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Eaton Bray

Good

adjacent villages



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*

Cover - Summer Solstice 23rd June

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 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 Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Kids, 5.45pm-6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785 Tuesdays Tuesdays Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Adults, 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785 Tuesdays Movement is Medicine Pilates, 1:30-2:30pm, Billington Hall, moira@stjudesclinic.com 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

Thursdays Movement is Medicine Pilates, 7-8pm, & 8:05-9:05pm, Billington Hall, moira@stjudesclinic. com

Village Diary

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Fridays	Stay & Play toddler group, 'Musical Monkeys' at the Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10-11.30am £4.50 for one adult and child, £1 for extra children/adults, 0-6 months free
Fridays	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
Fridays	Movement is Medicine Pilates, 10-11am, Great Gaddesdon Hall, moira@stjudesclinic.com
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
9-10th	Edlefest, St. Mary's Church, Edlesborough, book 01525 221744
15-25th	ART Works Thursday-Sunday 10am-5pm, Field View, Castle Street, Wingrave, HP224PT
16th	Northall Village Hall A.G.M., 8pm
17th	Beetle Drive, 7:30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, £5, 01525 220189
	Repair Cafe, 9:30-12:30, Pitstone Pavilion



Birds of Bray Newspapers wanted regularly Please call Chris or Sue Mitchell on 01525 221128 who can collect 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



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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



Northall Village Hall AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is being held on Friday 16th June 2023 at 8pm in the Hall, South End Lane. Everyone is welcome – only Northall residents can vote.

- Come and see the improvements we've made to the Hall including the toilet facilities for the disabled.
- Come and test our new Wi-Fi network, AV system, and large TV screen.
- Come and tell us about further improvements you would like to see us make to the Hall and Playground.



• Pimm's, Prosecco and Tea & Coffee will be available.

Thinking of hiring the Hall?

This is a perfect opportunity to inspect our wonderful Village Hall.

For information about hiring the Hall, contact the Booking Secretary – 07857 318696



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

On Saturday 1st July, St Mary's Village Carnival will take place on Edlesborough Green. I'm delighted to invite you all to join us for this wonderful event. I know many of us missed Carnival when it was cancelled due to the Covid pandemic. This year's Carnival is back to its full splendour. For those



wishing to decorate their houses the theme is 'Children's films'. Over the 6 years I've been Vicar of the parish, I have been impressed by the variety and quality of the displays people produce to celebrate Carnival.

The stalls and attractions will be open from 11am. The procession of floats will be leaving the Orchards about 12.30pm and following the route along High Street Eaton Bray before going to Edlesborough. We hope the route will be lined with decorated houses and businesses. The Grand Opening will be at 1pm. This year the Guest of Honour is Alan Williams BEM, Chair of Edlesborough Parish Council and involved in many other aspects of community life, including the Friends of the Church on the Hill.

Once again the organising team have put together something for everyone with floats, stalls and many other attractions. Besides being a time to enjoy yourselves, Carnival is an opportunity to celebrate being part of our community whilst raising money for good causes. The main beneficiaries this year will be First Eaton Bray and Edlesborough Scout Group and St Mary's Church Eaton Bray Fabric Fund. Money will also be distributed to other local charities and good causes.

It is quite a feat for our communities to run a Carnival of this size. I know that a tremendous amount of hard work goes into making this event possible. A huge thank you to the organising committee chaired by Mark Kilfoyle who work throughout the year to plan the Carnival. Many thanks to all the local businesses and sponsors who give generously each year. And to all those organisations and volunteers who support the Carnival in many different ways, we appreciate your input.

The Carnival would be nothing without its many visitors. I hope you will come along to the Carnival, enjoy all it has to offer and be generous in your support. I look forward to seeing you there!

Revd Joy Cousans, Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough

Carnival Prayer

Amen.

service in support of this community.

Father, we thank you for the life and fellowship of our villages. Bless our Carnival; may all who attend, or take part, enjoy the event and may it inspire people to give feely of their time and **St Mary's Village**

Carnival 2023



SERVICES AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, EATON BRAY

SUNDAYS: 10am PARISH HOLY COMMUNION (apart from the third Sunday - see below)

On the First and Third Sundays of each month there is HOLY COMMUNION at 8am

On the Third Sunday of each month there is a WORSHIP SERVICE FOR EVERYONE at 10am, a shorter less formal service

WEEKDAYS: Wednesday at 10am HOLY COMMUNION EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT THESE SERVICES

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

Dagnall Church Services



Sun. 18th June 10.30 am

Holy Communion

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

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.

Edlesborough Baptist Church

All are welcome to our 11am service every Sunday

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

Find us on Facebook @gbce2014

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

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

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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



St Mary's Carnival Tea Tent

The Carnival Tea Tent will be returning for the big day on 1st July 2023 and we look forward to seeing you all.

The tea tent will be serving an array of sweet and savoury temptations as well as hot and cold drinks to accompany them between 11am and 4.30pm.

Please pop in to say "hello" as it would be great to catch up. Don't forget to bring plenty of cash as our card reader availability will be limited.

We are always grateful to receive cake donations; these can be delivered to the tea tent on the day. Alternatively, if you would like us to collect, please contact Karen Mustoe on 07958491266. Please can we ask you to label your cake(s) so we know what it is and include any allergy warnings such as a "cake containing nuts". Gluten

free and vegan cakes will also be well received - again please label as appropriate. Please also remember to label any cake tins or plates your cakes come in so that we can return these items to you.

We can't wait to welcome and serve you again.



Karen, Sue and Julie

Carmival Best Dressed House Competition 2023

Dear Villagers

With our fabulous village carnival just a few weeks away now (Saturday 1st July) this is a reminder that along the procession route, we have a best dressed house (or business) competition each year.

There are three cups waiting to be won

One for Eaton Bray,

One for Edlesborough and

one for the Best Dressed Business.

To qualify for the cup or a gold, silver or bronze medal your homes (or businesses) need to be decorated in the theme of 'Children's Films' so let's get those creative juices flowing!!

We, 'The Judges', can't wait to see what you come up with...



Houses from Carnival 2022



EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Eaton Bray Parish Council Focus Report March 2023

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

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

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

FixMyStreet

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

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN OFFICE/SURGERY

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

PARISH COUNCILLLOR VACANCIES

We have vacancies for Parish Councillors. If residents are interested in joining the Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk. More details at: https://www.ebpc.co.uk/become-a-parish-councillor/



EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 6th March 2023, from 7:30pm

(Minutes ratified at PC Meeting, 17/04/2023)



THE MEADS ALLOTMENTS: Allotment Inspection – May 2023

aton Bray llotments The allotment inspection is due to be carried out on Tuesday 16th May 2023. Date subject to change, please check the Parish Council website for any updates.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (CBC)

Your Ward Councillor:

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

CBC Website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CBC Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CBC Customer Services: 0300 300 8301

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE

- For general Police contact/enquiries: non-emergency call 101
- For emergencies: call 999

PLANNING APPLICATIONS & APPEALS – FBRUARY/MARCH 2023

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

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

- A copy of the Parish Council's Finance & Annual Reports can be viewed on the Parish Council Website.
- Monthly Payments March 2023: A copy of the Parish Council monthly accounts can be seen on the Parish Council website or obtained by applying to the Parish Clerk.

CORONATION: King Charles III

The Parish Council will be flying the Union Flag throughout the village to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023. A Coronation flag will be flown, together with the Union Flag, at The Coffee Tavern.



MILL END CLOSE/WATERSIDE

The Parish Council are waiting for estimates for improvement works to the river/bank from the river authority, Bedford Group of Drainage Boards [IDB].

THE COFFEE TAVERN

The Parish Council are going out for quotations for refurbishment works to The Coffee Tavern kitchen and toilets.

