

FOCUS

June 2022



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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
published in 'this' magazine, neither do they
reflect the opinion of members of the Committee.*

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

Kindly Note

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

✍️ Editor

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk



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used for this
magazine is
sourced from
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be recycled**



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) Totternhoe Pre-school, Totternhoe CE Academy, 01582 662959, totternhoeoffice@tot.dsamat.co.uk
- Mondays Pilates, 10.45am, Totternhoe 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 KFFPA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+)
- Mondays Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFFPA' for info
- Mondays Cubs (8-10½ years old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550
- Mondays Yoga, 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- Mondays Barre, 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
- Mondays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 4-7pm mini / junior tennis coaching
- Mondays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 7-8pm Adult Coaching 'Get Back Into Tennis'
- Tuesdays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
- Tuesdays Totternhoe 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
- Tuesdays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon
- Tuesdays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Tuesdays 12-3pm, Chiltern Art Club, St Giles Church Hall, Totternhoe, Contact 01582 607315/872115
- Tuesdays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 6-7.30pm Social play for all adults
- 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 Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
- Wednesdays Jazzercise 7:30-8:30pm, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Wednesdays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 5-6 pm 9-11 years old tennis coaching & U16 Beginners tennis
- Thursdays KFFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+)
- Thursdays Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFFPA' 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 Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666



Village Diary



- Fridays Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am, £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6 months free
- Fridays Scouts, (10½ to 14 years old), 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk, 07899 892344
- Fridays "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes, 10am-11.30am, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124
- Saturdays Jazzercise 9-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666
- Saturdays KFFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFFPA' 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
- Sundays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 10am -12pm Social play for all adults

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)
- 1st Saturday St Mary's Book Swap, 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 June Children's Tea Party with Smartie Artie, 2:30-4:30pm, St. Mary's churchyard, Eaton Bray, Book: sheilabanks1@aol.com
- 10-11th June Edlefest, St Mary's Church, Edlesborough

**The Memorial Service for Edna Ward
on Saturday 11th June 2022 at 3pm
Venue: Northall Baptist Church
Chapel Lane, Northall LU6 2HF**

John Hockey

Many of you may remember John for his various articles on Heraldry and Photography in Focus over the last few years. Sadly he was diagnosed with multiple inoperable brain tumours in January of this year and died in early May.



He loved living in this area, the beauty of the countryside which he often walked and photographed, and the friendliness and camaraderie of fellow villagers. He also gained much pleasure from researching local history, especially the links with the Brownlow family at Ashridge House, and the stories about the inimitable Bridget Talbot who helped save Ashridge for the nation in the 1920's. He was also a keen supporter of local quizzes where the quiz master was his great mate, and tennis partner, Keith Blackburn, also much missed locally and taken from us far too young.

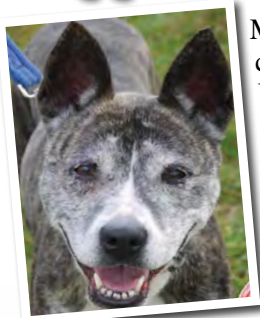
His funeral is at Bierton Crematorium, on Monday June 6th at 12 noon.

Rest in peace

Jacky xx



Appledown Rescue Dog of the Month



Meet Toodles, who has fabulous ears and oodles of love to give! A crossbreed now aged 6, Toodles was adopted from us some years ago. Unfortunately after several happy years, her owners' circumstances changed and she was returned to us. She's a smashing girl who deserves a second chance of happiness with new owners. Toodles knows her basic commands and loves her walks. She sets a good pace and needs owners who enjoy exercise as much as she does. She can be a little anxious, so we feel a home where she will have lots of company and any children are 13+ would suit her best. Toodles would prefer to be an only pet. For more info please see her album

on our Facebook page. Visit our website for info about adoption and an application form. 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.**

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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...

making neighbourhoods safer together

General Assistance (Recommended Number): 101 Emergency: 999

Bedfordshire Police (Eaton Bray)

Leighton Buzzard Police Station/Kathryn Horgan: 01582 473411

Typetalk: 18001 01582 473418

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall)

PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Defibrillator Locations

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



Dagnall: Red Lion Public House & Munns Farm Shop

Eaton Bray: The Coffee Tavern

Northall: The Swan Public House

Edlesborough: Edlesborough Memorial Hall & Baptist Church, Summerleys



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9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

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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

This month our nation will be coming together to recognise and celebrate the great service that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth has given to this country. Despite the great changes that the United Kingdom and indeed the whole world have gone through since she became Queen in 1952, Her Majesty has inspired many with her constancy, her kind words and her loyalty to the country over which she reigns. Being Queen is obviously something that she inherited and was not a 'job' that she necessarily chose to do, but she responded to becoming Queen with dignity and humility.

One important difference between Presidents and monarchs is the fact that kings and queens are not sworn into the role in a government building but they are crowned in a cathedral, or in our case in Westminster Abbey by the Archbishop of Canterbury in a service that is full of religious symbols and significance. The Queen had to swear a solemn oath to God that she would serve the country and uphold its laws, she was anointed with Holy Oil and the service concluded with the celebration of Holy Communion.

The oath that the Queen swore during her coronation is like many of the other kinds of oaths or promises that are made in churches – such as the promise to live a life lived in the love of God made by those about to be baptised (or by the parents and godparents of a child), or the promises that couples make during a marriage service to love another for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer and in sickness and in health. When we make a promise to God we are promising that we will do the very best we can to keep that promise, although there will often be times when we may need God's help to keep them.

The anointing with oil is something that has played an important part in the history of the Church. Oil is used in baptisms and ordinations and it is often used during prayers with those who are very sick. Although we use oil often in our daily lives, in ancient times it was something that was highly prized and was often believed to have healing properties. In the Old Testament, oil was used to show that someone had been blessed and for many modern Christians the use of oil is a sign of God's presence with us, through the good times and the bad.

The celebration of Holy Communion at the end of the coronation service is an important reminder that we are all under the care and sovereignty of God – even the sovereign! The most important king is the King of Heaven! Holy Communion is a reminder that we should all try to live our lives as Jesus did, helping the poor, the sick and the lonely, reaching out to those who have been excluded and oppressed. It reminds us that we are all equal in the eyes of God, regardless of how important we may think we are.

So, as we come to celebrate the life of Her Majesty the Queen, as we pray for her

and give thanks for her life and her service, we can also be reminded of the promises that we have made ourselves to those around us, we can remember that God's presence is always with us and we can be inspired to live up to our calling to serve others and reach out to those who need help, support and care.

✍ Stephen Burge



Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS : 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION
On First and Third Sunday of each month:
8.00am HOLY COMMUNION
On Third Sunday of each month:
10.00am WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal service.

WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion
EVERYONE WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES.
DETAILS AND ONLINE WORSHIP: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

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

Dagnall Church Services



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

We encourage people to wear a face covering.

Any queries please contact Phillip Lee on 07977234453.

Dagnall Church, Ringshall Road HP4 1RL

St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

March 2022

1st prize – Teresa Ledger
2nd prize – Theo Gray
3rd prize – Angela Dunsford

April 2022

1st prize – Patricia Quartermaine
2nd prize – Gordon Gray
3rd prize – Theo Gray



Children's Tea Party with Smartie Artie

Sunday 5th June 2.30-4.30 pm
St Mary's Churchyard Eaton Bray.

Everyone welcome
but please RSVP for catering to:
sheilabanks1@aol.com



OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL 17 July 2022 Wanted - Gardens

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Take a book you want to read
Leave a book you want to share

The last Book Swap took place on May 7th in the church at the same time as the Spring Fair took place in Eaton Bray Village Hall. As the coffee morning was taking place in the Village Hall and not in the church, we did not have the footfall we have had in the previous two months, however, we had a steady stream of people who came in to see us to swap their books.

It was good to see familiar faces returning with books to swap and some new faces as well. We are pleased with the positive comments we received and hope to see the Book Swap attracting more people who love to read in the future.

The Book Swap is open to coincide with the coffee mornings at St Mary's church and the Bookcase is not open for swapping or leaving books at any other time. We are only accepting novels and ask that you only bring them when the Book Swap is open. Please note we are not accepting cookery books and factual books or any large amounts of books. We hope that by bringing a book you have recently read and taking a book someone else would like to share, eventually there will be a small library of constantly changing current books for people to enjoy.

Future Book Swap dates at St Mary's Church

June 4th 10.30 – 12.00

July 9th 10.30 – 12.00

For more information, or if you would like to be involved, please contact:

Chris Sanders Email: chris.sanders45@gmail.com

Jenifer MacKenzie Email: jenimackenzie@hotmail.com

Edlesborough Baptist Church

All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday

Keep up to date by visiting:

www.edlesboroughbaptist.wix.com/home

Find us on Facebook @gbce2014

The Village of Edlesborough has once again entered the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition.

