May 2023

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Eaton Bray

Good

adiacent villaaes EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL Becoming a Parish Councillor For Eaton Bray "ľm passionate "I want to have an "I want to be about influence on part of improving **Parish Council** decisions my village" spending" affecting my area" **BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR** For more details, please contact the Parish Clerk (t) 07931 479663 - (e) clerk@ebpc.co.uk - (w) ebpc.co.uk

The Focus Magazine 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. Seditor

Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Diary

Weekly



Mon-Sun St. Mary's Edlesborough opening times are currently very limited Please see notice board and website Mon-Fri (term) Eaton Bray Pre-school, Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec 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. Mon-Fri (term) co.uk Pilates, 10.45am, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa; 07832 230774 Mondavs Dagnall Community Choir, All Saints Church 7.45-9.45pm, w:dagnall-community-choir.co.uk Mondays Mondays (term) Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall VH 2-3.30. Jan 01442 864271. Mondays KFPA ISTD ballet classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4pm-6.30pm (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/KFPA' for info Mondays Cubs (8-10 1/2 years old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550 Yoga, 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302 Mondays Mondays Barre, 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302 Mondays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 4-7pm mini / junior tennis coaching Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 7-8pm Adult Coaching 'Get Back Into Tennis' Mondays Pilates, 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680 Tuesdays Tottemhoe Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30-11.15am, St. Giles Church Hall, Ruth Allen, 01525 Tuesdays 222468 or 07796 265174 or email ruthallen002@gmail.com 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, Tuesdays Fortnightly Eaton Bray Keep Fit class, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 11 - 12noon Tuesdays Jazzercise 9:15-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Annis, annisjazzercise@gmail.com 07447 409666 Tuesdays Eaton Bray Tennis Club - 6-7.30pm Social play for all adults Tuesdays Tuesdays Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Kids, 5.45pm-6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785 Tuesdays Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Adults, 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785 Wednesdays Pilates, 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774 Wednesdays Northall & District Age Concern Wednesday Club, 10am - 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Contact Dee on 07854 230243 Wednesdays Art Course online 9.30 -11.30 am, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660 Art Course, Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660 Wednesdays 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 Wednesdays Pilates 6-7pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Heather Holmes, 07305 023077 pilateswithheather@ mail.com KFPA Street dance classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+) Thursdays Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info Thursdays Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Adults 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 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 Explorers Scouts (14-18 years old), 8pm-9.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, Thursdays High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Simon Betts, simon betts@hotmail.com. 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. Thursdays www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864212171 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

Village Diary

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
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	KFPA Musical theatre classes, Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
Sundays	Sunday Worship at 11am, Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525 222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com
Sundays	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	Book Swap at St Mary's Eaton Bray, 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
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 May	The Big Help Out Cubs Litter Picking - Contact 01442 842550
12th May	Dunstable U3A Choir Concert for Christian Aid, 7:30pm, Eaton Bray Methodist Church
19-21 May	The 1st Edlesborough Shakespeare Festival, St Mary's Church, Edlesborough, Tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk (type Edlesborough Shakespeare in the Find Event box
26th May	Age Concern Wednesday Club Music Quiz, 7:30pm, Northall Village Hall, £10, book: 07887 944326
27th May	Repair Cafe, Ivinghoe Village Hub

Birds of Bray Newspapers wanted regularly Can collect Please call Chris or Sue Mitchell on 01525 221128 Answer machine in use if unavailable

The paper used for this magazine is sourced from sustainable forests and can be recycled



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EDaN Community Transport Peter Williams: 01442 842506



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

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

Thames Valley Police (Edlesborough, Dagnall & Northall) PCSO Jackie Dodson

Email: greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

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





We are looking for volunteer drivers and conductors to help with transporting the members to and from their homes on our minibus. This would be on a rota system, depending on the number of volunteers.

Call 07854 230243 if you can help.



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

Christian Aid has been raising money for some of the world's most disadvantaged communities for 70 years. It began in the 1940s in the aftermath of the Second World War as British and Irish church leaders were determined to help European refugees who had lost everything. Their purpose was not to evangelise, but to help ease the suffering of ordinary people no matter what their faith.

As the organisation grew it was named Christian Aid. The focus was to combat poverty not just in Europe but across the world. During the 1950s and 1960s it became apparent that treating the symptoms of poverty was not enough. More needed to be done to tackle the root causes. Severe famines in Pakistan, Sudan and Ethiopia in the 1970s prompted a huge rise in public support for aid. Alongside emergency relief, there was growing investment in long term projects to help poor communities become more sustainable. Through global events like Live Aid in the 1980s and through high profile endorsement more people were giving to aid agencies. Christian Aid's annual income increased from $\pounds 5.5$ million in 1979 to $\pounds 28$ million in 1989.

'Christian Aid week' became an annual event. Door to door collections raised much of the money, but there were numerous other events too. I still have my certificate from completing a 25 mile sponsored walk when I was a teenager. With my two sisters and many others, we walked along the country lanes near where we lived in Leicestershire, stopping at various checkpoints to receive drinks, first aid for weary feet and lots of encouragement. Events like these raised both the profile and the income and left participants with a great sense of achievement.

In the 1990s, Christian Aid was at the forefront of the campaign to cancel third world debt. When countries were paying huge interest on loans, sometimes almost as much as their annual GDP, how could they hope to break the cycle of poverty? As the campaign to cancel the debt gathered momentum, it became part of the Jubilee 2000 coalition. Many of Jubilee 2000's pledges were adopted by the G8 summit and had a huge impact. Mozambique had its debt repayments reduced from £127 million to £52 million allowing more to be spent on housing and hospitals. In Uganda, £715 million of debt relief was used to double primary school enrolment. (Source: Larry Elliott, 'The Guardian' 27/11/2000)

Despite such encouraging progress, almost half the world's population still live on less than US\$2 a day. There remains much to be done. Christian Aid works with more than 650 overseas partners in 50 countries. They continue to help alleviate poverty and tackle some of its root causes to deliver real, practical change. More recently, the effects of the Covid pandemic has led to the end of Christian Aid week's house to house

collections in our villages. There will, however, be events run by the village churches during Christian Aid week between May 14th and 20th to raise money to support their vital work. Or you can donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk. Just as important is Christian Aid's focus on climate change and its impact on the poorest communities in

the world. By prayer, giving and campaigning Christian Aid aims to provide humanitarian relief and long-term development support for poor communities worldwide, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice, and championing people's rights. I hope you will feel able to support this work.

With every blessing, ∠Joy, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough





Details and ONLINE WORSHIP: www.stmaryseatonbray.org.uk

Dagnall Church Services



Sun. 21st May 10.30 am Holy Communion

For any gueries please contact Philip Lee on 07977 234453 or Dorothy Green on 01442 843237

Danstable Probas Glab

Dunstable PROBUS Club meets on the second Monday of the month at Tilsworth Golf Centre and membership is open to retired or semiretired professional and business people. The Club's main purpose is the promotion of good fellowship. Members enjoy some social activities and the occasional organised visit throughout the year and after their regular monthly lunch meetings are entertained by speakers who give talks on a wide range of topics. If you are interested in joining the Club, please contact the Secretary, Philip Savage on 01582 662462.



Age Concern NORTHALL & DISTRICT WEDNESDAY CLUB



Charity No. 293080

Mayhem & Celebrations

Thank you to all who donated & supported our Easter Raffle - I'm not sure on the total raised but looking at the array of prizes on offer fingers crossed for a good btotal.

Next month we have lots going on:

- Coronation Day (at Club) shall be celebrated on the 10th - lots of afternoon tea items & patriotic bunting I'm sure!
- Our first Music Quiz night 26th May Northall Village Hall, £10 per head includes a 2 course meal bring your own drinks & snacks! Organised by the two Lyn(ne's)
- Coach & Canal Trip arranged for the 31st lunch included ... last year we enjoyed an amazing fish & chip takeaway!

Don't forget to save the popular Harvest Auction date 6.10.23.

As ever we are pleased to Welcome enquiries for:

- Regular Rota Volunteers: Help in the Kitchen, Mini-Bus Drivers/Conductors
- One Off Volunteer Offers: to entertain, musical talent sharing ...
- Donations: items for fundraising & the sales table

For joining us as a Member:

Phone 07854 230243 - please leave a message & contact details - our leader Dee shall get back to you ASAP.

We're also on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/WednesdayClubNorthall/ for following and any last minute updates eg any errors I may make in dates published here in Focus.

£££Good News!£££

This winter everyone has had to contend with high energy prices to heat our homes. The Club is delighted to announce that we received a Warm Space Grant of £500 from Central Bedfordshire Council to provide a warm, safe environment for our members in the winter months at the club.

Further good news is that Councillor Philip Spicer attended a session at the Wednesday Club to find out what the club provides to the members on a weekly basis. We are pleased to announce that we have now received a Ward Councillor Grant of £500 towards the provision of hot food.

This grant will help greatly towards the rising of cost of groceries to provide a hot, nutritious meal to our members. Thank you Councillor Spicer.

Plus a big thank you to all the people who volunteer at the club, it is greatly appreciated.





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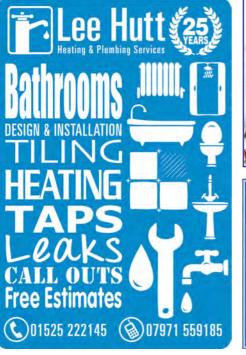
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Eaton Bray Academy is a happy, inclusive family where pupils and community are at our heart. Together we inspire children to be curious and develop a genuine love of learning to provide strong foundations for their future.

