

These poppies have been crafted with love and compassion, in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice of families in Edlesborough and Northall. Loved ones watched their brave boys march off to the battlefields - never to return. Purple poppies honour the thousands of horses and dogs killed in action. White poppies are for ALL war victims. They symbolise a commitment to peace and challenge attempts to glamorise or celebrate wars everywhere.

Remembrancettee 30th Oct to 13th Nov

Eatton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall & Dagnall
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Footprints (Sunday School) 9.45 - 10.45am

(Term time only)

Morning Worship 11am

Tuesday

Coffee Morning 10 - 11.30am

(Alternate weeks)

Wednesday

Home League 2.30 - 3.30pm

(Ladies meeting but all welcome) Champion's Club (Term time only)

> 5.30-6.30pm (Ages 5 to Year 5) 6.45-7.45pm (Year 6 and above)

Thursday

Girls' Night Out

(1st Thursday of the month) 7.45pm

Ladies Fellowship

(Last Thursday of the month) 7.30pm

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

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHAPEL

Chapel Lane, Northall

(just beyond the 30 speed limit signs on the road towards Leighton Buzzard) Everyone is welcome to our Sunday worship each week between 11am and 12.30pm including tea/coffee and time to talk together.

For more information contact: John Hazell 01525 218142 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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Focus accepts no responsibility as to the 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.

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Diary

Weekly

Mon-Sun St. Mary's Edlesborough is open most days 10am-4pm, sometimes longer.

Look for the OPEN sign below the notice board

Mon-Fri (term) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec

Mon-Fri (term) Dagnall Under 5's, Dagnall Village Hall, 9.15am - 12.15pm, Mrs Ann Tobin 07816 358342

Mon-Fri (term) Edlesborough Primary Academy Pre-School, 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org

Mon-Fri (term) 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

KFPA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFPA' for info

Mondays Cubs (8-10½ years old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street,

Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550

Mondays Yoga, 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302

Mondays Barre, 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302

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,

Fortnightly Eaton Bray

Mondays

Tuesdays Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon

Tuesdays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666

Wednesdays Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774

Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact

Anna on 07854 230243

Wednesdays Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact 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
Thursdays KFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+)

Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF Performing Arts/ KFPA' for info

Thursdays Tae Kwon-do, Dagnall Village Hall, 5.45-7.30pm 07813 755785

Thursdays Beavers (6 to 8 years old), 6.15-7.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street,

Edlesborough. Contact: ebebeaverleader@ebescouts.co.uk

Thursdays Explorers Scouts (14-18 years old), 8pm-9.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut,

High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Simon Betts, simon_betts@hotmail.com.

Thursdays Eaton Bray Methodist Church Social Afternoons, 2 - 4pm, All Welcome

Thursdays Retro Line Dance Class. 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome.

www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171

Fridays Tap & Ballet Classes, JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 07800 518654
Fridays Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am,

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

Fridays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666 Fridays Scouts, (10½ to 14 years old), 7.00-8.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High

Street, Edlesborough. Contact Mark Owen, ebescoutleader@ebescouts.co.uk, 07899 892344

Fridays "Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes,10am-11.30am, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma

Whittemore on 01525 376124

Saturdays Jazzercise 9-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666

Village Diary

Saturdays KFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+)

Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF Performing Arts/ KFPA' for info

Sundays Sunday Worship at 11am, Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525

222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com

Sundays Yoga, 9:30am-10:30am, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact eleanorlangton@outlook.com

or 07969315384

Sundays Karate for kids & adults, 2:30-4pm & 4:30-6pm, Eaton Bray VH, Contact 07500 007779

Monthly

1st Monday Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except Jan-2nd Monday)
1st Monday Eaton Bray W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Contact Margaret Jones

on 01525 220991

1st & 3rd Mon Knit 'n Stitch at Edlesborough Village Hall, 1:45pm to 3:45pm. Contact Heather Westwood

(ex. Bank Hols) (01525 839083)

1st & 3rd Tues Dunstable & District Orbit (social and charitable) Club meet at Dunstable Rugby Club at 8pm.

For details contact 01525 222441 or 01582 755147

1st Saturday St. Mary's Church, Eaton Bray Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10:30am - 12 noon

2nd Monday Film Society, Sep to May, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 01525 220883
2nd Tuesday Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
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

8th Nov 9-10:30am, Edlesborough Academy Open Morning for Reception September 2022

13-14th Nov Art Exhibition & Sale, 10am-4pm, Northall Village Hall

13th Nov Poppy Prom, 7:30pm St. Mary's Eaton Bray, £12.50 Box Office: 01525 222283

14th Nov Remembrance Service, 10:45am, Edlesborough War Memorial

14th Nov Dagnall Craft Fair, 11am-4pm, Dagnall Village Hall

19-21st Nov Art at Wingrave, 10am-4pm, Field View & Home Farm, Castle St, Wingrave, HP22 4PT

27th Nov Edlesborough Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar, 10am -12 noon

27th Nov St. Mary's Christmas Fair, 12-3pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall Village Christmas Craft Fair, 4-7pm, Edlesborough Pavilion

CALLING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Plans for Focus Magazine in 2022 are underway.

First, we would like to thank all the advertisers who bought advertising space in the 2021 editions of the magazine and thus supported the villages' community.

The magazine has 10 printed, full colour editions a year, with a print run of 2400 copies, delivered free to every home in the four villages by willing volunteers. It is also published on-line at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk.

If you would like to advertise your business in Focus next year, please contact advertising@thefocusmagazine.co.uk or call Sally Taylor on 01525 221576 or Angela Dunford on 01525 221944 for details.

British Legion Remembrance Service.

Sunday 14th November 2021

Edlesborough War Memorial 10.45am

CLOSURE OF B440 (MAIN ROAD) FROM NORTHALL TO COCK'S CLOSE (PEBBLEMOOR) JUNCTION AND HIGH STREET EDLESBOROUGH, FROM PEBBLEMOOR TO JUNCTION WITH MAIN ROAD.

This year's annual Service of Remembrance will take place at Edlesborough War Memorial at the top of the hill by Edlesborough Church on the Main Road on Sunday 14th November starting at approximately 10.45am. Please come and join us in our Act of Remembrance. The service will last for approximately 30minutes.

In the past, War Memorials were built close to the roadside so that all who passed by would be reminded of the sacrifices made by the local people whose names appear on them. Unfortunately this does not sit well with the levels of traffic which we experience on our roads today and so to enable the people taking part in the service to stand safely around the War Memorial and to hear clearly, the B440 main road will be closed to traffic for the duration of the service from 10.30am until 11.30am with a diversion for traffic in place from the junction of the B440 main road at Cock's Close towards Pebblemoor, along Pebblemoor and Edlesborough High Street, along Eaton Bray High Street and up Northall Road to join the B440 main road in Northall. Edlesborough High Street will also be closed from the junction with Pebblemoor by the Memorial Hall to the junction with the B440 main road. There will be manned barriers in place closing the roads at junctions and diversion signs in place.

Residents living on Edlesborough High Street above the Memorial Hall and along the closed part of the main road should be aware that it will NOT BE POSSIBLE to access the main road by car at the junction by the Church during the hour of closure. If it is really necessary to use your car at this time, please drive away from the junction towards the nearest point on the diversion route and be aware that you will have to pass through the barrier closing the road and will need to slow down and stop while the barrier is moved by the official marshals to allow you through. There will be at least two official marshals manning the barriers at each of the closure points. These people are volunteers who will be giving up their time to help protect the people attending the service at the Church. Please treat them with respect and courtesy if you need to pass through a barrier.

Notices advising residents living locally about the road closure will be placed at the closure points for three weeks prior to the closure to make sure that everyone knows about it and can plan to avoid using their car during the hour of closure.

We look forward to your company on Remembrance Sunday.

