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OCTOBER 2025



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THE FOCUS MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

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KINDLY NOTE

*Articles and events for publication must be submitted to the Editor by the 10th of the preceding month. August/September and December/January are joint issues and articles must be submitted by 10th July and 10th November respectively. If an event falls in the first week of the month, it is advisable to submit the details into Focus a month earlier. The magazines are not delivered from the printers until the first of the month and it takes a few days for them all to be circulated throughout the villages by our volunteer distributors.  **Editor***

Focus accepts no responsibility as to the accuracy or content of any advertising or articles published in 'this' magazine, neither do they reflect the opinion of members of the Committee.

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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



EDLESBOROUGH SURGERY

01525 221630 www.edlesboroughsurgery.co.uk



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



Focus is online at www.thefocusmagazine.co.uk

Village Info



EDAN COMMUNITY CAR SERVICE

CO-ORDINATOR: **Peter Williams** 01442 842506
Email: peterw500@aol.com



POLICE CONTACT DETAILS

GENERAL ASSISTANCE (RECOMMENDED NUMBER): 101 **EMERGENCY:** 999
TEXTPHONE SERVICE: 18001 101

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE: (EATON BRAY)

T/Sgt 6268 Amy Ison Leighton Buzzard Community Policing Team
Duncombe Drive, Leighton Buzzard **TELEPHONE:** 01582 473408

THAMES VALLEY POLICE (EDLESBOROUGH, DAGNALL & NORTHALL)

PCSO Mike Coker Email: WingNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk

TO REPORT NON URGENT CRIME: www.thamesvalley.police.uk

BOOKING CONTACTS

NORTHALL VILLAGE HALL: Lorna Cabbage 07857 318696

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk/nvh

EATON BRAY VILLAGE HALL: Norman Lee 07975 797202 & **Jane Taylor** 07852 586045

Email: northallvhbookings@gmail.com Website: www.ebvvh.co.uk

COFFEE TAVERN: Julie Mahoney 07836 240467

Website: <https://eatonbray.com/coffee-tavern/>

DAGNALL VILLAGE HALL: Bev Way 07875 462128 & **Trish Owen** 07762 151364

Email: DVH_Bookings@outlook.com

EDLESBOROUGH MEMORIAL HALL: Penny Pataky 01525 229358

Email: manager@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk

EDLESBOROUGH PAVILION: 07836 240467

Email: booking@edthepav.org Website: <https://edthepav.org.uk/>

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL: 07931 479663

Email: clerk@eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk Website: www.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk

EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL (including Dagnall & Northall): 01525 229358

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

EATON BRAY GOOD NEIGHBOURS HELPLINE 07930 987064



MANNED PHONE HOURS: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

(An answering service is available for out-of-hours calls). Call us if you want help getting to the surgery/hospital and collecting prescriptions.

We help people of Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall and Totternhoe.

Contents

The Focus Magazine Committee	3	Burghopes Charity Land	39
Village Info	4	Whipsnade Zoo Press Release	40
Pavilion Cancer Support Group	5	The Focus on Film Society	42
Village Diary	6	Talking Point	44
Eaton Bray with Edlesborough Parish News	8	Edlesborough WI Coffee Morning	44
Northall Baptist Chapel Services	9	Jazzercise	45
St Mary's Church, Eaton Bray Services	9	Friends of the Church on the Hill	49
Dagnall Church Services	9	Book Review	52
Repair Cafe	10	Edlesborough Pavilions	53
St. Mary's Book Swap	12	Eaton Bray WI	56
Dagnall Village Hall	12	Dunstable Probus Club	56
Edlesborough Parish Council News	15	Birds of Bray	56
World's Biggest Coffee Morning	17	Dog Training School and Daycare	57
Dont Be Scarred!!!	20	Totternhoe Garden Club	60
Pavilion Cancer Support Group	21	Edlesborough W.I.	61
Eaton Bray Parish Council	24	Pavilion IT Support Group	61
Dagnall Weather Station (AONB)	28	Helpful Tips on Finance	61
Northall Baptist Church	29	Steam in Beds 2025	64
Advice and Insights for Kids in the Game	32	Edlesborough WI	64
Eaton Bray Good Neighbours	32	Appledown Rescue Dog of the Month	65
St Marys Eaton Bray, 100 Club	32	What to do in the Garden in October	68
Dagnall Community Choir	33	Billington Craft Fair	70
South Bedfordshire Assosiation	35	Travel Impressions - Seville	71
No Need to be Spooked this Halloween	36	Hymns of Praise on Edlesborough Green	71
Christmas Carols & Brass Band	37	Edlesborough Memory Café	72
Best Dressed House Competition	37	Advertiser Index	73
Best Dressed House and Business	38	Salvation Army Activities	74
Wednesday Club	38		

Pavilion Cancer Support Group

This group meets at the Edlesborough Pavilion on the first Thursday of each month from 2.30pm. A get together to meet and share friendship, information and mutual support. There will also be speakers and medical professionals to address members' questions and requests.

**NO ONE
SHOULD FACE
CANCER
ALONE**

We are grateful to the Pavilion Trustees, Edlesborough Surgery and the Burghope Trust for their support.

No need to book just come along to the pavilion.

Thursdays 2nd October, 6th November and 4th December.

Edlesborough Community Sports Club
CIO Charity No. 1160939

WEEKLY

Mon-Sun	St. Mary's Edlesborough opening times are limited - Please see notice board and website
Mon-Sun	Pavilion Gym Mon-Frid 6:30am to 9:30pm Sat/Sun 8am-8pm Email Gym@edthepav.org.uk
Mon-Sun	Pavilion open for members. M-T 6:30am-9pm, F 6:30am-10pm, S/S 8am-8pm Email: General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk
Mon-Fri*	Eaton Bray Pre-school Eaton Bray Lower School, 01525 220468, admin@eba.ec
Mon-Fri*	Edlesborough Primary Academy Pre-School 01525 220431, epamanager@epa-primary.org
Mon-Fri*	Totternhoe Pre-school Totternhoe CE Acad 01582 662959 totternhoeoffice@tot.dsamat.co.uk
Mon	Pilates 10.45am, Totternhoe Memorial Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
Mon	Dagnall Community Choir , All Saints Church 7.45-9.45pm, w.dagnall-community-choir.co.uk
Mon*	Movement and exercise classes with a dance flavour, Northall VH 2-3.30. Jan 01442 864271.
Mon	Cubs (8-10 ½ yrs old), 6.30pm - 8pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Liz Coates 01442 842550
Mon	Yoga 6:45pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
Mon	Barre 8pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall, contact 07837 727302
Mon	Eaton Bray Tennis Club 4-7pm mini / junior tennis coaching
Mon	Eaton Bray Tennis Club 7-8pm Adult Coaching 'Get Back Into Tennis'
Tues	Pilates 10-11am, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Nicky Roussou 07861 162680
Tues*	Totternhoe Baby & Toddler Group 9.30- 11.15am, St. Giles Church Hall
Tues	Tap & Ballet Classes JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 07800 518654
Tues**	Coffee Morning Bring & Buy, Table Top Sale, 10-11:30am, Salvation Army Hall, Booth Place, EB
Tues	Jazzercise 9:15-10:15, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Beth 07539 739136
Tues	Eaton Bray Tennis Club 6-7.30pm Social play for all adults
Tues	Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Kids 5.45pm- 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785

Tues	Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Adults 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785
Tues	Movement is Medicine Pilates 11am-12pm, Billington Hall, moira@stjudesclinic.com
Wed	Pilates 8pm, Northall Village Hall, Lisa: 07832 230774
Wed	Northall & Dist Age Concern Wed Club 10am- 3pm, Northall Village Hall, Dee 07854 230243
Wed	Art Course online 9.30 - 11.30am, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
Wed	Art Course Bellows Mill Eaton Bray, 2-4.30pm, contact Lorna Moore 07896 619660
Wed	Pilates 6-7pm, Eaton Bray V.Hall, Heather Holmes 07305 023077 pilateswithheather@mail.com
Wed	Movement is Medicine Pilates 7-8pm & 8:05- 9:05pm Billington Hall moira@stjudesclinic.com
Wed*	Stay & Play toddler group 'Musical Monkeys' Eaton Bray Village Hall, 10am 07944 891235
Wed	Knit and Natter 12-2pm Edlesborough Pavilion Di Hedges 07794 075269
Wed	Lunch Menu at The Pavilion Email ecstrading@edthepav.org.uk
Wed	Champion's Club Weds 6:15pm - 7:15pm (2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Weds of the month, Age 5+, term time only - lots of fun including games, music, activities & bible stories), The Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DR.
Thur	KFPA Street dance classes Edlesborough Memorial Hall 4.15pm-6.30pm (4 years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
Thur	Berkhamsted Taekwon-do Adults 6.30pm, Dagnall Village Hall, 07813 755785
Thur	Beavers (6 to 8 years old), 6.15-7.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact: ebebeaverleader@ebescouts.co.uk
Thur	Explorers Scouts (14-18 years old), 8pm- 9.30pm, 1st Eaton Bray & Edlesborough Scout Hut, High Street, Edlesborough. Contact Simon Betts, simon_betts@hotmail.com
Thur	Jazzercise 18:30-19:00 and 19:00-19:45, Eaton Bray VH, Beth 07539 739136
Thur	Retro Line Dance Class 11.15am to 12.45pm. Eaton Bray Village Hall. Beginners welcome. www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk 07864 212171

Village Diary

* TERM TIME ONLY
** FORTNIGHTLY

Thur	Adult Board Games 12-2:30pm, Pavilion 07740 197392 Email Stevemunday1@gmail.com
Thur*	Move Better, Feel Better Pilates 10-11am, Edlesborough Memorial Hall Contact Lesley Pickering, 07767 823202, lesley@lesleypickering.com
Thur	Lunch Menu at The Pavilion Email ecscstrading@edthepav.org.uk
Fri	Tap & Ballet Classes JoAnn Latus School of Dance, 4-8pm, Eaton Bray VH, 07800 518654
Fri	Jazzercise 9:15-10:15, Eaton Bray VH, Beth 07539 739136
Fri	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
Fri	"Little Luvvies" baby ballet classes 10am- 11.30am, Northall Village Hall. Contact Emma Whittemore on 01525 376124
Fri	Movement is Medicine Pilates 10-11am Great Gaddesdon Parish Hall, moira@stjudesclinic.com
Fri	Food evening at The Pavilion Email ecscstrading@edthepav.org.uk
Sat	Jazzercise 9-10am, Eaton Bray VH, Beth 07539 739136
Sat	KFPA Musical theatre classes Edlesborough Memorial Hall 9.30-10.30am (4years+) Contact Kiri 07988161043 or visit Facebook page 'KF PerformingArts/ KFPA' for info
Sun	Sunday Worship at 11am Edlesborough Baptist Church, Moor End, LU6 2FL. Contact: 01525 222064 or edlesboroughbaptistchurch@gmail.com
Sun	Karate for kids & adults 3-4:15pm & 4:30- 5:45pm, Eaton Bray VH, Contact 07500 007779
Sun	Eaton Bray Tennis Club 10am -12pm Social play for all adults
Sun	Sunday Worship Sun 11am – 12pm (weekly worship for all ages followed by tea/coffee/squash, biscuits & a chat), The Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DR.