Judging will take place in June & July – more information can be found at www.bucksbkv.co.uk

Edlesborough Parish Council gives thanks to the following people who all work tirelessly to look after Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall;

- The EDaN Beautification Team
- Friends of the Church on the Hill
- All the volunteer Litter Pickers
- Edlesborough Parish Council Contractor and Handyman.

You too can do your bit to enhance our chances of winning!

- Keep the front of your property clean and tidy.
- Ensure your hedges or trees do not obstruct the pavement.
- Volunteer to help with litter picking.
- Volunteer for the EDaN Beautification Team.
- If you see any issues in the village please report them to the correct authority;



<u>EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL</u>	<u>THAMES VALLEY POLICE</u>	<u>BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL</u>
<p>Is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall • Edlesborough Cemetery • Edlesborough Churchyard • Edlesborough Green • Edlesborough Green Play Area • Grass cutting within the 40mph limit • Allotments • Ground clearance of the Rights of Way in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall (hedges and trees are the responsibility of the landowner). <p>You can report issues to Edlesborough Parish Council in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Email - clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk ➤ By phone - 01525 229358 	<p>The villages of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall are covered by Thames Valley Police should you need to contact the police please ensure you ask for Thames Valley Police.</p> <p>Thames Valley Police are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime • Vandalism • Dangerous and obstructive parking • Road safety issues, including speeding • Missing persons <p>You can report issues via 101 or www.thamesvalley.police.uk</p> <p>In an emergency please call 999 and ask for Thames Valley Police.</p>	<p>The quickest way to report an issue to Buckinghamshire Council is to visit www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/ and then click on the correct link.</p> <p>Is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways – including vision splays outside the 30 & 40mph limit, potholes, road markings, signs, pavement issues, lights outside the 30 and 40mph limit. • Fly-tipping • Recycling & Waste – including household collections and details about household recycling centres. • Planning – including advice, applications and enforcement. • Environment Issues – including noise, public rights of way, trees, etc. • Care for Children & Families • Community Safety

All Saints Dagnall Flower Festival, 16 - 18 September 2022

All Saints Dagnall will be holding a Flower festival in September. We have already invited many local organisations to take part, but if your organisation has been missed out and you would like to contribute, please contact Barbara Morton as soon as possible.

In addition to this, we will be creating a number of individual arrangements which can be sponsored in memory of a loved one. For these we would ask for a donation of £25, and your loved one's name would be displayed below the arrangement. There are only 8 of these arrangements available. Again, please contact Barbara if you would like to sponsor one of these.

The weekend will begin on Friday evening with a special preview, with wine and canapes, accompanied by live music. This should be a really lovely occasion. Then the festival will run from 10am till 5pm on Saturday and from 12 noon till 5pm on Sunday, followed at 6pm by a special service of thanksgiving.

Contact details are as follows:

Barbara Morton

Telephone 01525 852368

email barbara.morton1@gmail.com



Many of our volunteers helped with Eaton Bray Good Neighbours Easter Bake. We delivered boxes of cakes to villagers who had used our help throughout the year. This was very well received and everyone was very grateful to enjoy home baked cakes. Equally this gave an opportunity for our volunteers to be in touch with everyone.

Some of our volunteers continue to help with our "In Touch" programme. We aim to telephone anyone in our community who would like a friendly telephone call. If you live on your own, having a chat on the telephone can make a lot of difference to your day. If you would like to volunteer to befriend someone by phone in the village, please contact Good Neighbours.

Our team of drivers continue to help with requests for lifts to Hospitals, Doctors Surgeries or any necessary journey. We make a small charge for the journeys, which is given direct to our drivers. If you would like to join our driving team, please call the telephone number mentioned below.

You can contact us by calling 07930 987064 when a friend will answer your call. We are here if you need any help.

Eaton Bray Good Neighbours

Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Chris Poll and Cllr Peter Brazier attended the April Council meeting and reported on the following matters;

- “*Chiltern Beechwood Special Area of Conservation - CBSAC*”. There is concern that this could have an impact on new planning applications in both Dagnall and Edlesborough. Further information can be found on the Buckinghamshire Council and Dacorum Borough Council Web sites, this includes maps and FAQs. <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/building-or-improving-your-property/chiltern-beechwoods-special-area-of-conservation-faqs/>

A full copy of the Buckinghamshire Cllrs’ report can be viewed on the EPC website, this includes information about;

- Bucks Lottery celebrates two years of supporting local good causes
- 70 Trees for 70 Years – one month to go!
- Buckinghamshire Adult Learning shortlisted for 2022 Family Learning Awards
- Council Tax £150 energy rebate payments



MVAS

EPC has now taken delivery of three Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs which will soon be deployed at various locations throughout the three villages.

Improvements to the Children’s Play Area on Edlesborough Green

The closing date for responses to the Planning Inspectorate has passed. In total 12 responses were received; five responses supported the application, six opposed it and one submitted a response of “no objection”.

EPC has submitted a response to the Planning Inspectorate addressing the points raised by the objectors.

Grass & Hedge Cutting in the Villages

Grass Verges

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



Hedge Cutting

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

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

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



Hedgehog Highways

As part of EPC’s “Rewilding Project” the Council has purchased 50 “Hedgehog Highway

Surrounds.” A “Hedgehog Highway” is a 5 inch gap in a fence or wall allowing access for Hedgehogs. This is essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends. This gap allows hedgehogs to:

- * Forage for food
- * Meet mates to breed
- * Access nesting sites



Cllr Trish Owen will facilitate distributing these Hedgehog Highway Surrounds - free of charge - throughout the Parish. If the project proves popular the Council may purchase more “Hedgehog Highways Surrounds” for which a small charge will be made. More information about helping hedgehogs and the scheme can be found at www.hedgehogsrus.co.uk

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.



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/>



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

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

Thames Valley Police have relaunched and restarted their Community Speedwatch – more information can be found at [Restart and relaunch for Community Speedwatch in 2021 · Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner \(thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.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

Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 16th June 2022 – Edlesborough Memorial Hall
- Thursday 21st July 2022 – Edlesborough Memorial Hall

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.



Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky Office hours Mon – Fri 10am – 1pm (Excl. Wed)

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

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Mini Green (ages 9-10 years old)

WEDNESDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Under 16 Beginners (ages 11-16 years old)

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Nigel's Thoughts

Dear Friends,

This year Pentecost falls on the first Sunday in June and is preceded by ten days of prayer focussing on the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ (from Ascension Day, 26th May) so as this 'Grapevine' is published we shall be standing with the disciples in another 'waiting time'.

We are familiar with such waiting times, having recently sought to keep Lent carefully as a preparation for the events of Holy Week and the triumph of Resurrection on Easter day.

This time we consider that time between Easter and when the Spirit came at Pentecost, the time recorded for us in Acts 1 verses 12-14.

Surprisingly we find the disciples of Jesus in the doldrums. Flattened by the crucifixion and loss of their leader they had been overjoyed at His Resurrection. Then periods of intense excitement when he was present were intermingled with times of depression when they were left alone.

Surely their experience mirrors, for many of us, our own faith story.

At His Ascension Jesus left his disciples for the last time, giving them orders to wait. His promise would be fulfilled; they would be His messengers around the world, but, for the moment, they were to wait, and no one likes waiting.

One of the prayers for our waiting time this year is...

'Come Holy Spirit ... Cause Your Holy Spirit to be so deeply implanted within our lives, that we might know and be instruments of your peace.'

May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us. (St Therese of Lisieux)

May we wait patiently, longingly and expectantly for the coming of God's encouraging and peaceful Holy Spirit.

Every blessing,

✍️ Nigel



Danesborough Chorus Concert

Saturday 2nd July 2022 at 7.30 pm

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Dagnall Community Choir

The choir is busy rehearsing now for our concert on **Saturday 10th September, 7.30pm at Eaton Bray Village Hall**. We have lots of new songs and arrangements to learn and our music folders are full to bursting! We are all looking forward to the opportunity to perform once again and to put on the sort of concert that we haven't been able to enjoy for such a long time. Tickets are £10 each, to include a glass of wine or a soft drink, and are available by calling 01525 220189 or by emailing dagnallcc@gmail.com.

Here's just a selection of the music that we're working on at the moment:

"Anthem" – Benny Andersson, Tim Rice and Bjorn Ulvaeus

"The Armed Man" – Karl Jenkins

"Circle Of Life" – Elton John and Tim Rice

"Do Not Be Afraid" – Philip Stopford

"Fly Me To The Moon" - Bart Howard

"The Lord Is My Shepherd" – Howard Goodall

"Somewhere" – Leonard Bernstein

We've been delighted to welcome new members to our choir over the last few weeks. Some of those who join us have been singing for years and have plenty of musical experience, others join us having never sung with a choir before and are completely new to reading music. There is room at Dagnall Community Choir for both! So if you're interested in the idea of joining a choir, and singing with a group of like-minded music lovers, please come along to one of our Monday night rehearsal, 7.45pm at All Saints Church, Dagnall and we will make you very welcome.

