 June 05.30
Dominant Wind:	NNE				
<b>Rainfall</b> * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain					
*Rain Days: 14(T), 14(R)	Wettest Day 18 June			50.01 mm	1.968ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	June2021		77.4 mm	3.047ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	5 Months		419.00 mm	16.496ins

## June 2021

Showing a warm start and cool end to the month. 50mm of rain on 18th.



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15mins, this site forecast and much more, visit: [www.dagnallweather.co.uk](http://www.dagnallweather.co.uk) and [http://bit.ly/weather\\_dagnall](http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall). If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: [david@dagnallweather.co.uk](mailto:david@dagnallweather.co.uk) or telephone: 01442 843883. Dagnall weather now has an app for your iPad & iPhone! Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.





# Salvation Sound

## Eaton Bray Salvation Army

'THANK YOU!'



By the time you will read this article the 'Thank you Day- July 4th' will have come and gone. After a hard 18 months, we've all had someone to say thank you to. It may be the frontline staff of the NHS, the volunteers who helped with collecting prescriptions or making Check In and Chat calls, key workers like supermarket staff and bus drivers, or friends and neighbours- we wanted to get together to say thank you to them all.



SUNDAY  
4<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
#THANKYOU DAY

It is great to get a thank you from someone even when we do not expect it. Many, many people have given up their time and energy in so many ways to help us and this country during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Do you remember way back during the first lockdown when on Thursday evenings everyone came out of their houses to show their appreciation for the NHS workers by clapping. It was wonderful to see people all joining together to say 'thank-you' to the countless workers not just of the NHS but many others who were working hard in so many ways.

The Queen has also awarded Britain's highest award, The George Cross to NHS to mark 70 years for gallantry and heroism, Britain's highest honour is awarded for gallantry and heroism recognising 'courage, compassion and dedication' of their staff. What a thank you!

As I was thinking about this special day and the many people who have made our lives easier I also wanted to thank God for all His faithfulness. Throughout this time, He has been there for us, not seen, but as we look around our village and the surrounding countryside, we are granted many blessings each day.

A song that came into my mind that I would like to share with you is this: -

'Thank you God for gift beyond words,  
Thank you God for your gift beyond words,  
I thank you for giving us Jesus,  
Thank you God for your gift beyond words.  
(General John Larsson) The Salvation Army

May we always remember to say thank you and thank God for each other that makes our lives richer beyond measure.

✍ Allison Gaudion (Major)

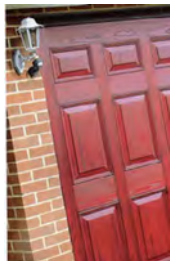


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