MONTHLY

1st Mon	Eaton Bray Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm, The Coffee Tavern (except Jan-2nd Monday)
1st Mon	Eaton Bray W.I. 7.30pm. Eaton Bray Methodist Church Hall. Margaret Jones on 07478 061156
1st Tues	Sewing Class 7-9pm, Edlesborough Pavilion, General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk

1st Tues	Jewellery Making 7-9pm, Edlesborough Pavilion General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk (Dates can vary)
1st Tues	Dunstable & District Orbit (social & charitable) Club Dunstable Rugby Club, 8pm. 01525 222441
1st Wed*	Messy Church 6-7:15pm, Salvation Army, Booth Place, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DR
1st Thur	Pavilion Cancer Support Group from 2.30 pm in Edlesborough Pavilion.
1st Sat	St. Mary's Church Eaton Bray Coffee Morning, 10:30am - 12 noon (July held on 2nd Saturday)
1st Sat	Book Swap at St Mary's Eaton Bray, 10:30am - 12 noon (July held on 2nd Saturday)
2nd Mon	Film Society Sept to June, 2pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Graham Chappell 07980 321977
2nd Tues	Dunstable & District Local History Society meeting, 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable
2nd Tues	Edlesborough W.I. 7.30 pm, Edlesborough Memorial Hall. Contact Jackie Flint 01525 221618
2nd Tues & Thur	Adult board games club 7-9:30pm, Edlesborough Pavilion, 07740 197392, email Stevemunday1@gmail.com , Edlesborough Pavilion members, guests and new enquirer's welcome
1st Thur	Girls' Night Out 7:30pm (1st Thurs of the month – for more details including where we meet & what we do each month, email eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk)
2nd Thur	Sewing Class 10:30am -12:30pm, Edlesborough Pavilion, General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk
2nd Fri	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 Thur	Edlesborough Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm, Edlesborough Pavilion or as stated in Edlesborough Parish Council News
3rd Sat	Junior board games club Edlesborough Pavilion, General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk (dates can vary)
3rd Sun	Lunch club 11.30 to 2.00pm, Eaton Bray Village Hall, Chris Hewitt 222288
4th Wed	Book club 7-10pm General.enquiries@edthepav.org.uk (dates can vary)
Last Sat	Coffee Morning 10:00-12 noon, Edlesborough Methodist Church

EATON BRAY WITH EDLESBOROUGH ~ PARISH NEWS ~

Vicar: Rev'd Joy Cousins

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

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

Reader: Gordon Gray (01525 220136)

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

The Bible begins and ends with a garden. At the start of Genesis, Adam and Eve live peacefully in the garden, meeting with God and walking together in the cool of the evening. That is until it all goes horribly wrong. In the final book of the Bible, Revelation, the Tree of Life stands at the centre. 'And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.' (Revelation 22 verse 2) I don't believe that these parts of Scripture were written to be taken literally. Rather, they are poetic works which seek to explain why there is so much beauty and so much horror in our world. And they point to a future hope of healing and renewal for all of creation.

For Jesus, gardens were spaces to pray and be still. They were also places to wrestle with God, and with the meaning of his vocation. Jesus lived as we do and experienced the whole of life. He laughed and shared meals with his friends, he knew what it was like to be lonely, hurt and fearful. He joined in wedding feasts and celebrations, times of joy and times of sorrow. On the eve of the crucifixion, Jesus went with three disciples to the garden of the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed. "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done." In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground." (Luke 22 verses 42 & 44) I'm told that this is medically possible when someone is in anguish.

In the Bible, gardens have a significant role as places where crucial things happen. The garden is the place of encounter with God, the place of sanctuary, the place of wrestling and the place of healing. The garden of Eden is the archetype of an earthly paradise with God in its midst. In fact, the word 'Paradise' originates in

Old Persian and means a walled garden. So do we find paradise in our gardens? Dorothy Frances Gurney wrote that we are 'closer to God in a garden than anywhere else on earth.' And it is probably true that gardening keeps us on our knees far more than prayer does! Our gardens, or outdoor spaces if we have no garden, are a reminder of the beauty and fragility of creation. This summer we have again been confronted with the effects of climate change. In the Vicarage garden, the fruit trees have been abundant, but the courgettes have been hard and hollow despite our best efforts at watering. The Kale has more holes than leaf because the cabbage white butterflies have had a field day. Learning to garden with the increasingly erratic weather patterns is something which all gardeners will need to do.

Gardens are also used in the Bible as metaphors. A particularly fruitful way of thinking is to imagine God as the gardener of our soul, as this prayer by Richard Foster shows.

Spirit of the living God, be the Gardener of my soul. For so long I have been waiting, silent and still- experiencing a winter of the soul. But now, in the strong name of Jesus Christ, I dare to ask: Clear away the dead growth of the past, Break up the hard clods of custom and routine, Stir in the rich compost of vision and challenge, Bury deep in my soul the implanted Word, Cultivate and water and tend my heart, Until new life buds and opens and flowers. Amen.

With every blessing

Rev'd Joy Cousins



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Email: **northallchapel@btinternet.com**

Website: **www.northallbaptistchurch.org**

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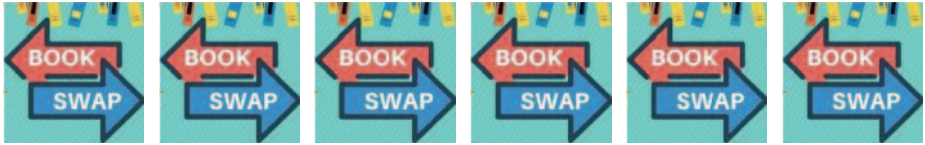







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1st November 10.30 – 12.00

We are only accepting novels in good condition and we asking that you only bring them when the Book Swap is open. Please note we are not accepting cookery books and factual books or any large amounts of books.

For more information about Book Swap please contact:

Chris Sanders Email: chris.sanders45@gmail.com

Jenifer MacKenzie Email: jenimackenzie@hotmail.com



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I was made to
feel completely
at ease.

Thank you!"
- R.R.



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EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

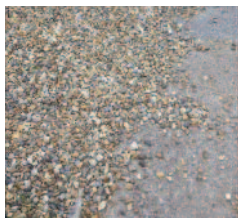
Including Edlesborough • Dagnall • Northall • 2025

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

Pebble/Pea Shingle Driveways

Council requests that residents with a pebble or peas shingle driveway regularly check for spillage onto the adjoining pavement. Pebbles and pea shingle on the pavement can be hazardous to pedestrians and a nuisance to pushchairs and wheelchairs.

Council asks that residents ensure the pavement adjacent to their driveway is regularly swept/kept clear of pebbles and/or pea shingle type materials.



Allotments

The annual allotment rent for 2025/26 is due to be paid at the start of October 2025. The rent due is £2.30 per pole.

EPC requests that payments are made by internet banking. Any tenants not able to pay by internet banking please contact the Clerk ASAP to discuss an alternative payment method.

Please ensure rent is paid by 11th October 2025, late payments will incur a £10 administration fee.

EPC currently holds a waiting list for all allotment sites, anyone wishing to be added to the waiting list should contact the Clerk.



Buckinghamshire Councillors

Copies of the latest reports from the Buckinghamshire Councillors can be viewed on the EPC website alongside the minutes of the EPC meetings.

Streetlights

Please report failed streetlights in Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall to the Clerk for repair via clerk@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or 01525 229358



Salt Bins

The responsibility for filling these bins is with Transport for



Buckinghamshire. When supplies are running low a refill request should be submitted via their website Report problems on roads, streets and pavements | Buckinghamshire Council It is more appropriate if a parishioner living close to the salt bin makes the request but in practice anyone can make the request.

EPC Surgery

If you have a question or suggestion for the Parish Council the Clerk will be available on the first Thursday of September, December, March, and June in Edlesborough Pavilion from midday – 2pm. The surgeries have been reduced to once a quarter due to poor attendance.

Speedwatch & EDaN Traffic Management

Any parishioner interested in becoming involved with the EDaN Community Speedwatch for Edlesborough Parish should contact Mr Alan Williams via email at speedwatch@edlesborough-pc.gov.uk or on 07828 398371.

Council Meetings

The next Edlesborough Parish Council Meetings will take place on:

- Thursday 16th October 2024
– in Northall Village Hall
- Thursday 20th November 2025
– 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.





EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Including Edlesborough • Dagnall • Northall • 2025

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

Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition

Edlesborough entered the DeFraine Cup and scored 182 out of a possible 200 points for the Best Kept Village Competition 2025.

EPC thanks the council contractor MW Agri Ltd, the council handyperson Gary Francis, the EDaN Beautification Team, the volunteer litter pickers and all the residents who help to ensure our villages are well looked after.

VILLAGE: EDLESBOROUGH			SCORE	Possible Marks
1	Cemetery/graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	Beautiful churchyard, really well managed and maintained (including the latest section now in use) particularly in view of the steep slopes.	20	20
2	Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area	Beautiful recreation ground with good facilities. Play equipment imaginative and being well used when we visited. Whole area is well maintained – a great facility at the heart of the village. Evidence of recent dog fouling in one location. The newer play area has been well maintained. Both areas free of litter.	34	35
3	Floral displays, hanging baskets, tubs, planters, flower beds etc.	Good planters around the village and outside Scout Hut and Methodist Chapel and also at road 'T' junction by the War Memorial.	13	15
4	Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall)	Excellent pavilion but appears no progress made with replacement of ceiling to veranda. Village Hall an attractive building, area around well maintained and tidy. Major works in progress at Scout Hut.	18	20
5	General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream, pump, etc.)	Verges well maintained and tidy. Allotments area well used and looking good.	20	20
6	Shops and Pubs	Beautiful churchyard, really well managed and maintained (including the latest section now in use) particularly in view of the steep slopes.	18	20
7	Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, og bins, notice boards, information signs	Bus shelter dusty and cobwebby, with shabby paintwork. Notice boards clean and tidy and mainly up to date. Various seating around the green and church yard, all in good order.	17	20
8	War memorial (Please include a photograph if the memorial is inside a locked building)	Good planters, very colourful but appeared a bit neglected. Needs sweeping and weeding.	16	20
9	Quality of Competition entry - up to date and detailed map with features highlighted	Map supplied clearly marked up but background a little faint.	8	10
10	Evidence of community engagement (e.g. website, newsletter, magazine, posters, and general community involvement in the Competition)	PC website is the official website for Parish Council matters. Is very informative, easy to navigate and bang up to date. also, home for the Focus Magazine.	18	20
			182	200

EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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 Website: www.edlesborough-pc.gov.uk | Facebook: www.facebook.com/EDANParishCouncil | **01525 229358**



Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition

Dagnall entered the Morris Cup and scored 185 out of a possible 200 points for the Best Kept Village Competition 2025.