Wrap Around Care

We are pleased to provide a flexible, happy and stimulating before and after school club.

Breakfast and after school snacks are included.

7.30 - 8.50am Monday to Friday
3.30 - 5.30pm Monday to Friday

We have availability in most classes for pupils from the term after they turn two to Year 6.

Contact us to arrange a tour of our lovely village primary school.

Eaton Bray Academy

01525 220468 admin@eba.ec www.eatonbrayacademy.co.uk





In aid of St Mary's Church, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Group and other local charities & good causes.

This year the carnival will be held on Saturday 1st July 2023 with the theme of "CHILDREN'S FILMS"

THE CARNIVAL NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Carnival Committee needs people who can help in a variety of ways. If you can spare a couple of hours, or are even happy to help all day, your assistance will be gratefully received. You can help by:

- Deploying and collecting cones and road closure signage
- Assisting with bringing equipment to and from the Green, before and after the event
- · Helping on a stall
- To join our committee to help run our 2023 carnival

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

The carnival is the perfect opportunity for businesses and organisations to be part of a local community event which is attracting an ever-increasing number of visitors and gaining a reputation as one of the best rural carnivals around.

To make sure you have a presence at the carnival, the committee are urging local businesses, schools, youth groups and organisations to make contact and be part of this brilliant event. With visitors attending from all over, the carnival offers the perfect platform for businesses to gain new customers.

Just a few ways the carnival can help are:

- Advertising in the carnival arena, offering prime exposure within the heart of the carnival.
- Having a stall at the carnival. Prices are unchanged from last year.
- Donating a prize towards either the grand draw or the silent auction.

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



We've got two evenings of fabulous music for you this year, all in the unique medieval setting of our 'Church on the Hill' in Edlesborough. The bar serves real-ales, wine and Pimms all evening, so you can get there early to enjoy a drink overlooking the spectacular views across Aylesbury Vale.

On Friday June 9th we've got headliners **Rusty Shackle**, with an electrifying mix of rampant fiddle, slick guitars, hooky mandolins and banjo melodies. Having reached number 2 in the iTunes Singer Songwriter chart with their first EP, you can look forward to a tremendous finale to our opening evening.



Rusty Shackle

We also have the beautiful vocal harmonies of female duo **Roswell**, "A folk duo whose voices combine to create a seamless flow of rich, harmonic beauty" - Americana UK. And we kick off with our resident band **The Dicemen**, "Thought provoking... the Dicemen have taken their subject matter to a whole new level" – Les Ray, Cambridge 105 Radio.

And on Saturday June 10th we have *Blair Dunlop* with his band, award-winning British singer-songwriter and guitarist. "*Dunlop brings a fine repertoire of well-crafted songs spanning traditional and contemporary*." - The Independent.

We have sibling duo **Painted Sky**. "A quality act in our midst" - Northern Sky. And BBC-featured **Ellie Gowers**, who brings us beautiful vocals and song-writing to match - lean back and chill out! "Ellie Gowers' exquisite voice and unique vocal style was absolutely mesmerising. She's one to watch" - Shrewsbury Folk Festival.



Blair Dunlop

For those of you who have been before, you'll know just what a fantastic event this has become, and we look forward to seeing you again. For those of you who haven't – well maybe this is the year to come and try it! Find out more by searching online for *EdleFest, or visiting edlefest.site123.me*, by calling 07974 921923, or by email to <u>EdleFest@gmail.com</u>.

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

You can choose your night or join the increasing numbers who come for both evenings

and enjoy a weekend discount. Tickets are available in the village from Janes Flooring (cash only, please), or you can get them on-line via the website edlefest.site123.me, or by calling 01525 221744. See you there!



For THE BIG HELP OUT On Monday 8th May (marking the coronation)

Come and help 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Cubs litter-picking

Cubs will be "Helping Out" by going litter-picking in Edlesborough at 6.30pm.

Adults who would like to join in and accompany the Cubs will get the chance to experience something of what being an Adult Volunteer in Scouting involves.

Young people who would like to come along can experience a typical activity undertaken by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

To register your interest and for further details please contact the Cub Leader, Liz Coates, on 01442 842550.



Edlesborough Parish Council News Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

Grass & Hedge Cutting in the Villages

Now that the spring time has arrived the cutting of the grass verges has resumed. EPC requests that parishioners do not park on the grass verges as this causes damage to them and inconveniences the contractors.

EPC reminds all parishioners whose hedges border the pavements that they are required to ensure that their hedges are kept well-trimmed,

ensuring that the maximum pavement width is available for pedestrians, pushchair and wheelchair users.



EdleFest 2023 will take place on the 9th and 10th June. More information and tickets are available via the EdleFest website https://edlefest.site123.me/



Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting will take place on *Thursday 25th May at 7.30pm in Edlesborough Pavilion*. All parishioners are welcome to attend. The bar will be open from 7 - 7.30pm, it will then re-open again once the meeting has ended.

This meeting offers any parishioners in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall the opportunity to raise any issues. Unlike a normal Parish Council meeting, in this special meeting anyone is allowed to speak on any topic related to the parish.

Organisations that have benefitted from a Small Grant from EPC will give a short presentation on their use of the grant.

EPC additionally invites organisations based in the parish to join us and share their plans for the future and identify ways the Parish Council and/or parishioners might help to support them. Any organisation wishing to participate should contact the Clerk via clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or 01525 229358.

Recycling Bin on Edlesborough Green

In July 2022 EPC installed a blue recycling bin on Edlesborough Green. This bin was installed on a trial basis to encourage users of the Green to recycle their rubbish opposed to putting it in the green litter bins.

EPC have reviewed the trial. To date the trial has incurred the following costs;

- Purchase blue bin £203.22
- Installation of the Bin £35
- Charges from Buckinghamshire Council for contaminated waste in the recycling bin £53.60
- Total **£291.82**

At the March EPC meeting Council agreed that it would not install more blue recycling

bins until there was sufficient evidence that the current one was being used properly.

Please remember:

Green for waste that cannot be recycled. Blue for waste that can be recycled. Red for dog waste.



Celebrating our volunteer litter pickers!

EPC would like to praise and thank all the volunteers who regularly litter pick in the three villages. These volunteers work incredibly hard collecting all sorts of litter, some of it extremely unpleasant! So far this year they have collected well over 25 black sacks of rubbish! There are probably many more as many of them carry out this task quietly and dispose of the litter in their own green bins.

EPC has provided the litter pickers with over **500** large black sacks over the last year. Over 500 sacks of rubbish is an outrageous amount of litter in just one year!

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

Anyone wishing to join the volunteer litter picking team should contact the Clerk for more information.

The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Oueen Consort

Parish Council previously asked Edlesborough Parishioners for suggestions as to how they would like to celebrate this event. Unfortunately EPC has only received four responses. Due to the lack of interest EPC has taken the decision not to organise an event to mark this occasion.

EPC hopes that Parishioners enjoy marking the event with their own celebration or event, perhaps by taking part in a street party or meeting up in one of the parishes parks for a Big Lunch or picnic with their family or friends.

Ivinghoe Freight Strategy

Parishioners wishing to report vehicles they believe are breaching the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy should use the following link to do so

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/road-freight-and-heavygoods-vehicles-hgvs/report-an-hgv-using-a-road-that-has-a-weight-restriction/

You will need to provide your name, contact details and the:

- · date and time it occurred
- location of the incident
- direction of travel
- registration, make and model of vehicle (if known)

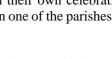
Telecom Mast on Edlesborough High Street

Mobile network operators are required to comply with a Code of best practice on mobile network development in England when seeking to deploy network infrastructure. This Code was agreed between the Planning Officers Society and a number of major telecoms companies. This Code sets out the steps that should be taken by the network operator, and also the engagement that should take place between the network operator, the local planning authority, and other interested parties, including consultation where appropriate. The code can be viewed at www.gov.uk

Any complaints regarding the process for the deployment of a mast should therefore be directed at the network operator themselves in the first instance, but it may also be appropriate to contact the local planning authority if the complaint relates to the steps that the planning authority themselves took.

While Ofcom has limited powers in this area, they can take action if they consider that a network operator has failed to comply with the Code and a complaint can be made to Ofcom if it is believed that this is the case. Their guidance on how to make a





CORONATION

bia lunch

complaint to Ofcom – including the information that will need to be submitted before they can decide whether to open an investigation - is available at https://www.ofcom. org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0013/102514/Advice-for-complainants.pdf

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

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 May 2023 in Edlesborough Pavilion
 - This meeting will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of Edlesborough Parish Council.
- Thursday 15th June 2023 Dagnall Village 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.

Clerk: Miss Penny Pataky Office hours Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm (Excl. Wed) Email: clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk 01525 229358 Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil

Open Gardens 2023

Since 2006, one of the social highlights of the year in our villages has been our Open Gardens event. We have had some wonderful afternoons enjoying gardens that have been opened by willing gardeners; both gardeners and visitors enjoying the experience in equal measure.

This year's event will be on 16th July This is a really special event in our villages' calendar, and now is the time to offer to open your garden. It can be large or small – all gardens have something to offer visitors and past experience suggests that those who open their gardens are delighted by the positive feedback they receive. Do please think about it, then get in touch with Gordon Gray (220136).