Lorna Cubbage





EDaN Community Transport

Peter Williams: 01442 842506

Village Hall Booking Contacts

Northall: Lorna Cubbage 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



Helpline: 07930 987064

Manned phone hours:

9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

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

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We help people of Eaton Bray and adjacent villages

Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousans

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

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

In the Old Testament one of the books is called Ecclesiastes. The author wrote: 'For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven'. November is a season of change when the colours and fruitfulness of autumn start to make way for the starkness of winter. Sometimes November can seem depressing as the nights draw in and temperatures drop. But there are things to look forward to.

The end of November sees the beginning of a new Church year which starts on Advent Sunday. This year it falls on 28th November. Advent is a season of expectation and waiting as we look forward to celebrating the greatest event in world history: the coming of God among us as a human baby.

If we read the Old Testament, we see how the people of God waited for God to act. Sometimes they waited patiently, but often it was frustrated waiting, crying out for God to do something. We read of the many difficult situations the people faced including exile in Babylon. God's people feel powerless and oppressed; they long to return home. From this deep sense of desperation, they cry out to God. Only God can change things, and he seems to be deaf to their entreaties. Then the people remember how God acted decisively in the past. At the time of the Exodus, Moses led the People of Israel out of Egypt. Later, in the desert at Mount Sinai, God gave them the Ten Commandments. God's intervention was powerful and decisive. The people in exile in Babylon cry out to God to end their waiting and act decisively again on their behalf. Frustrated waiting in this case leads to action. The people turn to God and cry out to him to help them. Over the past 18 months, we have been removed from our familiar way of life. This

over the past 18 months, we have been removed from our familiar way of life. This could be described as a sense of exile. Although things are gradually getting back to how they were pre pandemic, many things have changed. And we don't know what lies ahead. There is for many people a pervasive sense of loss. What was the response of the people in the Old Testament to their predicament? They cried out to God for help. Christians believe God acted powerfully when he sent Jesus his Son to be the Saviour of the world. That is why Advent is a hopeful season, looking forward to the festival of

Christmas, a celebration of God's intervention in the world. This year, St Mary's Church will host an Advent Service on 28th November at 6pm. This will be an opportunity to reflect on the season of Advent, the sense of waiting in anticipation and to begin to prepare for the birth of Christ in our midst. We hope you can join us.

With every blessing,

∠Joy

Services at St Mary's Church

SUNDAYS: 10.00am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION

On Third Sunday of each month: 8.00am HOLY COMMUNION

10.00am WORSHIP FOR EVERYONE a shorter, less formal

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WEEK-DAYS: Wednesday: 10.00am Holy Communion

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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

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.



EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas Wreaths in Edlesborough

EPC will, once again, be hanging the Christmas Wreaths along Edlesborough High Street. Bas Westrope has kindly agreed to donate his time and machinery to hang and remove the wreaths.

Any local business or parishioner wishing to sponsor a wreath should contact the Clerk on 01525 229358 or clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

This year's sponsorship money will be put towards improvements to the play area on Edlesborough Green.



St Mary's Christmas Fair

Saturday 27th November 2021 12.00 - 3.00pm Eaton Bray Village Hall

50p admission adults - Children free!

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Santa and Mrs Claus

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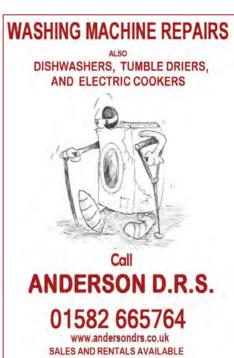
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Eaton Bray Academy

Visit our school website to find out more about us, watch our virtual school tour or arrange a socially distanced visit.

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POPPY PROM 13 November, 7.30pm

St Mary's, Eaton Bray A celebration of 'Remembrance' and 'The Last Night of the Proms'

featuring: Dagnall Community Choir, South Beds Concert Band, plus soloist Helen Watkins



Box Office: 01525 222283

Tickets (£12.50) will go fast so hurry to book your seats!

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL FOCUS REPORT: SEPTEMBER 2021

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

FixMyStreet

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

Speedwatch

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

REMINDER - PARISH ALLOTMENTS: Allotment Tenancy Renewals 2021-2022

Allotment tenancy renewals are now due, payments to be made via one of the following two options:

- 1. Cash or cheque, posted to the parish office (cheques made payable to Eaton Bray Parish Council)
- 2. Bank transfer (if this is your chosen method, please email the Parish Clerk for details)

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021, from 7:00pm via REMOTE/ZOOM

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

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

 $Cllr\ Philip\ Spicer\ -\ email:\ Philip.Spicer\ @\ central bedfordshire.gov.uk$

Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

- Village Youth: The Engagement Youth Worker, CBC, attending the meeting to confirm the work they are doing engaging with youths in the parish, meeting up with youths and trying to establish a group identity.
- Greenways: CBC are looking into a design scheme to improve car parking in this location.
- Community Asset Grant(CAG): The Parish Council were unsuccessful in their CAG
 application; however, Eaton Bray Cricket Club was successful in their application for
 all-weather practice nets.

Planning Applications - Aug/Sept 2021

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

Monthly Payments, September 2021

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

Recreation Grounds

- School Lane play equipment: The final design has been approved.
 - UPDATE 04/10/2021: The proposed commencement date for installation is w/c 15 November 2021, however this may be subject to change.
- School Lane vandalism to picnic benches: The Parish Council agreed to leave the

benches for the time being, due to the potential for more vandalism, and to investigate options regarding the removal of the paint.

• Holmans field Litter Bin: The new litter bin has been installed on the Holmans Field side of the bridge.

Watercourse/Mill End Close

- The repair works to the island up-stream has been completed and the IDB (Internal Drainage Board) have been updated, they [IDB] now have clear access to the river/ waterway to carry out essential works.
- The Parish Council approved the fitting of a new access date with side fencing at the access point to the river via Middle Path (Mill End Close-Brook Street public footpath. Awaiting date for fitting.
- Landscape Buffer/Ransome Strip: The Parish Council are in the process of obtaining quotes for carrying out work to the tree.

Next Meeting (The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

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

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 1 November 2021 from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6 December 2021 from 7:30pm

Parish Council Website

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

website. Visit it here: www.ebpc.co.uk



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: www.ebpc.co.uk Parish Office: 17 Hammond Street, Aston Clinton, HP22 0AJ Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 09:30-13:30hrs Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook and Twitter Keep up to date with what is going on in your parish



St. Mary's Ladies Guild

St Mary's Ladies Guild, is a much valued group of ladies from the community and the church.

Over many years, meetings have been held each month, giving the opportunity to enjoy friendship, good speakers, support and encouragement, meals out, laughter plus tea and cakes. A great deal of fund raising for different charities has been done by them. Sadly, due to Covid, meetings have not been able to be held.

We are hoping to commence again soon, but we need some help. We are looking for someone to help book monthly speakers or topics, a treasurer and someone who will help prepare some cakes towards the tea each month.

We hope to begin meetings again on the second Wednesday of each month, at St Mary's church at 2.00pm. where any new members would receive a very warm welcome..

If you could offer us some help, we would be grateful, so that meetings can begin again.

Please contact Deirdrea on 01525 210426 or on ellins.dee21@gmail.com



Edlesborough Parish Council News

Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Edlesborough Pavilion

Edlesborough Parish Council is pleased to announce that the long awaited Edlesborough Pavilion is now complete.

EPC have signed a lease with ECSC who have now taken over the running of the building.

Many parishioners have already been able to enjoy the wonderful new parish facility.

Christmas Wreaths in Edlesborough



EPC will, once again, be hanging the Christmas Wreaths along Edlesborough High Street. Bas Westrope has kindly agreed to donate his time and machinery to hang and remove the wreaths.

Any local business or parishioner wishing to sponsor a wreath should contact the Clerk. This year's sponsorship money will be put towards improvements to the play area on Edlesborough Green.

Edlesborough Green

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

EPC reminds all parishioners to:

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

Clean up after your dog!

• Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for the emptying of the dog bins in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall. These are currently scheduled to be emptied on a Friday. If a bin is overflowing please call the number on the



bin and quote the reference number on the bin. If a bin is broken please inform EPC as soon as possible to enable a swift repair or bin replacement as necessary.

 Now that the evenings are darker please be extra vigilant when walking your dog to ensure you clear up after them.

Salt Bins

The responsibility for filling these bins is with Transport for Buckinghamshire.



When supplies are running low a refill request should be submitted via their website https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/ It is more appropriate if a parishioner living close to the salt bin makes the request but in practice anyone can make the request.

Ivinghoe Freight Strategy - Parish Council Update

Edlesborough Parish Council has received the following update from Buckinghamshire Council:

"As you are probably aware the proposed freight zone went to statutory consultation ending on the 3rd June 2021. Highlights of the consultation and survey are shown here:-

- The consultation ran from the 7th May 2021 to 3rd June 2021.
- A total of 1,103 responses were received in written form by letter, email and online survey feedback.
 - 993 responses via the online survey.
 - 110 responses via letter or direct email.
- Of the 993 online survey responses, 600 were in favour of the proposal.
 - Many stated that the proposal would improve the environment and traffic in their villages; mainly Ivinghoe and those villages within the proposed zone.
 - Some responses agreed with the proposal but believed that including the B440 within

the proposed weight restriction zone would be a better proposal

- Of the 110 written responses received, 25 were in favour of the proposal stating improvements to quality of life.
- 32 responses were unsure on the proposals.
- 361 online survey responses were against the proposal as presented.
 - Many suggested that the proposed zone would increase HGV traffic in their area.
 - The majority agreed with the intention behind the proposal but, disagreed with the area proposed.
 - The majority of these wanted any proposal taken forward to include the B440 within its restricted area.
- 85 from the 110 received written responses were against the proposal,
 - As with the online responses many who objected to the proposal were in favour of a freight exclusion zone that included the B440 as part of the weight restriction zone.
 - Those against the proposal stated that their villages have had enough HGV traffic and the roads are not suitable for any increase, especially those transporting heavy goods.



The results from the statutory consultation have been summarised in a 'Key Decision Report' and presented to the Cabinet Member for Transport to determine how best to move forward with the Freight Strategy for the area. The report recommends

that in light of the number of objections received with counter suggestions to include the B440 in the proposals, Buckinghamshire Council should now investigate the possibility of including the route of the B440 between the A505 junction and the roundabout with the B489 in the weight restriction zone.

The Cabinet Member for Transport has accepted

the report's findings and directed that we take steps to give due consideration to the inclusion of the B440 in the freight zone.

As a result of this decision:

- The proposal will need to be redrawn and the revised version to go through the statutory consultation process.
- Any extension to the proposed weight restriction to include the B440 will need the support of Central Bedfordshire Council.
 - Communications will be undertaken with Central Bedfordshire Council to ensure full visibility of any plans and consultations
 - Legal permissions will have to be sort and obtained in order to effectively add the B440 to the zone
- Similar consultations will need to take place with Hertfordshire Council, with similar agreements and legal permissions obtained.
- The revised proposal will need to be readvertised, legal papers redrawn and signage reviews reappraised and any additional surveys carried out; any additional costs allocated to the project's budget."

Edlesborough Green Children's Play Area



During the Summer EPC held five consultation sessions on Edlesborough Green to show parishioners the proposed design and location for a

new play area;

- All attendees were asked to complete a brief questionnaire.
- Following the five sessions the questionnaire was put on the Council website for two weeks in August.

Below is a summary of the collated the results: Total responses: 103 (of which 84 were in person and 19 via the online form)

Respondents which were Edlesborough residents: 78% (other respondents were from Eaton Bray, Northall, Totternhoe, Pitstone and Luton)

Age range of respondents:

• Under 16 years: 14%

- 16-30 years: 5%
- 31-55 years: 58%
- 55 years +: 21%

Those agreeing that the proposed design enhances the village green: 95%

Those agreeing that the proposed design meets the objective of providing improved play facilities for children aged 6-12 years: 96%

There was also a section for suggestions and concerns, for which responses were varied, but overall the feedback received on the proposal was very positive.

At the September EPC meeting Council agreed with:

- The latest design and location.
- To use the results of the latest consultation as part of the submission to the planning inspectorate for S38 approval.

Cllr Booth has now commenced work preparing the S38 application in readiness for submission to the planning inspectorate.

EDaN Community Car Share Scheme

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

EDaN Beautification Team

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

Do you enjoy gardening and have some time to spare?

The EDaN Beautification Team is running low on volunteers for the tidying and watering of these planters. Anyone interested in getting involved or helping out with the watering should contact Mrs Christine Yates on 01525 220739 or <a href="mailto:chris@chris

brooklyns.org.uk

Streetlights

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



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

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

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



and relaunch for Community Speedwatch in 2021

• Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner
(thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk) Any parishioner
interested in becoming involved with the EDaN
Community Speedwatch for Edlesborough
Parish should contact Cllr Alan Williams via
email at alan.williams@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk
or on 07828 398371

Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 18th November 2021 in Northall Village Hall
- Thursday 16th December 2021 in 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.

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

Edlesborough Parish Council Contact Information:

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky Office hours Mon – Fri 9am – 12pm (Excl. Wed)
Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk 01525 229358 Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil



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Dagnall Village Christmas Fayre

Dagnall C of E School Saturday 4th December 1PM-3PM

Raffle

Meet

Chocolate tombola

Father Christmas!

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£1 entry for adults includes tea/coffee and a cake

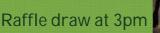
CHILDREN ARE FREE

Dagnall Village Hall Christmas Craft Fair

Sunday 14th November 11am-4pm

Raising funds to continue restoring the village hall and creating a haven for children and parents at the recreation ground.

Admission fee £2











Marbled Meats Wagyu Burgers and refreshments on sale throughout the day.



Dagnall Village Hall is a registered charity 300251

Christmas Gift Fair

11 - 3pm 20th November 2021

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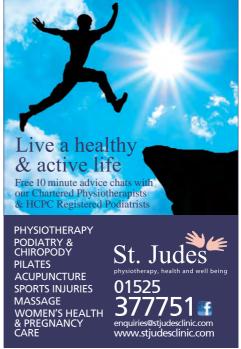
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Daton Bray Methodist Church

September opened with our final two Zoom future generations. services. On the first Sunday in September, Rev Ebute Obiabo gave an exhilarating sermon which asked us for deeds rather than words; it is not enough to say "I am a Christian." We must be prepared to put our belief into action and, above all, treat everyone equally. Our service on the second Sunday, our last Zoom service, was taken by Steve Rogers and helped us to reflect on the power of words; a word can form a great alliance or ruin a career. Our speech reflects the inner person and should be used judiciously to help, support, create and inspire. With great joy we returned to hold a service in our church building on the third Sunday, the first face-toface service in 18 months. Shepherd Kombo led our service with a challenging reflection on the dangers of allowing our individual selfish interests to derail the work of the church. Our Harvest Festival took place on the final Sunday, led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings; the church looked beautiful with displays of flowers and fruit and we used the service produced by the 'Farming Community Network', focusing on the stewardship of the land in its many aspects. The growth of the seed is God's gift to mankind and we must manage it in cooperation with God, preserving the land and protecting the eco-systems for the whole of mankind and

A Warm Invitation If you would like



to join in our services, you would be very welcome. Our Sunday morning worship takes place in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church on Totternhoe Rd and starts at 10.30am.

Come and find a Christmas gift at **Edlesborough Methodist Church**

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday November 27th 10am til 12 noon

Christmas Gifts, Cake Stall, raffles, teas and coffee with cake and biscuits For more information ring 01525 223093





Edlesborough Pavilion NOW OPEN!



Edlesborough Parish Council is delighted to announce that the new Edlesborough Pavilion is now open!