VILLAGE: DAGNALL			SCORE	Possible Marks
1	Cemetery/graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	No Cemetery	18	20
2	Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area	Playing field and facilities in excellent condition. Adult gym provided.	35	35
3	Floral displays, hanging baskets, tubs, planters, flower beds, etc .	Floral displays around the village are good particularly by the pub and village hall.	13	15
4	Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall)	Village Hall neat and tidy.	18	20
5	General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream, pump, etc.)	All recently mown and tidy.	18	20
6	Shops and Pubs	The pub is in good order with good floral displays. The shop is basic but provides a range of local produce.	18	20
7	Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, dog bins, notice boards, information signs	Seats around the village in good order. Noticeboards near village hall.	18	20
8	War memorial (Please include a photograph if the memorial is inside a locked building)	Plaque near church.	16	20
9	Quality of Competition entry - up to date and detailed map with features highlighted	What's On book in conjunction with Edlesborough. Very informative.	9	10
10	Evidence of community engagement (e.g. website, newsletter, magazine, posters, and general community involvement in the Competition)	One of the few villages to display the BKVC poster on their noticeboard.	19	20
			185	200

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Don't be Scared!!!!



GIANT
HOUSE
SPIDER

In the UK, October is a peak month for spider activity as they enter their mating season and seek shelter from the colder weather. While you might see more spiders in and around your home, they are generally harmless.

Here's why you might see more spiders in October:

Mating Season:

Male spiders become more active in their search for females, often entering homes for warmth and shelter.

Weather:

As temperatures drop, spiders seek refuge from the cold, making homes, sheds, and garages attractive places.

Size:

Spiders are often larger in autumn as they reach adulthood, making them more noticeable.

Common UK Spiders you might see in October:

Giant house spider: One of the most common house spiders, known for its speed.

Orb-weaver spider: Build large, round webs, often seen in gardens.

Daddy long legs: Actually a type of harvestman, not a spider, with long, thin legs.

False widow spider: Similar in appearance to the black widow, but generally harmless.

Cardinal spider: A large spider, often found in older houses.

Tube-dwelling spider: Builds a tube-shaped web, often found in walls.

Marbled orb weaver: A medium-sized spider with a marbled pattern on its abdomen.

Cucumber spider: Green with a red spot, found in vegetation.

Jumping spider: Small, black, and shiny, known for jumping on prey.

Running crab spider: Small and fast, found in low vegetation.

Labyrinth spider: Builds a complex web, found in long grass.

Money spider: Small and harmless, found in autumn leaves.

Spider Season:

Spider season in the UK generally runs from August to October, with September often being the peak month. The exact timing can vary depending on the weather.

What to do:

Don't panic:

Most UK spiders are harmless and won't bite unless provoked.

Relocate them:

If you want to remove a spider from your home, gently guide it into a container and release it outside.

Seal entry points:

Seal cracks and gaps in your walls and windows to prevent spiders from entering.

Reduce clutter:

Spiders like to hide in dark, undisturbed places, so reducing clutter can help.

TUBE-DWELLING
SPIDER

MARBLED ORB
WEAVER

CUCUMBER SPIDER

JUMPING SPIDER

RUNNING
CRAB SPIDER

LABYRINTH SPIDER

MONEY SPIDER

DADDY
LONG
LEGS

FALSE WIDOW SPIDER
FEMALE

FALSE
WIDOW
SPIDER
MALE

CARDINAL SPIDER

Pavilion Cancer Support Group

On Thursday 3rd July the Cancer Support Group celebrated their first anniversary.

The group first met on Thursday 4th July 2024 in the club room of the pavilion. We were unsure of the response and wondered if anyone would turn up. As it happened, we had no need to worry. Since then, the group has been consistently well supported by an ever increasing number of members. Friendships have been formed and mutual interests recognised.

We have had a varied range of guest speakers and many relevant topics have been covered. For our anniversary we celebrated with cake and Dr Lee Mitchell as our guest speaker. His words which were so relevant and moving I have added below.

It's a real honour to stand before you today as we mark the **one-year anniversary of the Edlesborough Cancer Support Group**—a year of connection, courage, and community.

This gathering today isn't just about looking back—it's about recognising what this group represents. Across the UK, **one in two people will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives**. Every year, over **375,000 new cancer cases** are diagnosed. These are more than just numbers. They are our friends, family members, neighbours—sometimes, they are us.

That's why the role of this group is so incredibly important.

Cancer doesn't just affect the body—it impacts every part of life, and not just for those diagnosed, but for those who care for them, support them, and walk alongside them. Over the past year, this group has created a vital space where people can find **understanding, reassurance, and genuine companionship**—somewhere to share the burdens and celebrate the small victories.

This wouldn't be possible without the extraordinary efforts of the **volunteers and team members** who keep the wheels turning. You've given your time, your energy, and your hearts to this cause. You've made it a priority to show up, to listen, and to help others feel seen. Thank you.

We're also immensely grateful to the **allied health professionals** who regularly attend these meetings who offer not only advice but emotional support and encouragement. Your presence brings reassurance and helps bridge the gap between medical care and everyday life.

As a GP I see many patients come through my door at different stages of their cancer journey and people that know me also know that I too have lost friends and family to cancer and so it is an absolute pleasure to collaborate and stand alongside this group. I believe this sends a powerful message: that healthcare doesn't end at the surgery door—it continues in the community, where people live, recover, and support each other.

What has been built here in Edlesborough over the last year is more than just a support group. It's a reminder that nobody has to go through cancer alone. It's proof that, even in the face of one of life's greatest challenges, community makes a difference – it really does take a village!

So, let's celebrate this milestone—not just for the time that has passed, but for the lives touched and the strength shared.

Here's to another year of compassion, connection, and continued support.

If you are affected by cancer please come and join us on the first Thursday of each month at 2.30pm.

We don't always have cake, but we do have biscuits!

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SHOULD FACE
CANCER
ALONE**



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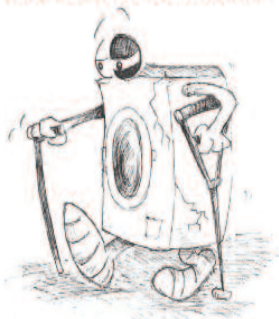
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EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT: AUGUST 2025

A hard copy of the draft minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council notice board at The Coffee Tavern.

A full copy of the minutes for Eaton Bray Parish Council can be found on our website:

www.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk

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.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk

EATON BRAY FACEBOOK PAGE



Follow Eaton Bray Parish Council on Facebook, keep up to date with your Parish Council and what is going on in the parish:

<https://www.facebook.com/EatonBray>

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

A copy of the Parish Council's Finance & Annual Reports can be viewed on the Parish Council Website.

PARISH COUNCIL REGULATIONS/POLICIES

Copies of the Parish Council's regulations/policies can be seen on the Parish Council Website.

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/>

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON MONDAY 7th July 2025,
from 7:30pm**

(Minutes ratified at the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 7th July 2025)----

CBC CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

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

- Cllr Spicer is in communication with CBC Highways regarding traffic calming measure in the village. The Parish Council put forward a proposal of the Parish Council contributing towards improvements. Matter ongoing.

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE

- General Assistance/recommended number: 101 - Emergency: 999
- Textphone service: 18001 101
- Follow local policing team on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/leightonbuzzardpolicing/>
- Crime Map for your area (details can be found on the Bedfordshire Police website) : <https://www.beds.police.uk/area/your-area/bedfordshire/central-bedfordshire/leighton-buzzard--rural/about-us/crime-map>

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APPEALS/ ENFORCEMENT NOTICES – AUGUST 2025

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

RECREATION GROUNDS

- **School Lane:** Cllr Spicer is in communication with CBC Highways regarding traffic calming measure in the village. The Parish Council put forward a proposal of the Parish Council contributing towards improvements. Matter ongoing.
- **Holmans Field:**
 - The installation of a kissing gate at Holmans Field has been approved.
*UPDATE 01/09/2025: Gate installed.
 - Riverbank gate: Gate not closing, dry weather has caused the ground to dry and the gate drop. The Parish Council to repair to the gate.
*UPDATE 01/09/2025: Repair carried out.

BOWER LANE CEMETERY EXTENSION

(Phase 1) The initial groundworks at the cemetery, creating additional burial spaces, has been completed.

(Phase 2) A new fence, together with a small storage area for grave digger boards, is being installed along the boundary with Café Masala.

(Phase 3) The newly created/levelled land to be topsoiled/grass seeded.

(Phase 4) Native hedging (whips) to be planted along the rear boundary of the adjacent field.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS: AUGUST 2025/PERIOD 5

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



(1) Best Dressed House Competition: Christmas 2025 The Parish

Council are holding a Christmas Best Dressed House competition for Eaton Bray. Judging will take place on Saturday 13th December,

with the winner announced at the Brass Band and Christmas Carols event on Wednesday 17th December. A certificate and a small gift of a customised bauble will be awarded to the winner. If you are interested in entering the competition, please visit the Parish Council website to complete your house entry application (only residents of Eaton Bray parish are eligible to enter). **Applications for the competition will open from Monday 3rd November 2025 and close Friday 14th November 2025.**

(2) Music with the Heath Brass Band and Christmas Carols

Wednesday 17th December 2025, 7pm at Market Place, Market Square, Eaton Bray

The Parish Council are once again organising Christmas Carols in the village. The Brass Band will be helping residents celebrate the festive season. Put the date in your diary and come and enjoy the festivities (*subject to cancellation for poor weather*).