If you would be willing to open your garden in the afternoon on 16 July please ring Gordon Gray on 220136



Take a book you want to read - Leave a book you want to share The next Book Swap is at St Mary's Church on Saturday May 13th from 10.30 - 12.00 am (a week later than usual because of the Coronation) Please join us for a presentation by Diarmid Lambert from Central Bedfordshire Libraries on "Your library from home ". This will include details on how to access ebooks, audiobooks newspapers and magazines free of charge. For more information about Book Swap please contact:

Chris Sanders Jenifer MacKenzie Email: chris.sanders45@gmail.com Email: jenimackenzie@hotmail.com

The Book Swap is free and open to all adults

Dagnall Community Choir

Dagnall Community Choir is pleased to announce some upcoming events, and fundraising initiatives.

On Saturday 17th June, 7.30pm, we will be hosting a fundraising Beetle Drive at Dagnall Village Hall. All are welcome so come along and take part in this classic game to help us raise money for our choir.



We will have a raffle and prizes, so it's sure to be a great night. Tickets are £5.00 per person; please bring your own drinks and nibbles for the evening. Tickets available from choir members or phone 01525 220189.

The Choir will be running a tombola stall at St Mary's Carnival on Saturday 1st July, with bottles and other prizes to win. We look forward to seeing everyone there on the day come along for a chat to find out more about us.

Then on Saturday 29th July, we will be presenting our first concert of the year - an Afternoon Tea concert at Dagnall Village Hall. Come and join us for tea and cake while enjoying a lovely afternoon of musical entertainment. More information will be available closer to the date, so watch this space.

Dagnall Community Choir is a friendly group of people who come together to share their love of music. We meet on a Monday evening at Dagnall Church and our repertoire includes a range of styles, from musicals, contemporary songs and classical pieces. Whether you're an experienced singer or a novice, we invite you to join us. We have spaces in all sections of the choir - soprano, alto, tenor, and bass, so why not give us a try? Come along on any Monday night from 7.45 and discover your voice!

For more information about the choir, please visit our website:

www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk.

Or find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/dagnallcommunitychoir.

Eaton Bray

Many of our volunteers helped with Eaton Bray Good Lipit Good Neighbours Easter Bake during early April. We delivered boxes of cakes to villagers who had regularly used our help throughout the year. This was well received and everyone was very grateful to enjoy home Good Neighbours Easter Bake during early April. We 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.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer we would like to hear from you. Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer. We provide lifts to doctors, or hospitals, collections of shopping or medication and befriending

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

Spring

The dreary days of winter gone, mornings dark and evenings long, birds are singing in the trees Blackbirds, robins, honey bees.

Greet the coming Spring

Cherry trees, their buds unfold, daisies buttercups of gold, hedges pink, and white with May Lift their heads in colours gay.

To greet the Spring. Carrie Lovell

Poetry Corner

Have you penned a verse with local interest that we could publish in Focus? We would be happy to accommodate any budding poets.



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Daton Bray Methodist Church

On the first Sunday in the month we had a lovely service with Fiona Arscott-Smith. Her theme was God's wish for us all to go on a journey with him; this can happen at any time in life. For instance,

Abraham was 75 when he was sent to Egypt (Genesis 12 v1-8). Abraham discovered he needed to trust in God's power not his own. We all have to trust and obey. It is a journey of faith so that we end up with everlasting life. For our café service on the second Sunday we welcomed a new lay preacher, Andrea Als-McClean, whose theme focused on the story of Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. It generated lively discussions on social and spiritual relationships and we look forward with enthusiasm to the next time Andrea visits us. On Mothering Sunday, Shepherd Kombo led our service, reflecting on Hannah's long wait for a son, Samuel. The theme was one of hope; the message that faith in God makes the impossible possible. Our Circuit Superintendent, Rev Patrick Kandeh took our Communion Service on the last Sunday in March. His vigorous and stirring sermon reminded us that, as Easter approaches, we know that new opportunities will belong to us if we are prepared to live for Christ. We need to 'stand up and be counted'.

We have just heard, with great delight, that we have been awarded the ECO-Church Silver Award for practical action to promote ecological health in every aspect of church life. We are hugely grateful to Paul Wright, our ECO-Church Officer who, with the support of Jane McFarland, has guided us towards this and done all the hard work required for submitting the application.

<u>Dates for your diary</u>

Dunstable U3A Choir Concert on Friday 12th May at 7.30pmSocial AfternoonsWeekly on Thursdays 2.00pm – 4.00pmChat, meeting friends, games, refreshments. All Welcome.

A Warm Invitation

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





Saturday 6th and Monday 8th May 2023 Courtesy of www.royal.uk



Photo by Chris Jackson

Their Majesties The King and The Oueen Consort hope the Coronation Weekend will provide an opportunity to spend time and celebrate with friends, families and communities across the United Kingdom, the Realms and the

Commonwealth. Their Majesties are looking forward to marking the occasion with the public throughout 2023.

Saturday 6th May 2023

The Coronation Service at Westminster Abbey

The Coronation Service will take place on the morning of Saturday, 6th May 2023 at Westminster Abbey. The Coronation is a solemn religious service, as well as an occasion for celebration and pageantry.

Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort will arrive at Westminster Abbey in procession from Buckingham Palace, known as 'The King's Procession'.

After the Service, Their Majesties will return to Buckingham Palace in a larger ceremonial procession, known as 'The Coronation Procession'. Their Majesties will be joined in this procession by other Members of the Royal Family.

At Buckingham Palace, The King and The Queen Consort, accompanied by Members of the Royal Family, will appear on the balcony to conclude the day's ceremonial events.

Sunday 7th May 2023

The Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle

On Sunday, 7th May 2023, a special Coronation Concert will take place at Windsor Castle. Produced, staged and broadcast live by the BBC and BBC Studios, the Coronation Concert will bring global music icons and contemporary stars together in celebration of the historic occasion.

Attended by a public audience including volunteers from The King and The Queen Consort's many charity affiliations, the concert will see a world-class orchestra play interpretations of musical favourites fronted by some of the world's biggest entertainers, alongside performers from the world of dance. The performances will be supported by staging and effects located on the Castle's East Lawn and will also feature a selection of spoken word sequences delivered by stars of stage and screen.

Through a national ballot held by the BBC, several thousand members of the public have been selected to receive a pair of free tickets for the Coronation Concert at

Windsor Castle.

Alongside the stars of the concert, the show will also see an exclusive appearance from The Coronation Choir. This diverse group will be created from the nation's keenest community choirs and amateur singers from across the United Kingdom, such as Refugee choirs, NHS choirs, LGBTQ+ singing groups and deaf signing choirs. A new documentary exploring the formation of The Coronation Choir will tell the stories of the people representing the many faces and voices of the country. The Coronation Choir will appear alongside The Virtual Choir, made up of singers from across the Commonwealth, for a special performance on the night.

The centrepiece of the Coronation Concert, 'Lighting up the Nation', will see the country join together in celebration as iconic locations across the United Kingdom are lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.

The Coronation Concert will be produced by BBC Studios, broadcast live on BBC One, BBC iPlayer, BBC Radio 2 and BBC Sounds.

Further details about the concert, the national ticket ballot and the line-up will be released in due course.

The Coronation Big Lunch

Neighbours and communities across the United Kingdom are invited to share food and fun together at Coronation Big Lunches on Sunday 7th May 2023, in a nationwide act of celebration and friendship. From a cup of tea with a neighbour to a street party, a Coronation Big Lunch brings the celebrations to your neighbourhood and is a great way to get to know your community a little better.

The Coronation Big Lunch will be overseen and organised by the Big Lunch team at the Eden Project. The Big Lunch is an idea from the Eden Project, made possible by The National Lottery, that brings millions of people together annually to boost community spirit, reduce loneliness and support charities and good causes. Her Majesty The Queen Consort has been Patron of the Big Lunch since 2013.

Thousands of events are expected to take place in every corner of the United Kingdom this May as people take to their streets, gardens, parks and community spaces to join the Coronation celebrations and mark this historic occasion.

Free downloadable resources are available online by the Big Lunch team at CoronationBigLunch.com, to help people and communities start their Coronation Big Lunch planning.

Monday 8th May 2023

The Big Help Out

The Big Help Out will be held on Monday, 8th May 2023 and is being organised by The Together Coalition and a wide range of partners such as The Scouts, the Royal Voluntary Service and faith groups from across the United Kingdom. The Big Help Out will highlight the positive impact volunteering has on communities across the nation.

In tribute to His Majesty The King's public service, The Big Help Out will encourage people to try volunteering for themselves and join the work being undertaken to support their local areas. The aim of The Big Help Out is to use volunteering to bring communities together and create a lasting volunteering legacy from the Coronation Weekend.



When, around 1107, King Henry I founded his business centre on Dunstable crossroads he included a small palace for use when he was travelling. It may have been during his first visit c1109 that he decided to found an Augustinian Priory opposite his palace. The church of this priory was near enough finished for him to choose Dunstable as a suitable place to hold his 1122 Christmas court. He held a second Christmas court there in 1131 and King Stephen did the same in 1136. Stephen and the barons were at Kingsbury in 1154 for a peace conference, as a result of this Henry II, Matilda's son was crowned king the following year.



Over the centuries there were many royal visits; King John

was a regular visitor, and he must have decided that Kingsbury was too expensive to maintain, and in 1204 on a visit, he gave to the Priory 'the site and garden' where King Henry I 'once had houses'. John passed through again in 1215.

King Henry III and Queen Eleanor made several visits. In 1229 Henry mediated between the Prior and the townspeople, and in 1247 stayed there with all his family, leaving silk cloths and 100 shillings, gifts to be used in the church. The Prior in return gave each a gilt cup. He visited again 1266 and 1267.

Both King Edward I and Queen Eleanor stayed in Dunstable in 1275 and 1276. A particularly spectacular occasion must have been the arrival of Queen Eleanor's funeral procession on December 12th 1290.