LOCAL AND PARISH ELECTIONS, 4th May 2023

- Photo ID will be required to vote.
- Election details can be found on the Parish Council website, Eaton Bray Facebook page and council noticeboard at The Coffee Tavern.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (1st Floor, The Coffee Tavern, Eaton Bray)

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

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 5th June 2023, from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 3rd July 2023, from 7:30pm

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN OFFICE (Ground floor)

10am-12noon at The Coffee Tavern, High Street, Eaton Bray

(Dates/times subject to change, please check the EBPC Website for updates)

- Tuesday 13th June 2023
- Tuesday 4th July 2023



Heidi Head, Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@ebpc.co.uk – Telephone/Text: 07931 479663 – Website: www.ebpc.co.uk Parish Office: The Coffee Tavern, 18 High Street, Eaton Bray, Beds, LU6 2DP **Postal Address: 17 Hammond Street, Aston Clinton, Bucks, HP22 0AJ** *Follow Eaton Bray on Facebook - Keep up to date with what is going on in your parish*





Edlesborough Parish Council News Including Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall

EdleFest 2023

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/

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

EPC hopes that Parishioners enjoyed marking this event. EPC thanks Cllr Owen, the Clerk, Becky Bevan, Kim Green, NVH Committee and volunteers at Edlesborough Pavilion for all their time and effort in hanging bunting and flags around the villages in readiness for the Coronation. Here are a few images from

around the Parish, more are available on the EPC website.

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-heavy-goods-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).

Buckinghamshire Councillors

EPC gives thanks to the three Buckinghamshire Councillors, Chris Poll, Peter Brazier, and Derek Town who provide support to EPC and our Parishioners throughout the year. Each month they attend the EPC meeting and provide a written report. The reports can be viewed on the EPC website alongside the minutes of the EPC meetings.

MVAS - Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

Many parishioners may have noticed new posts appearing on grass verges around the parish. These posts are to support the MVAS devices. There are 13 locations in total allowing EPC to move the devices around the three villages. The purpose of these signs is to remind drivers of the speed limit and to encourage them to reduce their speed through our villages. Data collected by the signs can also be used as evidence for other traffic calming measures.

Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition

Edlesborough has once again entered the Buckinghamshire best Kept Village Competition. Judging will take place between the 1st June and 14th July.





2023

EdleFest



The Kings Honours

EPC is proud to share the following images with its parishioners:



Left: Cllr Alan Williams received his British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to the community in Edlesborough.

Right: Cllr Trish Owen was invited to the His Majesty The King's Royal Garden Party in recognition of all she has done for the community of Dagnall.



EPC Small Grant Scheme

Is your organisation looking for money for a specific project? Have you heard of the EPC Small Grant scheme?

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

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

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

Full details of the terms of the scheme can be found here on the EPC website www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/community-information/epc-small-grant-scheme/

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@edlesboroughpc.gov.uk or on 07828 398371.

Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 15th June 2023 Dagnall Village Hall
- Thursday 20th July 2023 in Edlesborough Pavilion

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 <u>hyperlinks</u> 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





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 3rd June from 10.30 – 12. 00 am

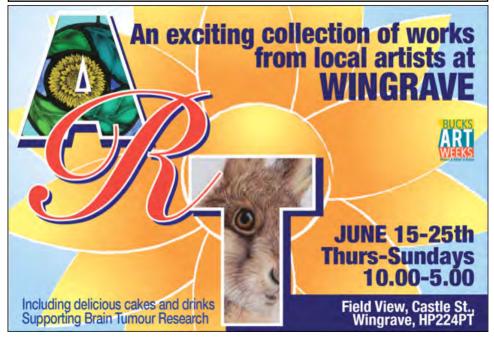


Diarmid Lambert from Central Bedfordshire Libraries gave a presentation on 'Your library from home'

At the last Church coffee morning Diarmid Lambert from Bedfordshire libraries gave a short presentation on accessing ebooks, audio books, newspapers and magazines for free using the digital library from home. We had a few glitches with technology and sound, but we hope that we got the message through that there is a lot the library has to offer for free by downloading an app and putting in your library pin number. If anyone needs help with accessing the digital library, please contact us and we will try and arrange to assist you.

For more information about Book Swap please contact:Chris SandersEmail: chris.sanders45@gmail.comJenifer MacKenzieEmail: jenimackenzie@hotmail.com

The Book Swap is free and open to all adults



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

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.

ppledown Rescue Dog of the Month



Stunning Roxie is a Shar Pei Cross who will be seven in June. She enjoys her walks and responds well to verbal commands. She is quite dog reactive, but we have been working on this and her new owner would need to continue her training. We think she would suit an active retired household where she would have plenty of company. Roxie needs to be an only pet in a home where any children are teenagers. To offer a rescue dog a loving home please download an application form from our website where you will find information on the

rehoming process. To support our work it's easy to make a one-off donation of £3 simply by texting APPLE to 70111, or donate via Paypal using the 'DONATE Support a Cause' option. Cheques are very welcome too!

Appledown Rescue & Rehoming Kennels Harling Road, Eaton Bray LU6 1QY 01525 220383 (10am-1pm & 2-4 pm) E-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk Viewings are by appointment only. Registered Charity Number 1116848





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.

Life is for living

Open the windows. Dance in the kitchen as you cook. Play that music loud. Turn off the news. Check in with someone you love. Get some fresh air. Watch the beautiful show nature is putting on for us right now. Leave the negative online discussions behind. Unfollow the chaos. Feel alive again.

Autterfliesandpett

St Mary's 100 Club

The lucky prize-winners are:

March 2023

1st prize – Victor Courtice 2nd prize – Elisabeth Jones 3rd prize – Marion Higley

April 2023

1st prize – Angela Dunford 2nd prize – Ken Robinson 3rd prize – Margaret Jones

May 2023

1st prize – Wendy Watson 2nd prize – Martin Quinn 3rd prize – Geoffrey Wheeler



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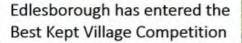
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Please help to keep our village tidy Judging takes place in June & July

The Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition www.bucksbkv.co.uk



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Edlesborough Gommunity Sports Glub G.I.O.

Edlesborough Pavilion has been busy during the month of May. Here are some of the highlights.

Thames Valley Police held a Have Your Say Event and were treated to warming snacks by Sue & Dave.



A new Knit & Natter group has begun meeting on Wednesday lunchtimes. A quiz night was held in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. The book swap shelf is full of donations.





Members were able to enjoy a delicious Ukrainian food evening courtesy of our local Ukrainian families.

The Pavilion was decked out in all its finery for a weekend celebrating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Festivities included members joining together to watch the Coronation, drinking cocktails and Coronation Ale from the Tring Brewery, a Coronation Buffet and an evening watching the Kings Concert.















Members enjoyed a successful Bingo night.

Look out for the date for the next one. As most of you will know the Pavilion is supported and operated by many volunteers. ECSC CIO Trustees thank the volunteers for all the time and dedication they give to the smooth running of the building and events.

All residents of Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall are entitled to free membership of ECSC C.I.O. Residents of Eaton Bray and other neighbouring villages may apply for membership for a small annual fee. More information can be viewed at

www.escomembers.azurewebsites.net

Useful contact information:

- Membership enquiries and fingerprinting: membership@edthepav.org
- Gym enquiries: gym@edthepav.org
- Pavilion and volunteer enquiries: pav.manager@edthepav.org
- Booking enquiries: booking@edthepav.org

Please view the Pavilion Facebook page for more photos and information about future events. The link to follow Edlesborough Pavilion on Facebook is www.facebook. com/edthepav/

Profits from the activities of ECSC support the charitable objects of the organisation.