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

Details can be obtained from EBPC website:

www.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk

- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 6th October 2025 from 7:30pm
- Parish Council Meeting, Monday 3RD November 2025 from 7:30pm

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE (Ground floor)

**10am-12noon at The Coffee Tavern,
18 High Street, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DP**

(Open dates/times subject to change, please check

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DAGNALL WEATHER STATION (AONB)

Weather Conditions for August 2025

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

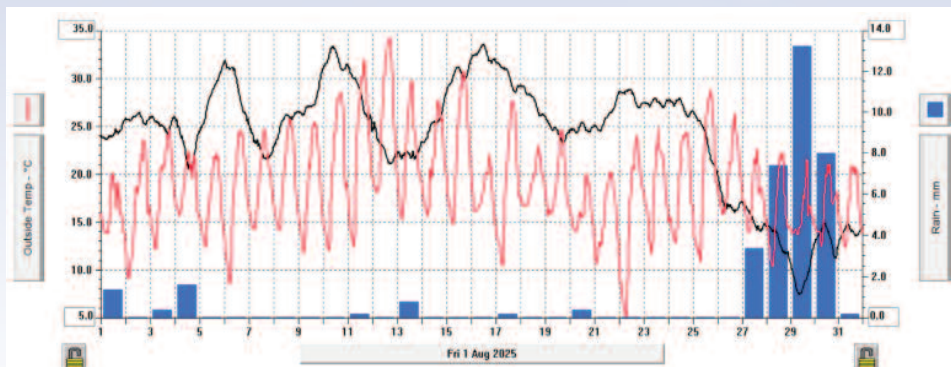
August started warm with only a hint of rain over the first few days. After that, it only got hotter.

Between the 10th and the 15th, daytime temperatures were consistently above 28 degrees, and the monthly high was on the 12th when we reached 34.4°C. It remained incredibly dry and, by the 19th, we had only recorded 4.6mm of rain. Storm Erin came in to bring some drama at the end of the month which saw a total of 32.8mm rainfall across four days.

The wettest day was the 29th at 13.2 mm. Nevertheless, August was another dry month. With only 37.2mm of rain, which is 49% of the average. The year's running rain total by the end of August was 310.4mm: 70% of the average.

	High	Date/Time	Low	Date/Time
Temperature:	34.4°C	12 August 16.30	5.1°C	22 August 06.00
Mean Temperature	18.7°C			
Dewpoint:	21.9°C	13 August 15.00	4.2°C	22 August 06.00
Humidity:	98%	22 August 08.00	30%	12 August 15.00
Barometer:	1028.0 mb	16 August 11.30	993.2 mb	29 August 08.30
Wind Speed	n/a	12 August 16.30	Months avg.	n/a
Wind Chill:	27.5°C	10 August 16.00	8.2°C	6 August 05.30
Dominant Wind:	n/a			
Rainfall *T= total rain days and moisture. R= Actual rain				
*Rain Days: 8(T), 8(R)	Wettest Day 29 August		13.2mm	0.520 ins
Monthly Rain:	Total	August	37.2 mm	1.465 ins
Yearly Rain:	Total	8 Months	310.4 mm	12.220 ins

August was very hot and dry up to 27th. The black line shows the pressure quickly dropping as the storm brought in the rain.



For weather data 24 hours a day, updated every 15mins, visit: www.dagnallweather.co.uk and http://bit.ly/weather_dagnall this site forecast and much more

If anyone has a question, comment or wishes to contact me please email: david@dagnallweather.co.uk or telephone: 01442 843883

Dagnall weather now has an app for your iPad & iPhone! Just go to the apple store, search for Wunderstation and follow the instructions to Dagnall Weather Station. Now updated every minute.

NORTHALL BAPTIST CHURCH - 200 YEARS AND STILL GOING

*A little Church with
strong local links.*

Every day we learn

During the past seventy years and even today, I realise that I learn so much from gardens, lessons for life.

I remember, as a child, watching my dear Grandfather carefully protecting his prizewinning chrysanthemums from wind and dust by putting paper bags over them just before the Church Flower Show.

I recall my Father's despairing failure to eradicate couch grass and his astonished delight when bringing in enough rhubarb for a crumble.



In a brand-new garden when we moved into a "New build", aided by several friends, I borrowed a rotovator, and we laid (and had to re-lay) some turf, although sabotaged by my Mother's large exuberant Labrador at every stage.

I've had memorable encounters with so called Weeds. I grew some impressive plants with deep green leaves like a foxglove, but which developed small deep blue flowers – very attractive so I let them flourish, discovering that they were Lungwort and was advised to get rid, because they would take over. So, in the Autumn I took a firm grip of a likely looking plant, and heaved...whereupon it broke off, its tough and well-established tap roots six inches below the surface, and I realised that the whole bed would need to be excavated to get the roots out, although it looked pristine on the surface.

In my own garden, the first year I was here, I had

no surprises; however, in the second year there appeared fine specimens of Weld – over a metre tall and very robust. The time came to deal with it. I tentatively laid hands on a tough looking specimen, expecting it to break off, but up it came, root and all, no trouble. Each plant the same – very satisfying. And this year? No sign, all gone.

So, what am I learning, day by day? That precious and beautiful things in our lives are worth protecting – things like loving relationships, family and friendships; that some tasks are too hard for one person, however willing; that some tasks can be achieved with help but are vulnerable to resident saboteurs like Labradors!

That things get established in our lives and need wholesale rooting out!

Jesus often drew attention to the natural world around - the little anemone flowers, weeds growing amongst the wheat, the tiny mustard seed and the plant which grew from it; sheep and lambs, barley loaves and fish. I believe He still encourages us to learn from our situations and surroundings and let His Spirit open up our minds and imaginations to receive guidance for our lives. His Spirit is a great resource, and very gentle with us.

So now...I have negotiated No Mow May, No Prune June, Developing Jungle July, Abandon Hope August, SOS September and embark on Oh my Goodness October. I'm getting help... and I'm learning!

Join us for our Sunday services in the Church 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.

Contributed by Rev. Lynne Davis.



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ADVICE AND INSIGHTS FOR KIDS IN THE GAME

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Confidence is one of the most important gifts we can offer a child—and football is the perfect setting for it to flourish. On the pitch, kids face challenges that require bravery, persistence, and belief in themselves. Whether it's stepping up to take a penalty or bouncing back from a mistake, football creates endless moments where a child's inner voice can grow louder and more positive.

A supportive coach who highlights effort over outcome helps shape this growth. A child who hears "Great idea!" after trying something new is more likely to try again and learn. Over time, this encouragement builds a sense of self-worth that extends well beyond the game.

Coaching Tip: In training, design drills that allow players to experience small successes—such as scoring in 1v1 scenarios or completing a trick move. Praise the intent and bravery just as much as the result. "challenge," or "nutmeg tag." Keep the atmosphere light, playful, and full of laughter.



Daniel Riley

Coach for EB Lions
U11 Saturday Team



This Autumn is certainly living up to being the "season of mellow

fruitfulness" with bumper crops of apples, pears, berries and damsons, or "Aylesbury prunes" as they are known locally. We have also had a bumper crop of clients requesting help with over 200 tasks being actioned in the last quarter. This needs volunteers and we especially need volunteers from Totternhoe.

We are a valuable support for villagers who find it difficult to get out and about. Eaton Bray Good Neighbours is part of a network of similar groups operating under the umbrella of Bedfordshire Rural Charities. Our local group covers Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Totternhoe and Northall and has now been in operation for over ten years. Volunteers are not on a rota or committed in any way. They can just opt into a job if it is convenient.

Although we are volunteers, petrol is paid at a standard rate. If you don't want to be driving, we also have phone holders who are on a voluntary rota and organise volunteers as requests for help come in. EBN is a service Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. If you would like to find out more about the group before volunteering, you could come to our AGM 23th October. Phone for more details.

We look forward to hearing from you.
Our telephone number 07930 987064



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100 Club
SEPTEMBER

1st prize - **Anne Hendricksen**

2nd prize - **Elizabeth Stagg**

3rd prize - **Margaret Roberts**

DAGNALL COMMUNITY CHOIR

This year is the fifteenth since the Choir was first formed, and to celebrate this achievement, on 6th September the Choir hosted a 'Come and Sing Day' at All Saints Church, Dagnall. We were pleased and honoured to have this event led by the acclaimed composer Philip Stopford. He took the attendees through the day singing a number of his compositions, adding humorous stories of his life as a composer, both here and in the United States. It was a wonderfully fulfilling day, and hopefully, if we can pin Philip down, he will host another 'Come and Sing Day' in the future. If you would like to hear some of his beautiful compositions, you can find him on YouTube and various other platforms.

After a number of discussions, the Choir have reached the decision, not without some regret, to change the Choir's base and leave our home for the last fifteen years, All Saints Church, Dagnall. We would like to express our thanks to the church, and especially to Philip Lee, who has been nothing but supportive over the last fifteen years. Thank you, Philip

However, time moves on, and from Monday 3rd November the Choir will now have a new home at Eaton Bray Academy, School Lane, Eaton Bray LU6 2DT. We hope that this new home will attract people from Eaton Bray, Edlesborough, Northall and even further afield to come along and join us on a Monday evening. We are a friendly bunch who enjoy singing and getting together for a couple of hours on a Monday evening.

You do not have to be able to read music, or

even

to have sung before, just come along and give it a go. New members are not required to audition to join the Choir, and you will be mentored through your initial few weeks.

The choir will be taking part in the annual Poppy Prom on the afternoon of Saturday 1st November at St Mary's, Eaton Bray.

We will also be holding the Choir's Christmas Concert at Eaton Bray Village Hall during the afternoon of Sunday 14th December. Tickets will be priced at £5.00 per adult, with children free, and this year we will be raising funds for Eaton Bray Academy. Father Christmas will also be dropping in. Details about how to purchase tickets are included in the Choir's ad in this current issue of the Focus Magazine.



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SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Who Are We?

We are an Association which promotes the work of the National Trust and encourages membership and volunteering and allows members to share their interests with like minded people in their area.

We have a varied programme throughout the year, several outings to historic properties and their gardens, coffee mornings, talks in the winter months and an annual holiday by coach, incorporating visits to a number of National Trust and other properties. Come and make new friends and learn the stories behind some of these iconic buildings.

Membership is open to anyone who would like to support our work. You do not have to be a member of the National Trust.

Interested: either contact our Membership Secretary for more details on 07931 919860 or come and meet us at Esquires Café in Market Square, Leighton Buzzard on Tuesday, November 4th from 10.30am

and discover more!

No need to be spooked this Halloween

Happy Halloween,

Thames Valley Police would like to inform you of what your local Neighbourhood Policing Team and local partners are doing during the Halloween and firework celebrations.

Your Neighbourhood Team will be carrying out patrols in the evenings to make sure people who are trick or treating are doing so in a friendly manner and not causing a nuisance.