For more information about the choir, please visit our website www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk or telephone 07443 037227.



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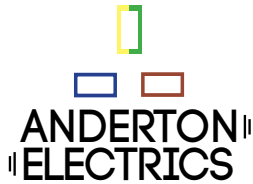
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Another Successful EB Village Hall Quiz

Helping to raise money for 3 great Charites, the great and the good were once again gathered at the Village Hall straining their grey matter to recall their grasp of Disney with the name of Frozen's Snowman and a tricky picture round, (find the answer below) who would have thought it was Saddam Hussein!

Along with the small admission price of £9, which included a delicious ploughman's, we had a raffle to raise funds for Appledown Dogs Rescue, and Dunstable Food Bank as well as DEC. We also had a surprise auction, kindly donated by a local EB villager. The item up for auction was a brand new pair of Doc Martin Boots of your choice up to the value of £180. This helped raise a total of £595.60 to be shared amongst these worthwhile causes.

Our new Quiz master, Geoff, set us 12 rounds plus 2 pictures and a list of famous dates to be matched with "What Happened on this Year". Just four points divided the top 4 teams, out of the 12 tables participating. There had to be a winner, along with a case of wine to be shared. The award went to "Grapevines" - many congratulations!

As always events like these don't happen on their own. Thanks to the Team of Maggie, John and Terry, as well as our scorer Graham, and Geoff The Quiz master

We look forward to seeing you all again. The more the merrier, so please invite your

friends to make up another table and try and beat them 😊 The next Quiz will have a special Christmas theme, and will be held on 3rd December 2022. Make sure to wear your ugliest Christmas jumpers and accessories. Put the date in your diary now and start Christmas early while celebrating another great local social event.

Bookings contact Robert Taylor - Mintyman1958@gmail.com

Answer = Olaf

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Have you seen the new **BLUE RECYCLING BIN** on Edlesborough Green?

Following feedback from our wonderful team of volunteer Litter Pickers Edlesborough Parish Council has agreed to trial installing a recycling litter bin on Edlesborough Village Green.

The **BLUE** bin is sited near the children's roundabout and is for recycled waste only:

- Paper & Cardboard
- Empty Plastic Bottles
- Empty Cans
- Waxed Cartons



Please **do not** put any food or liquids into the bin as this will contaminate the waste and prevent it from being recycled.



EPC will monitor the use of this bin over the next few months and if it proves successful the Council will look to installing more recycling bins on the Green.

The green litter bins will remain in place for rubbish that cannot be recycled.

Please **do not** put dog waste into either the green or blue litter bins. Dog waste must be disposed of in the red dog waste bins.

If you find that any of the bins are full please take a short walk to the next bin or take your litter home with you.

Let's all work together to keep our villages tidy and litter free!

Better Backs for Gardeners

Spring has finally sprung and the sunshine has sent us into our gardens in droves. Although gardening can be good for the mind, it can play havoc with your body. Follow our tips for better backs and don't let an injury spoil your fun.

- Before doing any physical exercise, warm up first with a walk and some gentle stretching.
- Take regular breaks and change position between jobs to avoid tiredness, overuse and injury.
- Keep your back straight when lifting and use your knees, thighs and arms to help. Don't try to lift too much at one time – particularly those bags of compost!
- When digging, avoid twisting and straining and don't forget to take regular breaks.
- Use kneeler seats or mats when planting and don't overstretch by working too far in front of you.
- Mow a little at a time, keeping upright.
- Avoid overstretching when pruning by using long-handled shears and use secateurs with a cut and hold action.
- If using electric hedge trimmers don't hold them too far in front of you.
- Consider the planning of your garden – raised flower beds may save you twinges in the long run.



If you have any aches or pains consult a Chartered Physiotherapist for treatment and advice.
Happy Gardening!



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Local Charity Seeks Volunteers for Busy Summer Holidays

Local charity seeks volunteers for busy summer holidays
Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity are seeking temporary volunteers to help in their shops across Buckinghamshire over the busy summer holiday period.

"With summer fast approaching, we are on the lookout for short-term 'Summer Temp' volunteers to help us run our shops during the busy summer period. Volunteering is a fantastic way to get out and meet new people as well as learn new skills. By giving your time in a Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop, you are doing something very special for someone else," says Lily Caswell, Head of Retail at the Charity.



"Our Shop Managers provide all volunteers with full support and training and it's a great opportunity for those that might be back from university, in-between jobs, retired or just want to help support your local community. So, if you can spare a few hours a week between June and September, please sign up as a Summer Temp volunteer – we'd love to meet you."



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 COUNCIL OPEN OFFICE/SURGERY

If you need to speak to the Parish Council Clerk about local matters, you can visit the Parish Council Office at the Coffee Tavern on the second Tuesday after the monthly parish council meeting each month. For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk or visit <https://www.ebpc.co.uk/parish-council-surgery/>

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/>

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022, from 7:30pm

(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 09/05/2022)

CBC CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (CBC)

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

CBC Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

CBC Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

- Lack of response by CBC: Despite letters/emails by the Parish Council to CBC, there has been a lack of response to matters raised. Cllr Spicer expressed his disappointment with the current response time.

*UPDATE: (09/05/2022) The Parish Council has now received a response from CBC.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – MARCH/APRIL 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, APRIL 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.

LITTER PICK, SATURDAY 19 MARCH 2022

The Parish Council thanked the ten people who turned up to help at this event. The council was very disappointed with the lack of community support for this enterprise.

DOG HYGIENE BINS

The Parish Council would like to remind dog walkers to use the dog hygiene bins provided in the parish and not to throw filled bags into the hedgerow.

RECREATION GROUNDS

- School Lane: Despite numerous emails, the Parish Clerk has received no response from CBC

regarding the installation of lighting.

*UPDATE: (09/05/2022) The Parish Clerk has still not received a response.

- School Lane: The old rotten wooden benches have been removed.
- School Lane play area: The ground is less boggy, but the grass is still churned up. The Parish Council to look at groundwork improvements in this location.
- CCTV/cameras: The Parish Council are looking to install CCTV cameras in School Lane car park (one camera) and The Rye car park (two cameras). Once fitted notices will be displayed in these locations.

HIGHWAYS

- Speedwatch: All Speedwatch members have completed their training. The group are waiting for final confirmation from the police that all training has been carried out before being able to conduct any sessions. *UPDATE: The Police have confirmed all Speedwatch members are fully trained, the group are planning to conduct Speedwatch sessions soon.

MILL END CLOSE

- No Public Access/Ransome strip: Signage has been vandalised, the Parish Council to organise a replacement.
- Trees – Ransome strip: A reminder to Mill End Close residents that many of these trees are on the adjacent landowner's boundary line/land and any problems being experienced with these trees are the landowner's responsibility and you would need to contact them direct. If the tree falls within the strip, these are the responsibility of the Parish Council and the council would organise for an assessment of the trees by a tree surgeon, prior to any decision being made.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

- Flags/poles: The Parish Council will be installing the flags during May, in readiness for the Platinum Jubilee.
- Jubilee tree: The Parish Council have been looking at suitable locations to plant a tree in honour of the Platinum Jubilee, with the proposed location being School Lane recreation ground. The council are considering suitable locations within the ground for the tree.

PARISH TREES

- Bower Lane Cemetery: A damaged tree (caused by storms), has been assessed and the findings confirmed the damaged branch required removal. The Parish Clerk has organised for this work to go ahead.
- St. Mary's Church churchyard: The dead/dying Ash tree has been removed. The Church have planted a new natural hedge where the old leylandii trees were removed.
- Knights Close: The dead/damaged tree has been removed.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

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

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6 June 2022, from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 4 July 2022, from 7:30pm

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN OFFICE/SURGERY (dates subject to change, please check the EBPC Website for updates)

Tuesday 14 June 2022, 10am-12noon, The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray

Tuesday 12 July 2022, 10am-12noon, The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

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

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

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





Eaton Bray Methodist Church

Our first Sunday service in April was a Communion service led by Rev Nina Johnson of The Square, Dunstable. Her powerful sermon focussed on the moment when shortly before the Crucifixion Mary anointed Jesus with a wildly expensive jar of nard. She explained how the generous gesture of devotion prefigured Jesus's own action of selflessness in giving his life to save humankind. On the second April Sunday our scheduled preacher rang to say he had just tested positive for Covid! Nothing daunted, the congregation members printed off a service for home worship, prepared by the Methodist Church headquarters and ran the service together, sharing the readings, prayers and Reflection. This Palm Sunday sermon discussed Jesus's entry into Jerusalem riding humbly on a donkey, a journey which fulfilled the Old Testament prophesies. It teaches us that Jesus did not comply with the values and expectations around him and reminds us that we too should challenge the values around us when we know them to be wrong. On Easter Sunday we were delighted to welcome back Rev Wallace Edwards who had been absent during many months of illness. With the Russian attack on the Ukraine in all our minds, he emphasised that this was a man-made tragedy, highlighting the power of evil. On the day of Resurrection, we see another kind of power at work; the good and transforming power of God which can overcome evil. In our final Sunday service in April, Colin Quine revisited the story of the two disciples who, desperate and demoralised after the Crucifixion, meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus. In an imaginative sermon he reminded us that it is often at moments of loss that Jesus speaks to us. We need to listen for his voice.

