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March 2022



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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
01525 222087 or email
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
for more than 200 years. Today we continue
to seek to worship God, serve him in our
daily lives and support and encourage one
another in the difficult and the joyful times.

**The Focus Magazine
Committee**

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accuracy or content of any advertising or articles
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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

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) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec
- Mon-Fri (term) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342
- Mon-Fri (term) Edlesborough Primary Academy Pre-School, 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org
- Mon-Fri (term) 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) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall VH 2-3.30. 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 VH, Sheila sdtwinkletoes@yahoo.co.uk
- Mondays KFFA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+)
Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFFA' 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
- 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 VH, 07800 518654
- Tuesdays Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-11:30am, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, Eaton Bray
- Fortnightly
- Tuesdays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon
- Tuesdays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- 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 Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact Loma Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Loma Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Jazzercise 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Thursdays KFFA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+)
Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFFA' 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 Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome
- Thursdays Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome.
www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171
- Thursdays (term) Vinyasa yoga, 7:30-8:30pm The Coffee Tavern eleanorlangton@outlook.com 07969 315384
- Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 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 Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- 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 "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes, 10am-11.30am, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124

Village Diary

Saturdays	Jazzercise 9-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
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
Sundays	Sunday Worship at 11am, Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525 222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com
Sundays	Yoga, 9:30am-10:30am, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact eleanorlangton@outlook.com or 07969315384
Sundays	Karate for kids & adults, 2:30-4pm & 4:30-6pm, Eaton Bray VH, 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 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, 10:30am - 12 noon (July held on 2nd Saturday)
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
2nd Tuesday	Edlesborough W.I. Meeting, 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall. Contact Sue Bingham 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
This Month's One Off/Annual/Irregular Events	
5th Mch	St. Mary's Book Swap, 10:30am - 12noon, St Mary's Eaton Bray
16th Mch	Macmillan Curry Night, Cafe Masala, £22 per head, Book 01525 222264
19th Mch	Litter Pick Day, meet 10am at School Lane car park Eaton Bray, Contact:07931 520166
19th Mch	Music @ St.Mary's Noah's Cape, 7:30pm, £10 (children free) Book: 01525 222283

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DERRICK BONFIELD



Martin, David and Petula would like to thank family and friends, the Vicar Joy Cousans at Eaton Bray Church and the Churchwardens, plus Bryan Daniels who rang the bell at Dads Service on Monday, 17th January. Also the contributions from Dad's local church, the Northall Baptist. It was a beautiful January day, the sun shone

brightly for us as we said our goodbyes to our Dad, Derrick Bonfield, also known as Bonny.

Father was born in 1924 at Icknield Farm on the Tring Road, and attended Eaton Bray School as a youngster. After that he helped his father on the farm and with his haulage business, eventually having to run it himself due to his father's ill health. On his marriage to Daphne Vasey, known as Dill they were able to have a council house in Swan Lane, Northall, By then he was working at Broomstick Garage in Edlesborough for Mr Alan Moore. After his time there, father went as HGV fitter/driver for R.K. Browning in Leighton Buzzard for over thirty years.

Mum and Dad were very involved in the concept of the Northall Village and Recreational Social Club, with the aim of raising money for the village hall, which now stands in Southend Lane. The Club had a Sale of work each September and among the people who helped were two ladies Edna Ward and Brenda Warner who made beautiful items to be sold on their stall. The Bonfire night celebrations were always well attended with plenty to eat and a roaring fire and the best Guy Fawkes competition. Tug of War was always fun and sometimes a little boisterous. These were just some of events done to raise monies for the hall.

Dad was always on hand to mend people's equipment, whether it be someone's car, or perhaps a friend's washing machine, he always seemed to be able to find a way to fix something broken.

He was a great friend to many and he will be greatly missed by us all.



Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline - If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us.

At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who is struggling with the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you isolated and alone.

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Being able to access support whilst a loved one is dying is really important for a number of reasons. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end and having a sense of 'preparedness' helps both the person dying and their family gain as much control as possible.

Please visit www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service to find out more.

Village Info



EDaN Community Transport
Peter Williams: 01442 842506

Village Hall Booking Contacts

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

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com

Eaton Bray: Norman Lee Tel: 07975 797202

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

Dagnall: Bev Way 07875 462128 & Trish Owen 07762 151364

Email DVH_Bookings@outlook.com

Edlesborough Memorial Hall: Penny Pataky, Tel: 01525 229358

Email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

Police Contact Numbers...

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General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Defibrillator Locations

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



Dagnall: Red Lion Public House & Munns Farm Shop

Eaton Bray: The Coffee Tavern

Northall: The Swan Public House

Edlesborough: Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Baptist Church, Summerleys



Helpline: 07930 987064

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9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

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

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Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousins

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

Associate Priest: Rev'd Stephen Burge

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

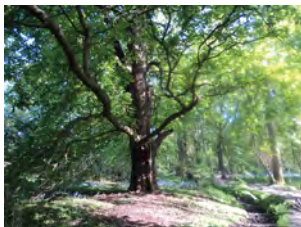
Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

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

It is now two years since our lives were unexpectedly disrupted by Covid 19. We were required to lockdown, to stay at home only going out briefly for exercise or essential shopping. Everything changed. For some, lockdown became a period of reflection, and an opportunity to reconnect with the natural world in new ways. Revd Louise Collins, Team Vicar of Elstree and Borehamwood spent some of her lockdown reading and reflecting on trees. Trees are resilient, and adaptable. They are amongst the oldest living organisms on earth. They provide a big contrast to the way we live our lives in normal times, which for many are spent rushing around, constantly trying to fit everything in.

This year in our Lent Group with the North Chilterns Group of Churches we will be exploring the amazing world of trees, using material written by Louise. There will be an opportunity to ponder what trees can teach us and to engage in discussions with one another. Meetings will be held at Totternhoe Church Hall on Tuesday evenings during Lent, starting on Tuesday 8th March and concluding on Tuesday 5th April. Drinks and biscuits will be served from 7.30pm and each session will start at 7.45pm with a presentation followed by discussion.

I am very excited about this Lent Course. I think it will help us to see the importance of trees and give us time and space to reflect on how we too can be rooted just as they are. The five sessions will cover themes of being rooted in life, in generosity, in community, in justice and in hope. We are often encouraged to think about our impact on the environment. But how often do we consider how the world around us can change and shape us? Louise has used a wide variety of material to enable reflections on what trees can teach us. She draws on insights from figures as diverse as the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell and Mother Julian of Norwich. Louise uses these as well as Biblical passages and her wide reading and research to open up the amazing world of trees in all its aspects.



Everyone is welcome to come along. If you have never been to church before and you would like to think more deeply about things, then this is a good opportunity to do so. It will be a relaxed approach with no pressure to join the discussion unless you wish to

do so- and it is free! The other thing worth noting is that although the sessions are linked, each one will stand alone. I hope you will take the opportunity to join us and learn more from the natural world about being Rooted in Hope and the amazing world of trees.

Wishing you a holy Lent,

☞ Joy (Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough)



Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION

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WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion

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

Dagnall Church Services



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

We encourage people to wear a face covering.

Any queries please contact Phillip Lee on 07977234453.

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4 1RL

Dagnall Church

The clergy and congregation of All Saints' Church, Dagnall invite you to join us at the church on Sunday 20th March at 10.30am. Richard, Bishop of Bedford, will be celebrating Holy Communion with us. Refreshments will be served after the service. All welcome.

Kenneth Munt

The family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral of Kenneth Munt (1929-2022) Dad, grandad and great grandad who will be sorely missed by all.

Music at St Mary's



It is a great delight to be able to inform the village community that live music will once again be performed at St Mary's, Eaton Bray, after a long hiatus caused by Covid. Our first concert will be at 7.30pm on Saturday 19th March to be performed by Noah's Cape, a folk trio based in Buckinghamshire. Noah's Cape is a group we know well; they performed at St Mary's in 2019 and more recently one member of the band, Linda Watkins, performed at the Poppy Prom in 2021. We look forward to seeing you. Tickets from 01525 222283 cost £10.

Linda is no stranger to her local folk circuit. She is an experienced singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist with her music played on the BBC and local radio stations. From heart rending songs to light hearted anecdotes you are assured of high quality entertainment.

Marian Wedley has a full catalogue of well written observational material covering subjects as diverse as the demise of the Ash tree to the working practices on a building site! She is adept at writing humorous pieces as well as commenting on more serious and hard-hitting issues. Her sweet and delicate vocals



lend themselves to the subject matter of her songs in a way that draws the listener in from the first note.