For some people this time of year can be a bother as your evenings are interrupted with people knocking on your doors for treats.

Most of these children or teenagers are just getting involved in the Halloween celebrations and will be friendly.

At any point if you feel unsafe:

- Don't open your door if you're unsure who is there. Use your spy-hole, look out of a window and use your door chain if you do decide to open your door.
- Have a contact number of a close relative or good neighbour to hand by your telephone, just in case you need to phone them.
- If you are part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, let your coordinator know that you will be on your own at Halloween. If you are a coordinator, please identify people in your scheme that may be vulnerable and offer them reassurance.



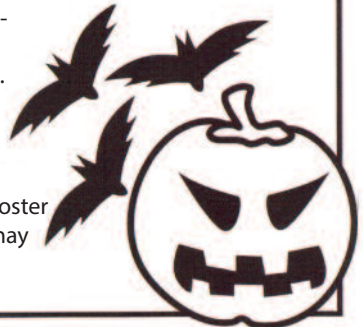
Thames Valley Police will not tolerate any anti-social behaviour at any time of the year.

To report anti-social behaviour contact the Thames Valley Police

24 hour non-emergency number 101.

In an emergency dial 999.

Above is a poster which you may like to use



Merry CHRISTMAS

Celebrate Christmas with
EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas Carols & Brass Band
 [with The Heath Band]

Wednesday 17th December 2025 at 7pm
Market Place

The green outside The White Horse PH,
 1 Market Square, Eaton Bray



There will be charity collection buckets,
 cash kindly donated will go to local charities.

Song sheets will be available
 please bring your own torch/lantern

CELEBRATE IN STYLE
 (subject to weather conditions)

Merry CHRISTMAS

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

**BEST DRESSED CHRISTMAS
 HOUSE COMPETITION**



All residents in Eaton Bray are invited to celebrate Christmas by
 entering your festive displays in our Christmas competition.

A certificate and a small gift of a customised bauble
 will be awarded to the winner.

The Best Dressed Christmas House will be judged on
 Saturday 13th December 2025 by members of the Parish Council,
 with the winner announced at the Christmas Brass Band & Carols Event
 on Wednesday 17th December 2025.

If you wish to enter the Christmas competition, please visit
 the Parish Council website and complete the entry form:
www.eatonbrayparishcouncil.gov.uk

Applications for the competition will open from
 Monday 9th November 2025 and close Friday 14th November 2025.



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Whilst our August closure now seems to have become a dim & distant memory - as a team we have spent a lot of our "downtime" prepping and planning for the coming months.

Our doors reopened on the 3rd of September, a day of lively chatter and catching up on news was the order of the day. I managed to pop in and gather info for the diary of events, dates and shall share these here:

Harvest Auction date 3rd October - usual details apply - thanks to our hosts and team at The Swan, Northall and our ★ auctioneer. Numbered Paddles for bidding and gift aid forms are available on the night. Lots are displayed within the pub prior to doors opening. This is a truly fun night to be a part of, raffle prizes, parading cakes, baked goodies, produce and usually some very random items - we take over the pub so really appreciate all your support for this our next fundraiser. Timing of this notice & Focus delivery shall hopefully reach those that can make it 🍷 Facebook shall be updated with info/images and details too.

After a couple of enjoyable sessions pre summer we are pleased that "Chair Yoga with Sarah" is to become a regular event. This is a 30-minute laughter & smile filled session,

encouraging all our members to use their mobility, gently stretch and move within their own ability. I'm hoping some photos shall be included with this article, thank you Sarah for your guidance.

In September we shall also have a visit from a Ukelele Band for a rousing sing-along, report to follow next month.

A member has kindly provided the contact for a visitor to give us a talk on Butterflies, mid-October. Trip date & location TBC.

Wednesday Club phone is not monitored daily so please leave a message or text the Club Phone no 07854230243, enquiries to join, offers of assistance, produce gluts etc. thank you

Following my plea for rhubarb I have had promises for courgettes, runner beans, more rhubarb, cooking apples - thank you for messaging & we'll be happy to relieve you of excess produce anytime. Plus ... I'm really pleased to confirm a willing volunteer cook has offered to prep the produce for freezing and storing 😊

Your donations of goods always go a long way to support our fundraising efforts. We gladly accept and appreciate regifting items, plus seasonal fruits, and vegetables to enhance our cornucopia of harvest goodies. Thank you



Burghope's Charity Land

Charity Number 238702

The Burghope charity was set up in 1723 by the former vicar of Edlesborough, The Revd George Burghope. He gave 10 acres of land behind the church in Edlesborough to fund the charity, now called The Burghope Trust. The original terms of the charity stipulated that divine service be performed in the parish church on certain days in Lent, and after Burghope's death, on the anniversary of his funeral (26th May). Additionally, the sum of 6s 8d (33p) was distributed yearly amongst the poor who attend the Lent services and 20s (£1) a year to poor widows who attend the anniversary service and heard the sermon. The parish clerk did very well from it, as he received 3s 4d for tolling the bell on St John's Day.

The terms of the charity were revised and now no one has to listen to a sermon any longer!

The Charity originally covered Edlesborough, Dagnall and Northall. Eaton Bray was formally included in 2013.

It is a small charity. The funds originate from the sale of a portion of land that was to the northwest of the churchyard in Edlesborough. By the mid 1980's the churchyard was reaching capacity. As a result, a portion of the land to the north west was sold to the parish council to create an adjacent cemetery. The remaining area approximately 7 acres is let to a local farmer who pays rent to the charity. The money from the sale of the land is invested in the Charities Official Investment fund (COIF).

The objectives of the charity are to use the income

- 1) In making payment to the PCC for further the work of the Church
- 2) For relief in need of individuals or local charitable organisations

Payment is by one off grants to relieve hardship, need or distress of individuals or to organisations that provide services to such persons.

Anyone in the Parish can apply to the charity for assistance. Some of the people and groups we have helped are:

- Ukrainian Families
- Help for people with disabilities
- Grants to assist pupils on school trips
- Eaton Bray Good Neighbours
- Friends of the Church on the Hill, Edlesborough, Kitchen and West Window Restoration
- St. Mary's Eaton Bray PCC
- Under 5 Clubs
- Christmas Lunches
- EdanTransport
- Dagnall Defibrillator

We are really trying to increase the awareness of Burghope's Charity Land. We are fortunate to live in an area where there are low poverty levels. However, if anybody feels that they know of someone or has a group that may benefit from a grant from The Burghope Trust. We would be delighted to hear from them.

The charity can be contacted at
janemce@btinternet.com

Burghope's Charity Land information can be viewed at



Whipsnade Zoo launches global conservation project to save rare pupfish species from extinction



Wading through the calm waters of Lake Chichancanab in Mexico, aquarists from ZSL's Whipsnade Zoo in Bedfordshire were looking for any signs of tiny Mexican pupfish – but sadly, their surveys confirmed their worst fears; six of seven unique pupfish, including the boxer pupfish (*Cyprinodon simus*), are likely extinct in the wild.

Following the frightening revelation in 2024 that the last remaining wild population of boxer pupfish was feared to be lost, and the only remaining population existed at Whipsnade Zoo, aquarists at the ZSL conservation zoo spearheaded a dramatic effort to save the species from extinction.

Whipsnade Zoo's team knew that they needed to verify the news with a comprehensive survey of the fish' only habitat - Lake Chichancanab in Mexico – but in preparation for the worst-case scenario to be confirmed, the team initiated an urgent action plan to bolster the insurance population in zoos, including transporting precious eggs from Whipsnade to Bristol Zoological Society.

Sadly, the survey, conducted in spring 2025, along with ZSL's conservation partners in Mexico and Bristol Zoological Society, revealed not only

a complete absence of boxer pupfish, but of five other species of pupfish endemic to the lake.

Underwater video cameras were deployed, aquarists snorkelled to investigate nooks and crevices, seine netting helped to filter swathes of the lake, and aerial drones were used to scan inaccessible areas; all of which ensured the survey was as thorough as could be. Water samples collected from the lake will be analysed for environmental DNA (eDNA) to officially confirm the disappearance of the six pupfish species.

Alex Cliffe, ZSL's Assistant Curator of Fish, said: "As soon as we realised the plight of the Boxer pupfish, we knew we had to act fast; but we had to make sure our actions were led by science and evidence. We had braced ourselves for the worst with the boxer pupfish, but what's happening in Lake Chichancanab is far more alarming than we imagined."

"Our initial aim when surveying the lake was to confirm if the boxer pupfish was extinct-in-the-wild. However, once we were there, we sadly discovered only one of the seven pupfish species that inhabit the lake remains – the black lip pupfish."

It's very likely that the other species of pupfish

that were not detected during the survey could be lost forever, as none are cared for in zoos and aquariums.

“Boxer and black lip pupfish are vital to preserving the biodiverse ecosystem of Lake Chichancanab. The decimation of pupfish populations in the lake was likely caused by the introduction of invasive fish species, such as the Mayan cichlid,” said Alex.

“It’s devastating news, but our focus is now on the actions we can take to ensure the survival of the two remaining pupfish species – the boxer and black lip – as we believe that we can reverse the damage already done and safeguard their future.”

Whipsnade Zoo is spearheading a breeding programme for the Boxer pupfish and will be working with conservationists in the United States, where one population of black lip pupfish are cared for at one institution, to establish more insurance populations of the precious fish.

Alex said: “Our short-term goal is to rescue a population of black lip pupfish from their currently imperilled habitat and establish a population in human care in Mexico. Long term, we hope to bring some eggs to Whipsnade Zoo, so we can establish a European breeding programme alongside the boxer pupfish.

“The drastic decline in pupfish numbers highlights that biodiversity is being lost at an

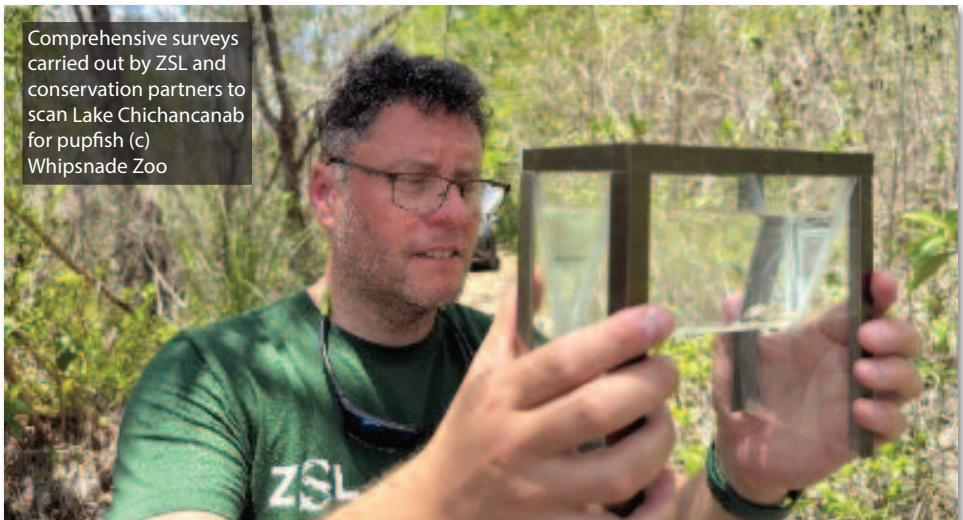
astronomical rate, but thanks to the unique conservation expertise of zoos and aquariums, we can make a dramatic difference for those in our care.”