This project originated in 2012 when EPC began consultations on what was to be done with the old, 'unfit for purpose' and unsightly pavilion.

A vision was gradually developed for a new building which would not only provide first class sports facilities but would also provide excellent amenities for the wider community to use.

The Pavilion Working Party evolved into the Edlesborough Community Sports Club (ECSC) which worked closely with EPC in developing the building plans and raising the necessary funds to pursue the shared dream!

Although the fund raising took much longer than anticipated, work finally started on-site in October 2019. COVID then caused many delays but we now - finally - have a lovely, high quality and extremely well equipped building which will be a tremendous asset for the Parish for many years to come.







Community Hub Club room with bar, catering and 2 TVs for Sky Sports.

Access to balcony with its wonderful views over the Green

'Buy a Brick' displayed on the staircase wall. Bricks still available for sale!







2 changing rooms each with 3 showers and 2 toilets (with removable wall opened)



Changing rooms showing removable wall to create a larger activity space



Lift for wheel chair user & carer or 4 people



Additional Pavilion facilities include: Officials/ treatment room; wheel chair accessible toilet & shower; toilets on ground & first floors; club manager's office; servery; parking for 28 cars; enclosure for goal posts etc. & other storage rooms





| How the Pavilion was funded: | Funder | £ |
|---|--|-----------|
| | AVDC's New Homes Bonus Board | 350,000 |
| The total cost of designing, building and | AVDC S106 (contribution from developers of new houses in Edlesborough) | 334,000 |
| equipping the new Edlesborough Pavilion | EPC – Special Projects – funds built-up over past years | 198,375 |
| was £1,173,975. EPC is most grateful for the tremendous financial support from AVDC without which the new Pavilion would not have been possible. | EPC – a loan repayable over 30 years to the Public Works Loan Board | 175,000 |
| | ECSC and its donors | 93,600 |
| | Sport England (specifically for the lift) | 22,000 |
| | EB Lions | 500 |
| | Edlesborough Cricket Club | 500 |
| | TOTAL | 1,173,975 |

Management & Operation of the New Pavilion

EPC has given a 25 years' lease to ECSC (a registered charity), to manage and operate the new Pavilion for the benefit of all Edlesborough Parish residents – who will be eligible for free membership (adults 18 and over).

If you haven't already taken up membership, please go to https://escomembers.azurewebsites.net/

ECSC has appointed Duncan Mclelland as the Club's Chef-Patron and he commenced working full time on Monday 25th October 2021.

He is also responsible for the organisation of the Pavilion and the wellbeing of members.



Duncan has over 20 years' experience working in the hospitality industry. He was classically trained under the Roux dynasty and excelled at working in some of London's finest restaurants. Duncan's ethos is a simple one but also extremely close to his heart - supporting local producers and ensuring we look after our community by bringing families and friends together using the power of sustainably sourced quality food.

He looks forward very much to welcoming you to our fantastic Pavilion.

Dagnall Christmas

Sunday 14th November -Craft Fair 11-4pm

Get those stocking fillers, Christmas presents and something yummy to eat from the Wagyu burger wagon.

Friday 3rd December - Santa Sleigh 6.30pm

A chance to see Santa tour around the village, followed by a jolly gathering at Dagnall Village Hall.

Saturday 4th December - Festive Fair 1-3pm

A fun filled family festive fair held at the school.

Sunday 19th December- Santa Dash 9.30am

A run, hop, skip or walk race around the village in all your festive finery. Followed by a tasty treat and raffle.

For all enquiries about events or to hire the hall please email dagnall_village_hall@outlook.com

Dagnall Village Hall is a registered charity 300251



The Wonnen's Institute, a Beginning

The W.I was started in 1897 by Adelaide Hoodless from Stoney Creek, Ontario. She had four children and one of them died from what she believed was her lack of knowledge



Eaton Bray W.I. concert party at Edlesborough in 1928

re everyday hygiene. Hence, she started classes for local women on domestic science and that was the birth of the W.I. Some years later, a lady called Madge Watt came over from Canada with her idea of setting up W.Is in England and Wales.

In 1915, the first W.I. meeting in Britain was held in Anglesey, followed two years later by the National Federation of W.I.s being formed.

1924 marked the year the members sang the hymn "Jerusalem" for the first time. It was specially composed for the W.I and adopted because of its links with the suffrage movement and the tradition of singing this tune at meetings continues to this day.

Eaton Bray W.I.

Now celebrating 100 years, the founder member of Eaton Bray W.I. in 1921 was Annie Wallace who was the President for many years. Following her death, her daughter May Oates took over as President.

The aims of the W.I are to improve and develop the quality of life for women and their families; to offer women the opportunity to increase



An early W.I.stall at the Church Fete

their awareness of and participation in public issues, national international; to give women the chance to develop their talents and skills in an informal educational environment and to enable women to work together to sustain and build on the achievements offered by the organisation.

Thanks to Peter Mayne for supplying the photos



Left to right: Back row: Peggy Wood, Jean Walker Standing: Eileen Roberts, Dorothy Roberts, unknown, Mrs Wood, Rose Sanders, ? B Thorne, Irene Stonehil (Tearle), Mrs Emily Costin

Seated: Mrs Bert Bunker, Joan Costin, Unknown, Mrs Wallace, Mrs Horton, Hattie Gray Seated on the floor: Mrs French - Park Farm, Nancy Gadsden, Mary Andrews, Gladys Bunker, May Wallace, Mrs Wood



Mrs May Oates cuts the W.I. 21st Birthday Cake

A footnote

Did your mum, aunt or family member belong to Eaton Bray W.I in the past or have any photos. It would be lovely to hear from you. Please contact Margaret Jones on 220991 and Margaretjones207@gmail.com.



Eaton Bray W.I.

During the Summer months Eaton Bray WI have met up regularly in the park. Our October meeting welcomed our WI members back together again in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. A good number of members attended, and they were all very pleased to see each other.

This year Eaton Bray WI have their 100th anniversary, and there are plans to celebrate this

wonderful event.

Our November meeting will be a musical evening and a special 100th birthday party with refreshments.

Later in the month, a meal is planned at a local restaurant to further celebrate our 100th birthday. Details of the menu were given out at the October meeting.

Our December meeting will be our regular hilarious December evening of fun. All our members enjoy these evenings, and much laughter and enjoyment is shared together.

As part of the 100 year celebrations, our WI will be collecting 100 items to donate to the Food Bank during February and March.

We always welcome new members The contact for Eaton Bray WI is: Margaret Jones on 01525 220991. If you are interested in joining our WI, please give Margaret a call.



Magmillan World's Biggest Goffe Morning

The Macmillan Cancer Support Fundraising Group would like to thank everyone who supported the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in any way.

We are especially grateful to St Mary's Church for hosting this valuable fundraising event each year.

This year we raised over £920 with more still to come.

Thank you once again.



The Eaton Bray Good Neighbours scheme provides help and support to our village. Our mobile phone which we operate on a daily basis, has been busy with requests for help in collecting medication, lifts to doctor's and Hospital appointments.

We have also helped with shopping delivery and giving general advice.

We are presently looking for extra drivers to help with our requests for lifts. Some help giving a lift just now and then makes a lot of difference to our team of drivers. We make a small charge for the journeys which is given to our drivers. We have many requests most days, and with some of our drivers on holiday or unable to help it sometimes falls to just a few kind drivers to answer a call for help in going to a hospital or a doctor's appointment.

The Eaton Bray Good Neighbours AGM will be held on Wednesday 10th November at 7 pm in the Eaton Bray Methodist Church. We look forward to seeing you there.

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.

We are always looking for volunteers in the village, either to help with driving as previously mentioned, or medication deliveries or as a befriender. 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





Open mornings for Reception September 2022

Edlesborough Primary Academy is delighted to be able to invite prospective parents, whose child is due to start school in September 2022, in to the school for an informal tour of our setting.