Nigel's Thoughts



Dear Friends,

I vividly remember that on one Spring Bank Holiday Monday, on the way back from a classic car rally, our old Rover suddenly spluttered, backfired and died! Now the A45 dual carriageway between Rushden and Irchester in

Northamptonshire is probably not the best place to 'park' the best part of a ton-and-a-half of metal, so I was relieved when the breakdown truck finally arrived and carried us safely home!

Why am I telling you this sorry tale? Well, it seems that the problem was all down to 'timing' – the adjustment of the electrical pulses which enable the spark plugs to fire in the right order and the engine to function (for the technically minded the 'points' gap had closed right up)! And the point of all this is...

As I am writing this, I am also reading about Pentecost, this year celebrated on Sunday 28th May. Pentecost is that season in the church's year when we think of the early church being given power to live and share the good news of God's love. You can, of course, read the

account of what happened in the second chapter of the book of Acts in the Bible.

The same transforming, life giving power that was given to the first followers of Jesus is available to us today, provided that our hearts are turned to and timed to catch the life giving flame of the Spirit. What is needed is that we are open to God making us anew and providing us with power to walk with him into the future.

My old car couldn't continue because it needed 'freeing up' and re-timing to capture fresh energy. Would that we could be set free to recapture the Holy Spirit's power for living. We would all live richer and deeper lives, more able to embrace those us around in love – God's love and ours, if we opened ourselves up to this. God bless, *≝*Nigel







Age Concern NORTHALL & DISTRICT WEDNESDAY CLUB

Charity No. 293080

Last month we had LOTS going on:

The Coronation Day (at Club) was celebrated on the 10th May with a meticulously planned lunch of sharing platters, homemade savouries, salads and lots of tasty afternoon tea items. An anonymous benefactor covered the costs for the delicious spread & tasty treats- thank you from us all.

I arrived at the hall (a tad late that morning ...) to a hive of activity, with red/white/blue balloons in place & tables/chairs arranged for entertaining all our guests.

The time to reveal my crafty crafted decoration(s) had arrived... whilst kneeling (appropriate really) a kind lady arrived with King Charles III 😳 I'd posted a cheeky request on the village group & to my surprise there he was in the flesh! Well he looked very smart, well dressed ... though I didn't recognise him at first without his crown & robes - a smiling lady appeared from





behind his facade "Here he is, as promised" she said. By now all helpers were intrigued & my first success of the day paled all else into the shade. Pride of place was by the door for photo opportunities & the element of surprise achieved.

The wreaths, of which I'd made 4, were too big for the doors ... they had to perch on windowsills. The flowers, by Dee, on the tables for all to see. The banner strung high, the flag hung ... well as high as we could reach without a ladder. The TV had on the concert replay ... what joy, such joy, it made my day. The last few bits of flags & hats were placed with care & we tried to ensure there'd be enough to share.

If I say so myself the "Who framed the King" was a great success with many a turn shouting higher or lower. So many photos were taken, if I'm not mistaken, the editor shall have to make the decision. The deadline is looming way past my extension ... suffice to say a memorable day was had by all, members,



guests, volunteer, committee & staff we thank you all.

I just popped into The Swan (as I occasionally do) to collect some Coronation badges I'd made - the sales of which go into Club funds - thank you if



you purchased any. Not only was the box nearly empty, they'd also held a quiz on Bank Holiday Monday night & only gone and collected donations for us ... at Club ... what a team. Always thinking of us & supporting us at every opportunity, we really do appreciate you all ... to The Swan.

Our first Music Quiz night was on the 26th May - report for this in July's Focus - Organised by the two Lyn(ne's).

The Coach & Canal Trip arranged for the 31st - sadly no "lock" work for me this year, though I may get to steer!!

I nearly forgot that June sees our fundraising committee in full swing preparing for The Carnival in July. Donations of Tombola items gratefully received, thank you.

PS 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

Proofreading: my late night copy anyone?

For joining us as a Member:

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

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

In Search of Pasque Flowers

On the Coronation weekend, a group of us from Eaton Bray Methodist Church took advantage of the holiday Monday to do a nature walk. Guided by Paul Wright, an experienced naturalist, with an extensive knowledge of local habitats, we explored Ivinghoe Beacon for Pasque flowers. Our walk was more of an amble because there was so much to see and hear along the route: we discovered many plants including tiny dog-violets, yellow archangel, milkwort in three different colours, wild thyme, agrimony, and the blotchy leaves of orchids which will burst into bloom in a few

weeks' time. We looked closely at a number of mosses which are spectacular when magnified and we were introduced to sunburst lichen which coats tree branches in a golden glow. The woods were alive with bird song: chiff-chaffs, blackcaps, garden warblers, whitethroats, and, of course, a pair of red kites calling to each other. And did we find the Pasque flowers? Oh yes ! These striking purple bell-shaped blooms with their feathery grey-green leaves were there too. We are privileged to have them in our neighbourhood, as there are only a few sites in the country where they still appear in April and early May.

We are thinking of doing more nature discovery walks from time to time. If you are interested in these, please contact Shirley on 01525-229356.



Photo by James McFarland





Edlesborough Green Stalls and attractions from 11.00 **Carnival Procession** from 12.30 If you want to be part of the procession, contact us!

Royal Party

This year we will have a Carnival King & Queen to be decided by ballot. Boys and Girls aged 5-12 yrs. All other children who apply will be Prince & Princesses with the King & Queen on the Carnival Float. Apply to Kathyellison@outlook.com or 07488304816 for an application form

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

You could be the winner of the house decorating competition.

SEE YOU AT THE CARNIVAL

Visit http://www.stmarysvillagecarnival.com for more information



<u>Don't Miss Out on EdleFest –</u> this June 9th and 10th

Our very own village music festival is right around the corner. As you read this, preparations will be in their final stages (no pun intended). The bands are booked, the real ale is brewed, the sound and lights are out of storage. The only thing missing is the audience. That's you!

Ticket sales have been going well, so check out the details below and hopefully you can still come along.

Alongside headliners *Rusty Shackle*, one of Wales' finest indie bands, and the award-winning songwriter Blair *Dunlop*, we've got some great supporting acts including stunning female vocal harmonies from *Roswell*, sibling folk duo Painted Sky, the enchanting voice of Ellie *Gowers* and our resident band The *Dicemen*.

You can enjoy both evenings of fabulous music in the unique medieval setting of our 'Church on the Hill' in

Laidbare

Edlesborough. The bar serves all evening, and if you get there early you can enjoy



Painted Sky

a drink overlooking the spectacular views across Aylesbury Vale.

If you've been before, you'll know just what a fantastic event you have to look forward to. For those of you who haven't - well it's not too late!

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

You can choose your night, or join the increasing numbers who come for both evenings and enjoy a weekend discount.

Tickets range from £10 to £18 and 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!





Rusty Shackle

Ivinghoe Freight Zone

The purpose of the Freight Zone is to restrict HGV access to the area. Those HGVs that DO NOT have a business reason to be there, entering the area as a cut-through to somewhere else will be in breach of the order. This traffic should be encouraged to follow more suitable roads around the zone. HGVs for businesses based within the zone and trucks entering the zone to service commercial and residential properties in the zone will have exception and be allowed.

The result of surveys made during the last few years indicate that the majority of HGVs are using this part of Buckinghamshire as a cut through to other parts of the UK.

Phase 1 covers the installation of signage around the zone making the 7.5 tonne environmental traffic regulation order restricting HGV traffic with exception for local access legal. This started in February and is now complete.

Phase 2 which covers the more bespoke advance notice signage on key routes around the zone, including Central Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, to alert drivers and operators about the restriction enabling them to avoid breaching the order and follow the more appropriate routes is continuing and I will update when more concrete details are available.