A Warm Invitation

If you would like to join us in a Sunday service, you would be very welcome. Our worship takes place in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Totternhoe Rd and starts at 10.30am.

June 2022 at the Grove



Film

Downton Abbey: A New Era (PG) - 13 June
Sonic the Hedgehog 2 (PG) - 2 June
The Bad Guys (U) - 2 June
Morbius (15) - 2 June
Operation Mincemeat (12A) - 13-15 June
Operation Mincemeat (12A) - 16 June
Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (12A) - 20, 21, 28, 29 June
Cabaret 50th Anniversary (15) - 27 June

Children's Shows

Horrible Histories - Terrible Tudors - 5 June
Peppa Pig's Best Day Ever - 25-26 June

Comedy

Flo & Joan- Sweet Release - 1 June
Rhod Gilbert: The Book of John - 22 June
Housewives on Holiday - 23 June

Popular Music

Whitney - Queen of the Night 2021 - 8 June
The Legendary Black Dyke Band In Concert - 11 June
Frankie - The Concert - 17 June

Variety

Psychology of Serial Killers - 9 June

Drama

A Midsummer Night's Dream - 19 June

Ticket prices vary; for more information or to book, call the Box Office on 01582 60 20 80 or visit the website at www.grovetheatre.co.uk.



Eaton Bray WI were the hosts of the Spring Group Meeting at St Giles Hall, Totternhoe, and welcomed the return of WI members, who because of Covid restrictions, had not been able to meet for two years.

A welcome was given to new members, Gill Hayward and Sue Pestell as County Visitor. Reports from each WI were given regarding their past few months speakers and activities. After the business part of the meeting, the members were introduced to the speaker Chris Hazell.

Chris Hazell continues to enjoy a varied musical career. Having studied at the Royal College of Music, he joined Decca Records as a classical record producer in 1972 for 25 years, before going freelance. He has worked with many of the world's best artists, choirs and musicians, including Kiri Te Kanawa, Luciano Pavarotti, Sir Brian Terfel as well as many choirs and orchestras. Composing for Last Night of the Proms, The Royal Variety Show, Songs of Praise and for the wedding of Harry and Megan he composed the music for cellist Sheku Kanneh Mason. He has won four Grammy awards and seven nominations. Watching the video he showed, it was obvious what a very creative, gifted and talented musician he is, as well as a very charming man.

At the May member's meeting time was spent discussing the WI Resolution which will go forward to the Annual meeting at Liverpool to be voted on.

The Resolution is that women and girls with ASD and ADHD are under-identified and under supported. NFWI calls on the Government and funding bodies to fund research and provide early intervention and behavioural support for those with autism.

As part of their 100 year celebration the members are collecting 100 or more items for the Food Bank, this month and next. Jemma Walkeys, Dunstable's Food Bank Operations Manager is coming to accept the donations.

A very busy month for the members.





EdleFest 2022

Our Village Music Festival is Here Again at Last

After our enforced break, we're finally back and ready to play! Depending what day this month's Focus magazine drops through your letterbox the festival will be nearly upon us, and it promises to be as good as ever.

Friday and Saturday June 10-11

The stage is being built, the lighting being rigged and the bar being stocked. On Friday our headline act is *The Trials of Cato* (BBC folk album of the year), and on Saturday we have The Magpies (4-stars in The Daily Express)... and that's not even half of it!

You can also enjoy *Man the Lifeboats*, *Danni Nicholls* (Americana Music Association award nominee for Album, Artist and Song of the year), and the brilliant singer-songwriter Hannah Scott - not to mention our very own *The Dicemen*, with their recent single, 2020 Vision ("It's a great single... great, I love that" – Chris Denerley, Beyond Radio).

Find out more online by searching for EdleFest, or visiting edlefest.site123.me, by calling 07974 921923, or by email to EdleFest@gmail.com.

Tickets have been selling better than ever so don't leave it to the last minute.

Tickets are available in the village from Janes Flooring (cash only, please). Or you can get them on-line via the website, or by calling 01525 221744.

See you there!



Standing room only – EdleFest 2019



Love
Our Planet
2nd July 2022

St Mary's Village Carnival 2022

Saturday the 2nd of July 2022
Edlesborough Green

Stalls and attractions from 11.00
Carnival Procession from 12.30

If you want to be part of the procession, contact us!

Part of the excitement of Carnival day is seeing the hard work villagers have put into decorating their houses. Whether it's a Love Our Planet themed house decoration, or some bunting and balloons, everyone loves seeing the village decorated in colour, so please get involved and make this years the best.

You could be the winner of the house decorating competition.

SEE YOU AT THE CARNIVAL

Visit

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The Queen Who Chose to Serve

Queens Platinum Jubilee 70 years on the throne

On 6th February 2022, the princess who never expected to be queen had been Queen for 70 years. Queen Elizabeth II is the longest ruling British queen or King, ever.

The Queen addresses the nation every year with a Christmas message and during her Christmas message of 2015 she said "Billions of people follow Christ's teaching and find him the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them..". The Queen is open to her faith in God and she shares that with the nation during her Christmas Queen's speech. The Queen gave her first Christmas message in 1952 aged 26 from Buckingham Palace and she has done every year since. The Christian faith of the Queen is evident in how she serves the nation and how she addresses the nation. For Queen Elizabeth, Jesus Christ has been her saviour and her anchor. She has chosen to serve him all her life.



To help the village of Edlesborough celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, the church at Edlesborough Baptist Church has given out a free copy of a book celebrating the life of Queen Elizabeth II to the pupils of Edlesborough Primary Academy. The church will be at this years Eaton Bray Edlesborough Carnival with more copies of this book to give away to families - see our stand at the carnival on the green.

Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, Edlesborough.

Your Photos



*Peony by Adrian Welch
Dyers Lane, Eaton Bray by Sally Siddons*

When is the Summer Solstice?

The science behind solstices and equinoxes courtesy of www.rmg.co.uk

When is the summer solstice in 2022?

In 2022 the summer solstice will occur on Tuesday 21 June at 10.13am BST.

What is the summer solstice?

The summer solstice occurs in June in the Northern Hemisphere and marks midsummer: the 'longest day' and 'shortest night' of the year.

On this day, the number of hours of daylight are at their maximum, while the number of hours of night are at their minimum.

However, while most people consider the summer solstice to be a day, it is in reality an exact moment in time that falls upon that day. This moment comes when whichever hemisphere you're in is most tilted towards the Sun.

What is a solstice? The astronomical definition

Our Earth rotates on its axis once each day, producing the cycle of day and night.

At the same time, the Earth moves around the Sun on its orbit over the course of a year. However, the axis of rotation of the Earth is not lined up with the axis of motion around the Sun. Instead, it is tilted slightly at 23.44°.1

This tilt means that during one half of the year the North side of the Earth is tilted slightly towards the Sun and the South is tilted away. For the other half of the year the reverse is true.

At the exact moment that the northern hemisphere is most tilted towards the Sun, the northern hemisphere experiences its summer solstice. The southern hemisphere, by contrast, has its winter solstice.

About six months later, the northern hemisphere has its winter solstice while the southern hemisphere is at its summer solstice.

These key points in the year, along with the equinoxes, help to determine the seasons on Earth.

What is the winter solstice?

The winter solstice occurs in December in the Northern Hemisphere and marks midwinter: the shortest day and longest night.

When is the winter solstice 2022?

In 2022 the winter solstice will occur on 21 December.

When do the solstices occur?

The times when the Sun is at its furthest from the celestial equator are called the summer and winter solstices. These occur at midsummer and midwinter.

The world 'solstice' comes from the Latin solstitium meaning 'Sun stands still', because the apparent movement of the Sun's path north or south stops before changing direction.

Year	Summer	Winter	All times are UTC (GMT)
2022	21 June, 9.13am	21 December, 9.48pm	

Why do people celebrate the solstice at Stonehenge?

Since humans began using the Sun as a timekeeper, particularly when it came to the cycle in farming, the summer solstice has been marked with varying degrees of importance.

Perhaps most famously, the ancient monument Stonehenge has for some time been the centre of a ritual celebration. This comes from the fact the stones are lined up to frame the rising of the Sun on the solstice, perhaps suggesting a connection to the day and as a celebration of Sun. However it isn't clear if marking summer solstice was indeed its purpose. The stones also mark the position of sunset on the winter solstice, and so may instead indicate a place to request the return of the summer months.