Mark Niel is a poet, writer, actor and musician. He was appointed Milton Keynes' Poet Laureate in May 2011. Mark sang as a tenor with choir Heart and Music for five years and has also undertaken principal roles in Musicals such as Kiss me, Kate, Seussical and City of Angels.



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Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

16m Telecoms Mast on High Street, Edlesborough
Parishioners will be aware that the installation of a 16m Telecoms Mast on High Street, Edlesborough has commenced.

Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) would like to clarify that when planning applications are submitted EPC is a consultee and not the planning authority. The planning authority is Buckinghamshire Council (BC). EPC submits responses to planning applications that it believes reflect the wishes of the parishioners.

Two applications for the installation of the mast on High Street, Edlesborough were submitted to BC and a yellow notice was posted in a lamp post at the proposed location on 25th October. The yellow notices are the planning authority's process for informing parishioners of an application. Once notices are posted it is parishioner's responsibility to look on the Buckinghamshire Council website for more information about the application.

EPC objected to both applications for the Telecom Mast on the grounds that the mast would be too close to homes, and would have a detrimental visual impact on the village.

In response to the first application Buckinghamshire Council advised the applicant that *"The current plans show that the proposed monopole would sit to the immediate rear of 9 St Mary's Glebe, and therefore would be highly visible from this neighbouring property. However, it is recognised that within the site's red line boundary the proposed monopole could be relocated to be situated within the gap along the boundary line between numbers 7 and 9 St Mary's Glebe dwellings, as such the harm to residential amenity would be reduced. It is therefore considered that the proposal would comply with policy I6 of the VALP (Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan) and the guidance set out within the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) however prior approval would be required with regards to siting, such to reduce the impact upon the amenity of neighbours."* As a result of this the

applicant submitted a second application siting the mast between 7 and 9 St Mary's Glebe. The applicant did this on the grounds that permission would be granted. This meant that whilst EPC objected to the second application permission was granted before EPC was able to inform the neighbouring residents of the application.

EPC did all it could in objecting to this permitted development. EPC believes that residents would not have been able to achieve any more even if they had submitted an objection before the application was determined.

Good Intent, Edlesborough Telecom Mast

Parishioners will recall that earlier in 2021 EPC had previously received a pre application consultation from another company wishing to install a telecom mast at the top of Good Intent. This company has not yet submitted an application for this installation and EPC has tried to work with them to find a more suitable position. This company could still submit an application to install a mast at the top of Good Intent.

Planning Applications

You can read more about EPC's procedure for responding to planning applications on the EPC website. The website is regularly updated with information about local planning applications, including EPC's responses to applications and the planning authority's decisions.

Buckinghamshire Councillors

Each month at least one of the following Buckinghamshire Councillors Chris Poll, Peter Brazier and Derek Town attend the Edlesborough Parish Council meetings. They provide a detailed Buckinghamshire Council report to the EPC, a copy of which can be found on EPC's website along with the Council meeting minutes. Additionally they support, help and advise EPC Councillors with various Parish matters.

2022 EdleFest The EdleFest dates for 2022 have been confirmed as 10th and 11th June. More information

and tickets are available via the EdleFest website <https://edlefest.site123.me/>



Community Board for Ivinghoe and Wing Ward

All residents are welcome attend the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board meetings.

Community Boards were introduced under the new Unitary authority as a new way of bringing the council, groups, organisations and local people together to look at local issues and find ways of improving them together.

As a community-led partnership, Community Boards:

- influence how decisions are made and how services are delivered
- represent the voice of local people
- capture thoughts, ideas and suggestions
- bring together key community partners and residents
- identify local needs and work to produce creative solutions

There are many ways the boards work with the community to identify what is important in each area and take action together.

The boards will use local data, intelligence and the views of people and partners in the community to identify key areas of focus and priorities for the board. These priorities will help determine where the boards take action and allocate funding to improve the local area.

The boards are all about taking action. Action groups will explore the local priorities, set up local projects and find creative ways to make local changes.

Each board has an allocated budget to fund local projects and initiatives.

There will be five public meetings held each year. At these meetings, funding is allocated and feedback will be shared on the plan of action. Action notes from these meetings will be published online.

Get involved

If you join your community board, you'll be able to have your say on issues that affect your area. How involved you become is up to you. The

Community Board will:

- send you a regular newsletter
- invite you to our board meetings and events
- give you the opportunity to get involved with our action groups
- let you know about local consultations
- share information on funding for communities.



More information about the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board can be found at www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/improving-your-local-community/wing-ivinghoe-community-board/

Edlesborough Green

At the time of writing this report a pony and trap has managed to gain access to Edlesborough Green. This is against the Byelaws and could be a danger to other users of the Green. The Council will shortly be installing new barriers to help prevent further unauthorised use of the Green.

If any parishioner witnesses events such as this or any other dangerous activity on the Green or in the Parish this should be reported to Thames Valley Police via 999.

Edlesborough Green continues to be 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.
- Clean up after your dog!

EDaN Community Car Service

This is a group of local volunteers who support parishioners with journeys to hospital etc. The group which has been inactive due to Covid 19 has now resumed. The group is in need of more volunteer drivers. Any parishioner interested in using the service or volunteering should contact the co-ordinator Peter Williams via email at peterw500@aol.com or on 01442 842506.

EDaN Beautification Team

The EDaN Beautification Team continue to work 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 on 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

Allotments

EPC would like to thank the team of volunteers who gave up their time to help tidy and clear unlet plots at the Dagnall allotment site.

Anyone wishing to take on a plot at Dagnall should contact the Clerk for more information. EPC currently holds a waiting list for the three other sites, anyone wishing to be added to the waiting list should contact the Clerk.

Streetlights

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

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

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

Traffic Calming

Thames Valley Police have relaunched and restarted their Community Speedwatch – more information can be found at [Restart and relaunch for Community Speedwatch in 2021 · Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner](#) (thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk) Any parishioner interested in becoming involved with the EDaN Community Speedwatch for Edlesborough Parish should contact Cllr Alan Williams via email at alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or on 07828 398371

Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS)

EPC has submitted a proposal to the aforementioned

Community Board to acquire and install three units to be deployed at various sites throughout the three villages, Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall to remind road users of the speed limit in force. As well as a flashing indicator to each passing driver the unit will summarise the number of vehicles at the actual recorded speeds. This data when analysed will enable the council to consider whether physical traffic calming measures might be needed. This together with Speedwatch reinforces the Buckinghamshire Council principle of educating drivers to observe the speed limits.



Small Grant Scheme launched

EPC has announced a new grant scheme open to organisations and residents within the parish of Edlesborough. This is designed to encourage projects to benefit people in the villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall. See separate article in this magazine with the criteria and how to apply.

Council Meetings

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

- Thursday 17th March 2022
- Thursday 21st April 2022

The meetings will commence at 7:30pm.

Parishioners are welcome to attend all Ordinary Parish Council meetings and may ask questions, raise issues and give suggestions during the Open Forum before the formal start of the meeting. Council requests that where possible questions, issues and suggestions are submitted in writing to the Clerk by the Tuesday preceding the meeting.

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

All the hyperlinks in the information above can be accessed through the Edlesborough Parish website.



Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

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

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

EdleFest 2022

Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough

Our Thoughts are turning towards SUMMER.

After a busy 2021, plans are already well underway for 2022.

Enquiries are already coming in to the Churches Conservation Trust for “Champing”, Camping in our Church after record numbers last year. The season lasts from April to October. Dare you?

All eyes are on June. The villages will enjoy the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and the very next week, it's**EdleFest**.

Your own local music festival will return after a two year break. All of the artists are contracted, the Ticket Agency is open and tickets are selling well.

If you are a Facebook user follow us for the latest posts and details about EdleFest at Friends of the Church on the Hill Edlesborough, or go directly to edlefest.site123.me or if you are not regularly online please contact wyn.johns@gmail.com

Plus hopefully we will be selling tickets courtesy of Louise at Janes Flooring from April. Dorothy Ferguson is the new Chair of the Friends of the Church on the Hill, having taken over from Theresa McCloskey who has now stepped down from this position but continues to support us. Tributes have been paid for her sterling leadership over the years and the initiatives that she led.

Our Group is small, but perfectly formed, but there is always room for new Friends to join us in making the Church “used and loved”.

✉ Wyn Johns

GORDON'S CHRISTMAS PUZZLE 2021

It has been a remarkable year for the Christmas Puzzle

A record number of 394 entrants

Thanks to many of you for your continued support.

Overseas entries from Australia, Cyprus, France, Ireland and New Zealand.

£10,200 raised this year, so five charities will each receive £2,040

This brings the total raised by the Puzzle to over £119,000 and brings the number of different charities supported by the Puzzle to 88 of whom 58 have received £1,000 or more

On behalf of the charities, “Thank you for your remarkable generosity.