A further traffic survey will be conducted to measure the change in flows around one month after the phase 2 install. The data captured will help measure the effectiveness of the zone and impact on the preferred routes around the area. The results of the post implementation surveys will be shared with local members, parish councils and the public. It must not be forgotten that the Ivinghoe scheme is first intervention of this type within Buckinghamshire and as such there is no previous experience to utilise.

Who will enforce?

Currently powers for the enforcement of traffic regulation orders (TROs) sit with the police and the trading standards, the later not actually having powers to stop vehicles.

Under the Traffic Management Act (2022), Part VI it was enabled so that local authorities outside of London may have powers to enforce certain moving traffic offences. The council is presently introducing the first batch of locations for enforcement of Moving Traffic Offences. Requests for future locations can be made through the council website. All locations and associated processes do have to be approved by the Secretary of State for Transport.

How will enforcement be implemented?

The priorities for TVP and Trading Standards have not changed, being 'crimes against the person' and 'protecting the vulnerable'; Local Authority capability to offer effective moving traffic enforcement is some way of. As a result it was suggested that the communities could make use of sending letters of guidance to operators observed in the zone. These letters would advise of the potential breach of the order, the risk of prosecution and encourage the use of more appropriate routes around the area. This approach was devised taking advantage of experiences from Central Beds who suggested results in excess of 80% compliance without legal enforcement measures.

A process of enforcement similar to the 'speedwatch' lines is envisaged and expected to evolve over the next 2 years. It will be wrong to expect an immediate change in the traffic flows, not only will the HGV drivers need to become acquainted the zone signage and alternative routes but also, devices such as 'in-cab navigation aids' and maps will require

updates.

What will be the penalties?

The maximum fine for breach of a traffic regulation order is £1,000. The police are able to enforce by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50. Based on what has been observed in Oxfordshire where they have an existing Structural TRO for the medieval Newbridge. They operate the use of warning letters. In a number of cases things can escalate to a prosecution through the Magistrates Court though fines are paid to the civic purse and costs allocated to the prosecuting authority. These don't cover the real costs so every prosecution is expensive.

Will the police be involved/active?

The police are able to enforce these TROs but given their priorities and the fact that for these zonal orders they would have to see a vehicle enter the restricted area, follow it till it leaves the zone; if it doesn't stop they can pull the vehicle over and prosecute the driver, getting police support will be a challenge.

At the moment we are in no-mans land (Pilot Scheme!); we need the LA (local Authority) enforcement of moving traffic offences to offer the solution but (Bucks Council) have to get all locations and detailed plans approved by the Secretary of State these can only submit twice a year.

SDerek J Town - Buckinghamshire Council - Ivinghoe Ward



Edlesborough W.I.

INSPIRING WOMEN Our May meeting opened in a hall gaily decorated by the Committee with Union Jack bunting and flags in recognition of The Coronation. Minutes of April's meeting were read, approved and items of interest shared. Special mention was made of the annual Cheese and Wine evening held the previous month which was deemed a great success.

We were delighted to welcome as our guest speaker Mr Jez Elkin, Waste Awareness and Education Manager – FCC Environment, one of the UK's leading recycling and waste management companies that deals with non-recyclable waste through their GREATMOOR Energy from Waste facility in Buckinghamshire.

In a fascinating talk he led us through the subject from the waste hierarchy: reduce, re-use, recycle and compost, create energy. UK recycling average rate is 46.2% but encouragingly Bucks scores 54%, at the upper end but can always improve.

There are Recycling Centres across the country specialising in aluminium, plastic, glass, paper/card. However, Greatmoor deals with 900 tonnes non-recyclable waste per day. Heating up to an 850 degrees minimum furnace temperature the by-products, amongst other things, can be turned for example, into breeze blocks from the ash and electricity - up to 25 megawatts, enough to heat 40,000 houses. Jez provided so many facts and figures, too many to quote here but if you wish to learn more visit the website www.greatmoor.co.uk.

After the talk members were treated to either some rose fizz or non-alcoholic beverage and a selection of Coronation themed fairy cakes. A lovely surprise from the Committee to commemorate the beginning of the Carolean Age.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. New ladies are always welcome.

Dagnall Community Choir

We are looking forward to our upcoming **Beetle Drive** on Saturday 17th June 7.30pm at Dagnall Village Hall. This event is open to everyone, not just choir members, and as well as raising funds we hope it will serve as

an opportunity for people in our local community to have fun, meet choir members, and learn more about our choir. Tickets are £5 per person, available by calling 01525 220189. On Saturday 29th July we are hosting an Afternoon Tea Concert at Dagnall Village Hall, where we will be performing the songs we have been learning with our fantastic musical team, Helen Wingate and Joe Leslie. Keep your eye on our website **www.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk** or follow our Facebook page for more details.

If you enjoy singing, why not join us? Come along to any of our Monday evening rehearsals and give us a try. We meet at 7.45pm at Dagnall Church, and new members are always made very welcome. We're a community choir, so there's no audition required, and it's not essential to be able to read music. We sing a wide variety of music, ranging from classical to pop, and are particularly fond of show tunes and musicals!

Please get in touch through our website or Facebook if you'd like more information about the choir, and we hope to see you soon!

How well do you know your garden?

To anyone who lives alone, your garden can become your friend, It behaves just like a child, as regular attention to it you may tend,

We plant a seed and hope it will grow, to be sturdy and tall without any blight, And so it will if patience you show, keep it watered well and it's bound to turn out right.

Today many plants are bought from a nursery to gain a good start to their life, Then gently we help them on in their garden bed, well sheltered and free from strife, If they are seedling flowers, they bring pleasure, as their many heads come to bloom, With brilliant colours, and languid leaves, they can lighten any room.

Then think of the bending and stretching we must make, to help those young plants on their way,

And how it could assist you with your own physique, perhaps more than you can say, Just like a few of us might gain from going to a Gym,

But the difference is, for this, it's free, you just don't have to pay!

So next time you decide to get up early and watch the rain beat on the window pane, Perhaps you might peer out and see lots of those darn weeds, and determine to start again, Your garden will welcome you with open arms, to show what it a do,

All that it needs is lots of determination, and the rest is up to you!

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







Eaton Bray Village Hall Charity Quiz April 22nd 2023

What a result! 😂

With 16 tables brimming with the "Great & The Good" all straining their grey matter, snapping their synapses we are pleased to say we have been able to increase our contribution to the nominated Charities, Appledown Rescue & Rehoming Kennels & Dunstable Foodbank £600 each. If we can do this again with you all for the October Quiz we can beat last year's total of £750 to each easily, fingers crossed

Starting life, these Quizzes go way back to 2005 with the late Keith Blackburn & Ross Bagni (very much alive) who both set the questions and getting the local community involved. Now 18 years on we have a shield presented to the Winners in memory of Keith presented this year to joint winners. Coincidently last year's winners won again but magnanimously gave up the right to sharing the shield as they already had their name on it!

So congrats to "EB Orphans" & "What the Poinsettia" who now have the bragging rights we hope they can come back (please bring the Shield!!) and defend their title

This year we also had extra monies raised by asking local companies to sponsor us. We had free Baguettes from Tesco's, and Unicorn Windows, Ian Abrahams Local builder & The Gentleman Gardener. All were included on the answer sheets and on our overhead score screen and on A3 posters. All the Raffle prizes were donated, (thanks so much Maggie K) and if you are reading this we are happy to have other local companies supporting the charity quiz next time.

These Events don't just happen and without the EB Quiz Elves, shopping, catering, raffle sales and table layout and hall clear up it would be impossible.

Thank you so much you know who you are 🕄



What to do in the Carden in June

The longest day of the year falls on June 20th, bringing warmer temperatures and extra sunlight. Flowers are blossoming, there's lots to harvest in the vegetable garden, and keeping on top of bolting plants is a priority — particularly weeds!