Open mornings will take place on: Monday 8th November - 9:00 - 10:30am Monday 10th January - 9:00am - 10:00am

As part of the tour, you will see classes being taught from Reception through to Year 6, meet our Reception team and see our extensive outdoor learning environment.



If you would like to come and visit on one of our open mornings, please contact the school office on (01525) 220431 or via email on epamanager@epa-primary.org. to book a time slot.

Learning About Love at Appledown Rescue Kennels



An important part of our work at Appledown is helping dogs that have had a very difficult start to gain the confidence and trust they need to be rehomed. Lurcher Mark Greene, was very traumatised when he arrived. He had been a stray on the run for some time, too afraid of humans to allow himself to be caught. Fletch, a big mastiff-type pup, came in bewildered and anxious. It takes time and patience to prepare dogs like Fletch and Mark for the next step and

they will need owners who are prepared for the challenging but rewarding road ahead.

For more information about Fletch and Mark Greene please visit our Facebook page. For information about adoption and an application form visit our website. 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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Over 50's Pudding Gubl

I am looking to set up a pudding club on a Tuesday evening, which will be less about the puddings and more about the fun and friendship. No professional chefs! A regular club to meet in our houses to try everyone's pudding / pie etc, and then drink some wine and have a good chat. Anyone interested? If so, please contact me on kempsterann@gmail.com



Advent Bible Study

Come along to The Salvation Army at 2 pm on the four Monday afternoons leading up to Christmas, where we will be exploring the four central themes to Advent and Christmas:

Monday 29 November 'Hope' Monday 6 December 'Peace' Monday 13 December 'Joy' Monday 20 December 'Love'

You will be assured a warm welcome and a hot cuppa.

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Age Concern NORTHALL & DISTRICT WEDNESDAY CLUB



Charity No. 293080

Northall & District Wednesday Club Members and Committee would like to thank all the businesses who supported us with donations for the Harvest Auction 2021.

We also want to thank all the individual donors and generous bidders who contributed to the event.

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Down the Lane

From my kitchen window I can see a spindle tree (Euonymus europaeus) in the garden. At present its foliage is a dazzling orange and red and it has pretty, red berries. This is a native tree, and the wood was used to make spindles as well as toothpicks and knitting needles. The leaves start to turn purple in August and the colours continue until November making it a star performer in the garden.

While I was walking around the garden today, I noticed lots of bees flying around a bare patch of soil. They were burrowing into the soil, making volcano shapes about 4 cm diameter. The soil looked like a miniature version of the surface of the moon! I took some photos, but it's difficult to see the surreal effect. I have discovered that the bees are Ivy Mining Bees, solitary bees, which were first found in this country in 2001, on the south coast, and are gradually spreading



Burrows and volcano shapes made by the Ivy Mining Bees

north according to the Bumble Bee Conservation Trust. Their main food is the nectar

Ivy Mining Bee

from ivy which flowers in September.

Many of the plants in the garden now have seed heads, great food for the birds. The sedums are spectacular this year. Some of them are tall and soon look untidy. I have staked some plants which seems to keep them upright but, next year I will cut some down by a third in May (give them the Chelsea chop). They will flower later with shorter stems, so I hope they won't flop around so much.

I have some flower beds underneath a north-facing wall and am slowly finding plants which will grow in them. Some ferns tolerate these dry

dark positions as well as hellebores and Cotoneaster horizontalis. I have now established some Japanese anemones. Their white flowers really stand out in the shadows. Solomon's Seal is another plant which does well in the shade. It has graceful dark green foliage which lasts all summer and pretty, white flowers in May. Some Solomon's Seal grows in sunny beds but is destroyed by sawfly every year, leaving bare stems, The plants still grow back the next year. So far, the sawfly hasn't discovered the plants in the shade!

My tubs of geraniums have been glorious this year. It seems a pity to dig up the plants when they are still flowering well but I'm replacing them with tiarellas, heucheras, violas and bulbs for the winter and want them to establish while the soil is still warm.



Sedums



Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going A little Church with strong local links

All things bright and beautiful All creatures great and small All things wise and wonderful

'Twas God that made them all This well known song is often sung in Church, at weddings and school assemblies. But do we think about the words? Do we believe that God made them all? If not, where do all the good things come from? Is it chance? We have just had this year's harvest. We live in the country and

have witnessed the tractors and combine harvesters around our country roads and in the fields. Again Churches and schools have sung 'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the ground'. The chorus goes

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

James 1 v 17 says 'Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights who does not change like shifting shadows'.

The song continues to explain the harvest

....but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand; he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain

There is much concern over the state of the world and whether there will be enough food to feed everyone for years to come. Many even today are going hungry because crops are failing because of global warming and the changing weather conditions. We have a responsibility to preserve the goodness of God's perfect creation.



We have just enjoyed the amazing garden creations at Chelsea Flower Show, delayed this year due to Covid. This made it a very different display because of the Autumn flowers instead of the usual Spring flowers.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures, Sarah Eberle won a gold medal for the Bible Society with her depiction of Psalm 23:

Many famous stars and dignitaries congratulated Sarah on her garden. I wonder how many remembered all the good gifts that have been sent from heaven above?

Our Sunday services, are now back in Church 11 am. Feel free to join us for our worship and song. You will get a warm welcome.

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

LOCAL HERALDRY BY JOHN HOCKEY

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

WEST WYCOMBE PARK

This is another part of Buckinghamshire, quite a way from the EDaN parish and was home to the famous Dashwood family who were Baronets.

The arms were granted in 1662 to Francis Dashwood 'late an Alderman of London'. His son was Chancellor of the Exchequer and a founder member of the Society of Dilettanti (!) The arms are described or blazoned as Argent on a Fess double cotised Gules three Griffin's Heads erased Or. A cotise is a thin band to the side and parallel with a thicker band – in this case the horizontal Fess in the middle of the shield. Double cotised means there are two thin bands each side. The Griffin's heads are erased which means torn off leaving a ragged edge. The gold (Or) of the Griffin contrasts nicely with the red (Gules) of the central Fess.



A Griffin was a mythological animal combining the majesty of both a lion and an eagle to show strength and vigilance. (Later this beast was chosen as the emblem of Vauxhall Motors Limited – another local heraldic connection).

From 1707 the arms also showed the red hand of Ulster, the badge of the baronetage.

Next time: more local heraldry



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Bilesborough W.L.

I'm happy to report that the pioneer spirit lives on in Edlesborough as on Tuesday September 14th approximately 30 intrepid ladies arrived at the Memorial Hall for the 1st meeting of the Institute post Covid (hopefully). Thank you to all of you including the 5 new ladies for coming, we just hoped you would. We did our best to comply with social distancing, but this fell apart a bit at the end of the evening, when we nattered and enjoyed a "cuppa" as we had a lot of catching up to do.

We were not at all sure a week before if our speaker was coming, but he did, and he said he was a little disturbed since it was the 1st time for many months that he had a "live" audience. Chris Lowe gave us an insight into the origins of the RNLI and the sterling work that is still carried out saving lives at sea. Not just people, but cats and dogs too.



The RLNI was started in the Isle of Man in the 1800s by Sir William Hillary with engineless boats, which, of course had to be physically rowed by a team of men. Nowadays of course, all the lifeboats have engines. The idea of lifeboats soon caught on and by the mid-1800s there were 350 stations covering Ireland and Great Britain manned by volunteers. Nowadays there are 5500 active Lifeboat members, both men and women. The main HQ and Lifeboat Training College is at Poole and the busiest station is on the Thames beach in London, near the Tower of London.

The active life for a life boat is currently 25 years but a new two and a half million Shannon class boat is under construction and it is hoped

that this will last and be active for 50 years. The RNLI is still



funded by voluntary contributions from the general public. The lifeboat men and women are unpaid volunteers and come from all walks of life and they all have to submit to the same vigorous training with additional training if they wish to become helmsmen or women.