King Edward I, accompanied by the prior and other senior figures of both church and state, would have led the solemn procession in through the great Norman arched west doorway, up the centre of what is now the parish church, but at that time was the nave of the canon's church, and into their chancel where it rested overnight before the high altar.



In 1326 Queen Isabella came, and Edward III stayed here three times. In 1459 Henry VI was here.

King Henry VIII, Catherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn all visited Dunstable Priory, but none of them were there for the 'royal' event for which Dunstable is most wellknown. In their absence on 23rd May 1533, Archbishop Cranmer published his and his committee's decision that Henry's marriage to Catherine had never been legal and had therefore been annulled. This meant that Henry's recent marriage to Anne Boleyn was legal, and that they could prepare for her coronation.

down Rescue Dog of the Month



Meet Hairy Dingle! So called to distinguish him from another lurcher with a similar name - and also because he is quite hairy! He is an older boy who will be ten in June. A little shy at first, but has a very loving nature. He would suit a retired home with someone around to keep him company. He enjoys a walk but doesn't need to go all that far. He may live with a female dog pending introductions. To offer a rescue dog a loving home you can find an application form on our website and details of the rehoming process. To support our work please make a one-off donation of £3 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. Registered Charity Number 1116848



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EDLESBOROUGH BOOK GROUP
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Studies show that reading reduces stress, increases intelligence, expands knowledge and understanding and improves memory. These are just some of the known benefits of reading. Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.

Books read over the past year or so. A Single Thread, Tracy Chevalier The Rosie Project, Graham Simsion The House by the Sea, Louise Douglas The Vanishing Half, Britt Bennett Boy with a Top Knot, Sathnam Sanghera Sleepless Moon, H.E Bates The Authenticity Project, Clare Pooley

Small Pleasures, Claire Chambers My Name is Leon, Kit de Waal The Mercies, Kiren Millwood Hargrave Lessons in Chemistry, Bonnie Garmus The Marriage Portrait, Maggie O'Farrell Lily, Rose Tremain Keeper of Stories, Sally Page

We meet monthly and have room for a couple of new members. Interested? Contact Angela on 01525 221780 or text 07837361732. Email: feaviourangela@gmail.com.

Edlesborough Baptist Church All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday

Keep up to date by visiting: www.edlesboroughbaptist.wix.com/home

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by Mike Dilkes, courtesy of the Dail Mail



By far the most common allergies are those triggered by particles in the air that we breathe. From dog hair to dust mites and pollen, these inhaled allergies affect up to a third of adults globally. Unlike ingested (eaten) or skin allergies, symptoms sufferers' can be triggered simply by a deep breath. But just what is an allergy? - In a nutshell, it's when the body's immune system overreacts to a normally harmless substance.

Mast cells, which are a type of immune system cell, mistakenly release a cascade of chemicals that are actually supposed to fend off infections.

The most potent of these chemicals is histamine, which is responsible for the uncomfortable symptoms of an allergic reaction such as sneezing, runny nose and itchy, irritated and watery eyes.

It also causes a build-up of mucus in the tubes that supply air to the lungs. These reactions are designed to purge the body of harmful 'invaders' such as bacteria or poisons. But, in an allergy sufferer, non-threatening substances, such as grass pollen, evoke the same severe reaction a poison would.

In the case of inhaled allergies, it occurs when the substance – we call them, collectively, allergens – comes into contact with the tissues inside the mouth, nose, and throat, and eyes. The soaring temperatures during the recent Easter Bank Holiday saw millions struck down, thanks to the most common culprit: pollen. This is commonly known as hay fever, or allergic rhinitis, among doctors. While many bask in the glorious spring sunshine, the one-in-five Britons who suffer hay fever avoid it like the plague, dreading the start of months of misery.

Symptoms are usually worse during the summer months – between late March and September – when the pollen count is at its highest. While widespread, it's no trivial matter: hay fever is linked to poor sleep: 57 per cent of adults and 88 per cent of children with the condition have sleep problems, leading to daytime fatigue and decreased cognitive functioning. In fact, research shows that two million drivers have accidents, near misses or experience loss of vehicle control as a direct result of their symptoms.

The good news? There is something you can do about it.

Is it hay fever or a cold? - Many of the symptoms of hay fever are similar to those of a cold or flu, such as blocked, runny nose, cough and exhaustion. But there are a few tell-tale signs that are unique to the allergy.

Itchy eyes, for instance, do not occur with colds, like they do in hay fever. And if sniffles come with aching limbs, it's most likely a cold, not hay fever.

Cold symptoms also dissipate after a week or two whereas hay fever persists for at least six weeks. The vast majority of hay fever sufferers will guess correctly that their symptoms are linked to pollen count, and self-diagnose.

The general advice is to note what symptoms you have, when they occur, how often and in what situations. This information can then be presented to a pharmacist who will be able to confirm that hay fever is the culprit and recommend over-the-counter treatments. Otherwise, common sense rules apply: check online weather reports for pollen counts and stay inside when the count is high.

For most people, this is enough to keep symptoms at bay. But for an unlucky few, the sniffles are relentless, making any outdoor activity an arduous task. So, if you are really suffering, your first port of call should be your GP, who may be able to offer stronger medication or recommend other approaches.

How to Stop Hay Fever from Striking

The key to preventing a flare-up of symptoms is knowing what you have to steer clear of. While avoiding cats, if pet fur is a trigger, might be easy, it's almost impossible to avoid all pollen without moving somewhere mountainous, dry and arid. Thankfully, there are effective methods to minimise exposure, keeping symptoms at bay.

It's essential you are proactive – adhering to these vital steps will significantly minimise the impact of your symptoms.

Allergy-proof your home

Pollen counts are highest in early morning and early evening, so keep windows closed at these times. Sealed stone or tiled floors are preferable to carpets, and avoid rugs. Vacuum regularly and consider having a dust filter fitted to your vacuum cleaner. Always dust with a damp cloth so the dust is absorbed.

Always shower before bed

Pollen and other triggers get trapped in our hair during the day, eventually making their way into our airway. If you don't shower at night, you essentially incubate yourself in the thing you are trying to avoid for eight hours. Launder your pyjamas and bedding regularly, too, to get rid of the dust and pollen that may accumulate.

Honey won't help hay fever

Don't believe the old wives' tale that a spoonful of honey prevents allergic reactions to pollen. Many tout that honey contains pollens, which means a teaspoon grants the body early exposure, dampening the immune response. This is false: honey does not contain grass and tree pollen.

Honey is in fact made by honeybees from the nectar of flowers and plants, not pollen.

Don't remove your nose hair... or pluck eyebrows

These hairs serve a very important function in preventing allergens in the air from entering the body.

Hypersensitive nasal hairs act as a defensive wall against inhaled allergens, and can trigger sneezing to expel any particles before they are inhaled. Likewise, particles get trapped in the eyebrows, preventing them from entering via thin membranes in the eye. But don't panic, light trimming of unruly brows and protruding nasal hairs is fine, just as long as you don't wax or remove the hairs completely.

CONCERT DUNSTABLE U3A CHOIR



EATON BRAY METHODIST CHURCH

Friday 12th May 2023 at 7.30pm

Director: Liz Higgens Pianist: Fred Thomas

Refreshments after the concert

Free Entrance

Donations welcomed for Christian Aid and the Church Fund

THE 1st EDLESBOROUGH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL



Presenting: A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare 19th – 21st May 2023 (2 performances on 21st) St Mary the Virgin ('Church on the Hill') Edlesborough 'Walk About' Production using Shakespeare's 1st Folio script

Doors open at 6pm / Show starts at 7pm / Show ends at 10pm (approx) Tickets - £12.00 (16+) £8.00 (under 16 & concessions)

A Bar will be available for beer, wine and soft drinks. Due to limited availability, if you are unable to book please let us know via email; <u>theplayerstce@gmail.com</u>. We do have the opportunity to add an extra performance if required.

Tickets can be booked through <u>www.ticketsource.co.uk</u> Type in EDLESBOROUGH SHAKESPEARE in the 'find events' section

All ticket money from this production will go to the Church Restoration Fund

NORTHALL & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN (WEDNESDAY CLUB)

Music Quiz Night Friday 26th May 2023 7.30pm @ Northall Village Hall HOT TWO COURSE SUPPER Tickets £10 per head Bring your own glass and bottle Come and pit your wits All types of music covered To book a table of 8 max contact Lynne on 07887944326

Dagnall Community Choir invites you to a fundraising

Beetle Drive

fun for all the family ~ take your turn ~ roll the dice ~ who will be the first to build a beetle?

> Saturday 17th June, 7.30pm at Dagnall Village Hall

Tickets £5.00 per person available from choir members or call 01525 220189

> Prizes and raffle Bring your own snacks and drinks





Northall Baptist Church

200 years and still going *A little Church with a wide reach*

Promises! Promises!

Have you said that to someone when you think that they won't do as they say? Are you good at keeping your promises?

Have you suffered because someone broke their promise to you?

Over the years, God has made several promises. God keeps his promises. He never changes. The writer to the Hebrews reminds us that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever'. In today's fluctuating world this gives us an anchor. Someone who will do as he says.



The most well-known promise is God's promise not to flood the whole earth again after Noah's flood when only one family and seven pairs of 'clean' animals and one pair of 'unclean' animals were saved. The sign of God's promise is the rainbow. It's there after rain for all to see and remember God's promise.