Winners

I conducted a draw on Thursday 10th February. Winners, receiving a cheque for £50 were: Pat Kirby-Evans, Frin Baron and Trevor Gibb. Six other names were drawn from among all the entries I received. These who will receive a cheque for £10 were: Katie Cummins, Jill Butler, Amanda Garland, Ken Prosser, Angie Baker (from Eaton Bray) and Marjori Gibbs



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

NEW SMALL GRANT AWARD SCHEME LAUNCHED

Edlesborough Parish Council is pleased to announce a new Small Grant scheme.

This is a great opportunity for local groups, local charities and local organisations to get a grant of up to £500 in this new scheme. The main terms of the grant are very straightforward.

- The purpose for which the grant is made must be in the interest of Edlesborough Parish that covers the residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall.
- EPC will determine the size of the award up to a maximum of £500.
- We will not award funds for activities that have already taken place.
- Any publicity covering the activity funded must mention EPC's involvement.
- The award recipients must make a short presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The last time EPC awarded grants was to the teams established from the Parish Plan in 2008. Today, some of those teams are still operating successfully. This new award scheme is broader in its application and is intended to run each year from now onwards if enough proposals come forward for funding.

We have designed the application in two stages. The first stage involves screening the application to ensure it meets the basic criteria. EPC has established a small team of councillors who will examine the initial proposal. If the proposal passes stage one it moves forward to the second stage where we will require all the details needed to ensure that public money is spent wisely.

Applications will be reviewed at any time during the year and awards to successful applications made in each quarter beginning in April this year. The total funding available is limited.

Full details of the terms of the scheme can be found on the EPC website.

<https://www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk> or if you don't have access to the web by calling the clerk Penny Pataky on 01525 229358

Please remember the key requirement is that it must benefit the Parish of Edlesborough that covers the residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall.

We look forward to hearing your proposals!

Edlesborough Parish Council

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky, 15 Summerleys, EDLESBOROUGH, LU6 2HR

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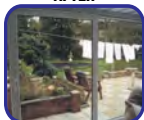
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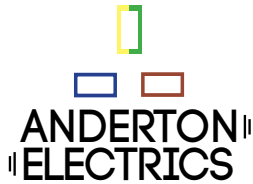
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Eaton Bray Memories Calendar 2022



*Eaton Bray volunteers at the Food Bank
Iian Stubbs, Greg Baker, Vi Grundy, Rex & Penny Abbotts*

I would like to thank everyone that bought an Eaton Bray Memories Calendar. Special thanks Jay & Kay at Nisa, Eaton Bray, The Swan, Northall, Jimmy Hawkins & Lizzie at Hawkins Transport and Dilys Wood my super sales lady.

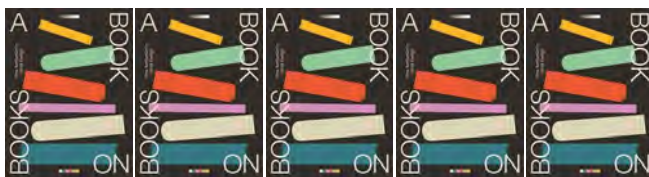
We raised	£850
Printing costs	£320
Food Bank.	£530

It's been wonderful to hear the memories from people looking at the photos.

I would like to make a correction to the October photo,

It's Mrs Gray not her sister Mrs Oakes, thanks to the lady at the Methodist Hall for spotting the mistake.

✍️ Kathy Ellison



1st Book Swap Day

Saturday March 5th 10:30 - 12:00

Take a Book you want to Read

Leave a book you want to Swap

We look forward to seeing you at St Mary's Church Coffee Morning, Eaton Bray for the launch of our free Book Swap project.

To begin with, this project will be held once a month to coincide with the Saturday morning church coffee morning. If it proves successful the scheme will hopefully expand to include a weekly coffee morning in the church, on a weekday to be decided. The books acceptable on the scheme are novels and children's picture books in good condition; text books and cookery books are excluded.

Please only bring with you as many books as you will take home to read. The idea is to have a small number of books with a constant turnover; there is not the capacity for storage or disposal of large numbers of books.

If you are interested in helping us to develop this scheme, please come to the launch and talk to Chris or Jeni.

The North Chilterns Group of Parishes



Lent Course 2022

Tuesdays 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March, 5th April

St Giles' Church Hall, Totternhoe

Refreshments 7.30pm Talk 7.45pm

'Rooted in Hope'

Exploring the amazing world of trees

Revd Louise Collins



Danesborough Chorus Concert

Saturday 2nd April 2022 at 7.30pm
St Mary's Parish Church, Woburn

Morten Lauridsen *Lux Aeterna*
Josef Rheinberger *Requiem*
Leonard Bernstein *Chichester Psalms*

Tickets: £20, £15, £10, under 18s £5 (all unreserved)
Phone 01908 583460 or from Danesborough Tickets,
58 Church Road, Woburn Sands, MK17 8TA. Please send
a stamped SAE with a cheque to 'Danesborough Chorus'.
Also available online from www.wegotickets.com.

Reg. charity no. 279281 website: www.danesborough.org.uk

Easter 2022 Tennis Camps



Week 1 - 9-11am Yellow Ball (11-18yrs)

Week 2 – 9-11am Mini Tennis (10 and under)

Our Camps combine fun and games with Tennis Coaching. Youngsters aged 10 years and under learn the basics while having lots of fun doing games and activities specifically designed to build co-ordination, balance and movement. The older age groups work on drills to embed good movement and build fitness, which lead onto appropriate technical aspects of Tennis being covered. They finish up with valuable Tournament and match play tuition and practice, and even rain doesn't always stop play. You don't have to be member of the Club to attend the Camps and all abilities are catered for.

	Junior Tennis Camp				
Week1:	Mon 4 th April	Tues 5 th April	Weds 6 th April	Thurs 7 th April	Fri 8 th April
	Mini Tennis Camp				
Week2:	Mon 11 th April	Tues 12 th April	Weds 13 th April	Thurs 14 th April	

Courses are run by Head Coach Sara Bamford (PTR Pro and LTA Level 4) with an LTA license, DBS and Emergency First Aid. All equipment is supplied but please wear sports clothing and suitable trainers. Ages 4-18 catered for. Please note all camp sessions will run inline with the LTA COVID Guidelines more information can be found at www.lta.org.uk

	Cost
Week (5 days)	£60
Week (4 days)	£48
1 Day	£13

***10% sibling discount and 10% members discount available**

Mini Tennis Camp Age 4 – 10 years old this session will be aimed at mini tennis level

Junior Tennis Camp Age 11 years and up this session will be aimed at 11-18 year olds playing yellow ball tennis

If you have any questions or need any more information,

please call Sara Bamford on 07561-571578.



To book directly online please visit our website or scan the QR code

www.ebtcc.org.uk

Book now and guarantee your place! Eaton Bray Tennis Club, School Lane, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DT

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL FOCUS REPORT

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

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

Parish Open Office/Surgery

The Parish Council will be trailing a monthly Parish Council Office opening on the second Tuesday after the monthly Parish Council meeting. The first session will be on Tuesday 15 February 2022, 10am-12pm. If you need to speak to the Parish Council Clerk about local matters, you can visit the Parish Council Office at the Coffee Tavern. For further information, please visit the Parish Council website: <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/parish-council-openoffice-surgery-trial/>

FixMyStreet

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

Litter Pick Day, Saturday 19 March 2022

The Parish Council are organising a Litter Pick Day on Saturday 19 March 2022. We will meet in the car park on School Lane at 10am. Please wear strong shoes. We will provide litter grabbers, sacks, gloves and Hi-Viz vests but please bring your own if you have them.

To sign up please contact Roy Michel 07931-520166 or email roytheboyfrance@hotmail.com

Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10 January 2022, from 7:30pm

(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 10/01/2022)

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

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

CBC Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk,

CBC Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk, CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

- Resurfacing/upgrade of pavements: CBC looking into new material (screed, levelling, defects) and trials are being conducted in other locations, waiting for findings before final decision is made. Cllr Spicer urged residents to continue to take photos/report on poor quality pavements, via FixMyStreet.
- Street lighting: a reminder to all residents to report any broken/faulty streetlights to CBC via FixMyStreet.
- S.I.D. – CBC are introducing a new initiative, allowing councilsto put in a request for updated S.I.D. equipment (match funded). CBC will look at requests and evaluate best indicator device for location
- Line markings: Cllr Spicer to investigate the zig-zag line markings.