Timely Tips

- 1. Check plants daily and water them if the soil is dry especially newly planted fruit trees and shrubs that are still getting established. To help you save money, time & water, it's well worth setting up an automated drip irrigation system.
- 2. Harden off any remaining half-hardy bedding plants ready for planting out.
- 3. Use blinds or apply shade paint to prevent your greenhouse from overheating. Remember to open vents and doors on warm days.
- 4. Keep on top of weeding. Your plants shouldn't have to compete for precious water, light, and nutrients.

In the flower garden

- Harden off and move hanging baskets and containers growing on in the greenhouse into their final position. If your hanging basket plants become leggy, trim off the excess to encourage bushy new growth.
- Continue to thin out drifts of hardy annual plants if they're overcrowded.
- Lift and divide clumps of snowdrops and bluebells once the leaves start to yellow.
- Using rainwater (if possible), continue to water your flowering rhododendrons.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of flower bulbs and tubers.
- Wait for bulb foliage to die down naturally before cutting back.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias to encourage a bushy habit and more flowers.
- Start to pick sweet peas as soon as they flower to encourage more blooms.
- Dead-head your roses if they're repeat-

flowering types. Otherwise, leave the seed heads on for decoration.

- Dead-head and cut back oriental poppies after flowering. Cutting them close to ground level will stimulate new foliage.
 - Stake tall perennial plants to prevent wind damage.
 - As new shoots grow, use soft ties to train climbing plants such as honeysuckle and clematis to their supports.
- Prune out overcrowded or dead stems of evergreen clematis once they have finished flowering, to maintain a good shape.
- Towards the end of June, if your hardy geraniums have finished flowering, cut them back to encourage new foliage and flowers.
- Harvest flower heads from your lavender plants to use in baking, crafting etc.

In the vegetable garden

- Continue to earth up potato plants.
- Keep the compost of newly planted container potatoes moist, but take care not to overwater, as this compacts the soil, squeezing out the oxygen, and prevents the developing tubers from swelling.
- Pinch out any side shoots from your tomato plants. You can pot these up to create new tomato plants. Start to feed once the first truss is setting fruit.
 - Harvest salad crops, and resow every 2 weeks for a constant supply of tasty leaves.
 - When planting out cabbages, use brassica collars to prevent cabbage root fly attack.
 - Harvest first early potatoes normally ready about 10 weeks after planting.
 - Keep an eye on your onion and garlic.
 When the leaves start to yellow and die back, they're ready to harvest.
 - If you haven't already, harden off and plant tender vegetables such as courgettes, squash, tomatoes and sweet corn.
 - Protect crops from carrot fly by covering

with horticultural fleece.

In the fruit garden

- Start to prune your plum or cherry trees now.
- Although fruit trees will naturally shed some fruit (called the 'June drop'), aim to thin out congested branches further for bigger and better fruits.
- Protect any developing fruits from birds and squirrels by placing netting around your plants.
- If you have plants fruiting in containers, remember to give them a high potash liquid feed to keep them healthy and productive.
- Top-dress patio dwarf fruit trees with fresh compost and a slow-release fertiliser.
- Peg down runners on your strawberry plants to create more plants for next year. If you don't need more plants simply remove the strawberry runners completely.
- Always water potted blueberry plants with rainwater, as the lime contained in tap water reduces the acidity of the soil over time.

Looking after your lawn

- If there hasn't been much rain, raise your lawn mower blades to reduce stress on the grass.
- Water your lawn during hot weather, particularly newly seeded or turfed lawns. Keep new lawns well-watered.
- Warm weather encourages rapid weed growth apply specific lawn weed killer to tackle them.
- Feed your lawn with a special lawn fertiliser to encourage healthy green growth.
- Recut lawn edges, or install lawn edging to make future maintenance easier.

Other jobs about the garden

- Use water butts as much as possible and water your patio perennials and baskets well in hot weather. Start to feed them with a balanced liquid fertiliser every 2 to 4 weeks.
- Make small 'wells' around individual

plants so that the water can soak the soil to about 25cm (10in). Merely wetting the surface wastes water, encourages weeds and can lead to surface rooting making plants more vulnerable.

- Plant floating pond plants now while the water is warming up.
- Keep removing blanket weed from your pond to allow the plants and fish room to breathe.
- Keep an eye out for white powdery mildew on plants. If possible, remove the affected parts and spray with a fungicide to prevent further spread.
- Look for aphids on the underside of leaves — rub them off by hand or spray with an insecticide to prevent them multiplying. Alternatively try using a natural pest control such as Lacewing larvae.
- Keep an eye out for scarlet lily beetles on your lilies remove and crush any you see. Also check for the sticky brown larvae on the underside of leaves.
- Check for vine weevils by tipping your plants out of their pots and looking for 'C' shaped creamy maggots amongst the roots. Treat with nematodes if vine weevils are spotted.
- Invest in pest control to prevent slugs attacking your young plants.
- Clip evergreen hedges such as privet, box and yew while they're in active growth.
- Check plants in your greenhouse daily and water them if the soil is dry.
- Damp down your greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and deter red spider mites.
- Turn the compost in your bins every month to keep it well aerated.
 - Keep bird baths topped up

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

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Northall Baptist Church

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

Lost and Found

Have you ever lost a child? We have. Our younger daughter got lost a few times and it's really, really stressful.

One of those occasions (and there were others) was on a VERY large campsite in Portugal when she was four. We set up a search but the campsite was huge with rows and rows of tents and caravans from many nations around the world. Oh dear! Your mind goes into overdrive with the possibilities. I must admit I was panicking. I don't remember praying but I know that the cries from my heart were heard. About 20 minutes later, I saw her walking down a path with a lovely lady from the Netherlands who realised that she was English. She spoke to her in English, calmed her down and set off in search of us. That 20 minutes or so felt like hours. I can still feel that panic as I am writing this.

Last week, from our bedroom window we saw one sheep that had squeezed through the fence away from the rest of the flock. That sheep didn't seem to be panicking though as it was happily munching on a crop in a large field. We have seen this happen before but usually quite a few sheep follow the adventurer. This time there was only one. The farmer was alerted and soon turned up. Unlike our scenario, he knew where to look for the missing sheep. However, the sheep was very reluctant to return to the field. She kept hiding under the hedge and then popping out again. Eventually she was safely back with the others.



In Luke 15 Jesus told several stories about lost things. One of the stories was about a lost sheep. I thought about the story when we were watching the efforts to retrieve the sheep last week. In the account there were a hundred sheep and one went missing. Leaving the sheep that were safe, a search was made for the missing one. It was found and carried back on the shepherd's shoulders. The shepherd returns and holds a party to celebrate 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep'.

Most of us in childhood in this country have heard about the shepherd, Jesus, and how he cares so much for us. He will search for us when we go missing and celebrate when we are found. We are like sheep that go astray as we read in Isaiah 53. What relief when we are found by Jesus!

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/

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Good

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"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.

For the last 3 years, we have been in the top 3 funeral directors in Luton.

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If you are concerned about leaving a financial burden behind for your own funeral, Butterfly Funerals offer our pre-paid funerals service for you.

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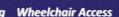
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Summer Chicken One-Pot

Courtesy of BBC goodfood

Ingredients

8 chicken thighs 2 tbsp plain flour 1 tbsp olive oil 8 rashers streaky bacon, chopped 400ml stock 500g bag baby new potatoes, halved 200g pack full fat soft cheese 200g broad beans, podded 200g sweetcom (frozen, fresh or from a can) 200g cherry tomatoes, halved Method

STEP 1 - Dust the chicken in the flour and some seasoning. Heat the oil in a lidded pan and brown the chicken, in batches if needed, then transfer to a plate. Throw in the bacon STEP 2 - Return the chicken to the pan. Add the stock, cover and simmer for 30 mins, adding the potatoes after 10 mins.