We've just celebrated Easter, remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection. This month brings a reminder of another of God's promises. 40 days after Easter Day is Ascension Day (May 18th 2023). This was when the Risen Jesus ascended back into Heaven. But he left with a promise. The disciples were to return to Jerusalem to await God's gift to them – the Holy Spirit. Luke tells us in Acts that they were told that 'they would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you' and this would enable them to spread the message about Jesus.

So, 10 days after Jesus Ascension we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit (May 28th 2023). God's promise fulfilled as he had said. What was witnessed at the time was a loud sound like the blowing of a violent wind, then what seemed like tongues of fire above them and the ability to speak in different languages. The Holy Spirit is here today with those who believe Jesus was God's Son. Possibly not as



dramatic as needed in those early days but still evident. And it gives us the power to face life's decisions.

The Apostle Paul received the Holy Spirit in Damascus. He had seen Jesus on the Damascus Road and his life changed completely when he at last believed that the Jesus he had been persecuting was in fact God's Son. He was given the power to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the Middle East, Asia and Europe, building on the work of the disciples. How amazing that the power given 2,000 years ago is still here. Still with those who trust in the God of Promises.

Our Sunday services are at 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



Our Village Hall has charitable status and is run by a dedicated team of volunteers. Its purpose is to provide the community of Northall and its neighbours with a top rate amenity.

Over the years, Committee members have ensured our Hall is always well maintained and we are not ashamed to boast about our excellent kitchen facilities, soft play equipment, our



adjacent children's playground and ample parking. We have also recently added



And now we have all the Garden Party Furniture available for Hirers of the Hall.

We aim to make our village Hall the best in the area!

We are proud to host such regular events as The Wednesday Club and many other adult and children's activities as well as excellent A/V equipment to enable an even wider range of uses.

On a warm, summer's day there's nothing quite like having a family party outside in the garden! At Northall Village Hall we have just the garden with plenty of space and with stunning views over the Dunstable Downs and Ivinghoe Beacon.



private functions, business meetings and family and children's parties ...could we help your event be successful?



Our rates are very competitive; we even have special low prices for local residents in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Eaton Bray as well as Northall! And our rate for Regular Hirers is only £6.00 per hour. Why not check out our photo gallery on www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh

Please contact us on northallvhbookings@

gmail.com to discuss your planned activity or to volunteer your help to keep our facility alive and flourishing for our community. We hope to see you soon!

ZThe NVH Management Committee



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We offer a coaching programme for all ages and abilities and you don't even need a racket for these sessions to get you started or back into the game.

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MONDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm Under 16 Intermediate (ages 11-16 years old)

MONDAY 6:00pm - 7:00pm Under 18 Advanced (ages 16-18 years old)

WEDNESDAY 5:00pm - 6:00pm Under 16 Beginners (ages 11-16 years old)

> These sessions CAN BE BOOKED online VIA OUR WEBSITE **www.ebitc.org.uk**

ADULT COACHING

MONDAY 7:00pm - 8:00pm Get Back Into Tennis

These sessions CAN BE BOOKED online VIA OUR WEBSITE **www.ebitc.org.uk**

PRIVATE COACHING

1-2-1 Sessions are available with Head Coach Sara Bamford in 1 hour or 30 minute slots.

> To book please contact Head Coach Sara Bamford directly.

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★★★ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ★★★ Adult : £105.00 / Family : £189.00 / Junior 11-18 : £30.00

Other packages are available.



Contact coach Sara Bamford on 07561 571578 or sara_leavy@hotmail.com to book your place on any of the coaching sessions.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CLUB PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE ebitc.org.uk

Central Beaks Potholes

How we decide what to do about them?

When we receive a report of a pothole, or when our highways officer identify an issue on their inspection routes, we carefully examine the pothole to decide

how urgently it needs repaired. We use our Network Maintenance Management Plan to do this. But, it does usually depend on the damage to the road, how busy the road is, and what is the best use of our resources.

Other factors which contribute to the priority of making a repairs include the depth of the pothole, the size, the location, the volume of traffic and the speed of the road.

What are temporary repairs?

We use temporary repairs in wet or icy conditions as a permanent repair would not work in these conditions, the hot material would instantly cool before enough compaction could be achieved and the ice or water would prevent the repair bonding to the road.

When the weather is better we do endeavour to make permanent repairs although this does take more time and resource to carry out.

In some cases a series of pothole may be a sign that there's an underlying issue with the road surface and further treatment may be needed. In this instance we would use a temporary repair. Why do we use the Jetpatcher?

After a period of bad weather when we need to repair a large number of potholes shortly we may use the Jetpatcher, also known as the Velocity Patcher.

The Jetpatcher can make pothole repairs in just two minutes which allows our team to carry out repairs without closing the road, meaning less disruption to the public.

The lifespan on the repair will depend on the location, the volume of traffic and the weather when repairs were made but studies show that some Jetpatcher repairs can last for up to five years.

There have been potholes on the road for a while, when will they get repaired?

If the reported pothole does need attention but does not pose an immediate danger to the driver, it may be cost effective to plan longer lasting repair work. This is the Asset Management approach we use to manage our road network. We may be planning further works in the area and the pothole in question will be fixed as part of an overall programme of work.

Through this approach we are able to stop roads getting into a condition where a more expensive preventative treatment is needed or where potholes or other defects might become more common.

This approach means that you could see us working on roads that are, on the face of it, in a better condition than others, however this is done to maximise the long term benefit for the money that we have.

How often do you check reported potholes?

We will monitor the state of current known potholes during monthly inspection routes of main roads to ensure that the pothole has not worsened. If it has then we will step in and carry out the repair which is best for the location.

To report go to Fix my street: www.fixmystreet.com





Edlesborough W.I.



At our March meeting we welcomed Barry Watson as our guest speaker. His **INSPIRING WOMEN** talk was entitled 'The Agony and Ecstasy of a Canal Hotel Boater'.

He began with a brief history of canals. Canals were an essential part of The Industrial Revolution. The first canal built was the Bridgewater Canal in 1761. In 1777 the Trent and Mersey Canal opened. The industrialist, Josiah Wedgwood had shown an interest and promoted the construction of this route through Stoke-on-Trent, the location of his pottery business. By the 1790's canal mania had taken off and an Act of Parliament was required to licence or close a canal.

The advent of road and railway transport saw narrow boats converted to houseboats. In 1947 The Inland Waterways Association was formed and the canal system saved. It is now used mostly for leisure.

Barry went on to tell us of his connection with canal hotel boating. Between 1997-2007 Barry and his wife ran a hotel boat comprising a barge and a towed butty barge. All guest rooms had en-suite facilities and enjoyed three home cooked meals a day. 4 crew helped navigate and maintain a 5* service.

The Agony part was operating the locks – some up to 30, in a ladder; shopping, laundry and cleaning. The Ecstasy part referred to the guests and the kindness of canal folk.

Barry evidently enjoyed his job and talked warmly and knowledgeably about it. He finished with a couple of amusing canal songs.

The evening concluded with refreshments and a raffle.

At our Edlesborough W I meeting in April we had our annual Cheese and Wine evening. It was just what we all needed as it was an extremely wet and cold end to the otherwise sunny Easter break.

We were excited to learn that we have two future trips; a full day in Southend in June and a trip in the autumn/winter to London to see the Christmas lights ending with a fish and chip supper. A large show of hands proved trips to be very popular. Also a pub lunch to the Swan at Northall in July. There are lots of other activities on offer besides our 12 annual meetings.

We started our evening with the usual business side of our group where we unanimously voted for the resolution of 'Clean rivers for People and Wildlife'. Polluted water being a big concern for both humans and wildlife. It will urge local authorities to create designated sites for safer bathing in both rivers and coastal areas also beneficial to our precious wildlife.

Beautiful hyacinth plants were given to those with April birthdays and we also had our monthly raffle.

Once again our committee worked hard to provide us with delicious platters of cheeses, pate and fruit with fresh bread and plenty of wine and soft drinks. Informal evenings are as popular as having speakers as it gives us a chance to catch up with all our friends and have a good 'chinwag'. After tea, coffee and biscuits another evening had come to a close. Edlesborough WI meet on the second Tuesday of every month At Edlesborough Memorial Hall at 07.30 p. m.We always welcome new members and give them a warm welcome. *K* Jane Jones

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 Salvation Army, Eaton Bray Programme **Morning Worship** Sunday 11.am **Coffee Morning** Tuesday 10.-11.30am (alternate weeks) Home League Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm (Ladies meeting) Wednesday 6.15-7.15pm Champions Club **Girls Night Out** Thursdays 7.30 pm (1st Thurs of the month) For further information please contact: Majors David and Sarah Murray Booth Place, Eaton Bray Dunstable LU6 2DR 01525 222087 eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk

May at the Grove

Film

Alice, Darling - 9 May 65 - 11 May The Whale - 15 May What's Love Got To Do With It? - 16 May Champions - 17 May The Super Mario Bros. Movie 29/31 May & 17 Jun Puss In Boots: The Last Wish - 29 May, 17 Jun, 26 Jul Dungeons & Dragons: Honour Among Thieves - 29 & 31 May Air - 29 May Mummies - 31 May **Encore Screening** Best of Enemies (National Theatre Live) - 18

May The Sleeping Beauty: The Royal Ballet - 30 May

Variety



Ladyboys of Bangkok 23 - 1 May Lulu - For The Record - 19 May

Comedy

Chris McCausland: Speaky Blinder - 7 May **Popular Music**

Endless Love The Show - A Tribute to Lionel Richie & Diana Ross - 5 May Walk Right Back 23 - 6 May When You're smiling - 10 May Rave On: The Ultimate 50s and 60s Experience - 12 May Frankie - The Concert - 13 May Don't Stop Believin' - 20 May It's Not Unusual - 21 May

Children's Shows

The Worst Princess - 26 - 28 May

Dance

Ballet Central 2023 - 4 May

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.