Planning Applications – December 2021/January 2022

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

Monthly Payments, January 2022

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

Recreation Grounds

- School Lane – The new equipment has passed inspection. The Parish Council decided to open the play area as it was impossible to keep children from using the area. Unfortunately, the ground is in a poor condition. The Parish Council will keep an eye on the condition of the playpark and review in the Spring.
- Footpath – Some sections of the footpath a breaking up, the Parish Council is to assess the footpaths and obtain quotations for improvement works. *UPDATE 07/02/2022: Quotations have been received; the Parish Council has agreed to the improvement works going ahead.
- Horse& Trap - There have been several incidents of a horse and trap entering and driving round the recreation ground. This is not permitted under council Byelaws. The Parish Council has fitted two concrete posts at the path entrance from the car park in the hope of stopping this activity. The police have been informed of this activity and are monitoring the situation.

Highways

- The parish SIDs (Speed Indicating Devices): The Parish Council are waiting on the detail of the CBC scheme. *UPDATE 07/02/22: The Parish Council to put in their application to CBC for match funding.

Watercourse/Mill End Close

- Benches: Two new benches are to be installed at Mill End Close. *UPDATE 07/02/2022: Proposed fitting early March (weather dependant).
- Following some clearance from a neighbouring landowner, there was considerable debris in the river. This has been cleared by IDB (Internal Drainage Board). Concerns were raised by the Parish Council to the IDB regarding the heavy water flow over the sluice, the council are to check the water flow in the ditch up-stream.*UPDATE 07/02/2022: Some remedial work to a small leak was carried out to a small section of the bank. Tree roots may be contributing to the small leak, the Parish Council to monitor the situation.

Jubilee Celebrations

- The Parish Council are looking at fitting flag poles along the parish roads, attached to lamp posts, and are looking at suitable pole/flag options. *UPDATE 07/02/2022: The Parish Council looked at the sample poles and agreed to the design, the council to order poles/flags for display.
- Support Community Group: The Parish Council are looking for volunteers to help with the organising/ planning of an event for the Jubilee Celebrations. Any residents interested in joining this group please email the Parish Clerk with your contact details and a member of the Parish Council will get back to you to discuss further.

Parish Trees

- St. Mary's Church/Ash: The Parish Council has gone out for quotations, awaiting responses. *UPDATE 07/02/2022: Quotations received; the Parish Council has approved the work going ahead.
- Landscape Buffer/Maple: The Parish Council has gone out for quotations, awaiting response. *UPDATE 07/02/2022: Quotations received; the Parish Council has approved the work going ahead.
- Tree Planting – The Parish Council are looking into replacements for vandalised/dead trees.

Parish Council Meeting (The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

Details can be obtained from the EBPC website, www.ebpc.co.uk

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 7 March 2022 from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 4 April 2022 from 7:30pm



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

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

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

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

Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter

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





THE FOUR VILLAGES MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB [FVMBC]

A few years ago, a previous Vicar at St Mary's Church mentioned that in her previous parish a Men's Breakfast Club had been formed and had proved to be very successful and popular as a focal point where men might meet. As a result, four of us found ourselves trying to somehow make the idea work locally and finally, in January 2013 the FVMBC held its opening meeting – or at least would have had heavy snow not arrived that morning. Nevertheless, despite that minor setback a first meeting did take place a little later and the Club has since been meeting roughly every three months (when permitted to do so under COVID restrictions, of course ...).

We meet in Northall Village Hall where for a modest £12.00 we enjoy a really superb, cooked breakfast, catch up with friends & neighbours old and new and then settle back for 45 minutes or so to listen to a speaker, subjects having ranged from Bletchley Park to Building a Classroom in Uganda and from the Shuttleworth collection to Space – and thanks to a prompt (if early) start at 8.00am, we're usually on our way home shortly after 10.00am.

If it sounds of interest and you would like to come along – or would simply like more Information – please contact: Chris Banks on 01525 221556 and 07970 712447 or Graham Chappell on 01525 220883 and 07980 321977.

When you realise that 1970 and 2022 are as far apart as 1970 and 1918...



“Why English Is Hard to Learn”

We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*,
But the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.
One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*,
Yet the plural of *moose* is never called *meese*.

You may find a lone *mouse* or a house full of *mice*;
But the plural of *house* is *houses*, not *hice*.
The plural of *man* is always *men*,
But the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*,
And I give you a *book*, would a pair be a *beek*?
If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*,
Why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*,
Should the plural of *kiss* be ever called *keese*?

We speak of a *brother* and also of *brethren*,
But though we say *mother*, we never say *methren*.
Then the masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*;
But imagine the feminine . . . *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!



– Anonymous

Appledown Rescue & Rehoming Kennels - A Strange Story



Just when you think you've seen it all in a rescue kennel something really bizarre happens!

A few weeks after lurcher Guy Self came to us we spotted what looked like the end of a cocktail stick poking out of the skin near his right hip. To our amazement as it was carefully removed it was not a cocktail stick but a 17cms (7") skewer! It had been embedded in Guy's pelvic region long before he came to us as there was no surface wound. Guy was treated by our vet and has made a full recovery. Sadly we

cannot see how it could have happened accidentally. Despite all this, Guy is a gentle sweet-natured boy who would love a home where he gets all the love and care he so deserves.

To support our work 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. Cheques are very welcome too!

Appledown Rescue & Rehoming Kennels Harling Road, Eaton Bray LU6 1QY

01525 220383 (10am-1pm & 2-4 pm) E-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk **Viewings are by appointment only.**

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram!

Edlesborough W.I.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The February meeting commenced with minutes of January's meeting read and signed and items of interest shared. We then briskly moved on to meet our guest speaker, Jean Yates and to hear all about Ladies of the Grand Tour – intrepid wives, widows and mistresses.

The Grand Tour of Europe in the 17th and 18th Centuries became a rite of passage for aristocratic young men. Ladies very rarely travelled, conditions were generally very basic and often dangerous which makes the stories of those that did all the more remarkable.

Women such as Ann, Lady Fanshaw b 1625. "Mother of Ice Cream", discovered during her extensive travels with her Ambassador husband.

Another lady of note was Lady Mary Wortley Montagu b 1689. Her contribution to Western medicine was to introduce smallpox inoculation after witnessing the procedure on a tour of the Ottoman Empire.

One of the most scandalous, Elizabeth Pierrepont, Duchess of Kingston-upon-Hull. English courtier and courtesan, found guilty of bigamy she hurriedly left England with her fortune to avoid charges. Continuing her licentious life she became mistress to a Serbian count among her many exploits. She is said to have inspired Sheridan's School for Scandal 1777.

Our next WI Meeting is on March 8th. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. New ladies are always welcome.

✉ Caroline Colleran

A person's most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge, but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen and a hand willing to help.

silversurfers.com

Charity No. 293080

A warm welcome awaits you at the Wednesday Club in Northall Village Hall. Having had to close during the Covid pandemic, we are now looking forward to welcoming members old and new.

We are open to all from Northall, Dagnall, Edlesborough, Eaton Bray and the surrounding villages from 10am until 3pm weekly.

- Very friendly atmosphere
- Morning coffee and biscuits on arrival
- Home cooked lunch with pudding
- Afternoon tea and cakes
- Play games and bingo
- Make new friends
- Days out including trips to places of interest, garden centres plus an annual boat trip on the Grand Union Canal with fish and chip lunch on board
- Entertainment by visitors
- Weekly sale table
- Join in as much or as little as you like

A day out for £10 per week, includes our own mini bus available for door to door transport on club days. Established over 30 years. The club is supported by a committee and a team of volunteers.

Please contact Peter Williams on 01442 842506 or 07901 621003 to arrange a visit or for more information.





**NORTHALL AND DISTRICT
WEDNESDAY CLUB**

LEADER REQUIRED

**TO RUN AND ORGANISE THE WEDNESDAY CLUB
TOGETHER WITH A DEPUTY AND VOLUNTEERS**

THIS IS A PAID APPOINTMENT

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE
PETER WILLIAMS ON
01442 842506 OR 07901 621003**



News from the Friends of the Church on the Hill Edlesborough

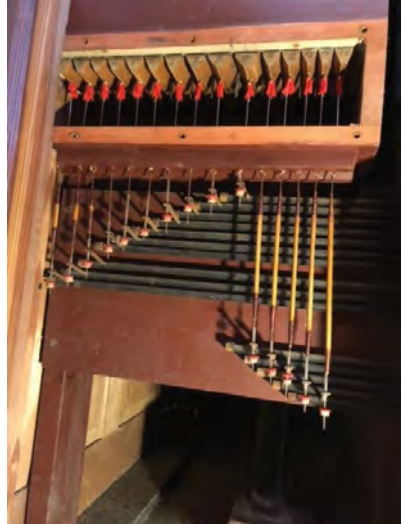


The Organ in the Church on the Hill

The Organ in the Church on the Hill has been there since June 1885. It was built by Bishop & Son (an appropriate name) of 250, Marylebone Road, London NW. The company was founded in 1795 and became Organ Builder to HER MAJESTY, being Queen Victoria, and is still going strong today.

