

Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 458 January 2017

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2017

ELDWICK OPEN GARDENS SATURDAY 17th JUNE

Don't forget to pick up a form from the Eldwick Post Office if you are interested in joining this event. Remember, this is not a competition, there are no comparisons or any judging and it will hopefully be fun!

Big, small, well maintained, wildlife, special features, tea and cakes, produce sales all welcome.

All funds raised will go to The Eldwick Church Hall Building Project

For details please ring 01274 562643

ELDWICK SCOUTS & GUIDES FUN RUN FRIDAY 23rd JUNE



ELDWICK GALA SATURDAY 24th JUNE



ELDWICK BEER AND BANGER FESTIVAL FRIDAY 18th / SAT. 19th AUGUST



ELDWICK ART SHOW FRIDAY 13th & SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER



ELDWICK BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER.



In Celebration of Eldwick Post Office and Shop

How lucky we are in Eldwick to have such a welcoming Post Office and shop. Yes indeed! A place of daily pilgrimage for newspapers, bread, milk, for wine, spirits and soft drinks and much more. A place to purchase stamps, post parcels and pick up parcels and as we enter the shop we are besieged by the wonderful scent of seasonal flowers and a gorgeous array of colours from bunches and bouquets provided by Michele. Every month the flowers and greenery are different, placed there to catch our eye, to please us, to entice us. It's Michele's way of making us see the beauty in them and in her creations. How marvellous is the ceaseless work of the floristry part of the Post Office and shop.

There is always fresh food to be had, stacked up at the counter and the fridges are filled with frozen food for those, who,

like me run out of groceries! There is coffee, tea, tins of beans, peas, fruits, rice puddings and custards, washing powders, bleach and some exotic concoctions in jars which I have yet to try. Just a sample of the goodies to be had in our remarkable shop. And the bread is fresh. Delivered daily.

There are racks of cards - any number to choose from and always a queue at the Post Office counter which shows how much our community values this essential facility.

And always, but always, there is Nigel, working tirelessly from morning till night. At his business by 6.00 a.m.; never leaving until 9.00 p.m. Never a cross word from Nigel, never a scowl or a frown - no matter how tired he is. And the rest of the staff - Mon, who manages the Post Office, always pleasant and helpful and

knows his stuff and Liz, Glen and all the other staff - always ready with a smile.

Eldwick Post Office is a beacon in the dark nights of winter - it's lights always shine out. Not only that, it is a vital part of this community where people can go for help if they are in need, meet each other, talk and pass the time of day and even discuss politics outside the shop or put the world to rights at 8.00 a.m. when they arrive to pick up newspapers or their teacakes!

It is my New Year's wish that Nigel, Michele, the staff and the Post Office counter continue to be part of our community and I write this in gratitude and appreciation for all that they continue to provide and say thank you on behalf of all their customers.

Eldwick would be a much poorer place without our Post Office and shop!

Elizabeth Barrett.

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ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ALLSORTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Our next meeting on Tuesday 21st February brings back Alan Wilson and his chosen topic is Liquorice Allsorts. That's all he'll tell me about his talk. Suffice it to say that although many readers know Alan only for his role as an entertaining auctioneer of produce at the end of our Autumn Shows, he is also a well-travelled and enthusiastic gardener who always carries a camera, wherever he is in the world. Over to you, Alan!

On the subject of shows and fairs, our committee has decided that suspending our old white publicity banner between the posts in front of the Memorial Hall has become too risky an operation for our willing but ageing volunteers to continue. (If you subtract the combined ages of our committee members from 1066, you'd hardly have enough left for the price of a pint). So in the interests of Health and Safety and



prolonging our members' longevity the Society has invested in a couple of feather flags (see picture) to promote our Spring Fair and our Autumn Show. This should be good news to A&E at Airedale General!

I understand that the Eldwick Church is planning to hold an Eldwick Open Gardens event on Saturday 17 June in support of the planned church building work and extension. More information for any E&GHS members interested in taking part will be available in the Newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at our 2017 meetings and coach outings Why not bring along a friend? Brief details are as follows:

Tuesday March 21st

An Introduction to Bee Keeping
David Wadsworth

Tuesday April 18th

Spring into Action Jacqueline Iddon
Dagnall

Saturday April 29th

Spring Fair and Children's Show

Tuesday May 16th

Centenary Show Dinner at Shipley Golf Club with guest speaker Mrs Patricia Clough

Wednesday May 17th

Visit to Horticap in Harrogate

Sunday June 11th

Chatsworth RHS Flower Show

Saturday 22 July

Visit to Ness Gardens Liverpool.