Down the Lane

Here is my dead hedge, courtesy of the very cold winter! It will have to be taken out and replaced with more robust shrubs. I will plant some more Rosemary as the bees love the flowers and I love the scent of the foliage. The Jerusalem Sage plants had grown far too large but I have some seedlings of a smaller variety which I shall use.



In St Mary's Churchyard a 'dead hedge' is being created

My dead hedge



Churchyard dead hedge

as you can see in the photo. This is a barrier held in place by vertical posts. It is composed of branches, saplings and foliage collected from activities such as pruning or clearing. It will provide hiding places and nesting habitats for all sorts of creatures as well as food for insects. As it rots down, the nutrients are recycled back into the earth below, meaning that garden waste doesn't need to go into garden bins or bonfires. The creation of the hedge is an ongoing activity which can be added to every time you prune a tree or cut back a shrub. I have started a dead hedge in my garden where

I have a big pile of prunings. It will save me having to move them to another part of the garden or shred them. I can also add the remains of the hedge which succumbed to the weather – making a new dead hedge from a hedge which died!

There appears to be a demented rabbit living in the garden! It doesn't eat plants (the deer does that!) but digs holes around them and has excavated my raised vegetable beds. It also likes digging next to walls so it isn't making a burrow. I need to buy an infra-red camera to learn about the nocturnal wildlife in the garden.

I'm busy planting seeds. Unfortunately I forgot about some packets and left them in the greenhouse over winter. I soon realized that the seeds weren't going to germinate so have had to buy some new packets. I'm growing single dahlias from seed, for my pots, which have germinated very quickly in my propagator. I have some wonderful weed free compost which came from a pile of

shreddings left for about three years. Fritillaries are some of my favourite flowers. I think they look very exotic with their chequered markings but they are native plants. I bought three pots of them in flower, split them up and planted them in the garden. They look sparse this year but they will soon multiply to give a good display.

Back to my hand weeding now as I don't want to disturb the bulbs. I like to dig up flower seedlings as I find them and pot them up. Any extras I will put outside my gate for passersby to help themselves. ≪Sally Taylor



A colourful border



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Good

Edlesborough Primary Academy was labelled as "solidly good" by a trained HMI as part of a self-commissioned external review in November 2021.

"The school is going from strength to strength. The school is focused on outcomes, the curriculum is now scaffolded and pupils want to learn." Trained Ofsted Inspector

M. Hanne

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Butterfly Funerals Independent family funeral directors

Welcome to Butterfly Funerals

utterfly Funerals are specialist funeral directors Luton and owned and operated by Teresa Stack-Murray & Peter Murray, residents of Eaton Bray. If you have experienced a recent bereavement and don't know where to start then please call us on 01582 968130. We will organise everything for you, compassionately, professionally and at a reasonable price. Butterfly Funerals provide everything that you will need at this time for funerals and cremations throughout Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and the rest of England. This will include advice surrounding administration as well as service provision from other providers such as florists and headstone masons.

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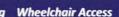
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Soussié Baked Potatoes with Cheddar

Courtesy of www.houseandgarden.co.uk

A baked potato recipe with a twist. Soufflé Baked Potatoes with Cheddar. Comfort food doesn't get better than this classic dish with a twist. You can make these ahead of time, up to the end of step 1. Serves 4

Ingredients

4 baking potatoes

2 eggs, separated

120g (4oz) Cheddar or gruyère, grated

2tbsp chopped fresh chives

1 x 85g pack watercress, roughly chopped

2tsp Dijon mustard

Method

Step 1 - Heat the oven to 200°C (gas mark 6).

Pree-From Butterscotch Pie

By Heather Gonzales Courtesy of BBC goodfood

Make a butterscotch pie for dessert. This one is free from dairy, eggs, soy and gluten, so everyone in the family can enjoy it. Top with chopped nuts, if you like.

Ingredients

200g dark brown soft sugar

2 tbsp golden syrup

625ml canned coconut milk

1 tbsp vanilla bean paste or vanilla extract

4 tbsp comflour

2 tbsp vegan margarine (from a hard block, not a tub)

95g thick coconut yogurt or vegan soured cream

1 pre-baked 22cm gluten-free and vegan pastry case or a 400g pack gluten-free, vegan shortcrust pastry, rolled out and baked in a 22cm pie dish following pack instructions

Method

Step 1 - Combine the sugar, golden syrup, ¹/₄ tsp salt and 250ml of the coconut milk in a large saucepan, then bring to the boil over a medium heat.

Step 2 - Meanwhile, combine the rest of the

coconut milk, vanilla bean paste or extract and cornflour in a large heatproof bowl, whisking until smooth.

Step 3 - When the syrupy coconut mixture comes to the boil, slowly drizzle it into the bowl with the coconut and vanilla mixture in a steady stream, whisking continuously. Pour back into the pan and bring to a simmer over a medium heat, continuing to whisk until thick, about 5-7 mins.

Step 4 - Remove from the heat and whisk in the margarine and yogurt or soured cream. Pour into the prepared pie crust, then cover the surface with a circle of baking

parchment to prevent a skin forming. Chill for 4-6 hrs until set. Will keep chilled for up to two days.





Bake the potatoes for 60 mins, then set aside until they are cool enough to handle. Cut the potatoes in half and scoop the flesh into a bowl, reserving the skins. Mix the potato flesh with the egg yolks, cheese, chives, watercress and Dijon mustard. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Step 2 - Whisk the egg whites until stiff and fold them into the potato mixture to lighten it a little. Spoon the mixture back into the potato

skins.

Step 3 - Return to the hot oven for 20 mins. Serve immediately.

The Greensand Ridge Walk

Walk



8.5 miles/13km

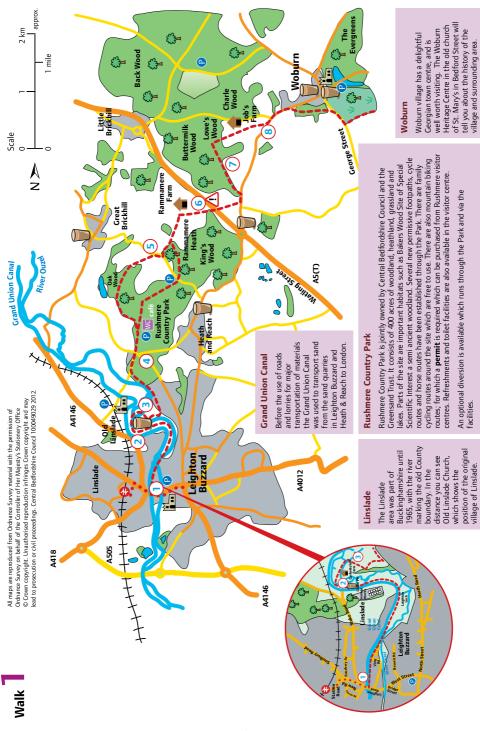
- From the Town Centre follow Leighton Road to the road bridge which crosses the canal. Walk northwards along the towpath of the Grand Union Canal to The Globe Public House.
- Pass the pub and turn right through a kissing gate into a large meadow. This section of the walk can become flooded at certain times of the year. Immediately turn left, heading down the bank and onto the boardwalks. At the end of the boardwalks turn sharp right and walk across the field to the edge of the river. At this point head for the bridge that crosses over the river.
- Cross the bridge and head straight across the field to a track. Turn left, through the kissing gate and left again to join a large, sandy track known as Firs Path. Keep following this path with the wood on your right and river on your left until you emerge into a large meadow. Continue to follow the path up the hill and through the wood to the crossroads.
- Turn left along Bragenham Lane for 50m and turn right onto the footpath. Follow the waymarked path to Oak Wood.

Oak Wood is part of **Stockgrove Country Park**. To visit the Park, follow the signposted path which is off the bridleway.

Pass the pond and over the bridge. Continue on the main path until you reach a T- junction. Turn right up the hill, through the conifers and past the cottages and clock tower. This brings you out onto Brickhill Road. Turn right and after 200m turn left through the layby and down a narrow path. Follow the bridleway around the edge of **Rammamere Heath**. On leaving the heath, head towards Rammamere farm. Go through the gate and into open fields. Cross one field but do not go through the gate. Instead turn right and follow the fence line. Follow the waymarked path until you get to the corner of the field by a wood. At this point turn left over a stile and footbridge and into another field. **King's Wood National Nature Reserve** is on the right hand side.

- 6 Cross the road with care and follow the crossfield footpaths until you reach Sheep Lane. At the road turn left and after 150m turn left again through a gate and along a grass ride.
- (7) Enter the wood following the bridleway known as Nun's Lane to a junction with a large sandstone marker. Turn right and follow the path to the road, passing Job's Farm.
- Just before the road turn left along the field edge path. Cross the road and continue along the pavement for 400m. By the former Maryland College there is a fingerpost on the opposite side of the road. Cross the road with care and follow the waymarked path across a field and then along the fence line.

From this path, take the first left to go into Woburn, or the second left to follow the Greensand Ridge Walk to the fire station on George Street.



What to do in the Carden in May

May has arrived and the days are getting warmer and longer. Summer is on its way and it's time to tidy up spring plants, plant out summer flowers and get planning for autumn. There are plenty of flowers to sow and grow in May.