The Organ Cost £200, the Stool £2 and Carriage costs were 2 pounds 12 shillings and sixpence (£2.65). The current equivalent is approximately £30,000, though it would cost around £150,000 to build a comparable instrument today. The Organ was later restored by R. Crabbe, Organ Builder of Wing, who also restored the organ at Little Gaddesden Parish Church.

We recently had an issue where a note was stuck on the Organ. If any stop (one of the knobs you see to either side of the keyboards, which select a specific type of sound, such as a flute) was drawn, then this one note would play continuously even though that note on the keyboard wasn't being pressed. This, of course, makes the organ unusable. Now fortunately we were able to



call upon the expertise of Stephen Axford, Organist at St. Mary's Eaton Bray who had first discovered the problem when he played at our Heritage Open Days "Songs of Praise". So for three freezing days in November and December, two of us joined up with Stephen to "help" him solve the problem.

The basic principle of Organ design may have been unchanged for centuries (the inner workings of our instrument would be familiar to an organ builder from before Bach's time in the seventeenth century) but you still need the inside knowledge, literally. Stephen removed parts of the housing and squeezed into the belly of the workings. He was able to free the stuck note and ensure that particular part of the mechanism didn't stick again – for now!

Music for the organ is usually written for both

hands and feet, and when the manual or pedal keyboard notes are depressed, valves (called pallets) are opened, wind supplied by bellows and stored in reservoirs flows through various channels, and the pipes produce the sound. Our organ has two keyboards (manuals) with 56 notes each, and a pedalboard of 30 notes. Many pipes can sound at the same time, and the organist can choose the type of sound – this organ has stops with familiar names such as flute, viol, and oboe, as well as ones that make the more typical big organ sound.



The pedal notes were the most troublesome aspect of the organ and only about half of them worked. The pedal notes are the lowest notes, rather like the Double Bass in an orchestra, so missing these means you don't get the deep rich sound you expect from an organ. Having seen the decrepit state of the innards (very clear in the first photograph), Stephen carefully removed and numbered all of the connecting rods (called trackers), which were cleaned, repaired, and re-varnished (most of the mechanism is incredibly lightweight, delicate pieces of wood), prior to re-assembling the action. He fabricated new parts where the old was corroded or had been damaged by damp or mice! This included hooks and connectors made of bronze wire, and felt and leather to make washers and nuts. Half (15 notes) of the newly-repaired pedal action can be seen in the second photograph. There is a similar collection of parts for the other 15 notes, which you can see in the third picture. It took around twelve hours in total to re-assemble the full mechanism.

The Organ was played in its full pomp at our Carols by Candlelight Service, when Stephen also sang a solo, with his wife Elizabeth providing the accompaniment on the Organ.

As the weather warms in the Spring, we hope Stephen will carefully overhaul the keyboard mechanism which, while it currently works (just), is also quite unreliable in places and is suffering from dirt, damp and general deterioration.

The Friends Group is deeply indebted to Stephen and we are hoping to host an Organ Recital in the Spring. Stephen will demonstrate what our wonderful instrument is capable of, and tell us a bit more about how these amazing musical machines work.

St Mary's Churchyard

I have recently completed a 3 year long project to record all the inscriptions and photograph all the graves in the church graveyard, to post on the website www.findagrave.com as an aid to family historians anywhere in the world. I have also entered the details into a spreadsheet for use by the Parish clerk. The Bucks Family History Society carried out a similar task in the late 1980s. Over 25% of the inscriptions that were readable then are now illegible, either completely or partly. Sometimes they have become overgrown and sometimes the stone face has become damaged.

The grounds maintenance team helped by clearing away dead brambles etc from the more overgrown graves. We made several interesting finds.

How did the 1985 team miss these?

These 3 huge chest graves are on the slope near the wooden steps and were missed from the earlier project. Like most of the graves on the flat area above them they commemorate various members of the Ginger family.



Typo

There is a huge gravestone in the large chained area not far from the war memorial that commemorates 3 members of the Batchelar family. When we looked closely we found that the stone mason had made 2 typos, if you can call carving that. If you look closely at the 'A' you can see that it was inserted into the row of text, presumably the stone mason assumed the name was spelled 'Batchelor'.

Mysterious steps

The grave at the top of the picture is for Robert John Sharratt, who died age 7 in 1957. The 'book' in the foreground marks the ashes burial place of Elsie and Adam Sharratt, who died in 1972 and 1976, respectively, possibly his grandparents.

But why are there steps in between them? There don't seem to be any more steps in the flight, though one of our team got out her trowel in best 'Time Team' style.

Overall Findings

- 352 graves with legible inscriptions, plus 2 with a decorative metal cross and 9 marked with just a vase or surround to the grave.
- 650 people were recorded.
- The oldest grave dated back to 1823
- Most common surname - Janes (23), then Gray (20) and Gadsden (17)
- 38 people were over 90 when they died, 3 of whom were 101. Of the 38, only 5 were men.
- 25 children aged 5 or under were recorded, of which 16 were 1 or under. This is a surprisingly small number but these are only the graves where there is a stone headstone; the large grassy areas throughout the graveyard signify that the majority of graves probably had only had a wooden headstone.



The importance of local information

A parishioner told us that there was a plaque to a lady doctor who was killed in WW2,

but we could not find it anywhere until we decided to tidy up a large grave and found it resting on her parents' grave. The plaque commemorates Captain Jean Cunison Nelson, who was killed in India in 1945 whilst she was serving as a doctor. She is commemorated on the war memorial of Buckland village, where her parents were living when she died, but she spent most of her childhood in Dagnall.

✍️Chris Roddis

You can find out information about burials relating to your family by searching www.findagrave.com, or by emailing our website, or by messaging our Facebook page.

www.edlesboroughchurch.org.uk

 Friends of the Church on the Hill



Eaton Bray Methodist Church



The New Year found us worshipping from our homes on Zoom but thankfully we felt able to return to church-based services by the end of January.

Our first service in January was led by Fiona Arscott-Smith. Her cheerful and reassuring reflection focused on 'Jesus, the Light of the World'. In the dark days of winter, especially during the problems of the pandemic, our depression is dispelled by the bright hope invested in Jesus, through whom God cares and intervenes. On the following Sunday, our Covenant Service took place, the first time we have celebrated Communion as a congregation on Zoom. This inspiring occasion was prepared and led with great sensitivity by Rev Jenny Spouge, bringing us together to renew our relationship with God and pray for his blessing as a community. The week after, Roger Owers made a welcome return to our congregation. He emphasised the importance of adoration, praise and thanksgiving as a starting point for our worship. We need reminding that the ways of God are trustworthy and through Jesus, we have a new understanding of how to live our lives. Our final January Sunday service was in our church building and was led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings. He based his sermon on Jeremiah, a prophet who suffered because he had to bring unwelcome challenges to his people. Despite his message of doom, there was hope because he was able to bear witness to the transforming friendship of God which enables us.

A Warm Invitation

We now meet in church again for our Sunday services. If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome. Our worship takes place in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Totternhoe Rd and starts at 10.30am.

Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going

A little Church with strong local links



Travelling the Mediterranean

How the year is flying by. Nearly a quarter of 2022 done! We are still rushing around with plenty to do. Are you hoping to book a holiday this year?

A recent message at the Church was all about the Apostle Paul's journeys to spread the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ. What a busy life St. Paul led. And not too peaceful either with many attacks, imprisonments and shipwrecks!

To some these days, a little jaunt around the Mediterranean might be appealing after having had our wings clipped by the restrictions over the last two years.

So why was Paul travelling around the Mediterranean?



Our recent Church Sunday table-top exploration of Paul's journeys..

Paul, originally known as Saul was struck down by a bright light, after he had been persecuting the Christians with great enthusiasm. Paul then had a firsthand encounter with the risen Lord. Everyone has heard about how this happened on the road to Damascus. In everyday language, people talk about having a 'road to Damascus' experience. This means a complete change of direction. Paul changed totally as a result of his experience. He was blinded for three days

until help arrived. He then had to escape from Damascus in a basket lowered from the city walls. This was the first of his trials after his conversion and there were many, many more. Paul was born in Tarsus, a city at the north eastern side of the Mediterranean. He learned how to preach the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ instead of tracking down and punishing those who believed in Jesus. The Roman occupation at the time had improved travel and communications. Paul's specific calling was to preach and share this good news beyond Israel and to the known world at that time (Acts 9).