STEP 3 - Make sure the chicken is cooked and the potatoes are tender, then stir in the cheese, the rest of the vegetables and some seasoning. Simmer for 5 mins more, uncovered, then serve.

Serves 4





By Sarah Cook - Courtesy of BBC goodfood

Ingredients

2 large eggs
2 tsp vanilla extract
175g fruit, stoned and diced weight
140g granulated sugar
1-2 tbsp citrus juice - lemon, lime or orange
175g very soft butter, plus extra for greasing
175g golden caster sugar
250g self-raising flour
Mathod

and fry for 5 mins, until crisp.

Method

STEP 1 - Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Grease a 900g/2lb loaf tin and line the base and ends with a long strip of baking parchment. Put the butter, caster sugar, flour, eggs and vanilla extract into a large bowl and beat with an electric hand mixer for 5 mins until pale and creamy – the mixture will be very thick.

STEP 2 - Spread one-third of the cake mix into the tin, then scatter over 50g of the fruit. Carefully dot and spread another third of the cake mix on top, and scatter with another 50g fruit. Finally dot the rest of the cake mix over and gently spread with the back of a spoon. Bake for 1 hr, until an inserted skewer comes out clean.

STEP 3 - Poke the cake all over with a skewer. Put remaining 75g fruit into a bowl with the granulated sugar. Stir in 1 tbsp of the citrus juice first with a fork, mashing a little of the fruit as you go. If it's a bit dry, add a splash more juice and spoon over the cake. Leave in the tin until the cake is cool and the topping is set and crisp.

Cuts into 8





Who we are and what we do

Every year in Britain over five million wild animals and birds are injured as a direct result of their encounters with man and man's world.

Tiggywinkles, The Wildlife Hospital Foundation, is a specialist hospital. Thanks to donations, we are a free service. Using the best veterinary care available, we are dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating all species of British wildlife. Since opening our doors over 300,000 patients have received treatment at Tiggywinkles. On our busiest day we can have over 1,600 patients on site!

All British wild animal casualties brought to the hospital are treated completely free of charge and are released through a controlled programme, back to the wild, when they are fully fit.

Every casualty is given a chance, we only ever use euthanasia as a last resort. Any animal or bird unable to be released back to the wild is maintained at the Hospital, in as natural conditions as possible. Every creature matters.

Veterinary treatment is carried out by an amazing team of highly trained wildlife and veterinary nurses and specialist consultant veterinary surgeons. This enables us to give our patients ground breaking treatment and the best possible care. Our veterinary team has pioneered much of the treatment now used for wildlife throughout the World. Our expertise and knowledge on all species is shared globally.

Over the years we have perfected techniques for hedgehogs, badgers, deer and other species and have a commitment to passing on this information through books, papers, courses and lectures to veterinary schools. The sharing of our treatments and techniques are helping many millions of casualties across the world, most of which are now being looked after thanks to the positive attitude of Tiggywinkles.

We don't receive government or lottery funding sadly, so we rely on legacies and donations from the public and a handful of Trusts. Every penny helps us to help them.

The History of Tiggywinkles

In the beginning...

Even though domestic animals were well catered for in Britain, in 1978 when Sue and Les Stocker and their son Colin started taking in wildlife casualties in earnest, there were very few facilities available. There was certainly no written work or experience accessible in this very different field and no training available on wildlife for veterinary surgeons.

Quickly the Stockers began to realise the enormity of the



problem and when the general public and other animal welfare bodies became aware of their willingness to care for injured wildlife, casualties began to flood into their home.

Soon they were coping with all species from toads, badgers and deer to wrens, owls and swans. Every patient was an unknown and together with a local sympathetic vet, they learnt the idiosyncrasies of wild animals that demand such a different regime to that required by their domestic counterparts.

Until 1983 the Stockers funded their work from their savings. Then in February of that year the project became a Registered Charity.

Hedgehogs and Tiggywinkles

As the casualties continued to come in, it soon became apparent that this intake provided a barometer of happenings in the environment. This particularly came to light during the drought of 1984 when the whole hedgehog population seemed to be arriving at the door. A nationwide awareness campaign was launched to make



people conscious of the plight of hedgehogs and soon thousands of people were putting out bowls of water and dog food to support their neighbourhood pricklies. At the same time the campaign highlighted the perils of "bread and milk" the traditional, but harmful, food for hedgehogs.

More people were looking at their local hedgehogs and consequently more noticed if their visitor was injured, so they brought it along for treatment. So great was the influx that the Stockers had to install a new shed as a 'hedgehog only' ward. This was duly opened amid great fanfare by Susan Hampshire on 9th August 1985 and christened 'St. Tiggywinkles', the world's first bespoke hedgehog unit.

Every casualty is given a chance; we only ever use euthanasia as a last resort. Any animal or bird unable to be released back to the wild is maintained at the Hospital, in as natural conditions as possible. Veterinary treatment is carried out by a team of trained veterinary nurses and specialist consultant veterinary surgeons.

This enables us to give our patients ground breaking treatment and the best possible care.

Our veterinary team has pioneered much of the treatment now used for wildlife throughout the country. Our expertise and knowledge on all species is used worldwide. Over the years we have perfected techniques for hedgehogs, badgers, deer and other species and have a commitment to passing on this information through books, papers, courses and lectures to veterinary schools.

The experiences of our Hospital staff are helping many of the millions of casualties across the world, most of which are now being looked after thanks to the positive attitude of Tiggywinkles.

Tiggywinkles survives on a solid base of membership and relies on donations from the general public and sponsors to thrive. It receives no state funding of any kind and no financial assistance from other animal welfare or conservation groups. If you would like to help us continue our lifesaving work please go to www.sttiggywinkles.org.uk/ help-us/.

Eaton Bray Gricket Glub

Our new ladies fixtures have been confirmed. Monday 15th May Luton W&G Home 6.30 pm Sunday 4th June Dunstable Home 10 am Monday 26th June Amptill Home 6.30 pm

Saturday 1st July Olney Town Home 10 am

Monday 10th July Amptill Away 6,30 pm

All ladies training is on Monday evenings at 7 pm when no game is scheduled and taken by a fully qualified coach.

Results.

22nd April Cranfield 196-9. Eaton Bray 1st X1 190-8. Cranfield won by 6 runs.

29th April Luton Caribbean 203-8. Eaton Bray 1st X1 148 a/o. Luton Caribbean won by 55 runs. 29th April Eaton Bray 2nd X1 95 a/o. Sher-e-Punjab 98-3. Sher-e-Punjab won by 7 wickets.

30th April Eaton Bray Sunday X1 53-9. Ickwell 55-1. Ickwell won by 9 wickets.

6th May Eaton Bray 2nd X1 v Harrold cancelled rain.

We are a family friendly club situated at the Rye in Eaton Bray. New players of any age or ability are always welcome. The club run 2 senior sides in the FCCL on Saturdays and a senior team in the Beds League on a Sunday plus a midweek T20 team. We also have 5 youth teams from ages 8-15 and a newly formed ladies team. Drop in and have a look.

We would like to thank our sponsors Meadow Marquees, Mlily Matress, Fine & Country Estate Agents, Westrope Butchery., Topps Tiles, SMSS Ltd and the Focus Magazine for their continued support. Enjoy your cricket with Eaton Bray in 2023.