Whipsnade Zoo’s aquarists, as part of global conservation charity ZSL, have previously helped to recover a species once thought Extinct in the Wild. The Mangarahara cichlid, a fish endemic to the river of the same name in Madagascar, was thought to only exist in human care, with just two males left at London Zoo. Following a global search led by ZSL, the species was found clinging on to survival in a tiny tributary, which led to the rescue of the fish and creation of an international conservation breeding programme.

Alex concluded: “As a world leader in managing and reintroducing extinct-in-the-wild species, and the founders of the Extinct-in-the-wild Alliance, ZSL has a responsibility to drive forward the recovery of the world’s most threatened species.”

“This project to save the pupfish is another reminder of the vital role zoos play in conservation, to claw back species from the brink of extinction, reverse the damage caused, and ensure their protection for the future.”

Every visit to Whipsnade Zoo supports ZSL’s vital work to protect species and restore habitats across the globe.



Comprehensive surveys carried out by ZSL and conservation partners to scan Lake Chichancanab for pupfish (c) Whipsnade Zoo

WHIPSNADE ZOO

The ROTARY CLUB of Dunstable Downs is actively seeking new members

So if you are friendly, enjoy social events, the company of like minded people, and are willing to join in and assist with the Club's charitable aims and support for local and international causes

then why not see if ROTARY is the right organisation for YOU.

We meet at Tilsworth Golf Centre on Thursday evenings from 18:45 for a meal, usually followed by an interesting speaker.

Recent topics have included
The Pinkerton Detective Agency
Boat Surveying
Codebreaking.

To find out more and/or arrange possible date(s) to attend call our

Membership Secretary

Tony Tucker

0788 210 6471



THE FOCUS ON FILM SOCIETY

This will be our 19th year of showing films in Eaton Bray Village Hall.

We meet on the second Monday of each month from September to June. We start at 2.00pm (Doors open at 1.30pm) and after the film we serve tea and biscuits and an opportunity to chat about the film.

The films are chosen by the members who submit suggestions during the season, these are then reviewed and ten are chosen for the coming season.

Membership for a season of ten films costs £35 with a sliding scale for people who join part way through the season. Great value at £3.50 per film!



Films for this season will include:

The Penguin Lessons

The Critic

The Outrun

Paddington in Peru

Bridget Jones – Mad about the Boy

Mr Burton

Keeping Mum

Maria

A Real Pain

The Salt Path

For new members guest membership is available at £5 for one film before joining. Remember our first film will be shown on Monday 8th September.

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Graham Chappell on 07980321977

or come along to one of our films.

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The North Chilterns Group of Parishes



Talking Point

Wednesday 22nd October 2025

St Mary's Church,

Eaton Bray

Commencing at 7.30pm

Being human in an A I world

Rev Canon Dr Tim Bull

All are welcome!

EDLESBOROUGH WI

We are hosting a **Coffee Morning** on
Wednesday 22nd October at
Edlesborough Memorial Hall

between **11am and 1pm**

Refreshments, delicious home made cakes
and scones, bring and buy stall, books etc!

Entry fee £3

Come along and bring a friend,
all are welcome.





EATON BRAY JAZZERCISE

Growing, Thriving, and Moving Together

In June 2025 we were delighted to bring all of our Jazzercise classes to Eaton Bray Village Hall, bringing more fun and fitness into the community.

What makes Jazzercise special isn't just the workout (though it's a good one!) — it's the people. Walk into a class and you'll be greeted with warmth, encouragement, and a room full of people of all ages and abilities moving together. It's more than exercise; it's connection, confidence, and joy.

A workout that works for everyone

Jazzercise is known for being the original Dance Fitness Programme with routines choreographed to the latest chart-topping hits, so whether you're lunging, lifting, or dancing, the music carries you along.

There's more variety than you might expect, too. From high-energy cardio to strength-focused formats, every class blends fitness science with the power of music. Some routines get your heart racing with easy-to-follow dance moves, while others concentrate on building muscle and endurance whilst improving core stability. Your body gets a balanced workout and

your mind never gets bored because your instructor is always bringing you fresh, new routines.

Community at the core

Our Eaton Bray classes aren't just about the workout itself, but the friendships made through the fitness. Regulars say they come for the workout and the community vibe. And this doesn't stop when the music fades — this summer we enjoyed a group BBQ, showed off our moves at the Village Carnival and grabbed a drink together afterwards. Jazzercise here really is about building connections inside and outside the hall.

Your invitation to join in

With six weekly classes now running at Eaton Bray Village Hall, it's easier than ever to find a slot that fits into your routine.

Come along and try us out with an **Introductory offer of 3 classes for just £10.**

For class times and details, call/text Beth on 07539 739136

**If you're still doing workouts you dread...
Then it's time to switch things up. Our
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... Let's Play *Tennis* ...

If you are interested in tennis we would love to hear from you.

As a club we offer :

- Junior and adult group coaching during term time
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sara_leavy@hotmail.com



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THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH ON THE HILL, EDLESBOROUGH



The team has recovered from its exertions, and thoughts have turned to EdleFest 2026 already. Contact is being made with potential Artists and their agents, and we are receiving applications to appear at EdleFest from far and wide- India, Spain,

America & Ireland among them.

We will be using TicketSource again as our online ticket agency which seems to work well with our audiences. We hope to have tickets available from the end of November (A Christmas present?).

The tickets will be at an 'Early Bird' price until February 14th (A Valentines present?), after which they will revert to full price.

Tickets will also be available at Janes Flooring from the beginning of April.

Our website is the place to go for information



about our little music festival with the BIG heart - edlefest.site123.me

If you are a Facebook Page user 'follow' our page to see all the updates.

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Lucas (Northall)

★★★★★

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Bernadette (Edlesborough)

★★★★★

I cannot speak highly enough of this local business. Excellent speed of service, professional staff, all work and pricing fully explained and job completed to our full satisfaction. I will be confidently recommending them to others.



Warren (Eaton Bray)

★★★★★

Brilliant work from Paramount Plumbing again today for a replacement boiler. This must be our 4th or 5th project with these guys and they are always professional and good value. 100% recommend this company.



Jim (Eaton Bray)

★★★★★

Burst pipe early Saturday morning and David responded within 20 minutes. Problem solved immediately and follow up was first class!



Andrew Jones (Edlesborough)

★★★★★

Our bathroom installed to perfection, a professional job from start to finish. I would recommend David and his team to anyone.



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Would you like to join our distribution team?

We are always on the look out for volunteers to post Focus through letterboxes. If you would like to help out in your road or your local area we would love to hear from you.

Right now we're looking for someone to join our "drop off" team to deliver Focus parcels to our local distributors.

Could you spare a few hours once a month? Usually around the end of each month we break down the bulk delivery into individual parcels then drop them off to the distributors.

Perhaps you have an estate car or van and would like to volunteer as a driver?

We need to increase our team so this doesn't become a burden on any one person. A team of two from an available group of four people makes this an enjoyable and sociable task.

If you want to know more give me a call. Martin Hayden

077 96 335 661



BOOK REVIEWS

What Have You Done

By Shari Lapena

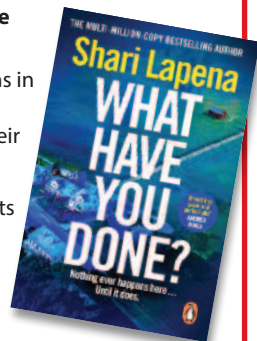
Nothing ever happens in sleepy little Fairhill.

The teenagers get their kicks telling ghost stories in the old graveyard. The parents trust their kids will arrive home safe from school. Everyone knows everyone. Curtains rarely twitch. Front doors are left unlocked.

But this morning all of that will change.

Because Diana Brewer isn't lying safely in her bed where she belongs. Instead she lies in a hayfield, circled by vultures, discovered by a local farmer.

How quickly a girl becomes a ghost. How quickly a town of friendly, familiar faces becomes a town of suspects, a place of fear and paranoia.



Every Move You Make

By C.L. Taylor

Five friends who wish they'd never met.

Because the one thing they have in common is the worst thing in their lives: they are all being stalked. When one of their group is murdered, days after their stalker is released from prison,

time stands still for them all.

They know their lives could end just as brutally at any moment – all it takes is for the people they fear the most to catch up with them. When the group receive a threat that one of them will die in ten days' time, the terror that stalks their daily lives becomes all-consuming.

But they know they don't want to be victims anymore – it's time to turn the tables and finally get their revenge. Because the only way to stop a stalker is to become one yourself... ?

The multimillion bestseller returns with her most propulsive and addictive book yet.





EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

On Monday 8th September representatives from Edlesborough Parish Council attended the ECSC CIO AGM.

ECSC CIO & the ECSC Trading Company shared lots of interesting information about the operating of Edlesborough Pavilion.

EPC would like to congratulate and give thanks to the Trustees of ECSC CIO, ECSC Trading Company & all the volunteers who give so much time and energy to the day to day running of Edlesborough Pavilion. It really is a mammoth task!!!

**Without all these amazing people
Edlesborough Pavilion would not be the
success it currently is!!!**

Don't forget if you reside in Edlesborough Parish you are automatically a member of Edlesborough Pavilion. To activate your membership please visit <https://edthepav.org.uk/> or contact membership@edthepav.org.uk

If you live outside Edlesborough Parish and wish to join please contact membership@edthepav.org.uk or visit <https://edthepav.org.uk/>



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EATON BRAY WI

theWI At our Meeting on 7th July we were entertained by the Ohana Ukulele Band and had a lovely evening singing to all the old songs and some new ones as well.