Three Missionary journeys covered a huge area around Turkey, Greece, Israel, Syria and Italy. All current holiday destinations! How life has changed. Very few then had the resources to travel for pleasure. It was dangerous. Three times Paul was shipwrecked. 2 Corinthians 11 lists the many dangers he had faced including being arrested and imprisoned many, many times. We read elsewhere about his severe eye problems.

This doesn't sound like a good holiday. His last trip was to Rome where he was again imprisoned and likely later executed. But what a job he had done. So many heard the Good News because of Paul's unending efforts. The stories are all recounted in our bibles.

Our Sunday services, are now back in Church at 11 am. Feel free to join us for our worship and song. You will get a warm welcome. For those unable to attend in person we also stream our services.

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

EATON BRAY - IN FABRICS

By Mary Mayne
On the Road to the Carnival



This small panel shows a group of villagers waiting for the Eaton Bray Carnival to pass by. It was the year 2007 and the group were standing across the road from Janes Electrical shop in Edlesborough.

I took the photograph and enlarged it to the required size for using as a pattern. It is machine applied and quilted. It was made for the Quilters Guild of The British Isles Challenge for the Festival of Quilts held at the NEC. The Challenge that year was "ON THE ROAD"

I wonder if you recognise yourself.

Medley Close Map 1979

This was another piece that I have wanted to make for some time. Made in 2015 approximately, using a small map of the Close kept by my husband Peter, enlarging the map and tracing off the shapes as I have done before, the next step was to carefully choose the fabrics as I didn't want to use fabrics that had too much of a print on them but still look appropriate. The strip on the right side of the picture has since been built on and some of the bungalows have had extensions done over the years. The red bungalow and garage is where I live and my studio is the back half of the garage – cleaned out and warm!



LOCAL HERALDRY

BY JOHN HOCKEY

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

ADELBERT WELLINGTON CUST

Following on from the last article about the 2nd Earl Brownlow, I would now like to turn to his younger brother who succeeded him as the 3rd Earl in 1867. You may recall that both were the sons of Lady Marianne Alford, who looked after Ashridge House until they reached the age of maturity. Both Ashridge and the more important Belton House in Lincolnshire belonged to the family and Adelbert is remembered with a marble bust, coat of arms and florid inscription there, though the entwined 'A's of Adelbert and his wife Adelaide (Talbot) are also prominently displayed in Ashridge House.

The inscription at Belton reads as follows:

*Adelbert Wellington Brownlow Cust,
3rd Earl and 4th Baron Brownlow.
Knight Grand Cross of the Royal
Victorian Order, Privy Councillor,
Lord Lieutenant of this county for
fifty four years. Aide de Camp to
Their Majesties Queen Victoria,
King Edward VII, and King George
V successively. A Colonel in Her
Majesty's Army and a Brigadier
General of the Volunteer Force. Born
19th August, 1844, died at Belton,
17th March 1921. He was a very
gallant and honourable gentleman.*

The coat of arms shows Cust (Ermine on a chevron Sable three fountains) impaling Talbot (Gules a lion rampant within a bordure engrailed Or) with an earl's coronet above. Actually the Talbot arms are modelled incorrectly as the *bordure* as shown is what is termed *invected* rather than *engrailed*, meaning the scalloped edge is turned the wrong way round.

I suspect that had the earl lived his eye for detail would have spotted that!



Sadly, John has suddenly become rather unwell, and may not be able to pen any further articles for a while. He hopes you have enjoyed them, and also his items on photography, as much as he has preparing them!

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Eaton Bray W.I.

A warm welcome was given to the members and our visitor at the February meeting.

Details were given of the Spring Group Meeting, to be held at St Giles, Totternhoe, where Eaton Bray will be the hosts. A 'community' coffee morning is planned on 19th May in celebration of our WI 100th Anniversary.

Yarn Bombing items, knitted for Waddesdon Manor Christmas Display, have been returned to Helen. It is hoped that these items can be used as decorations, around the villages, to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

An outing to Saville Gardens, Windsor is planned including a boat cruise and cream tea as part of our WI 100th celebration.



There were three speakers for the evening, Sally, Sue and Helen who spoke of their journey and development over the years into bobbin lace making. From the 16th century, lace was mostly made from silks, linen and precious metals, now in the 21st century lace is made from a vast range of fibres, from silk and cotton, to linen and rayon. Bobbin lace uses a lace pillow, bobbins, pins and fine thread to create beautiful types of lace. Beads and crystals are used as decorations. Some popular uses are doilies, garters, appliqués, collars, pictures, decorations and wedding gifts. Buckinghamshire lace was widely sought after, for its fine ground work and intricate floral patterns and was being made in Great Horwood. Displays of the different types of lace and patterns were admired. Not only do they make lace,

but Sally has co written her first book with a second to follow, also designed many patterns which have been sold world wide, and taught lace making. Sue, another very talented bobbin lace maker, teaches classes to both adults and children. Helen, besides being a music teacher, finds time to create some delicate and lovely lace work. The members were invited to have a go, it was much more difficult than first thought, with a great level of concentration needed.

The competition for decorating a balloon was won by Ronnie, whose balloon complete with basket, depicted 'around the world in 80 days'. (even if she didn't realise it).

It was a most enjoyable evening. Next months speaker is Rikki Harrington on Butterflies and Poems.

We meet on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm in Eaton Bray Methodist Hall and would welcome any visitors who would like to join us. For more details please contact Margaret Jones on 220991.

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Eaton Bray History

The Parish of Eaton Bray in General

(courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)

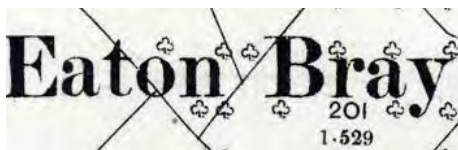
Landscape

Eaton Bray lies at the foot of the Dunstable Downs, themselves part of the Chilterns.

As might be expected some of the soil is chalky but the picture is more complex than that. The area around the New York Diner, the former Plough Public House as well as Valance End, now in Whipsnade, for example has an underlying geology which comprises a mixture of West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, laid down between 94 and 99 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period and Zig Zag Chalk Formation laid down at the same time.

The southern part of Moor End, is also West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation but with a sub soil called head, a mixture of clay, silt sand, gravel deposited by the watercourses in the area. The northern part of Moor End as well as Bower Lane, Dunstable Road and Harling Road is all West Melbury formation with a chalky subsoil but the south-east side of the High Street has solid geology called Upper Greensand Formation, a mixture of siltstone and mudstone laid down between 94 and 112 million years ago. The Market Place, Church Lane and Northall Road also lies on this formation but with head, once more, as the subsoil. Finally Totternhoe Road, the Rye and the northern part of the parish lies on a fourth type of solid geology – Gault Formation, a mudstone laid down between 99 and 112 million years ago.

The church stands around 330 feet above sea-level whilst the Recreation Ground is ten feet or so lower. Rye Farm is lower still



at around 305 feet whilst Honeywicke Cottage stands at about 327 ft. The former Moor End

Mill is around 322 feet above sea-level but the highest parts of the parish are towards the Chilterns - Café Masala stands about 350 feet above sea-level, Bellows Mill around 337 feet, Doolittle Mill nearly 370 feet with New York Diner at 418 feet above sea-level with Edlesborough Hill standing at 434 feet..

Volume III of The Victoria County History for Bedfordshire was published in 1912, before a series of boundary changes which have had a cumulative effect of making today's parish slightly smaller. Then the parish comprised 2,417 acres of which more than half was arable, with 664 acres of "rich meadows for cattle grazing". Crops were wheat, barley, beans, plums (usually for prunes) and damsons. The Victoria County History remarked: "Duck rearing was also started about twenty or thirty years ago and is still kept up by many of the natives, but the risks being so great it is gradually losing its popularity". In fact evidence from Quarter Sessions records shows that duck rearing was popular as far back as the 1830s.

Name

The word Eaton means "river farm". Eaton Bray has numerous small streams giving the name the connotations of a well-watered landscape. The Bray element was not added until the 15th century or later, the Bray family becoming Lords of the Manor of Eaton in 1490. The first element of the name has changed through history as shown:

Eiton: 1086-1286
Eitona: 1086-1286
Eitun: 1156
Æiton: 1159
Etton: 1164
Ehton: 1166
Eyton: 1220-1491
Eton: 1241-1490

Administrative History

Eaton Bray is an ancient parish in the Manshead Hundred. It was, briefly, the centre of a rural district council from 1894 to 1933. The parish is bordered as follows: Billington to the north; Stanbridge to the north-east; Totternhoe to the north-east and east; Whipsnade to the south and south-east and Edlesborough (Buckinghamshire) to the west and south-west. There have, of course, been small boundary changes over the years, the most significant of which was the adjustment of the county boundary with Buckinghamshire to run along the stream in Moor End meaning that Moor End Mill, Two Counties Mill and Summerly Road, amongst others, moved from Eaton Bray and Bedfordshire to Edlesborough and Buckinghamshire.