In any case, many modern day religions gather at the site to mark the occasion: it is also one of the rare times visitors are allowed to walk right up to the stones themselves. Elsewhere around the world, celebrations range from the biannual appearance of the feathered serpent shadow on the pyramid at Chichén Itzá in Mexico to a range of floral-themed events in countries like Sweden and Latvia.

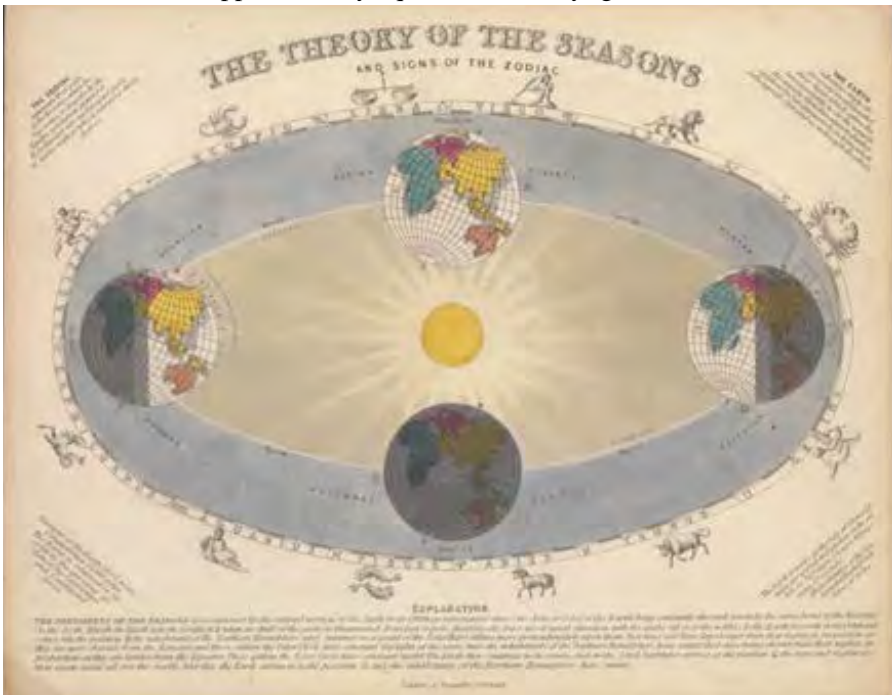
In the southern hemisphere, where the summer solstice occurs in December, the day is instead strongly associated with Christmas, having once been the day of its celebration until various calendar changes shifted the dates apart.

When is the spring equinox?

The spring equinox occurs in March. In 2022 it will occur on 20 March at 3.33pm GMT.

What is an equinox?

At two points in the year the Sun will illuminate the northern and southern hemispheres equally. These are known as the equinoxes: the autumnal equinox and vernal or spring equinox. It's the moment at which the plane of Earth's equator passes through the centre of the Sun's disk, or the moment that the Sun passes the celestial equator. On these dates, there are approximately equal hours of daylight and darkness.

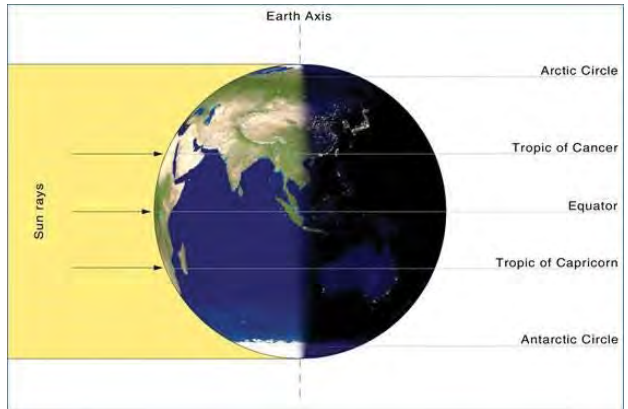


The ecliptic: the plane in which the Earth and most of the other planets orbit around the Sun over a year

The celestial equator: an imaginary projection of the Earth's equator onto the sky

What is the autumn equinox?

The autumnal equinox occurs in September, and in the Northern Hemisphere this date marks the end of Summer and beginning of Autumn. In 2022 the autumnal equinox will occur on 23 September at 2.03am BST.



When do the equinoxes occur?

The table below shows the dates and times of both the vernal (spring) and autumnal equinoxes:

Year	Vernal equinox	Autumnal equinox	All times are UTC (GMT)
2022	20 March, 3.33pm	23 September, 1.03am	

Where does the word 'equinox' come from?

The word equinox comes from the Latin aequinoctium meaning 'equal night'.

Why don't the solstices and equinoxes happen on the same days every year?

The Earth takes approximately 365¼ days to go around the Sun. This is why we have a leap year every four years to add another day to our calendar.

For the same reason the precise time of the equinoxes are not the same each year. Generally they will occur about six hours later each year, with a jump of a day (backwards) on leap years.

What is the difference between Midsummer's Day and the summer solstice?

Midsummer's Day occurs annually on 24 June and is one of the four Quarter Days in the UK Legal Calendar. The other Quarter Days are Lady Day (25 March), Michaelmas (29 September) and Christmas Day (25 December).

Why isn't the Summer Solstice the middle of summer?

The tilt of the Earth produces the seasons, including the changes in weather associated with them. When the northern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun, it receives more direct sunlight and for a longer portion of the day, so the temperature increases. Similarly in winter, the reduction in sunlight hours and more glancing angle to the Sun means the air remains colder.

However, just as with the air in your home, the atmosphere and, more importantly, the oceans take time to heat up. This means that even though the solstice marks the longest or shortest days (and the most direct or indirect sunlight), there is a considerable lag between that and the peak of warm or cold weather. As a result, meteorological (weather-based) summer starts at the beginning of June and ending with the last day of August. Astronomical summer can either begin on the solstice, or, if using length of days as a guide, be centred on the solstice, depending on the situation.

Fruity Flag Traybake

By Mary Berry

A fail-safe sponge that's easier than it looks - almonds and yoghurt keep it moist while its fruity decoration is suitably patriotic

Ingredients

For the sponge

100g butter or baking spread, softened, plus extra for the tin

175g self-raising flour

50g ground almond

2 tsp baking powder

4 large eggs

225g caster sugar

125ml full-fat Greek yogurt

zest 2 lemons

For the butter icing

175g butter, softened

350g icing sugar, sieved

To decorate

300g raspberry

175g blueberry

Method

Step 1

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter and line a 30 x 20cm traybake tin with baking parchment. Measure all the sponge ingredients into a mixing bowl and mix together using an electric hand whisk until smooth. Spoon into the tin and level the surface.

Step 2

Bake for 25-30 mins until lightly golden and the top of the cake springs back when pressed with your finger, and the sides of the sponge are shrinking away from the sides of the tin. Carefully lift the sponge out of the tin, then transfer to a wire rack to cool. Remove the baking parchment.

Step 3

To make the icing, tip the butter into a bowl



and whisk using an electric hand whisk until light and fluffy. Add half the icing sugar and whisk again until incorporated. Add the remaining sugar and whisk again until smooth. Spread the icing over the top of the cold cake.

Step 4

To decorate, place a double row of raspberries across the centre and down the length of the cake to make a cross. Next, place a single row diagonally from each corner to the middle. Now fill in the empty spaces with blueberries. Cut into squares to serve.

If you wish to make Platinum Jubilee Pudding competition winner - Lemon swiss roll and amaretti trifle by Jemma Melvin, the recipe can be found https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/lemon_swiss_roll_and_42467



Eaton Bray Cricket Club



Good news from CBC who have passed our planning application for 2 new net lanes. All being well they should be up and running in early June. The strip and the outfield are in cracking order and thanks should go to James and Ozzie for all their hard work. Been a good start all round.

Results

April 30th Eaton Bray 1st X1 242-6. Andy Norris 96. Milton Keynes 159 a/o. James Flecknell 4-29. Eaton Bray won by 83 runs.

April 30th Eaton Bray 2nd X1 154 a/o. Peter Robinson 48. Westcroft 158-6. Westcroft won by 4 wickets.

May 1st Langford 204-7. Adam Raspass 3-40. Eaton Bray Sunday X1 207-2. Jaco Jacobs 95 n/o Junaid Ashiq 78 n/o. Eaton Bray won by 8 wickets

May 7th Eaton Bray 1st X1 177-9. Olney Town 176-8. Eaton Bray won by 1 run.

May 7th Eaton Bray 2nd X1 218-6. Peter Robinson 96 Adam Raspass 51 n/o. Milton Bryan 208 a/o. Eaton Bray won by 10 runs.

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

The club would like to thank our sponsors Meadow Marquees, ECL Howard Watson Smith LLP, Topps Tiles, SMSS Ltd 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.

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Down the Lane



As I write this it's 'No Mow May' so some of our grass is not being cut. As you can see in the photo there are already dandelions and buttercups. Clover, bird's foot trefoil (which I called ladies fingers when I was a child) and speedwell are growing but not flowering yet. This year the grass won't be left all summer as it was a jungle to sort out in September and became 'Can't Mow'! It will have an occasional

cut on the highest setting of the mower.