Chris had obviously spent a lot of time visiting Life Boat stations around the country and talking to the men and women which enabled him to give us an interesting and enlightening talk. We learnt a great deal about the working of the RNLI as an Institution and Chris insisted on telling us that the most important part of the RNLI is its people – once a lifeboat man always a lifeboat man (or woman)

We meet at Edlesborough Memorial Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

Sue Parker 221416

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Eaton Bray History

Eaton Bray Parish Workhouse (courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)

When the word workhouse is used people normally think of the large, grim 19th century institutions housing hundreds of people in ways not dissimilar to a prison. Such institutions were created by the Poor Amendment Act of 1834. Before this many parishes had their own workhouses, where the old, the sick and the poor and unemployed and those who could not afford rent on a house of their own, were obliged to stay and carry out what work they could to earn their keep. These were, no doubt, grim but were usually not large.

We do not know where the workhouse stood in Eaton Bray in the 18th century but it was built of brick with some wood and stone. It had a barn and possibly other outbuildings. The roods of both house and barn were thatched, but there must have been some tiled parts, as three hundred tiles were purchased for nine shillings in 1780. It is doubtful whether any part of the roof was in a very good state, for villagers such as "Henery" Barns and Thomas Foskey were often patching it up for a few shillings. The general structure of the house was equally unreliable, judging by the frequent repairs carried out. The cost was usually calculated in shillings, but occasionally major changes took place. One such event was in 1779 when £17-15-0 was spent on the building. The accounts suggest that a small extension may have been built, or perhaps there was a serious attempt to improve the structure. The records note loads of wood, lime and stones being procured, besides 3,400 bricks, which cost ten shillings for every five hundred. Many men were paid for their "whourk", including Thomas Smith, who received "for whinders ... £1-7-3"; the same account shows 4/6 paid for three casements. Perhaps the inmates had little respect for their glass

windows, for in the next year we find Thomas again "glassing at the workhouse" and charging nearly a pound.

The workhouse had two storeys. Downstairs were the "dwelling house" (presumably a living room), the brew house and the pantry. In 1783 the upper storey was described as consisting of Mr. Groom's room, Tompkins' chamber, the middle room and at least two others. The furniture was not luxurious but sufficed for the few paupers who would live there. In the living room were three tables, one large and two small, a frame, an old chest, "I box iron with two pads, I oaken stool and 1 water pail, 1 pitcher, 5 dishes and a ladle". Round the fire were tongs, bellows, hooks and dog irons. The other cooking and eating utensils were kept in the pantry and brewhouse, including five kettles of different sizes. Yet even these were not new and had to be mended by Richard Janes in September 1780. There were also seven earthen and three wooden dishes, two earthen pans, two quart bottles, a pewter "tankard" and a porringer. The one beef fork and hatchet were, presumably, also used in the preparation of food.

Lighting was supplied by candles. The pantry had "one standing candlestick" and five others. Perhaps in the living room they made do with the light from the fire or else went to bed.

The six bedsteads were upstairs, but of course we cannot tell how many might sleep in a bed. On cold winter nights there would have been some advantage in sharing with one or two others, for the house only boasted twelve blankets. There were more sheets: "linen 11 pair" and one single sheet. The quality of the mattresses varied. There was one feather bed, perhaps Mr. Groom's, three feather pillows and two flock ones, besides

three bolsters of an unspecified type and "1 bed ticken". Most of the poor, however, probably slept on straw or hair-stuffed mattresses. In March 1778 two shillings was paid for "straw to straw the beds", again in May 1779 Francis Sebrook supplied one pound's worth of "stra" and in 1786 sixpence was laid out "for straw for the pore howse to straw there beds". Occasionally there was need for new bedclothes. In 1785 Widow Brown was paid sixpence "for making a bed tick for the house". In the same year the parish paid eighteen shillings "for pear of sheets an making for the pore house". Sometimes too the workhouse property was used elsewhere in the village, if a sick pauper was being cared for in someone's house. In 1783 among the workhouse furniture was "Henry Roger's bed at Gayton's consisting of 2 blankets, 2 sheets and one bolster". Two years earlier "Henery" Rogers had had a bad foot which had been cured by Mary Gadsden, but perhaps he now had a recurrence of the same trouble.

The inhabitants of the workhouse were not a very healthy collection of people. No doubt the straw on which they slept harboured various small creatures. The overseers were worried on several occasions in the eighteenth century about the "itch" and in May 1781 were willing to pay a shilling "for curing Robins of the itch". Many of the poor must have been very dirty when they arrived. Perhaps this is referred to in the entry for July 1783: "For sope when King's girl left Mr. Roberts. 1d." The really sick, however, were usually moved out and cared for elsewhere. In 1782 Ann carter was "nosen and cipen [nursing and keeping] Betey Floyed". Next year William Pratt was very ill. Two shillings was spent on wine for him and another florin was paid to "Elizabeth Stone for nusin Prats". As a result of this treatment the pauper recovered. Another patient was "Filep Humfrey" who was nursed through the smallpox by "Marey Ealegman" in 1788. When local remedies and nursing had no result a doctor had to be called in and of course he charged the parish for his services. In 1780 this amounted to three guineas.

Not every pauper recovered from his illness, but a death brought more expense to the parish. At Easter 1785 they paid "for berying the Fowler child" but the cost was only 7/4. For adults there was more to be done. Beer and sometimes bread and cheese were provided for the bearers and John Mitchell, the village carpenter, charged ten shillings for a coffin.

The birth of a child in the workhouse was another time when the "governor" might call out the doctor, although this probably only happened in difficult cases. Many of the babies were illegitimate and when possible the parish officers tried to find the father and make him pay not only for the expense at the birth but also towards the maintenance of the child. Costs could be comparatively high: in 1781 the overseers paid 8/6 for childbed linen for M. Quick. It might be considered worthwhile to force a couple to marry and even to pay their expenses in order to save the parish later costs of looking after illegitimate children. In 1783 it is recorded that they "paid the Expenses of Nathaniel Gurney's Wedding Licence etc. included -£8-8-11". Couples were usually only married by licence if there was a reason to speed up the procedure. A child born before the wedding might be the parish's responsibility, but a married man had to provide for his own child. In February 1784 there must have been less of an emergency. Robert Cooper was married in the normal way at a cost of £1-15-0 to the overseers.

As Eaton Bray was a country parish it would seem unlikely that there were ever large numbers accommodated in the workhouse in the eighteenth century. There would be a few who were old and infirm, possibly the occasional unmarried mother and her family and sometimes those who were homeless and out of work. As its name suggests the workhouse was intended to be an industrious centre where the poor earned at least their keep. Later on in the next century when the manager of the workhouse received 2/6 per head per week for his charges, he was paid nothing for those who were able to work and pay for themselves. We have little information about the work provided in Eaton Bray. Certainly hemp was bought for spinning. In November 1787 the overseers "Paid for 6 pound hemp - 3/6. Spinen 3/0". They also gave John Gray 12/1- "for weaven 38 ells and half cloth" in 1788. A less satisfying job is described in 1786 when John Turvey received four shillings "for picking of stones".

Weaving and spinning was probably carried out inside the workhouse in the "dwelling house" and no doubt meals were taken in the same room. That would mean there was only one room to heat. Wood was burnt in the fireplace and sometimes "fuz" [furze] such as that which was bought from John Bull for 3/6 in 1787.

It is doubtful whether the paupers had a very interesting diet. The existence of a brew house would suggest that they drank their own beer, just as the beef fork in the pantry must indicate that they ate some beef. There was also a pottage pot. In 1784 Thomas Ellingham received 1/10¼ for providing bread for the poor and since the overseers supplied cheese at funerals we may assume that this was part of the workhouse diet.