Friday 4th - Sunday 6th August

Visit to Norfolk, including Oxburgh Hall, North Norfolk Railway, Holkham Hall and Doddington Hall

26th August

CENTENARY AUTUMN SHOW

Tuesday September 19th

Autumn Harvest David Allison

Tuesday October 17th

A History of Tradescantia Anne Drake

Tuesday November 21st

AGM and Faith Supper

The society's meetings take place in the Eldwick Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month, unless stated otherwise. Entry for members is still only £1.50, for non-members £3. This includes the talk, tea or coffee, biscuits and raffle ticket.

Mike Hitchen

COUNCIL NEWS

At the December meeting of the Town Council, Ros Dawson was elected unopposed as Chair of the council following the resignation of the previous Chair due to ill health. Marcus Dearden was elected as Vice Chair filling the position previously held by Ros.

A draft of the new web site was shown to the council members incorporating the new logo, it was hoped that this could be available immediately but unfortunately there is a delay which pushes the launch back a few weeks. Information is available on our temporary web site and on our Facebook page.

We are still actively looking for suitable offices in Bingley, we have one or two options open to us, this should be resolved in the next few weeks.

The change in the Eldwick Bus routes is still an issue, discussions are ongoing with all interested parties to establish a suitable solution, hopefully a compromise can be

reached in the next few weeks.

You will have no doubt read in the press that Bradford Council is having great difficulties in getting a balanced budget and is having to make cuts to services throughout the district. Bingley Council are to enter into early discussions with Bradford Council to establish the extent of the cuts and to see what if anything BTC can do to continue to provide the services that are proposed to be cut. Unfortunately this will possibly lead to an increase in the precept that we currently pay, we don't believe this will have much impact in 17/18 but will have in 18/19

No doubt you will have seen the damage to the hoardings around the old B&B site currently owned by Sainsbury's. BTC have contacted Sainsbury's to have the hoardings repaired, hopefully by the time you read this article the repairs will have been carried out.

We understand that Sainsbury's are in the final throws of finalising a deal to sell the site, of course nothing is final until the documents are signed, fingers crossed all goes well and

we can report some positive news next month

The Market in Bingley is all but non-existent. BTC are looking at ways to revitalise the Market. A meeting has been arranged with the National Association of British Market Authorities. Hopefully guidance and direction can be given as to what actions can be implemented to achieve a thriving market. Obviously, we need the support of all the residents of Bingley to make it happen.

Trust you have all enjoyed the Christmas Lights in Bingley this year. The display was a shared responsibility by Bradford and Bingley Councils, it is our understanding that it will be Bingley's responsibility from next year including the purchase of the Christmas Tree. It is our intention to start discussions in March 17 to be able to plan the requirements for next Christmas.

On behalf of your Eldwick Councillors we wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2017.

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Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association

At our December Meeting our Members were entertained by the Bingley Voices. They sang a variety of Christmas Songs and Carols. Everyone enjoyed it and even joined in the singalong. Unfortunately we were told that their Musical Director was retiring so that was their last performance. If anyone is interested in taking over that role, please contact Bingley Voices.

Our speaker for February 14th 2017 is Joyce Thackwray who will be talking about "The work of a Magistrate".

March is our party.

New Members are always welcome.

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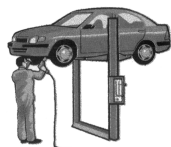
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THE ELDWICK CHURCH

MESSY CHURCH

Saturday 21st January 4.00 – 5.45 pm

Saturday 18th February 4.00 – 5.45 pm

Messy Church is a worshipping community of all ages, it is for all the family. It will be held in the church hall and the church. There will be craft activities as you arrive in the church hall, stories from the Bible, songs and prayers in the church – rounding off with sharing a simple meal together in the church hall. This is an event for all the family – whatever your age, why not come and join in the fun!

TODDLER PLAY

For under 3's and their carers: play, craft activity, a chat and a drink.

Wednesday 11th January 9.30 – 10.30am

Wednesday 8th February 9.30 – 10.30 am

PAUSE TO PRAY:-

Wednesday 4th January 2.00 – 3.00 pm

Wednesday 18th January 2.00 – 3.00 pm

Wednesday 1st February 2.00 – 3.00 pm

Wednesday 15th February 2.00 – 3.00 pm

THE ELDWICK CHURCH FELLOWSHIP:-

Thursday 19th January Jeanette Wallace
speaking on China.

Thursday 16th February Val Pearson
"Theatrical Wigs"

SERVICES:

1st January

10.30 am All Age Worship.

8th January

10.30 am Holy Communion led by
Rev. Paul Wheelhouses.

15th January

09.15 am Holy Communion.
Led by Rev Alan Brown.
10.30 am Morning Worship led by
Mr David Varley.