I have a small flower bed by a corner of the house which faces due north, so doesn't get any sun, and is very dry. In my photo you can see a cotoneaster, which is thriving, Solomon's seal, which is flowering and doesn't normally get eaten by sawfly, unlike plants in the rest of the garden, violets which give good ground cover and iris foetidissima. This has delicate yellow flowers and bunches of bright red berries. I like it because the foliage looks good right through the winter. A rampant clematis montana has grown over a wall from the flower bed on the other side. When it has finished flowering, assuming there are no birds' nests in the foliage, I'll cut it back. Underneath is winter



jasmine, which has pretty foliage once the flowers have finished, and cotoneaster which has yet to flower. When the flowers appear it hums all day long with bees collecting nectar.

Last year I planted too many bulbs in my tubs. When the flowers had finished a lot of untidy leaves were left. This year there is room to see the flowers of tiarella. The violas

flowered all winter long and seed very readily so I find them all over the garden. I like tiarella because the leaves are evergreen and have pretty markings. At the end of May I will fill the tubs with geraniums and some trailing nepeta which survived the winter outside. It multiplies very easily by potting up small pieces which have roots – so lots of free plants!

Waiting for rain now as April was so dry!

✍️ Sally Taylor



How to Encourage Hedgehogs in Your Garden

Hedgehogs are on the decline, according to a new report, but there are plenty of things you can do to encourage them into your garden. They are particularly useful animals for the gardener, consuming large quantities of slugs and snails. They are usually most active after dark in the hours before midnight, often travelling approximately one



mile each night to forage for food, find shelter or search for a mate. To roam freely Hedgehogs need open gardens, but if yours is enclosed and you can create a gap (15cm will do) in a fence or dig a channel under it, this will help them a great deal. See Edlesborough Parish Council news re hedgehog highways on page 22. Food supplies can run low in cold or very dry weather and hedgehogs are very fond of meaty cat food. You can also buy ready-made hedgehog food. Leave out some water (if you already do this for the birds, the hedgehogs will drink it too), but please don't give them milk.

Leave autumn leaves untouched in quiet corners of your garden. This will offer excellent shelter and foraging ground for your prickly visitors.

Gardening organically helps too - slug pellets are harmful to hedgehogs, so if you can use natural deterrents such as beer traps or broken eggshells, this will help to boost hedgehog survival rates. Ensure that ponds have a shallow end to facilitate their escape, should a hedgehog fall in - or place a small ramp into steep sided ponds.

Bonfires, strimmers, garden forks and other tools present grave danger for sleepy hedgehogs. Be sure to disturb any areas of long grass, bonfires or mounds of fallen leaves prior to starting work to give Hedgehogs an opportunity to escape beforehand. Get into this habit all year round, and not just in autumn.

Gardening with hedgehogs in mind will help to alleviate many of the dangers that they face and make your garden a much safer place for our spiky friends. However, if you spot an injured or sick hedgehog, contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890801.

Information courtesy of Thompson and Morgan
www.thompson-morgan.com





Northall Baptist Church

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The Holy Spirit - the Unexpected Visitor

Have you ever been sad or lonely when your best friend or a family member has left? Most of us have been concerned when those we rely on aren't there anymore. It's daunting for those going off to university and for the first time having to fend for themselves. Or when a parent or partner dies and life completely changes without that support. Perhaps we've moved to a new school without our best friend. Most of us have experienced that at some point in our lives.

At Easter we celebrated Jesus' death and resurrection. Jesus had been with his followers for three years, spending a lot of time together. During, that time Jesus had told them that it was necessary that he should die and be raised. He was to be the sacrificial lamb to assuage the consequence of sin - not temple sacrifice. This was a really difficult concept for the disciples and they didn't really understand it, so likely dismissed it from their minds. They had seen Lazarus raised and Jairus' daughter so maybe they thought it would be similar. But when Jesus was crucified, the death of a criminal, they were bereft and confused. Peter at the very point of Jesus sham trial, denied that he knew Jesus, until the cock crowed 3 times and he remembered Jesus' words.

All seemed to be lost, but true to his word Jesus soon popped up again, three days later. Jesus reappeared to the disciples in several different circumstances over 40 days – through locked doors when they were able to touch him and feel the marks of the nails and another time when Jesus had got a fire going to cook breakfast for them.

The disciples may have got used to this sort of arrangement. But to fulfil God's purpose, Jesus had yet to be taken from them again. He ascended to heaven and they were on their own for 10 days. During this time the disciples chose a replacement for Judas and then when Jerusalem was full to bursting with the celebration of Pentecost, the

Holy Spirit came just as Jesus had promised. Pentecost is a celebration to remember the Children of Israel escaping from their slavery in Egypt. Christians celebrate this as the coming of this special friend who is there within us always, guiding and comforting. This year it will be on 5th June.

The 10 days between Jesus' Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit are remembered by most Christians with 'Thy Kingdom Come' when prayers are said for family and friends who haven't yet come to know the love of Jesus.

With the **Holy Spirit** you are never alone.

Our Sunday services are now back in Church 11 am. We'd love you 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





A History of Bellows Mill

Bellows Mill was in use as a flour mill up to 1955 until its isolated position and slow method of grinding corn made it unprofitable.

Originally, it had an undershot wheel, used in conjunction with a steam engine; the rush of water from the river setting in motion the water wheel, which in turn drove the shafts that powered the grinding stones. The two stones remain covered with old wooden hoppers to stop the corn from dropping away at the sides.

The mill had three floors, the highest being used for storing corn. The corn was hauled up by hand and the chain pulley worked either with sacks or large buckets; a slow laborious task.

The second floor was for the grinding with corn being fed from the upper floor onto the stones and the ground corn then dropping to the bottom floor through funnels and into the sacks.

This method was a system invented by the Greeks in 85 BC. The Domesday survey lists 103 of these mills in Bedfordshire, showing that it was, and still is, an important corn-growing area.

Thirteenth century documents reveal the existence of unscrupulous millers who charged more than the allotted charge of 3d a quarter, cheating customers by under weighing and the lazy millers who let the water foul, blocking the sluices and causing the mill to be put out of action.

The centuries changed all that and milling became a highly respected and very necessary business. Bellows Mill is at the end of a no-through road, a mile away from the village of Eaton Bray and three miles from the nearest town of Dunstable. The mill-stream runs adjacent to, but higher than, the level of the road. The mill itself dips into the hollow set beneath the imposing backcloth of the Chiltern Hills and the Whipsnade lion.

Records show that in 1485, John La Zouche, the owner of Bellows Mill and known to have been at Bosworth with Richard III, had his estates confiscated. The next owner was Sir Reginald Bray, a noted salesman and architect in the reign of Henry VIII, then a Walter Sandys in 1574.

The house was first mentioned in 1618, when it was sold to W. Abraham Gent, of Wingrave, for the grand sum of £240. The house then was little more than a cottage of the Tudor period.

The next three centuries sees a succession of tenants and not many recorded incidents, though the legendary ghost comes in with the Cromwell era. It has been related that Cromwell's troops stabled their horses at the mill and one night they were taken out by their Puritan masters. For what reason no one knows, the horses returned later that night minus their riders, having been ambushed and killed. On the anniversary of this foul deed they are supposed to gallop down the drive and into the stables.

In 1624, when it became the property of Thomas Johnson, citizen and merchant tailor of London. He was likened to Dick Whittington, for he was a poor boy who made good in London Town. The story goes that while he was on his travels as a poor pack boy selling materials to the villagers, he sought shelter with a family in Lidlington, a village near Bedford. These people befriended him, and in return for their kindness, he endowed a charity in Lidlington with the rent he received from the mill.

He left the trustees £16 annual rent from the water mill for the purpose of appointing four godly and religious preachers of God's work to preach a sermon each year on the four Sabbath days after Michaelmas, Christmas, Lady Day and St. John's Day and for the six boys at Lidlington to

be taught to read and write. He made lots of unusual stipulations too numerous to mention, but one of these was that the pupils were to be provided with jerkins of grey frieze, breeches lined with leather, blue stockings and blue hat bands. Hats were also to be given to three old men who must live 'painful and honest lives and be of sober conversation and such as frequent the church.' This charity continued until the time when there were ten trustees, whose job it was to dispense the £76 legacy in the following manner: once a year a notice was put up at the village post office, asking widows and pensioners to apply for an allowance of three cwts of coal. To qualify they must have resided in Liddington three years and really need this charity. The incumbent vicar still had to preach a 'Godly sermon' on given days for which he received a small remuneration from the legacy.

The first recorded Dyer Tenancy of Bellows Mill is that of John Dyer. The 21 year lease was signed on 3rd June 1732 at a rent of £16.10s per annum. At this time there were two mills, one wheat and the other corn, the corn mill was known as Bellies or Bellows Mill, together with the Mills there was a Mill house and 8 acres of adjoining land.