In 1985 an area of land running north from Dukes Avenue in Whipsnade was transferred from Eaton Bray to Whipsnade. Some small, uninhabited areas were also exchanged between Eaton Bray and Totternhoe.

Population

The Domesday Book of 1086 records 20 villagers, 13 smallholders and 2 slaves in the Manor of Eaton Bray – a total of 35. These numbers would only count the heads of households so to arrive at a true figure for the population one needs to multiply this figure by at least four, suggesting a total population of around 140, making Eaton Bray a more substantial settlement for the time.

It looks as if Eaton Bray has always been one of the more populous rural parishes in the county as the figures below indicate. It is interesting to note that the only drop in population occurred after 1871 and lasted into the 1920s. An agricultural depression initially drove people away from the land to seek their living in towns and steady agricultural mechanisation continued that trend before an increasing birth rate began to reverse the decline. Latterly, of course, many villages have seen great expansion as the population has risen and people who work in towns and cities have chosen to move to the countryside for the better quality of life it affords; hence the population of Eaton Bray more than doubling between 1931 and 2011.

1801: 583
1811: 674
1821: 816
1831: 957
1841: 1,097
1851: 1,455
1861: 1,440
1871: 1,640
1881: 1,520
1891: 1,330
1901: 1,117
1911: 979
1921: 975
1931: 1,042
1951: 1,165
1961: 1,509
1971: 1,671
1981: 2,072
1991: 2,300
2001: 2,591
2011: 2,585

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As part of being an Eco church, St Mary's is committed to finding ways to decrease our environmental impact. Recycling is one of the ways we can do this. Most of us will use the kerbside recycling bins. What happens to the stuff we bin and how can we help to make the process better? I spoke to Lee to find out.

Hi, my name is Lee and I work for Cawleys which is a privately owned waste management and recycling company based in Luton. I work in the engineering department helping to keep all the machinery we use running efficiently and I'm here today to help explain the recycling process.

Joy: Can you explain the recycling process once it is collected from our bins.

Lee: All recyclable waste will be taken to a facility equipped to sort it out into its different individual properties. Cardboard will be sorted one way, plastics and paper another and so on. This is done by using computer-controlled sorting machines which identifies each type of waste and then uses jets of air to separate them - or by people who sort by hand what the machines can't do.

I've attached a link to show everyone the recycling process in action. This video is from the Cawley recycling plant in Luton. <https://youtu.be/NQayQRX9Tys>

Joy: Is there anything made of glass which we shouldn't put in the Kerbside glass collection? If so, why?

Lee: Nearly all glass is infinitely recyclable except for Pyrex and sheet glass from windows etc. Pyrex or sheet glass should be either put in the general waste or disposed of separately. The reason is that they have been treated with chemicals to give them a higher melting point so they will not melt down like ordinary bottles or glass jars do when they get to the recycling

facility. They will contaminate the process and make that batch of glass unusable.

Joy: Does everything have to be washed out & clean before putting it in the recycling? What if there is a bit of food on it?

What happens if I put something in which can't be recycled? Will it ruin the whole collection?

Lee: Yes, everything should be washed of food residue before being put in the recycling bin. Food residue will contaminate the material and render the batch worthless for re-use. The same applies to non-recyclable materials that have been mixed in.

Joy: What is the best way to recycle tin foil? Should it be scrunched into a ball?

Lee: Tin foil can be put in the recycling bin. It just has to be free of food residue just like all other types of recyclables.

Joy: What should I do with old clothing that is not good enough for the charity shop?

Lee: Old clothing, curtains and duvets can be re-used in many ways so it's well worth the effort to recycle them. If the items are of no use to a charity shop, they can be taken to local clothes banks or specialist clothing recycling centres. Items not fit for direct re-use are broken down and used again as padding in new items such as chairs or car seats, or can be turned into cleaning cloths or industrial blankets.

Joy: What can I do about the supermarkets who sell so much in wrapping that is not able to be recycled (especially fruit and veg)?

Lee: Everyone has a responsibility to help make the world we live in sustainable ways, and that includes our supermarkets.

Many thanks Lee for giving us that insight into the recycling process, and enabling us to do our bit for the environment.

✍️Revd Joy Cousans

Note from editor. Please be aware Focus magazine uses recyclable paper sourced from sustainable forests.

Quick & Easy Recipes

Easy Teriyaki Chicken

By Esther Clark, courtesy of BBC goodfood www.bbcgoodfood.com

Try this easy, sticky Asian-style teriyaki chicken for a speedy weeknight supper – it takes just 20 minutes to make! Serve it with sticky rice and steamed greens.

Prep 5 mins, Cook 15 mins,
Serves 4

Ingredients

2 tbsp toasted sesame oil
6 skinless and boneless chicken thighs, sliced
2 large garlic cloves, crushed
1 thumb-sized piece ginger, grated
50g runny honey
30ml light soy sauce
1 tbsp rice wine vinegar
1 tbsp sesame seeds, to serve



4 spring onions, shredded, to serve
sticky rice, to serve
steamed bok choy or spring greens, to serve

Method

Heat the oil in a non-stick pan over a medium heat. Add the chicken and fry for 7 mins, or until golden. Add the garlic and ginger and fry for 2 mins. Stir in the honey, soy sauce, vinegar and 100ml water. Bring to the boil and cook for 2 - 5 mins over a medium heat until the chicken is sticky and coated in a thick sauce.

Scatter over the spring onions and sesame seeds, then serve the chicken with the rice and steamed veg.

Quick & Easy Tiramisu

By Chelsie Collins, courtesy of BBC goodfood www.bbcgoodfood.com

Condensed milk is the secret to this super snappy Italian dessert. Coffee and chocolate are a classic combo, simply layer them up and enjoy.

Prep 15 mins, plus 1 hour chilling, Serves 2.

Ingredients

3 tsp instant coffee granules
3 tsp coffee liqueur (or Camp Chicory & Coffee Essence)
250g tub mascarpone
85g condensed milk
1 tsp vanilla extract
4-6 sponge fingers
1 tbsp cocoa powder



Method

Mix the coffee granules with 2 tbsp boiling water in a large jug and stir to combine. Add the coffee liqueur and 75ml cold water. Pour into a shallow dish and set aside.

Make the cream layer by beating the mascarpone, condensed milk and vanilla extract with an electric whisk until thick and smooth.

Break the sponge fingers into two or three pieces and soak in the coffee mixture for a few secs. Put a few bits of the sponge in the bottom of two wine or sundae glasses and top with the cream. Sift over the cocoa and chill for at least 1 hr before serving.

Eaton Bray Cricket Club



Indoor nets are being well attended and will continue on Tuesdays at Dunstable Town Cricket Club. 6-7 for under 11s 7-8 for under 13s and under 15s and 8-9 for seniors. There are also nets for under 9s from 6-7 at Vandyke School on Thursdays.

The club are in talks with Cricket East on setting up a Ladies Softball Cricket Team which will hopefully take off during the season.

Beds Sunday League fixtures are out.

May 1st Langford 2nds away
May 15th Offley & Stopsley away
May 22nd Ickwell 2nds away
June 12th Waresley away
June 19th Old Warden home
June 26th Harrold home
July 3rd Queens Park 3rds home
July 10th Bedford 2nds home

July 17th Offley & Stopsley home
July 24th Harrold away
July 31st Queens Park 3rds away
August 7th Langford 2nds home
August 14th Bedford 2nds away
August 21st Old Warden away
August 28th Ickwell 2nds home
September 4th Waresley home

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 and the Focus Magazine for their continued support. 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 2022.



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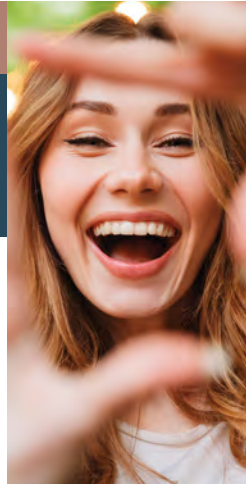
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Your Photos

*Waterfall between Eaton Bray
and Edlesborough
by John Hockey*

*Foggy Morning down The Rye
by Sally Siddons*

*Damson Orchard, Eaton Bray
by Richard Woodhead*



Spring Clean Your Body

During the cold, dark, wet months it is very easy to pick up bad habits such as slouching, slumping and forgetting to exercise. So, put a spring back into your step with a few simple postural exercises.