The inmates had also to be clothed. The parish tailor appears to have had a thriving there. In August 1779 the overseers paid "for close for the poor in the workhouse ... £3-13-0" and in 1787 there was "Bryan Mouse's bill for cloos" which amounted to £9-17-8. At other times clothes were bought singly. John Gody was given a pair of "stockns"

in October 1787, while Tim Jeffs was constantly receiving garments in the 1780s. In 1785 it was a "wasket an frock" and in 1787 "a pair of brichees". He was hard on his shoes too. In July he had a pair mended, but by August the parish was providing 2a pair of High Shoes for Tim. Jffs". He may have been a child who grew out of things as soon as they were made. Shoes were a heavy expense for everyone but there were several shoemakers willing to make and mend. In 1787 four of them sent in their bills ranging from four shillings to 17/5.

Although living in the eighteenth century workhouse did not have the stigma which was introduced with the new Poor Law in 1834, it would seem that it was never a place to which a parishioner would go from choice. Few would wish to stay long in the old building, sharing the chamber pots, the one hair brush and the eightpenny comb supplied by the parish, sleeping on straw or hair beds and receiving when necessary a dose of the parish's "treckel and brimstone".





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Salvation Envelope Appeal Thank You

A huge thank you to residents of Eaton Bray and Edlesborough for supporting the work of The Salvation Army through the envelope appeal. We are indebted to the NISA Supermarket and Janes Ltd for allowing us to leave buckets in their stores for the collection. The money raised will be used in the community to provide relief and assistance to those who are less fortunate.

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Your Photos





Young bird by Brian Dumpleton

Hockeridge Wood by Joshua Day

A cold morning at the reservoirs

by Richard Woodhead





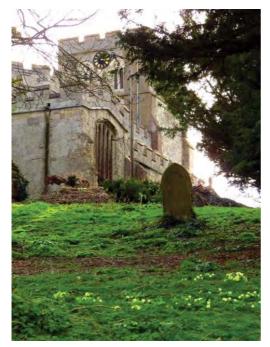
Your Photos

Ashridge by Brian Russell

A male great tit by Adrian Lewis

Edlesborough Church by John Hockey





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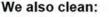








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Nigel's Thoughts

Dear Friends.

A few weeks ago I was listening to a local radio station and heard again the moving track from Jeff Wayne's 'War of the World's' – 'Forever Autumn' (sung by Justin Hayward of The Moody Blues).



November is the month of Remembrance and includes All Saints Day,

Remembrance Sunday and before the month is out, Advent Sunday. This is the time of year when we turn, look back, give thanks and resolve to move forward in the love and grace of god to receive the new life that he offers in Jesus.

It would be so easy to look back over our shoulders, somewhat desolately, and harbour our loss of loved ones, with sadness as Jeff Wayne does

"The summer sun is fading as the year grows old And darker days are drawing near The winter winds will be much colder Now you're not here"

Yet we do not have to feel abandoned and alone, for we and all our loved ones are safely held, forever in God's amazing love - in this life and then for all eternity.

Jesus said "I am with you always [remaining with you perpetually - regardless of circumstance, and on every occasion], even to the end of the world." (Matthew 28 verse 20)

Indeed as Charles Wesley put it in one of his hymns "Your love each believer shall gladly adore, For ever and ever, when time is no more".

May the peace of God surround and enfold you and yours.

≪Nigel

Eaton Bray Cricket Club

The club would like to thank all who gave their time to join the working parties over the past weeks. The wicket has been dressed and seeded and preparation has been made for our two new net lanes.



It's been a good season with the 1st X1 becoming champions of the FCCL Division 2 and the Sunday X1 gaining promotion to Division 4 of the Beds Sunday League. Much of the success is down to Captain Andy Norris selection policy of giving the youth a chance. This along with a mix of some very experienced players has worked well.

The Youth Section itself again attracted some 70+ players and I'm told that many parents enjoyed the facilities at Wednesday evening training. A nice touch was the appearance of Ex England Captain Alastair Cook at the presentation night.

The new 2020 Village competition was very popular with finals day held at the Rye Gardens on August Bank Holiday Monday drawing more than a decent crowd and being won by Studham. Our thanks go to all teams who took part and for the helpers on the day. We also had our first Ladies Softball Cricket day with again a good turn out from players and spectators alike. Special thanks go to Olney Cricket Club who sent a very large squad. Thanks also to our own Ladies who turned out in good numbers.

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 support during the 2021 season.

We will certainly be going into 2022 in better fettle because of the above.



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1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Group Camp 24th to 26th September 2021



Three years ago, I started volunteering for the 1st Eaton Bray and Edlesborough (1EBE) Scout Group, first on the committee but now also as a Section Assistant, actively helping at both Cubs and Scouts meetings.

In the last weekend of September, I had the privilege to attend my first 1EBE group camp where we took 70 local Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (ages ranging from 6 to 14) to Phasels Wood in Kings Langley. Our mission was simple: after several lockdowns and months of being stuck indoors, we wanted to take our members away from the screens and gadgets to which they'd become attached and give them a weekend of fun and mayhem they would remember for many, many years. For some of our younger members this was their first time camping and for some it was their first night spent away from their family.

Our members joined us Friday evening where we just had enough time to stuff down some hot-dogs and have a quick wide-game hunting glow sticks in the mist and dark. Then it was hot chocolate and a campfire before three hours of (unsuccessfully) trying to keep overexcited children in their tents and settle them down to sleep.



On Saturday we divided into mixed groups of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and moved between the activities we'd organised, including soft archery, rifle shooting, bottle rockets, water balloon catapults and (of course) a giant inflatable obstacle course (which I think the adults secretly enjoyed just as much as the kids). It was fantastic to see our older Scouts helping the young Beavers throughout the day with cocking and loading rifles, loading bows, or even just offering a friendly piggyback ride.







To the delight of all, a giant waterslide was created out of a huge sheet of tarpaulin, a handy hill and plenty of water and washing up liquid. A happy hour was spent with everyone slipsliding down that hill, to the jealous stares from onlookers from the other Scout groups. The evening again finished with hot chocolate and campfires with songs, games and storytelling. The day had taken its toll and there were no complaints about going to bed this time. The camp fell completely silent well before midnight.





Sunday morning, we made use of the facilities provided by Phasels Wood, including a low rope course, pedal car racing and the Cresta Run. Scouts being Scouts dared each other to forgo the brakes on the Cresta Run and crash into the tyres at the end of the track.

But it was all over too soon, and it was time to break camp and make our weary way home, the world now seemed strangely quiet without a young person asking, 'when's the tuck shop open?' every few minutes.

The weekend was a huge success. I'm delighted to say we sent your children home smelly, dirty, completely exhausted, probably missing some socks, but very, very happy and with memories that will last for many years to come. One Scout even said to me 'I wish we could stay for the whole week'

I feel extremely lucky to be involved with 1EBE Scout Group and to see first-hand the enjoyment this group camp, and our regular meetings, brings to our members.

Support your local Scout Group

As a parent, I cannot thank enough the hard work of the Section Leaders that provide such a varied programme of events and experiences such as these for our young villagers. They are all volunteers, and they give up their time selflessly to benefit the lives of our children. On behalf of 1EBE Scout Group I also thank the parent volunteers who attended camp to assist us throughout the weekend, without whom it would not have been possible to accommodate so many. By the Sunday, we were all physically exhausted and were thankful for the support of the many parents who assisted us with breaking down tents, packing away or unloading the vans at the hut, you saved us hours of work.

Our Scout Group relies on local support. We had a successful day at the village carnival and thank you to everyone who visited our BBQ stand. Please consider nominating us as your charity of choice if making a charitable donation or using Amazon Smile. Consider us if you have redundant tents or camping equipment you no longer need (good condition only please). Perhaps you can assist with hut maintenance (repairs, boiler servicing, plumbing etc). Or maybe, reading this, you'd like to become a volunteer in Scouting. We'd love to hear from you. Contact us on ebesecretary@ebescouts.co.uk.

Greater One-Horned Rhino Hugo had Cataracts Removed to Save Sight at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Zookeepers noticed that Hugo, a 19-year-old, Greater-one-horned rhino (Rhinoceros unicornis) had started bumping into logs and other structures in his paddock at the leading conservation zoo.