The lease was renewed by John Dyer on the 14th April 1744, the rental was still £16.10s. Mary renewed the lease on 6th March 1779. Mary in turn left the leasehold of the Mill to her eldest son Samuel Dyer in her will which was probated in 1783. Samuel renewed the lease at a rent of £30.00 per annum on 20th January 1798. Samuel left the leasehold of the Mill to his wife Ann and son William Dyer. William renewed the leasehold at a rental of £30.00 per annum on 20th April 1821. On the 1841 census information below William and his family were still living in Bellows Mill. His wife is the same age, the other two have the same name and no relationship is indicated on the census. Their ages indicate they are more likely to be grandchildren.

The following articles taken from the Bedford Times, give a few clues to William Dyer's fate and the loss of the mill!

Bedford Times, Saturday July 11th, 1846.

Insolvent debtors court.

A court was held on Monday at the Shire Hall by G. Harris Esq, Commissioner, there was only one case that of William Dyer of Eaton Bray.

This old man was not opposed, his debt to the plaintiff was £74.19s.00.d for bricks, timber etc., used in building a windmill.

Which he stated didn't answer his expectation.

He underwent a long examination by the commissioner who ordered him to be discharged. He'd been in custody for four months, all of which time, he was in a very dangerous state of health, suffering under a disease of the heart and dropsy. He had to be supported all the time he was in jail, at the expense of the county and was allowed extra diet and a night nurse.

Bedford Times, 18th July, 1846

The insolvent "dyer" who obtained his discharge last week upon the hearing before the insolvent commissioner at Bedford, died on Saturday last, at Eaton Bray. Shortly after his return to his own residence.

The following is an account of the marriage of Joseph Room to Maria Dyer. Maria was the widow of Thomas Dyer. Thomas and Maria Dyer were the grandparents of Ada Dyer.

Bedford Times, 30 November, 1889

Unusual marriage

On 25th November, a marriage took place at Eaton Bray Parish Church, the bridegroom Joseph Room being a widower aged about fifty and the blooming bride Maria Dyer, a widow, aged about

86. The reverent J.H. Doe officiated.

The bride previous to the wedding was an inmate of Leighton workhouse. The church was crowded and on leaving the building, the newly married couple were greeted with showers of rice. P.C. Arthurs was present to preserve order.

Eventually the mill passed into the hands of the present family's ancestors. The first was Richard Simmons who lived there around 1825, followed by his son Fred.

One of the most unusual customs to take place in this century was in the early part of the last war, when a certain Jewish sect came to Bellows Mill for three days to grind a special wheat grown in Canada imported by them to this country. The wheat was used for making the ritual biscuit eaten at the Jewish Feast of Passover. Rabbis supervised the grinding operation, which was very elaborate and complicated. The wheat had to have been uncontaminated with water of any kind. It had to be carted in covered wagons from London, where a large awning was erected over the loading area in case of rain. During the three days of grinding the Jewish workers remained in work both night and day, taking turns to have the occasional nap, but never moving far from the sacks of corn.

The mill's regular workmen were laid off for these three days. This practice continued for years until the war made it possible to continue importing the corn.

In 1874 Fred bought Flemmons Mill at Leighton Buzzard and sent his son William to run it. It was known as 'William Simmons Mill'.

William's nephew, Frank, continued in the milling tradition, followed by Frank's nephew, Peter Tooley. The mill at Leighton Buzzard was then one of the most modern in Bedfordshire.

It promoted its own brand of flour 'SNOWWIS', i.e. SIMMONS upside down. It was subsequently bought out by Ranks Hovis MacDougal.

Frank had no children of his own but Peter had lived at Bellows Mill with his uncle and grandparents from the age of two. His grandparents died when he was 13 but he continued to live there with his uncle and five aunts Doris, Trix, Gladys, Babs and Madge.

(It is a mystery why Peter's father, Fred, later known as Jack, did not grow up there with his siblings but records suggest left the family to live elsewhere from the age of 10. At 16 he joined the Royal Irish Rifles to serve in WW1. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1917 and again in 1918.)

In 1955 the mill ceased operating and business transferred to Leighton Buzzard. In about 1958 the Lidlington Parish Trust sold the mill to Peter and it became their family home and still is today.



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Wood Pigeon

(*Columba pombus*)

General characteristics

The Wood pigeons is, without a doubt, the most common type of pigeon to appear in gardens across the UK. It is a big and burley animal whose pleasant grey colour contrasts nicely with the striking white patch on its neck. In fact, white is quite a feature of this animal, particularly in flight when those white wing bars are exposed on a clear day. It is ever more memorable when combined with the loud beating of its wings, a sound which is ever more present in forest areas, where the bird is traditionally shy; you might hear the sound of its wings flapping, and the occasional rustle of leaves up high, but you might not see the bird directly.

Wood pigeon diet

Wood pigeons are, perhaps, the least fussy eaters of all common garden birds. They will pretty much eat anything put out on the table, but there are one or two types of food Wood pigeons favour. Put out seeds and grain, and they will swoop down in excitement, even to the detriment of other garden birds. Their sheer size allows them to push away smaller birds with ease so, pay attention, as you might find your Wood pigeons dominating the feeding table.

They also drink a lot of water because of their relatively dry diets; however, take note that Wood pigeons only drink from open places, like bird baths. They, unlike other garden birds, whose habit it is to scoop up water and fling back their heads to allow water to “drop down”, suck up the water using their beak as a straw. It is quite a unique phenomenon.

Wood pigeon nesting

Wood pigeons prefer the privacy of wooded areas for nesting and producing young. Never do female Wood pigeons lay more than two eggs per clutch, although should those eggs be destroyed, eaten or stolen, further clutches will be produced within a season, allowing successive generations to continue the family line.

The nest itself is built by both mother and father, and is a co-ordinated mass of twigs located in either a tree or high up on a building. The eggs are incredibly smooth, glossy white and have a width and length of 30mm x 41mm.

What is most familiar with the pigeon, though, is its cooing sound, which is somewhat distinct from other birds in the garden. In fact, there are just five notes in total, and they go like this: “ru-hoo ru ru-hoo.” Try counting the sounds next time you hear a Wood pigeon in your garden.

The other interesting feature about Wood pigeons is their size. They often come across as slightly overweight, and one consequence of their size is the manner in which they walk. It isn't straight, but a waddle, which gives the impression that they possess oversized bottoms. This isn't the case, of course, and it is a fact that the total weight of all the feathers combined is greater in weight than the entire skeleton.



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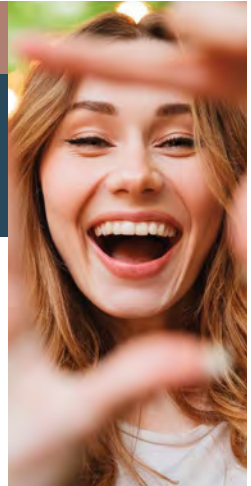
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Our April meeting commenced with minutes of the previous meeting read and signed, items of interest shared and birthday cards, plants and best wishes distributed to the lucky ladies.

This was followed by the two main events of the evening. The serious part – Voting on WI Resolutions and the more light hearted part – our annual Cheese and Wine meal.

The first part involved the proposed Resolutions read, much discussion on the pros and cons of each and final voting by a show of hands.

The earlier efforts gave us quite the appetite for second part of the evening! Our delicious ‘feast’ was supplied and prepared by the WI Committee and was much appreciated. A good night enjoyed by all.

As the evenings become lighter and the pandemic rules lifted it was lovely to welcome back some members we haven’t seen for a while and enjoy a ‘catch up’.

✍️ Caroline Colleran

Our May meeting was called Chiltern Thrills, Making Crime Pay!! As I don’t think we have any hardened criminals in our membership the members waited in anticipation as to what the subject was going to be about. We then went on to listen to an interesting account of his career by local crime fiction writer David Sivers who is from Pitstone and sets many of his stories in the locality.

David, when he was 6 loved listening to children's stories and so developed his love of literature. He spent his career as a civil servant and at 56 took early retirement. Although in his earlier years he had also worked as a bouncer at Hemel Hempstead Pavilion. Throughout his years as a civil servant he had written short stories for the Economist. Also writing sitcoms, am dram and had also been a local newspaper correspondent. Entering retirement he had a lot of time on his hands and was able to develop his love of writing. Thoroughly enjoying being his own boss with characters, places and murders in mind he has now written 10 crime fiction novels which are available online. Having written 10 books he has sold tens of thousands and been on the best seller list. Whilst he enjoys the writing, having a novel published has many different facets. He explained how he buys in the skills of a designer to do the book cover and editing etc. which bring it all together and in the world of computerisation you can use the skills of people who live globally. His books were on sale to us on the night.

We also had a show of hands as to how many of us now prefer a Kindle which has made a huge change in the publication of books. A lot of us still love to hold a book in our hands as we lose ourselves in another world but agreed that a Kindle is a great asset when travelling.