Timely Tips for May

- 1. Start planting out summer bedding plants towards the end of this month in warmer parts of the country.
- 2. Look after your finished spring bulbs for next year. Once they've gone over, resist the temptation to cut back the foliage. Instead, let it die and break down on its own and add liquid fertiliser all around the clumps. This will give you an even better display next spring.
- 3. Remember to open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days. You can also damp down your greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and deter red spider mites.
- 4. Optimise your watering regime watering early and late to get the most out of your water — and start collecting and recycling water whenever possible.

In the flower garden in May

- Thin out drifts of hardy annuals.
- Harden off half-hardy plants by leaving them outside during the day and bringing them back under cover at night for 7 to 10 days before planting outdoors.
- Plant summer hanging baskets, adding good-quality compost, slow-release fertiliser and water-retaining crystals, to keep them in top condition. Protect them from late frost under cover. Try

planting petunia 'Pegasus Wine Splash' for cascading stems of brightly spotted blooms.

- Harden off dahlias and tender exotics such as canna 'Tropicanna' lilies for planting as soon as the risk of frost has passed.
- Continue dividing herbaceous border perennials to improve vigour and create new plants.
- Divide established clumps of hostas as they come into growth.
- Trim back spreading plants such as aubrieta, alyssum and candytuft (Iberis sp.) after they've flowered, to encourage fresh new growth and more blooms.
- Towards the end of the month, keep an eye out for powdery mildew on flowering shrubs and flowers, like rhododendrons. Treat with fungicide to prevent further spread.
- Lift forget-me-nots to prevent heavy self-seeding and reduce spreading.
- Prune penstemons now cut all the old shoots back to the base, providing there is new growth at the bottom of the plant. If there are no new shoots at the base, cut just above the lowest set of leaves.
- Lightly cut back & tidy up lateflowering honeysuckle. Leave any big pruning jobs until winter.
- You've still got time to plant any container-grown evergreen climbing shrubs now the risk of frost has passed.
- Take cuttings of tender perennials, such as fuchsia and pelargoniums (tender geraniums). The new shoots of hardy perennials can also be used for cuttings.
- Take softwood cuttings of shrubby herbs (such as sage and lemon verbena).
- Prune out overcrowded and dead stems off early-flowering clematis (C.

alpina, C. cirrhosa, C. macropetala, C. armandii, and their cultivars) after flowering.

- Tie in rambling and climbing roses. Laying the stems horizontally will help to produce more flowers.
- Tie in sweet pea plants with sweet pea support rings to encourage them to climb.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after flowering.
- Cut back flowered shoots of choisya to promote a second flush of flowers in autumn.
- Trim lavender plants, cutting off old flower heads and about 2.5 cm (1 inch) of the current year's growth.
- Feed and water container plants.
- Top-dress permanent pot plants to refresh the compost.
- Supplement container plants with balanced liquid feed every 2-4 weeks to promote healthy growth.
- · Closely inspect plants for pests and



Right: Spot the wildlife by Sally Siddons

Below: Cheeky Robin by Jackie Dormer



diseases — early prevention is much easier than curing an infestation.

- Pick off any larvae or lily beetle from rosemary or viburnum plants as soon as you spot them to prevent an infestation.
- Look out for signs of blackspot on roses. If discovered, treat it with a systemic fungicide.
- Continue to weed beds and borders. This reduces your plants' competition for water and nutrients.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs.

For more tips on what to do in your garden in May go to: https://www.thompson-morgan. com/what-to-do-in-the-garden-in-may

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



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Courtesy of The Guardian I'm Sorry You Feel that Way by Rebecca Wait

Alice and Hanna are twins in their early 20s whose mother, Celia, has spent her life in the kind of seriously troubled mental state that can pass under the radar of everyone but her children. They are all attending the funeral of Celia's

older sister, whose schizophrenia dominated Celia's early life. This funeral functions as a family reunion: Hanna has not spoken to Celia, Alice or their brother Michael in several years. Some kind of dramatic rift has occurred between them, and it is this, and the healing of it – or not – that drives the plot.

At one point Celia dolefully explains that friends are "something other people get to have, and she does not". Everyone in this novel knows exactly what they don't have – where they fall down while others might fly. This kind of weighing up is familiar to sisters: the pretty one versus the clever one, the fat one versus the sporty one. This is a book about longing, as maybe all good books are.

And it is a good book, if not a perfect one. I'm Sorry You Feel That Way is, maybe, a little too clever; a little too eager to please. But then so is its heroine, Alice. In an age when bookshops are heaving with disaffected young women who drink too much, smoke too much, have unsuitable sex with unsuitable men, enjoy none of it, and who are probably (what a coincidence) writers themselves, thank god for Alice, the people-pleasing "natural victim" who is the beating heart of this one. "You never mean anything, do you, Alice? Things just happen to you," Celia snaps at one point; and sadly Alice and reader must both agree.

As a child, Alice makes tiny doll's houses out of shoeboxes that she won't let her sister fill with dolls, and this is exactly her problem: she cannot bear the idea that things might not go right, and so she does nothing at all. That's not entirely fair; Alice is trying to make things happen. But she inspires this kind of sweeping statement, even from a reader. She feels horribly real, like someone you know and want to shake; or, possibly, offer a cup of tea and the number of an excellent therapist. I loved her.

Wait handles all her characters with dexterity and charm. The book shines brightest where Wait lets herself loose on an array of supporting cast members: Hanna's Oxford university flatmates, with their crystals and newly acquired "signature styles"; Michael's wife, Olivia, declaring that "I'm very sensitive to paracetamol"; Michael himself, caught on TV exclaiming "It could have been me!" in the aftermath of a tragedy.

I'm Sorry You Feel That Way skirts around the edges of being a family saga, with a narrative that jumps not entirely successfully between perspectives and generations. Interludes with unstable Hanna, unsettling Celia and other characters are revealing, but it's somehow destabilising to know more than Alice knows. It doesn't help, perhaps, that Hanna is one of those heroines: ultra-clever, disaffected, damaged, incredibly cool even in the face of sweeping mental illness. The moments where Hanna softens are tender and lovely, but I was too much with Alice to feel anything except edge-of-my-seat fear that Hanna might change her mind again.

Hanna's mental illness, and her aunt's before her, are managed with skill and insight, but somehow it's not this that sticks with you: it's the ferret on the loose at a party, the shoebox doll's houses, and the fleeting, gorgeous moments of real happiness.





The Old House - 56 Totternhoe Road Eaton Bray

(courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)



The Old House January 2009

The Old House is a splendid looking building on the east side of Totternhoe Road near the junction with Green Lane. It was listed by the former Department of Environment in September 1980 as Grade II, of special interest. It dates from the 16th century, though it has been modernised.

The property is timber-framed with partly colour-washed brick infill known as nogging. There is an extension at the right-hand side and a modern two storey porch to front. The house comprises two storeys and attics beneath a thatched roof. The two dormer windows in the attics are a modern conceit. The listing notes that the lintel to the fireplace bears the date 1674 and that panelling inside is "probably from another house".

The Rating and Valuation Act 1925 specified that every building and piece of land in the country was to be assessed to determine its rateable value. Eaton Bray, like most of the county, was assessed in 1927 and the valuer visiting The Old House found it owned and occupied by James Travell, listed as a farmer in Kelly's Directory for Bedfordshire of 1928.

The house comprised two living rooms, a kitchen, a scullery and a store room with three bedrooms and a bedroom used "as store" above. A weather-boarded and thatched barn stood outside, along with a brick and tile earth closet. The valuer commented: "End part of house not used but alright", also "Low roof" and "Was 3 cottages". There was a homestead comprising the following groups of buildings:

- North block: a weather-boarded and thatched barn used as a hen house and trap shed; a large barn and a weather-boarded and corrugated iron lean-to open shed
- West block: a cow house for five ("used as stores"); a feeding hovel; two pigsties; a weather-boarded and corrugated iron loose box and a three bay part open shed (all "poor");

• In a nearby meadow stood a weather-boarded and corrugated iron hen house.

The property included 4.404 acres of orchard. The valuer commented: "old trees 60 years". They were probably plums for making prunes, seemingly the staple orchard crop in the parish.



Courtesy of www.buglife.org.uk As you walk along a riverbank on a warm summer day you might see some small insects dancing above the water. They are probably mayflies (latin name Ephemera



vulgata) and they may have been dancing over that river for thousands of years!

Mayfly myths!

The common name 'Mayfly' is quite misleading because this group of insects can appear throughout the year. In fact, at one point they were called dayflies due to some of the species having an adult life of a single day. The common name comes from the habit of one species, Ephemera danica, which emerge as adults when the Mayflower or Hawthorn is in bloom.

Although some species only live for a single day, or even just a few hours as adults, there are individuals or species that can live a bit longer than that. In fact most of the life of a mayfly is spent out of sight as a nymph.

Mayfly life-cycle

Mayflies start life as an egg on the bed of the river, before hatching into a nymph. The nymphs feed on algae and other vegetable matter on the bed for up to two years in some species, before emerging from the surface of the water as an adult.

Mayflies are unique as insects in having two winged adult stages. After emerging from the water they fly to the bank where they shelter on the underside of leaves or in the grass. They then moult again, leaving behind their drab 'dun' skin to reveal their shiny 'spinner' skin. Following this moult they fly back to the water and form mating swarms dancing above the surface.

Marvellous mayflies

Mayflies were one of the first winged insects, with fossils dating back over 300 million years – long before the dinosaurs! There are 51 species of mayfly known from the British Isles today and they range in size from less than 5mm to over 20mm.

Mayfly larvae, and the mayfly adults emerging from the water, are a vital source of food for many other freshwater creatures, especially fish such as trout and salmon. Mayflies, and other riverflies, help ensure that our rivers, lakes and streams are home to a rich variety of wildlife.