On 4th August Ronnie Farrer gave a very informative and entertaining talk on the History of Pitstone Museum. Ronnie told us that she, and her husband Pete, had become involved after a visit to the Museum with her young grandson. Pete had spent many hours working on different projects and will be much missed as Manager. Ronnie dealt with the shop and many of the other activities needed to keep the Museum running. They are very short of volunteers and would welcome any help that people could offer.

On 28th July we held an Afternoon Tea for the WI's of Studham, Caddington and Dunstable in Northall Village Hall with lots of chat to go with the Home made scones, and cakes.

Our Harvest Supper on 1st September was a great success, the food being provided by the Committee.

The Fundraising goes on and we are delighted to have been able to donate £160 to Homestart this year.

Eaton Bray WI meets at the Methodist Church Hall, Totternhoe Road, Eaton Bray at 7.30pm on the first Monday of each Month and ladies of all ages are most welcome. If you are interested in joining our WI please contact

Sue Tucker on **07772901816** or
Margaret Jones on **07478 061156**



INSPIRING WOMEN



Dunstable Probud Club

Dunstable PROBUS Club meets on the second Monday of the month at Tilsworth Golf Centre and membership is open to retired or semi-retired 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.



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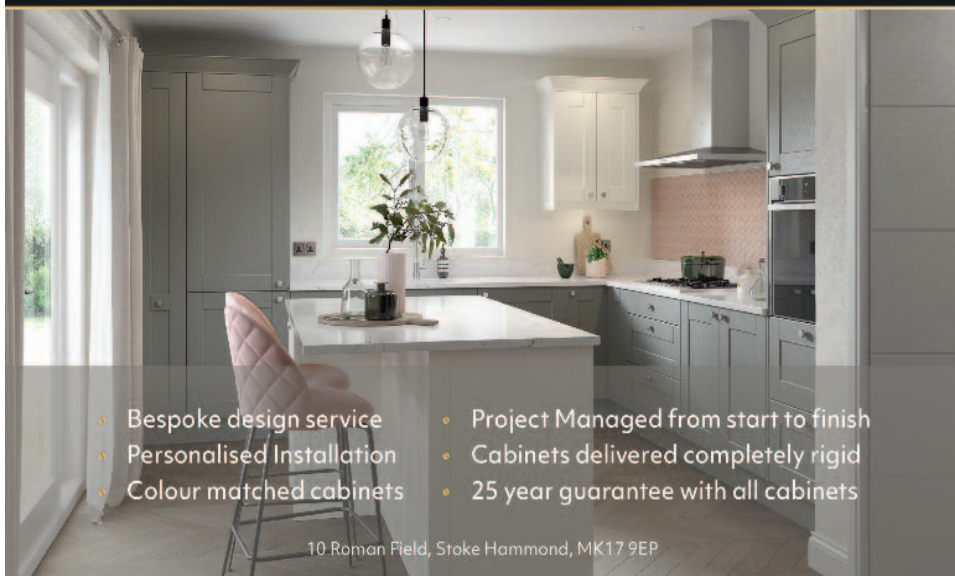
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Totternhoe GARDEN CLUB

October 2025

On Saturday 16 August we held the Annual Village Show – the first organised by the new Show Secretary Kay Oakes. It was very successful – especially as the weather has been difficult for growers this year. The entries were a little below the usual level in numbers, but that was only to be expected, and we were pleased to see many who were new to the village entering for the first time. Some even won prizes! Much enjoyment came from meeting and socialising with old friends over some super refreshments. Thank you, Kay and all the helpers, for putting on a well-supported and enjoyable event.

Our first evening meeting was on 11 September – more about that in the next issue. We welcome Dr Primrose to the meeting at St Giles' Hall, Totternhoe on 13 November at 7.30pm with a talk on "Poisonous Plants". We usually have mulled wine and refreshments with a festive note as it is the last meeting before Christmas.

Joyce Murphy - Chairman

Our last outing of the season was to RHS Wisley for the Flower Show. Everyone made their own

choices over what to see and personally I chose to see the plant stalls. I thought they were well stocked with a good variety of plants. The lilies were magnificent and the rare plants stalls were well worth a good look and, considering the high standard, were priced to be affordable and one would not come across them every day! The gardens were splendid and we were blessed with good weather after a very wet coach ride to get there. Another 'Grand Day Out' - thank you Joyce and we all wish you well for the foreseeable future. Here's to next year and hopefully some more interesting outings!

Chris Jell

For more information about the Garden Club, e-mail **Joyce Murphy** at tgc@mothermurphy.co.uk or telephone **01582 667085**.

For membership queries contact **Veronica Clarke** by e-mail at r_vclarke@hotmail.com or telephone **01582 600764**. At the moment we have reached our limit of 130 members, but Veronica will be pleased to take your details and put you on the waiting list to join.



EDLESBOROUGH WI

theWI

Our June programme listed our speaker as Jackie Allen – Fashion Show. Indeed, there was an anticipatory buzz among our ladies as they entered the hall to find a row of chairs on either side of the 'catwalk' and clothes racks to the side.

First of course, Jerusalem was sung, Minutes of May meeting read and signed, birthday plants and cards distributed and items of interest shared including the discovery of two old meeting minutes of 1943 and 1972 respectively. It was fascinating to hear of the full social life of and generous fund raising in those war years and in 1972 just how similar their activities were to ours. For example, fashion shows and trips to Holland.

Our 2025 Fashion Show was introduced by Jackie Allen, the owner of Jackie's Mobile Boutique. She told us that for 12 years she ran a successful boutique in Towcester but subsequent to post Covid market forces she decided to close the shop. However, she loved her work so decided to go mobile giving talks and demonstrations around the country.



Volunteer models/victims had been selected prior to the evening and covered all ages and sizes. Special mention to Di Hedges, Jackie Hockey, SJ Huxtable and Margaret Sallows – good sports all.

Jackie Allen compered each of the "looks" and the versatility of the items as they were paraded. At the end she encouraged members to browse her generous selection of clothes and accessories for sale.

The evening ended with a lot of chatter, coffee, tea, biscuits and a raffle. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. New ladies are always welcome.

Caroline Collieran

INSPIRING WOMEN



Share your experiences, problems and solutions with all things technical by

Joining our *WhatsApp* Group or our private Pavilion IT Help and Support Group on *Facebook* or by email

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or further meetings at the Pavilion if requested

**Steve Munday ~ 07740 197392
Christine Hurst ~ 07398 246496**

HELPFUL TIPS ON FINANCE

Property, Rents and Real Returns

Thinking of letting out property or reviewing your buy-to-let returns? October is a great time to assess your portfolio.

With mortgage rates still higher than in pre-2022 times, landlords should check whether their rental income covers both mortgage and tax liabilities. Don't forget: since April 2020, landlords can no longer deduct mortgage interest from rental income — instead, they receive a 20% tax credit.

If you're renting out a room in your home, the **Rent a Room Scheme** lets you earn up to £7,500 tax-free annually.

Tip of the Month: Start scanning and saving receipts digitally now — you'll thank yourself in January.

Daniel Riley
(Riley Accountants)





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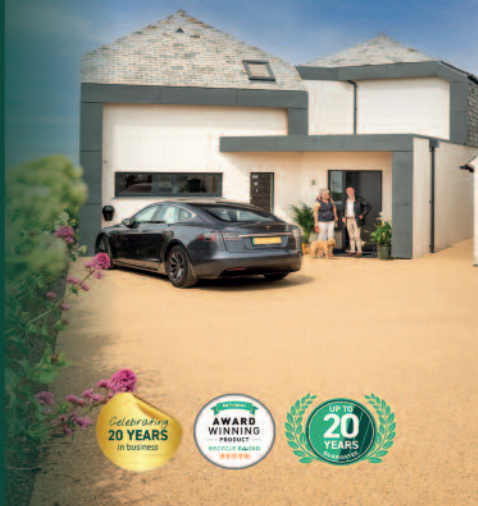
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EDLESBOROUGH WI

theWI

We had a very entertaining evening with our speakers Mark and Giles 'The Two

Spoons' tea importers and blenders, based in Chesham.

We learned all about Tea from Bush to Cup in a fun audience participation experience way. With volleyball quiz of which countries grow tea and there are many! Who were the major producers, who were the biggest consumers.

Camellia Sinensis is the tea producing plant, it is only the young tips that are harvested, by hand preferably. With green & black tea being derived from the same plant. The process of how the tea leaves are processed was explained in graphic detail with the use of a grater and sieve. Explanation was given regarding exportation, grading, tasting 5 years of training with which you are awarded an engraved silver-plated spoon! Buying which is a very lucrative business! Then to blending, finally being purchased by you & I.

We had a hands-on guided tasting session where we were instructed on how to noisily slurp the tea to get the best flavour a delightful floral experience.

How tea should be brewed with water slight off the boil for the best infusion.

It was an extremely informative and entertaining evening, with a lot of resounding laughter.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14th October which is our Birthday meal evening.

We will also be hosting a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 22nd October 11 – 1 so please come along with a friend or 2 or 3 and enjoy a good old gossip over a hot beverage, with a savoury and or sweet morsal 'afternoon tea' style for the total cost of £3. Plus, there will be a bring & buy sale.

INSPIRING WOMEN



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What to do in the garden in October

This month, enjoy the autumnal colours in the garden

October is a beautiful month of autumnal colours and first frosts. Crisp, blue-sky days are the perfect time to tidy up and cut back in the garden. If you grow fruit and veg, there's still plenty to harvest and store for the cold winter months ahead.

For advice on what to get started this month, here's a list of jobs to keep on top of this month:

Timely Tips



Invest in garden fleece for when the temperatures drop

- If your **greenhouse** is fairly empty, now's a good time to clean and disinfect it. This lets in more light, and prevents pests and diseases from over-wintering.
- Protect **half-hardy plants** with fleece or bring them into a frost-free greenhouse.
- Sweep up any fallen leaves that harbour fungal spores and provide ideal hiding places for slugs and snails. Use them to make leaf mould for the garden.
- Lift and divide any overcrowded herbaceous **perennials** whilst the soil is still warm.

In the flower garden



Give your rambling roses some TLC after flowering

- Lift **dahlia tubers**, **begonia tubers** and gladioli corms to store over the winter months. Remove any dead foliage before storing them.
- You can take hardwood cuttings from **deciduous shrubs** now.
- Prune rambling and **climbing roses** once they've finished flowering, and tie in the stems before autumn winds cause damage.
- Clear up fallen rose leaves to prevent diseases such as black spot from over-wintering. To avoid the spread of damaging fungi, don't compost the leaves.
- Clear overhanging plants from pathways to maintain access around the garden.