June at the Grove

Film

Allelujah - 5 & 17 Jun Magic Mike's Last Dance - 6 Jun Polite Society - 7 Jun Heathers The Musical - 9 Jun Chevalier - 12 Jun Fast X - 16 Jun The Super Mario Bros. Movie - 17 Jun Puss In Boots: The Last Wish - 17 Jun Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.3 - 17 Jun The Book Club: The Next Chapter - 19/29 Jun

Private Hire

RUSH A Joyous Jamaican Journey - 28 Jun Grease - Rare Productions - 22 - 24 Jun

Comedy

Menopause the Musical 2 - 15 Jun Roy Chubby Brown - 30 Jun Children's Shows

Pop Divas Live! - 3 Jun Encore Screening

Fleabag (National Theatre) - 26 Jun **Popular Music**

Arrival: The Hits of ABBA - 2 Jun D Day Darlings - The Kings Coronation - 4 Jun East 17 - 9 Jun Calling Planet Earth - 10 Jun This Is Britpop! - 17 Jun Material Girl - 25 Jun RUSH A Joyous Jamaican Journey - 28 Jun

Live Screening

Il Trovatore: The Royal Opera - 13 Jun

Variety

The Makings of a Murderer! - 1 Jun

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.





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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

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Butterflies conjure up images of sunshine, the warmth and colour of flowery meadows, and summer gardens teaming with life. Sadly, four butterflies became extinct during the last 150 years. Three-quarters of British butterflies are in decline.



The 56 species in Britain and Ireland are under threat today from unprecedented environmental change. Butterflies and moths have been recognised by the Government as indicators of biodiversity. Their fragility makes them quick to react to change so their struggle to survive is a serious warning about our environment.

Habitats have been destroyed on a massive scale, and now patterns of climate and weather are shifting unpredictably in response to pollution of the atmosphere but the disappearance of these beautiful creatures is more serious than just a loss of colour in the countryside.

Conserving butterflies will improve our whole environment for wildlife and enrich the lives of people now and in the future.

Why butterflies and moths are important

There are many reasons why butterflies and moths are important, both in their own right but also as quality of life indicators. The following are the main reasons for conserving butterflies and moths in the UK and around the world.

Intrinsic value

- Butterflies and moths are intrinsically valuable and are worthy of conservation in their own right.
- Butterflies and moths are part of Life on Earth and an important component of its rich biodiversity.
- They have been around for at least 50 million years and probably first evolved some 150 million years ago.
- Butterflies and moths are a highly diverse group comprising over 250,000 species and make up around one quarter of all named species.
- Butterflies are flagship species for conservation in general, and in particular for invertebrates.

Aesthetic value

- Butterflies and moths are part of our natural heritage and have been studied for over 300 years.
- Butterflies and moths are beautiful. Many are iconic and popular.
- People like butterflies.
- There are many references to butterflies and moths in literature, from the Bible through Shakespeare to modern day literature, and from poetry to musical lyrics.
- Butterflies are used by advertisers and illustrators the world over as way of indicating that something is environmentally friendly.
- Butterflies are often portrayed as the essence of nature or as representing freedom, beauty or peace.



Educational value

- Butterflies and moths have fascinating life-cycles that are used in many countries to teach children about the natural world. The transformation from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis is one of the wonders of nature.
- Other educational aspects include the intricate wing patterns and iridescence, and as examples of insect migration.

Scientific value

- Butterflies (and moths to a lesser extent) are an extremely important group of 'model' organisms used, for centuries, to investigate many areas of biological research, including such diverse fields as navigation, pest control, embryology, mimicry, evolution, genetics, population dynamics and biodiversity conservation.
- The long history and popularity of butterfly study have provided a unique data resource on an insect group unmatched in geographical scale and timescale anywhere in the world. This has proved extremely important for scientific research on climate change.

Ecosystem value

- Moths and butterflies are an important element of the food chain and are prey for birds, bats and other insectivorous animals (for example, in Britain and Ireland, Blue Tits eat an estimated 50 billion moth caterpillars each year).
- Butterflies and moths support a range of other predators and parasites, many of which are specific to individual species, or groups of species.
- Butterflies have been widely used by ecologists as model organisms to study the impact of habitat loss and fragmentation, and climate change.

Health value

- People enjoy seeing butterflies both around their homes and in the countryside.
- Over 10,000 people record butterflies and moths in the UK alone, involving getting outside and walking considerable distances. Over 850 sites are monitored each week in the UK and collectively volunteers have walked the equivalent of the distance to the moon counting butterflies.
- Several hundreds of thousands of people garden for wildlife in the UK, many of them specifically for butterflies and moths.

Economic value

- Thousands of people travel abroad each year looking for butterflies and moths. Eco-tours bring valuable income to many European countries and developing countries around the world (e.g. the valley of the butterflies in Rhodes and the Monarch roost in Mexico).
- Every butterfly and moth has developed its own suite of chemicals to deter predators and parasites, find a mate, and overcome the chemical defences of its host plant. Each of these chemicals has a potential value and could be exploited economically.
- The total number of moths recorded in Rothamsted trap samples has declined by a third since 1968.

Courtesy of https://butterfly-conservation.org/





Honeywicke Cottage Eaton Bray (courtesy of the Bedfordshire Archives)



Honeywicke Cottage January 2009

Honeywick Lane lies some way north of the village of Eaton Bray. Honeywicke Cottage lies a little way down the south-east facing lane. The cottage was listed by the former Department of Environment in September 1980 as Grade II, of special interest.

The cottage dates from the late 18the century, though it was altered in the 19th. It is built with local flint with brick dressings. The main wing comprises two

storeys with a right-hand wing of one storey and an attic within a mansard roof. The roofs are of old clay tiles. The porch is modern.

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 Honeywicke Cottage found that it was owned and occupied by T. Tearle.

The cottage comprised a living room, a kitchen and two bedrooms. This is presumably in the main block; the valuer does not seem to have listed the composition of the right hand wing. He commented: "Roof slightly low but nice" and noted: "Was 2 cottages". Outside stood two weather-boarded and thatched barns, a meal house, a store, and a weather-boarded and corrugated iron earth closet. By the road were two weatherboarded and corrugated iron hovels and in the adjoining orchard two weather-boarded and corrugated iron piggeries and a hen house.

Your Photos



Springtime by Richard Woodhead Squirrel by Jackie Dormer





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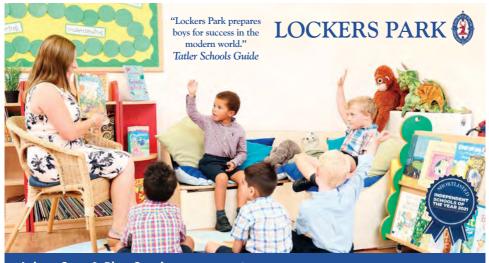
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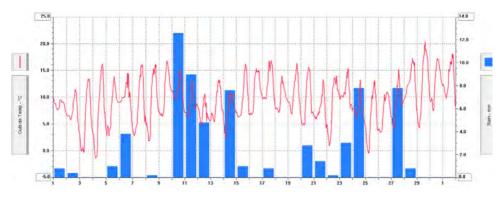
Weather Conditions for April 2023

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

April was a showery month and cooler than recently. The total rainfall was 65.7mm, which is 163% of the average for April. The wettest day was the 10th when we had 12.6mm of rain. The temperatures dropped below zero on three days and we had frost on four days, although only for a short time in the early morning. In between the showers, there were sunny spells. The highest temperature was on the 29th when we reached 20.7° c.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	20.7°c	29 April 15.00	-1.5°c	4 April 05.30
Mean Temperature	9.3°c			
Dewpoint:	12.5c	28 April 12.00	-2.5°c	4 April 04.00
Humidity:	97%	8-22-28 April	36%	4 April 16.00
Barometer:	1031.1 mb	2 April 23.00	986.8 mb	12 April 17.30
Wind Speed	39 mph SSW	12 April 12.00	Months avg.	5.6mph
Wind Chill:	20.3°c	29 April 15.00	-2.8°c	4 April 07.00
Dominant Wind:	SSW			
Rainfall * T = total rain days and moisture. R = Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 18T), 18(R) Wette		est Day 10 April	12.6 mm	0.496ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	April 2023	65.7 mm	2.586 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	3 Month	279.9mm	11.020 ins