Populations of mayflies and other riverflies are declining in the UK. As a member of the Riverfly Partnership, Buglife is working with other organisations to try and understand the cause of these declines. Once the causes are known action can be taken to reverse the declines and protect beautiful mayflies.





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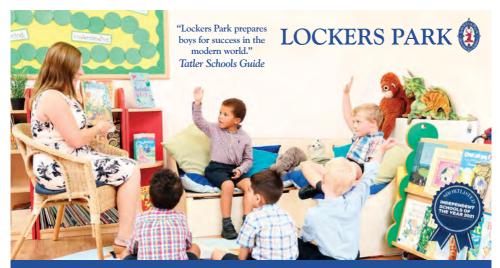
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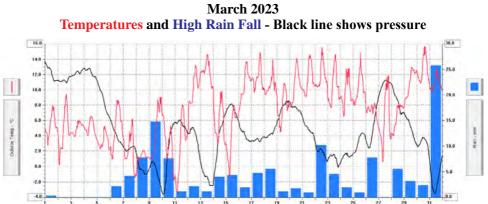
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Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)

Weather Conditions for March 2023 Elevation: 450 ft - Latitude: 51° 50' 13" North - Longitude: 0° 33' 34" West

There is only one word to describe March and that's 'wet'. The month began settled with high pressure at 1032.8mb and dry for the first five days. Then the pressure started to fall with rain from the 6th. By the 10th, the pressure dropped to 981.2mb followed by the month's lowest temperature of -4.2°c. The south west winds brought warmer temperatures, while Atlantic low pressure weather systems brought frequent, heavy periods of rain. This resulted in it being a very wet month with 129mm of rain, which is 259% of the 15 year average for March (50.2mm). We recorded rain on 26 days and, as you see from the plot below, there was rain on 21 consecutive days. The month finished with the wettest day, totalling 25.8mm (1.06 inches). The highest temperature was 16.1°c, but overall it was normal for March. However, less than the average amount of sunshine made it a dull month.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	16.1°c	30 March 15.00	-3.4°c	11 March 04.00
Mean Temperature	7.6°c			
Dewpoint:	11.8c	20-29 March	-4.2°c	11 March 03.30
Humidity:	99%	9 March 15.30	37%	27 March 18.00
Barometer:	1032.8. mb	1 March 00.30	981.2 mb	10 March 01.30
Wind Speed	41 mph SW	13 March 08.30	Months avg.	6.7mph
Wind Chill:	14.6°c	17March 16.30	-4.4°c	10 March 09.00
Dominant Wind:	SSW			
Rainfall * T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 26T), 26(R) Wet		test Day 31 March	25.8 mm	1.016 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	March 2023	129 mm	5.079 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Month	214.2 mm	8.433 ins



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Hip Hip Hooray!

Whipsnade Zoo Launches UK's First Hippo Experience

In a UK first, Whipsnade Zoo, is inviting visitors to get closer to wildlife and 'Meet our Common Hippos' Hodor and Lola – as part of an exciting new experience at the conservation zoo. From Thursday 4 May hippo fanatics will be able to join expert zookeepers behind-the-scenes at the UK's largest zoo to see how the experts cares for the friendly giants.

Arriving in time for hippos Hodor and Lola's lunchtime, the experience will see participants get stuck in, carefully feeding the duo their favourite greens – part of their three-kilo daily diet – directly into their meter-wide mouths.

Participants can ask the zoo's experts their most burning questions about their favourite water loving mammal, before spending the rest of the day exploring the conservation zoo - being inspired by more than 11,000 animals, many of which are threatened in the wild and part of important global breeding programmes. Perfect for both adults and families with children ages 12+, the new **Meet our Common Hippos** experience takes place on Tuesdays and Sundays at 2.15pm, from May to October. Available to small groups of just four per experience, tickets to the exclusive experience start from £84 per person, which excludes entry to Whipsnade Zoo. Gold Members/Patrons and Fellows get 10% discount. Book tickets for Whipsnade Zoo's new '**Meet our Common Hippo**' experience by visiting www.whipsnadezoo.org/meetthehippos.

Spring has Sprung

Endangered Asian Elephant Nang Phaya trumpets in the new season

New pictures taken by zookeepers at Whipsnade Zoo show baby elephant Nang Phaya trumpeting in her first spring at the conservation zoo. The sevenmonth-old Asian elephant - born in August 2022 as part of a vital European conservation breeding programme for the Endangered species - has been

showing her playful side as she soaks up the March sunshine in the Dunstable hills. Keepers hope that one day the youngster will grow up to lead the conservation herd at the UK's largest zoo, but say she's still got a lot to learn from the multi-generational family around her.

"Nang Phaya is growing up to be a very adventurous elephant," said keeper Stefan Groeneveld. "She's learning lots of new skills from her mum Donna, and grandma Kaylee – as well as through playtime with her six-year-old cousin, Elizabeth. Phaya is already a strong swimmer and has great motor skills – she loves picking up and investigating things with her trunk. Next she'll learn how to forage for food amongst the dense green grasses at Whipsnade, which is a really important skill for young elephants to learn. She's also worked out she can get extra helpings of dinner from her family if she stands below the hay nets while the rest of the herd are eating; it's to her advantage that elephants are very messy eaters," Stefan added.

Asian elephants are classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species with recent estimates suggesting that as few as 7,000 are left in South-East Asia: these numbers continue to dwindle due to habitat loss, poaching and human/wildlife conflict. ZSL, the international conservation charity behind Whipsnade Zoo, is working across Thailand, Nepal, Cameroon and West Africa to protect elephants, working with local communities to help people and wildlife co-exist peacefully and using camera traps to study the dynamics between Asian elephants and other wildlife - helping researchers to understand the long-term trends of elephant distribution, density and population structure.

To see Nang Phaya, her family and 10,000 other animals at Whipsnade Zoo this spring, book a ticket today by visiting https://www.whipsnadezoo.org/





New Kids on the Farm

Six baby pygmy goats have joined Whipsnade Zoo's Hullabazoo Farm herd. The conservation zoo's members rallied to help name the pint-sized new arrivals - the smallest of which weighs just 6kg and measures a tiny 54cm from nose to tail - taking inspiration from their favourite Disney heroes. Elsa, Nala, Tiana, Jasmine, Baloo and Sebastian have moved to the UK's largest zoo to take on the important role of wildlife ambassadors, helping to inspire the next generation of conservationists to protect the world's wildlife. West African pygmy goats originate from the forests of Cameroon in West Africa, where international conservation charity ZSL is working to protect and support the recovery of species such as the West African elephant, West African wild dogs, the West African lion and Northwest African cheetah. The area's native species face a range of threats from climate change to unstainable hunting for bushmeat.

The new kids on the farm have all settled in well and have been enjoying exploring their new home since their arrival - but have had a somewhat aloof welcome from resident pygmy goats Khaleesi, Kendra, Mavis and Maude. The other goats are warming up to the new arrivals but are definitely acting like older siblings who are a bit put out that the youngsters are getting all the attention. If you visit the Hullabazoo Farm at Whipsnade Zoo, make sure to give all the goats a pat on the head and a cheery hello, so they don't feel left out. Book now at https://www.whipsnadezoo.org/

To become a ZSL member and support the international conservation charity's vital science and conservation, both at home and overseas, head to www.zsl.org/support-us/zoo-membership

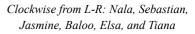
Top Trumps Heads to Whipsnade Zoo

This May half-term and beyond, families are invited to the conservation zoo to play the wildest game of giant Top Trumps yet. From Saturday 27 May to Sunday 2 July, children can face-off against the conservation zoo in the ultimate game of Top Trumps. Discover which animals eat the most, runs the fastest or lives the longest. Would an American flamingo win in a race against an Asian elephant? Can a reticulated giraffe eat more than a common hippo?

Families can grab 3 limited edition super Top Trumps cards before exploring the UK's largest zoo to find giant cards to play against, designed to help youngsters to learn more about the conservation zoo and the endangered

animals that live there. Each oversized Top Trumps card offers children a magical encounter with each species: Families will be challenged to 'beat the Zoo' by strategically choosing an animal's strongest stats to become the the ultimate animal Top Trumps champion. Plus, visitors can enjoy themed talks about the top traits of the featured animals helping to inspire the next generation of conservationists to protect the world's wildlife.

Top Trumps champs can spend the rest of the day exploring the wonders of wildlife at the 600acre zoo. The Top Trumps trail is included in the Zoo's entry price. Book now at https://www. whipsnadezoo.org/









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God has given us the gift of time. What is this thing? Of what design? Time The ticking clocks In the stillness, our loneliness it mocks. Yet time can be spent in many ways To alleviate the empty days. We can plant seeds in a garden to grow And reap a crop before winter snow Spend a little time in prayer for another Give a helping hand to a friend or brother Time there is to laugh or cry, to hug someone, or wipe a tear from their eve. There's a time to study and learn of God's way. And a time for silence, and another to have our say! There is a time for war and battle and when Satan we meet There is time for love, when our beloved we greet Time to use as best we can For time is a part of God's eternal plan This thing called time, split second of infinity Can give us serenity, Time itself a tyrant, relentlessly going forward Determines our span on earth From the moment of our conception and birth Each day as we grow older time brings us closer to our Maker, until the very day when we depart from this God's own acre. From thence time will stand still. Till then spend time in trusting Him Doing His will, for we each are the Product of His design, things of beauty Made by His hand and in His time. Time then will bring its own reward Reserved for all who love the Lord.





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