New members are always given a warm welcome please come along and enjoy and evening with us. The members of Edlesborough W.I. meet in the Memorial Hall on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm. We have a diverse range of entertainment including speakers, food and drink, member participation and trips. We also like to take part in village events.

✍️ Jane Jones

Vital Research Using Elephant Dung Begins at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's Asian elephants are contributing to global conservation efforts - simply by producing a ready supply of fresh dung. Zookeepers at the UK's largest Zoo are collecting elephant dung samples to help conservationists across Asia and Africa better understand the population sizes, movements and 'genetic fingerprints' of wild elephant herds. ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's elephant keepers began the research into dung sampling after their ZSL colleagues working with wild elephant populations in Africa and Asia alerted them to a specific knowledge gap within the scientific community.

Conservationists regularly use faecal DNA testing on collected samples of wild elephant dung to assess population size, identify priority populations, select elephants suitable for translocations, and identify inbreeding. However, there is still uncertainty about how long samples can be stored before analysis in the laboratory, or which method is best for preserving the samples.

For the study, elephant keepers collect small amounts of dung from ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's herd of Asian elephants, of varying freshness (for example, <24 hrs old, 24-48 hrs old, >48 hrs old), and place them in a test tube, ensuring no cross-contamination takes place. They then store the samples using different methods and preservatives (or 'buffer solutions') for various lengths of time before genotyping of, or 'retrieving a genetic fingerprint from', the samples takes place in a laboratory. The ZSL keepers and conservation scientists will then analyse the results and share their conclusions with elephant conservationists around the world.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's Elephant Team Leader, Stefan Groeneveld said: "We are always finding new ways in which our understanding of our magnificent herd of elephants at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo can benefit their wild counterparts. "I'm sure running around after elephants to collect and record their dung throughout the day doesn't sound like everyone's idea of fun, but we are delighted to be able to use the resources we have to give our colleagues across Asia and Africa the information they need to prevent elephant extinction. "We spend every day with our herd, and know each of them not only by name, but by character. This is the sort of research that just couldn't be done in the wild, where you can't necessarily know how old a dung-pile is, or have a ready supply of fresh dung from known individuals to experiment with. With so much information at our fingertips, we hope that our contribution to the study of elephant faecal DNA analysis will be invaluable for global conservation efforts."

Faecal DNA methods are used with all three elephant species living in the wild: African savannah elephants, African forest elephants, and Asian elephants. They are especially useful to assess elephant herds living in dense forests, where aerial surveys are not possible. ZSL conservationists are currently working to protect and conserve elephant populations in Thailand, Nepal, India and Cameroon. Elephant populations are under threat from the illegal wildlife trade, human-elephant conflict, habitat loss, habitat fragmentation and degradation, and disease.

The UK's largest Zoo, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo has been dedicated to the conservation of threatened species since its opening, 90 years ago. Best known for its colossal beasts that graze enormous enclosures, like the Zoo's herd of endangered Asian elephants or its two species of rhinoceroses, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is home to over 10,000 amazing animals, including Amur tigers, reticulated giraffes and African hunting dogs. Proudly helping to protect Globally Threatened species, Whipsnade has contributed to reintroductions of Extinct-in-the-Wild species, such as the Przewalski's horse and the scimitar horned oryx and boasts the UK's first aquarium dedicated to conserving threatened and Extinct-in-the-Wild freshwater fish.



Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for April 2022

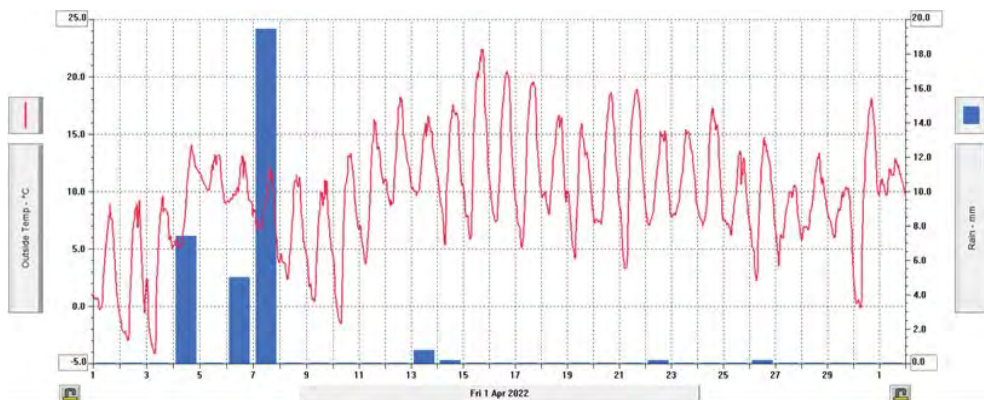
Elevation: 450 ft - Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West



April started on the cold side with frost on the first few days. As the pressure dropped, it turned unsettled with 95% of the monthly rainfall arriving in three days. The rest of the month, it was settled for most of the time. It was frosty on the 9th and 10th, then turned warmer from the 11th, with a peak of 23.1°C on the 15th. The warmer conditions continued almost to the end of the month with just the final day hovering around zero for seven hours. That brought with it potentially damaging frost for gardeners, especially those with potatoes. It was a relatively dry month with 33.2mm of rain, but in April 2021, we only had 4.4mm, so perhaps it wasn't that bad. If such dry Aprils continue, we may have to change the old saying, "April showers bring forth May flowers".

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	23.1°C	15 April 17.00	- 4.2°C	3 April 07.00
Mean Temperature	9.6°C			
Dewpoint:	12.6°C	12 April 13.30	- 5.4°C	3 April 07.00
Humidity:	95%	14 April 08.00	24%	17 April 17.30
Barometer:	1032.2mb	29 April 10.30	982.3 mb	7 April 06.30
Wind Speed	47mph WNW	7 April 14.30	Months avg.	5.8 mph
Wind Chill:	22.3°C	15 April 18.00	- 4.3°C	1 April 06.00
Dominant Wind:	NE			
Rainfall * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 7 (T), 7(R)	Wettest Day 7 April		19.41 mm	0.764ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April 2022	33.2mm	1.307 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	4 Months	191.2 mm	7.527ins

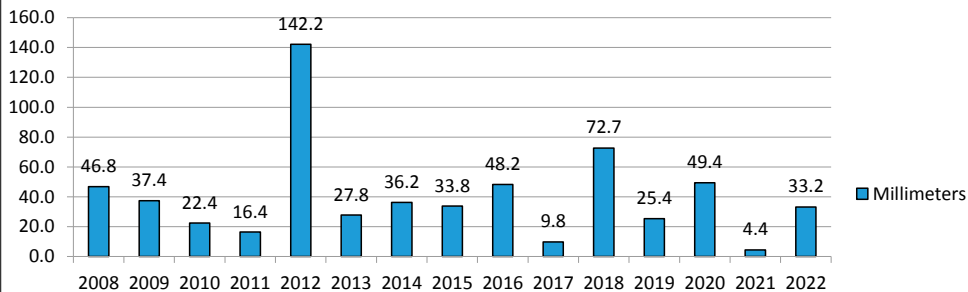
April 2022 Temperature and Lack of Rain



The chart on the next page is a fifteen year rainfall comparison which shows an average 40.4mm of rain (about 1.6 inches) for April.

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

April Rainfall in Millimeters



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One of the famous crafts was the Tracy Island which was based on the Headquarters of the Thunderbirds Organisation. Thunderbirds was very popular and it was at the beginning of manufacturers beginning to make models from all different television programmes particularly Thunderbirds. However, the presenters had found how to make a Tracy Island that was just as good as the bought islands and much more fun to make.

We were all made by God! We are all one-offs!! We are designed perfectly and are a unique expression of God's love. God never makes a mistake nor does he make anything out of junk. He does not mass produce and He never says, 'Here is one that I made earlier!'

God likes variety, different coloured eyes, differently shaped noses and skin complexions as well as different personality types. Some of us are outgoing and noisy whilst others are quiet and shy. Each person is wonderfully made and wonderfully complex and exclusively made.

God knew you before you or anyone knew you were there. God had plans for you before anyone planned your arrival. We are carefully shaped by God. We are His craftsmanship.

'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' (Ephesians 2: 10)

'And when God looked over everything he had made; it was so good, so very good.' Genesis 1:31



The Salvation Army, Eaton Bray

Programme

Morning Worship	Sunday 11.am
Coffee Morning (alternate weeks)	Tuesday 10.-11.30am
Home League (Ladies meeting)	Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm
Champions Club	Wednesday 6.15-7.15pm
Girls Night Out (1st Thurs of the month)	Thursdays 7.45 pm

For further information please telephone:
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✍ Allison Gaudion (Major)

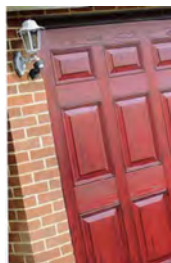


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