April 2023 Temperatures and Rain Fall



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Race Around the World with ZSL

International conservation charity launches 'global' fundraising challenge to save wildlife 1 June 2023 – 30 June 2023

Could your daily commute get you to Canada? Could the school run take you to Spain? ZSL is calling on the public to join forces and travel 'Around the World in 30 Days', logging daily walks, runs or cycles to raise vital money for wildlife restoration in the UK and around the world. Throughout the month of June, the international conservation charity is challenging animal lovers of all ages to collectively travel 40,075km -



equal to the circumference of the globe - in support of the world's wildlife. 'Around the World in 30 Days' participants can simply log their regular daily exercise, or get creative and challenge themselves to a wilder form of athletics, inspired by their favourite animals. Walking 2km for hedgehogs, or cycling 10km a day for Critically Endangered Sumatran tigers - who have to roam those distances every single night to find food - will all take ZSL further around the world and towards their goal of a world where wildlife thrives.

ZSL's Fundraising and Engagement Director James Wren said: "From hazel dormice in England to forest elephants in Africa, species in every country are under threat and in need of our help. ZSL has the expertise to bring threatened wildlife back from the very brink of extinction - this June, we're asking the public to help us travel around the world so we can continue this vital work."

Fundraisers will add their efforts to a combined tracker, where every week they'll unlock a new inspiring story, discovering how ZSL's work makes a difference to some of the world's most threatened species. For example, raising over £30 or more could help train a nature guide in Nepal's National Parks, to share knowledge and support the protection of tigers and rhinos – while netting fundraisers a ZSL exercise t-shirt, as a thank you for supporting the charity's mission.

James added: "I will be running and cycling throughout the month aiming to cover as many as kilometres as I can, alongside zookeepers at ZSL's conservation zoos, London and Whipsnade, ZSL scientists and conservationists from all over the world. ZSL works with communities at home in the UK and around the world to protect threatened species, restore healthy ecosystems and inspire support for nature - all driven by world-leading science. It's only by working together that we can take strides to end wildlife extinction, so we're asking the public to unite in June to help us take on this monumental challenge." Visit zsl.org/AroundTheWorld to find out more, spread the word and sign up now.



'Extinct' Snails Return to the Wild

Zookeepers have returned more than 5,000 Extinct-in-the-Wild and Critically Endangered tropical snails bred at conservation zoos across the world to their French Polynesian island homes - almost 30 years after they were wiped out by a human-introduced invasive species. Thousands of Partula snails reared at London and Whipsnade Zoos, the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland and St Louis Zoo, were carefully flown over 15,000km to the islands of Moorea and Tahiti earlier this month, for the largest reintroduction in history.

ZSL's Curator of Invertebrates, Paul Pearce-Kelly, who coordinates the collaborative Partula conservation programme, said: "Despite their small size these snails are of great cultural, ecological and scientific importance – they're the Darwin's finches of the snail world, having been researched for more than a century due to their isolated habitat providing the perfect conditions to study evolution. This collaborative conservation initiative is, without a doubt, helping to bring these species back from the brink of extinction and shows the conservation power of zoos to reverse biodiversity loss. With nature

ZSL WHIPSNADE ZOO

across the world increasingly under threat, these little snails represent hope for the world's wildlife." This year's conservation efforts saw eight species and sub-species reintroduced, which are classified as Extinct-in-the-wild, Critically Endangered or Vulnerable. Before making the two day journey to the islands, the nocturnal snails, which measure 1-2cm in length, were individually marked with a dot of red UV reflective paint, meaning they will glow under UV torchlight to help conservationists monitor the populations at night when they're most active.

Partula snails - also known as Polynesian tree snails - eat decaying plant tissue and fungi, so play an important role in maintaining forest health. Returning them back to the wild enables us to start restoring the ecological balance in these islands. Now on their way back from the brink of extinction thanks to the dedicated work of conservation zoos and the French Polynesian Government's Direction de l'environnement, the snails were under imminent extinction threat in the 1980s and early 1990s, after the invasive predatory rosy wolf snail (Euglandina rosea) was introduced to rid the islands of a previously introduced alien species, the African giant land snail (Lissachatina fulica). Unfortunately, the predatory rosy wolf snail targeted the endemic snails instead, and across the region – many species were lost or left close to extinction shortly after the predator's arrival.

The last few surviving individuals of several Partula species were rescued in the early 1990s by London and Edinburgh Zoos, in order to begin the international conservation breeding programme – a collaboration between 15 zoos which care for 15 species and sub-species, the majority of which have an Extinct-in-the-Wild Red List threat status. Combined with others already being studied at universities around the world, it was these individuals that formed the source group to begin re-populating the Islands. Paul added: "After decades of work caring for these species in conservation zoos, working with the Direction de l'environnement to prepare the islands for their return, we began releasing Partula snails back into the wild 9 years ago. Since then, we've reintroduced over 21,000 Partula snails to the islands, including 11 Extinct-in-the-wild species and sub-species: this year's was the largest reintroduction so far, thanks to the incredible work of our international team efforts with collaborators, including mollusc specialist Dr Justin Gerlach of Peterhouse, University of Cambridge." The project is made possible due to funding from supporters including the Players of the People's Postcode Lottery.

World's Last 'Wild' Horse Foal Born at Whipsnade Zoo

Zookeepers are celebrating the birth of a Critically Endangered Przewalski's foal at Whipsnade Zoo - the world's last "truly wild" species of horse. The pointy-eared foal was born on 13 April at the conservation zoo, as part of the European Endangered Species Programme for the species and is just starting to stretch his legs and explore his surroundings. Keepers had been



monitoring the foal's pregnant mum, Charlotte, and were delighted when she gave birth to the healthy foal in a secluded area of the 600-acre conservation zoo. Eagle-eyed visitors watching from a distance also glimpsed a sneak peek of the wobbling youngster standing up for the first time.

Przewalski's horses (Equus przewalskii) were classified as Extinct-in-the-Wild until horses bred at Whipsnade Zoo were successfully reintroduced to Mongolia as part of a collaborative conservation project between Mongolian and UK ZSL scientists to save the species. There are now hundreds of wild Przewalski's horses living in the grasslands and deserts of Mongolia, Ukraine and China, and their population is increasing. As a result of reintroduction projects, the IUCN Red List reclassified the Przewalski's horse as Critically Endangered in 2008, and then again as Endangered as 2011. Unlike other species of horse that are sometimes described as 'wild', the Przewalski's horse is the only species considered by conservationists to be truly wild, rather than simply "feral", as it is not descended from domesticated horses. Visitors can see Luujin alongside 10,000 other animals at Whipsnade Zoo – find out more about the conservation zoo's vital work protecting species at www.whipsnadezoo.org.



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Life is a journey that we all travel – hopefully from childhood to old age

- each day brings with it a new revelation. Look for it – it may be in the opening of a flower, or a child's smile, a letter in the post, a cloud formation, a shower of rain, there is always something to thank God for. Try it.....

"When summer winds upon my cheeks are breathing,

And flowers are blooming in the sunlight because,

When over hill and vale birds are singing,

And branching willows watch by crystal's treasures,

In songs of praise my heart burst forth to sing,

O mighty God, O mighty God!"

The Salvation Army, Eaton Bray Programme				
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Champions Club	Wednesday 6.15-7.15pm 🐰			
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