An examination found that the lenses in his eyes had become cloudy, and had drastically impacted Hugo's eyesight, so the Zoo's vets called on the services of specialist veterinary ophthalmologist, Claudia Hartley, to perform cataract surgery - the first time the procedure had ever been performed on the species at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.

Given an anaesthetic by dart for the op, Hugo initially laid himself down in the corner of his den on his right side - the side that vets needed access to. This meant a team of keepers and vets had to roll and move the colossal creature, who weighs over one and a-half tons, into position for the procedure. Senior Veterinary Officer Dr Fieke Molenaar explained: "After we administered the anaesthetic to Hugo, he fell asleep on his right-hand-side, which was the side we needed to treat, so we had to get every single keeper there to help pull him out of the corner and roll him onto his left-hand-side. After that, we had to carefully lift and position his head, which is, in itself, incredibly heavy, so that it was in the right place and angle for the microscope."

Keepers and vets had to be especially careful not to touch their own faces after touching Hugo, as the amount of powerful anaesthetic required to tranquilise a rhino of his size, which could have remained on his skin or in his bodily fluids, was strong enough to kill 14 people.

Dr Molenaar continued: "Hugo's eye had to remain completely still for the microscopic incision, so several sutures, or stitches, were put into the eye tissue, to anchor it. We had to ensure that Hugo remained asleep enough throughout the procedure that he didn't blink and break the sutures, but not so anaesthetised that his heartbeat or breathing slowed down too much."

Two keepers took it in turns throughout the operation to hold Hugo's ear upright, so that the anaesthetic could be continuously administered through an IV into a blood vessel in his ear.



After the cloudy lens had been successfully removed from his eye, keepers massaged and used ropes to shake Hugo's enormous legs, in order to improve his circulation, so that he could stand up as soon as he came round from the anaesthesia. Fieke Molenaar added: "Since the operation, Hugo has recovered brilliantly, and with the lens removed, is able to see again. It's wonderful to be part of such a life-changing operation, and even better to see Hugo back out and about, not bumping into things anymore! We're elated about it, and I'm sure Hugo is too."

Best known for its own colossal beasts that graze enormous enclosures, like the Zoo's two herds of prehistoric looking rhinoceroses, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is home to over 9,500

amazing animals, including Amur tigers, spritely squirrel monkeys and adorable otters.

Proudly helping to protect threatened species, the UK's largest Zoo has contributed to reintroductions of extinct-in-the-wild species, such as the Przewalski's horse and the Scimitar Horned Oryx, and shares veterinary experience learned from procedures such as these with its global networks. Through their entry fee, every visitor contributes to ZSL's worldwide conservation work for animals and their habitats.

Visitors can see Hugo and the rest of his 'crash' of Greater one-horned rhinos at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo by booking tickets at www.zsl.org

Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for September 2021

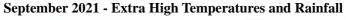
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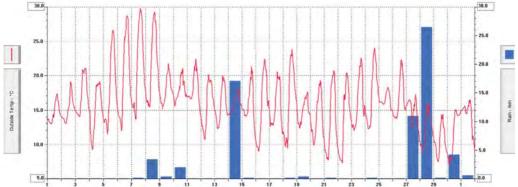


September was a warm month with long periods of sunshine. It started cloudy and dry on the 5th before the temperature started to rise and we had four days of very warm weather reaching a high of 29.9°c on the 7th.

The next few days saw some light showers while the temperatures stayed in the twenties. The 14th was a wet day, we then continued with warm and partly sunny days until the 27th when it became unsettled. Temperatures dropped and we had longer spells of rain and showers to finish off the month. Although it seemed a dry September, we did have 66mm of rain which is more than the average for the time of year. The wettest day was the 22nd when we had 26.4mm of rain. We recorded 18 days when the temperature was above 20°c, four of which were above 25°c. It was a great way to move into autumn after a strange summer.

| | High | Date/Time | | Low | Date/Time |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| Temperature: | 29.9 ° c | 7 Sept 16.30 | | 6.8 ° c | 30 Sept 02.30 |
| Mean Temperature | 16.0 ° c | | | | |
| Dewpoint: | 18.5 ° c | 6 Sept 13.30 | | 4.8 ° c | 30 Sept 02.00 |
| Humidity: | 95% | 12 days Sept | | 38% | 8 Sept 14.00 |
| Barometer: | 1031.7 mb | 1Sept 10.30 | | 999.8 mb | 27 Sept 08.30 |
| Wind Speed | 33 mph W | 6 Sept 12.30 | | Months avg. | 4.3 mph |
| Wind Chill: | 29.5 ° c | 7 Sept 16.00 | | 5.7 ° c | 29 Sept 07.30 |
| Dominant Wind: | S | | | | |
| Rainfall * T = total rain days and moisture. R = Actual rain | | | | | |
| *Rain Days: 14(T), 1 | 4(R) Wet | test Day 22 Sept | | 26.4 mm | 1.039 ins |
| Monthly Rain: | Total | Sept 2021 | | 66.0 mm | 2.598 ins |
| Yearly Rain: | Total | 9 Months | | 586.9 mm | 23.106 ins |





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Salvation Sound

Eaton Bray Salvation Army

'Tell me a story'





How many of us like to hear or read a good story? Only this week at our coffee morning on our table of various goods were many different kinds of books to read. Many of the authors I was not familiar with, but they made a good talking point when browsing with other people as they looked for their favourite author.

For myself, the stories I like to read come from the pen of Jeffrey Archer. I also enjoy the authoress Anne Cleaves whose books have been immortalised in the television series Vera with Brenda Blethyn as the main character.

Everyone loves a good story. Whether it's hearing about a friend's life, reading a classic novel, or watching a cinematic adventure, there's something distinctly human about appreciating stories. There are countless names that have earned the "top tier storyteller" title: Shakespeare, Tolkien, Twain, Poe, along with modern classics like Rowling. Jesus in the New Testament was a great master of storytelling. They were not stories that were too difficult to understand, but Jesus had the gift of telling stories about so many things that his hearers would be able to identify with.

Jesus was the master storyteller. Yes, Jesus of Nazareth of The Bible. Now regardless of one's thoughts and opinions on the person of Jesus, one thing is for sure; He was quite the storyteller. He was telling parables and using metaphors before it was considered artsy or trendy He'd say, "Hey, did you hear the one about..." and then tell a parable to teach a truth.

In fact, the Bible shows that storytelling was Jesus' favourite technique when speaking to the crowd: "Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable" (Matthew 13:34).

Somehow we forget that the Bible is a book of God-inspired stories! That's how God has chosen to communicate his Word to human beings.

There are many benefits to using stories to communicate spiritual truth:

Stories hold our attention. The reason television became so popular is because it's essentially a story-telling device, whether you're watching comedy, drama, the news, or a talk show. Even the commercials are stories.

Stories stir our emotions. They impact us in ways that precepts and propositions never do. If you want to change lives, you must craft the message for impact, not for information.

Stories help us remember. Long after the outline is forgotten, people will remember the stories of the sermon.

However, as we approach Christmas, which is coming very quickly, the greatest story ever told was when Jesus was the star character- the Messiah, The Saviour of the World. Jesus sent His Son into the world. He was not born in a palace, but in a stable with the animals. He was not born to royalty, but had parents who were ordinary, down to earth people, but God chose them to be his parents and for Jesus to be born.

Why not this December 1st read a chapter a day from St Mark's Gospel. This tells the story of Jesus from birth to his death and Resurrection.

As I was preparing this thought old words from a song that we used to sing came to mind: -

Tell me the story of Jesus Write on my heart every word; Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard. Tell how the angels in chorus Sang, as they welcomed his birth: Glory to God in the highest, Peace and good tidings to earth! Tell me the story of Jesus Write on my heart every word; Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard. Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)



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