- Cut back perennial plants that have died down. Alternatively leave the dead foliage in place to shelter friendly **wildlife**.
- After tidying borders, mulch with **bark chips**, well rotted manure, leaf mould or spent mushroom compost to insulate

plant roots for the winter and keep weed growth in check.

- This month is the ideal time to plant **hedges, edible hedging**, and move **trees** and **shrubs**.

In the vegetable garden



Harvest your pumpkins in time for Halloween

- Finish harvesting **peas** and **beans**. When they've finished cropping simply cut the plant away at ground level, leaving the roots in the soil. These crops fix nitrogen which is slowly released into the soil as the roots break down.
- If you plan to grow peas and beans next year, start preparing the site by digging trenches and filling with manure or kitchen waste.
- Harvest **pumpkins** and **squashes** before the first frosts. They quickly turn mushy if left outside!
- When you harvest your **cabbages**, leave the root in the ground and make a cut across the stem to encourage a flush of smaller leaves.
- Hang any **tomato plants** and **pepper plants** with green fruits upside down indoors to ripen.
- Protect autumn cauliflower heads, like **'White Step' F1 hybrid**, from frost by wrapping the outer leaves around them and securing them with string. Alternatively use a **cloche** or fleece.
- Cut back yellowing **asparagus** foliage to within 5cm of the ground.
- Reuse old **grow bags** by cutting away the top and sowing late **salad crops**. Cropping can be extended into winter if grown under glass, cloches or inside **polytunnels**.

Looking after your lawn



Prepare for lawn for winter's worst with preventative aerating

- Clear up fallen leaves regularly to allow light to the grass.
- A last mowing can be made this month before leaving your lawn for the winter.
- Recut any lawn edges if needed. Install lawn edging to make future maintenance easier.
- Aerate your lawn with a garden fork to avoid waterlogging and compaction over winter.
- Rake any thatch from the surface and repair dead patches. There's still time to lay fresh turf if required.



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Seville

Famous for its orange trees that decorate the city with blossom in the spring and provide shade in the summer, Seville is the largest city and capital of Andalusia. In early years it was ruled by the Romans and then the Moors whose influence can be seen in the spectacular architecture throughout the city. It was a vital port for Spanish trade and exploration of the Americas.

Getting to Seville: There are direct flights from Gatwick with British Airways, Easyjet and Vueling. Ryan Air fly from Luton and Stansted. Some of the flights are seasonal so it will depend on the time of year you are planning to travel.

Staying in Seville: There is a wide range of accommodation in Seville from boutique B&Bs to luxury 5-star hotels, though we would recommend finding somewhere with a roof top bar to take in the stunning views of the city and the Guadalquivir river.

Must See Highlights:

- The Real Alcázar de Sevilla is the Royal Palace of Seville, and is still used by the Spanish King today. A UNESCO World Heritage site, it is a stunning example of Moorish influence on Spanish architecture. Book tickets in advance as the queues can be very long. A small group tour is recommended if you would like to learn more about the history of the palace.
- Seville Cathedral, built over the remains of a Moorish mosque, it is one of the largest Gothic cathedrals in the world. It houses the tomb of Christopher Columbus.
- The Giralda is the iconic bell tower of the cathedral. It was originally the minaret of the mosque that stood on this site. If you climb to the top, there are great views of the city!
- Plaza de España, located in Maria Lusía Park and nicknamed the 'Venice of Seville' due to the fountains, canals and bridges, this spectacular plaza was created for the Ibero-American exhibition in 1929.
- Take a walking tour of Santa Cruz, the former Jewish quarter in the old town. It is a maze of narrow streets, alleyways, terraces and restaurants and is the main tourist area of the city.
- Possible day trips from Seville are the White Villages and Ronda, as well as Córdoba and Cádiz so ensure you add a day or three to your itinerary!
- Top Tip – cross over the Isabel II Bridge to visit the neighbourhood of Triana, which is known for its painted ceramics and flamenco; there are also some great local restaurants to try and make sure to visit the Triana Market too.



For more information and help in planning your visit to Seville, contact Sarah and Michelle at Travel Impressions of Tring

01442 890265 or via enquiries@travelimpressions.co.uk
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CALL 07854 230243 IF YOU CAN HELP

Edlesborough Memory Café



A new social group for those affected by dementia and age-related memory loss has opened at Edlesborough Pavilion.

Their first meeting was held the afternoon of July 9 and was very well attended by a mixture of family carers and those living with the condition. Edlesborough Memory Café is a social space for people to chat and play some fun games together. It has been started with the help of Tibbs Dementia Foundation, who are a specialist Bedfordshire dementia charity with over 12 years of experience in delivering social activities to those affected by dementia and memory loss.

The group is very inclusive and all are welcome, those with a formal diagnosis as

well as those without. Family members are also encouraged to come along, either on their own or with their relative who is living with dementia/memory loss.

Tibbs pride themselves on offering a relaxed and stress-free environment, where clients can come and enjoy a cuppa, along with good company and some stimulating games and activities. It is a space where people can just be themselves without having to worry about stigma or judgement from others.

The charity understands that some may feel anxious about their diagnosis and being in the company of other people, and for those with a cognitive impairment this can be a very normal reaction to the thought of socialising in a group. This is why they offer social activities just for those living with memory loss and dementia; an opportunity to be with others in a similar situation who understand the challenges people with this condition face. New people are encouraged to come along for a taster session to try it. No booking is necessary.

The group meets at 2.30pm every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Edlesborough Pavilion.

For more information, please contact **Louise Evans** at louise.evans@tibbsdementia.co.uk or via phone on **07483 951733**

Advertisers Index

A McClelland Pest Control	23	Julia Reading Chiropody	19
Absolutely Plastered	30	Lee Hutt Heating & Plumbing	19
All Trees Garden Services	51	Leighton Plumbing & Heating	37
Anderson Domestic Repair Service	23	Local Gutterbuster	46
Anne Johnson Osteopath	13	M.J.Broughton Decorating	13
ARC Contract Services Ltd	34	Megan Cross Dog Grooming	62
Aspect Electrical	26	My Dog Run	67
Aspley Flooring	11	N.D.S General Building & Plumbing	13
Barber Time	66	Neil Hodson Structural Engineering	18
Cafe Masala	27	NG Autos Vehicle Repairs	31
Castles Estate Agents	58	Nimby Pest Control	34
CDM Builders Ltd	43	NMJ Motorhouse Vehicle Repairs	55
Charles Hill Garden Services Ltd	34	OLTCO Resin Driveways	63
Charlotte Lyons Physiotherapy	43	P. Dyer Electrical	19
Clarl Electrival	65	Pampered Pups Dog Grooming	3
Coffee Tavern	12	Pavilion IT Support Group	61
Computamation Services Ltd	14	Paramount Plumbing & Heating	50
Dagnall School	46	Patricia's Cuisine	15
Deep Clean	13	PC Laptop Repairs	62
DM Security	22	Pinstripes Signs & Advertising	23
Dominic Woolcott Decorator	18	Premier Garage Doors	75
Duncan Tomblin Tree Surgeon	23	Prestige Kitchens	59
Eaton Bray Academy	26	Quality Glazing	27
Eaton Bray Cricket Club	48	Red Lion Pub & Restaurant	2
Eaton Bray Dairy	43	Redkite Vehicle Repairs	65
Eaton Bray Tennis Club	48	Repair Cafe	10
Eaton Bray Village Hall	67	Sears & Co Estate Agents	54
Edlesborough Baptist Church	65	SM Reilly & Sons Ltd Builders	22
Edlesborough Cricket Club	48	Spinney Landscapes	19
Edlesborough Primary Academy	47	St Judes Therapeutic Pilates	34
Edlesborough Tennis Club	48	Stephen Janes Carpenter & Joiner	27
Floss and Smile Dentist	14	Steve the Mower Man	22
Fly-by Cafe	62	Stoten Gillam Ltd Accountants	34
GBR Construction Ltd	32	Toddington Financial Advice	30
G & J Groundwork & Landscapes	22	Toni's Tootsies Foot Health	22
Gentleman Gardener	31	Travel Impressions	2
Greenfingers	13	Unicorn Windows	11
James Duffy Kitchen & Bathroom Fitter	62	Watermill Weddings (Bellows Mill)	43
James Falcon-Cross Landscaping	27	Westrope Butchery	47
Janes Electrical & Carpet Shop	76	Will Kimberley Garden Services	22
Jazzercise	44	Yardye Luxury Bathrooms	55
JoAnn Latus School of Dance	31		



God's love is:

If a survey was undertaken of the most popular bible passages, then 1 Corinthians 13, sometimes known as the Love Chapter, would probably do quite well. Some people know it from a wedding service that they have attended, or perhaps it was read during their own.

However, the characteristics of love are not just for marriage; they are found in all kinds of relationships – with siblings, friends, work colleagues or people that we journey and worship with.

Love can provoke us to behave in a variety of ways: romantic gestures, extrovert attention seeking, or quiet admiration from afar. Love can be blamed for inappropriate actions too, where love is warped by a perpetrator of violence.

But what is love? Is it love that leads to how we behave, or is it how we behave that leads to love?

1 John 4: 19-21 reads:

'We love because He first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And He has given us this command: anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.'

Jesus is the perfect example of love and commitment. We, who are not perfect examples, need help to love fully. Think about the people you find hard to love. Maybe they are known to you or have personally hurt or upset you. Or perhaps they are people you read or hear about in the news or your local community.

How can we love fully if we do not show everyone love?

Jacqueline

(The Eaton Bray Salvation Army Church Leader)

The Salvation Army

Booth Place, Eaton Bray, LU6 2DR

Sunday Worship: Sun 11am – 12pm

(weekly – worship for all ages followed by tea/coffee/squash, biscuits & a chat)

Coffee Morning: Tues 10am – 12pm

(fortnightly – including homemade cakes & preserves to purchase, as well as a bric-a-brac stall)

Home League: Weds 2:30pm – 3:30pm

(weekly – fellowship & activities including singing, quizzes, arts & crafts, bible thought & a prayer – predominantly for women although gentlemen are very welcome)

Champion's Club: Weds 6:15pm – 7:15pm

(2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Weds of the month, Age 5+, term time only – lots of fun including games, music, activities & bible stories)

Messy Church: Weds 6pm – 7:15pm

(1st Weds of the month, term time only – a fun time for the whole family to explore bible stories through arts & crafts, & messy activities)

Girls' Night Out: Thurs 7:30pm

(1st Thurs of the month – for more details including where we meet & what we do each month, email eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk)



For further information please call into our hall at any of the times above, telephone: 07796 980565 or contact us by email: eaton.bray@salvationarmy.org.uk

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