Good posture involves keeping your body in correct alignment by maintaining your natural curves in sitting, standing and walking. Try following these 4 simple steps to help improve posture, as well as minimise the stress and strain on muscles, joints and discs.



1. **Try to stand as tall as you can** - this will make you look longer, leaner, fitter and thinner.
2. **Push your shoulders down and back** - this reduces the possibility of shoulder and neck pain. Imagine you are opening up the front of the chest wall, not standing to attention!
3. **Pull your lower tummy muscle in** - only try to hold with 20% effort. This helps to improve the tone of your tummy muscles and improve your core stability.
4. **Strike the heels to the ground and the toes-off all the way** - this helps to employ the full gait (walking) cycle.

Try to carry out these tips daily and soon it will become second nature. Why not add some exercise into your daily life – take the stairs instead of the lift and park at the furthest point in the supermarket car park.

If you have any aches or pains or feel you would benefit from physiotherapy, please contact:



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Some call it multi-tasking, I call it doing something else why I try to remember what I was doing in the first place.

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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for January 2022

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



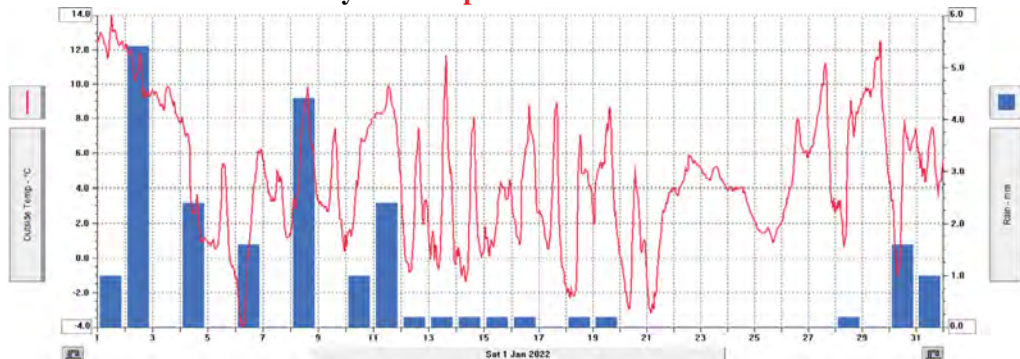
The first eleven days of January were unsettled, followed by a period of high pressure bringing dry spells almost to the end of the month. From the 12th to the 21st, we had frosty mornings with some fog, mist and sunny days. On the 22nd, the frosty mornings had gone and, by the 29th, the daytime temperature had reached 12.5°C. Storm Malik brought windy conditions, followed by Storm Corrie which gave us the highest wind speed of the month at 42mph on the 31st. The highest January temperature was 14.2°C, recorded on the 1st.

The highlight of the month was the lack of rain with only 22.4mm, which is only 29% of the Dagnall monthly average. This made it a very dry month, but we did have more sunshine than normal. That compares to January 2021 when we recorded 124.0mm of rain and 2014 when we had 160.6mm.

On the chart below, you'll see we had seventeen rain days (blue column), even though it rained for only seven days. This is because of frost melting on the rain gauge on some days, equating to 0.2mm of moisture.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	14.2°C	1 Jan 12.30	- 4.1°C	6Jan 05.30
Mean Temperature	4.5°C			
Dewpoint:	11.9c	1 Jan 03.00	- 4.8°C	6 Jan 05.30
Humidity:	98%	28 Jan 22.30	77%	13 Jan 19.00
Barometer:	1041.6mb	13 Jan 00.30	991.3 mb	Jan 15.30
Wind Speed	42mph NW	31 Jan 10.00	Months avg.	5.0mph
Wind Chill:	12.4°C	1 Jan 12.30	- 5.8°C	6 Jan 06.30
Dominant Wind:	W			
Rainfall * T = total rain days and moisture. R = Actual rain				
* Rain Days: 17(T), 9(R)	Wettest Day 2 Jan		5.41 mm	0.213ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	January 2021	22.4 mm	0.882 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	1 Month	22.4 mm	0.882 ins

January 2022 **Temperatures** and **Low Rain Fall**



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

Down the Lane

February 8th and the winter aconites have attracted a honey bee! I saw only one but the temperature was 12°C which bees need to leave the hive. Several other flowers are blooming - hellebores, snowdrops, winter box, scilla and a few early daffodils to tempt other pollinators.

I have decided to make a new border next to a yew hedge. At the end of it is an elm sapling, a variety resistant to Dutch Elm Disease,



Snowdrops and winter aconites.



The site of the new border

which was given to me and is growing well. There are still elms growing in our roadside hedge but they reach a certain size and then succumb to disease.

I'm excited about planning the border because I've never tried garden design before. In the past I've just added plants to existing planting schemes. My first decision is colour. I have some pale yellow dahlias which come from the tuber I was given to celebrate the Bedfordshire WI's centenary. These gave me the idea of a colour scheme of

yellows, blues, purples, whites and grey. I grew an artichoke in the vegetable garden last year which was far too big for where it was planted but I thought the grey foliage would look very striking at the back of the border as well as having blue-purple flowers and artichokes to eat!

Other blues would be delphiniums, eringiums and alliums. Irises grow well in the garden and different varieties give a long season starting with the miniatures which are flowering now and going on to the bearded iris later.

Rushing Stream is a groundcover rose with white flowers which I think would look pretty at the front of the border. Salvias flower all summer and would be a good addition as well as Michaelmas daisies and chrysanthus for autumn colour. I'm still thinking about shrubs. I like pittosporum and Viburnums which flower on bare branches in the winter.

I now need to start sowing seeds and splitting plants that I already have. I might even manage to label the plants as they go into the border!

✍️ Sally Taylor



Iris unguicularis



Salvation Sound

Eaton Bray Salvation Army

'Let's Focus on the Positives!'



This picture is Rembrandt's interpretation of The Return of the Prodigal Son. It is a striking picture, detailing so much, that Henri Nouwen (a Dutch Christian writer) spent four hours pondering over it where it hangs in the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg.

The father's embrace is warm, the son is repentant, the bystanders are non-committal. Those are three simple phrases that I can see as I look on it.

In every translation of the Bible, the account of Luke 15:11-32 is entitled 'The Prodigal Son'. We read about a younger son who asked his father for his inheritance; he travelled far spending his inheritance on wild living; his friends dropped away when his money went; he reached desperation point and went to feed pigs; he came to his senses and returned to his father; his father welcomed him back as a son and a party was thrown to the disgust of the elder brother. In just a few phrases that is the story. The story of The Prodigal Son.

We have grown up with that story, we have grown up calling it, 'The Prodigal Son'. A few years ago, I read Henri Nouwen's book, 'The Return of the Prodigal Son', and he puts a completely different emphasis on it! (If anyone would like to borrow the book to read, please ask.) The emphasis is to call it 'The Welcoming Father'. When I first read that, I realised that it is a huge mind-shift. From 'The Prodigal Son' to 'The Welcoming Father', it is the difference between north and south, the difference between rich and poor. It turns our attention from the negative to the positive. From that time on, I have renamed the story, 'The Welcoming Father'.

Of course, we understand that being a parable there is a deep meaning behind it. It speaks of us and everyone else; the times when we are reckless, or far away from God. Yet, our God waits for



us, loves us unconditionally and receives us with the warmest of welcomes when we decide to go back to Him. The Father says to us:

"Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate. (Luke 15 verses 23-24)

Let us always remember that our God is always ready to receive us. Let's focus on the positives and the negatives will disappear.

Song

Lord, I come to you,

Let my heart be changed, renewed,

Flowing from the grace that I found in you.

And Lord, I've come to know

The weaknesses I see in me

Will be stripped away by the power of your love.

Hold me close,

Let your love surround me.

Bring me near, draw me to you side.

And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle,

And I will soar with you,

Your Spirit leads me on in the power of your love.

(Geoff Bullock)

Prayer

God, our Father, we come to You through Jesus, our Saviour and Lord. We thank You that Your arms of love are wide open to accept us whenever we fail You and ask for forgiveness. We ask that You will bless us today as we approach in prayer the welcoming Father.

We ask that you will be with those who suffer or mourn. We continue to pray for those in Afghanistan, that You will keep them safe. Bless those who have been displaced and are now living in a strange land, far from their homes.

We ask You to be with us today. AMEN.

✍️ Allison Gaudion (Major)

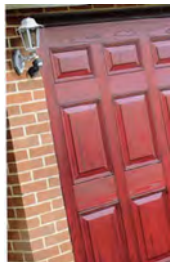


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