22nd January

09.15 am Big Breakfast.
10.30 am Holy Communion led by
Rev. Ruth Crompton.

Tuesday 24th January

7.00 pm Welcome service for
Rev Peter Mayo-Smith.

29th January

10.30 am Covenant Service led by
Rev Peter Mayo-Smith

5th February

09.15 am Holy Communion led by
Rev Rosemary Nash

10.30 am Family Worship led by
Rev Peter Mayo-Smith

12th February

10.30 am Holy Communion led by
Rev. Peter Mayo-Smith

19th February

09.15 am Holy Communion led by
Rev Peter Mayo-Smith.

10.30 am Morning Worship led by
Mr Micheal Webster.

26th February

09.15 am Big Breakfast.

10.30 am Holy Communion led by
Rev. Barbara Walls.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday - 09.30-12.00 Church Café

Wed. - 09.30 -12.00 Embroiderers / Probus,
13.30 - 15.30 Craft Group

Thursday -15.30 - 19.15 Dance Classes

Friday - 19.15 - 21.15 Elstead Ladies Choir

Pre School Group - 08.45 - 15.15

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Friday in the month Friday Footsteps.

2nd Wednesday in the month Toddler Play

3rd Thursday in the month The Eldwick
Fellowship.

Mid Saturday Messy Church.

Pause to Pray 1st and 3rd Wednesday.

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THE PRINCE OF WALES PARK

CREATION TO REGENERATION 1857 TO 2017 ARCHIVES AND MEMORIES

Following an article in the Eldwick Newsletter suggesting action should be taken by the community to halt the decline and disregard of regular maintenance of this park, The Friends of Prince of Wales Park group was formed in 2013. Historically this was significant since it was in 1863 that the first sod was dug to mark the birth of the park, following a political decision to award land to the Labouring Poor of Bingley. Celebrations were held in 2015 to mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of the 'People's Park' when its official title gained royal status with the permission of the then Prince of Wales.

Four years of progress have been remarkably successful thanks to a willing band of a mere fifteen or so 'regulars' who turn out in all weathers every Wednesday and Saturday mornings to undertake a variety of tasks. Technically, the management of the park still lies with the local authority but all developmental plans, strategies and content of working sessions are very much prime concerns of the Friends themselves.

Public support, funding from local organisations, grants from the local authority, financial institutions and major donors have enabled the group to be supplied with tools, workwear and plants. Many new benches have been provided by families and local societies. Major contributions, principally from WREN, have made a huge difference to the landscape, signage and information provision, as well as play equipment for the children. A way marked route has been laid out, to be used in conjunction with a specially printed leaflet, available in various outlets.

Presentations and displays have been given to highlight the value of the park to the community and membership of the Friends has been encouraged, not just to participate in work sessions but to receive weekly newsletters and give financial aid. The Friends group has several areas of interest with responsibility to provide information, suggest future plans and activities.

These cover wildlife and flora, horticulture, community, fundraising, and history.

It is the latter topic to which the title of this article refers, combining historical research with the modern concepts of regeneration and the work of the Friends, as a publication is to be produced this year.

Already a large amount of material has been gleaned from archival records from the various local political organisations which have been involved in the story of the park during its one hundred and sixty years of creation, growth and development. These span the first public meetings to debate the enclosure of 'Gilstead and Romels Moor', held in local pubs by the then 'local authority', The Bingley Improvement Commissioners. Formed in 1847, the year the railway arrived in Bingley, this authority worked alongside a Town Council. Huge leather bound volumes, accessed at Bradford's branch of the West Yorkshire Archive Service have been thoroughly researched, revealing a large amount of information as to how the park was established. Sadly, apart from early maps of the Ordnance Survey and the Enclosure map of 1861 itself, there are no plans of the park from any authority or any descriptions of how it was built, designed, or whatever. Thus any concept of restoration has never been considered by the Friends. Rather, it has been renovation or regeneration which have been the chosen terms of reference.

The next source of information has been the press, both national and local. By subscription to the British Newspaper Archive it is possible to enter any title, name or location and, if a match is made from any newspaper which has been recorded, rewards are forthcoming. For example, in the case of the Prince of Wales Park, the Norfolk Times of 1866 carried news of the donation of trees to the park from his estate at Sandringham by the Prince of Wales. Locally the sources are considerable, with The Bradford Observer, The Shipley Times, The Bradford Daily Telegraph, the Keighley News, The Airedale Courant and the Bingley Chronicle. All these were

microfilmed when such technology was first introduced and so scrutiny can be difficult. Sadly, the Bingley Guardian was never scanned and its copies are not in a good enough condition to be made available.

Of course there are other local publications like Speight's 19th century Old Bingley and Dodd's 1958 history of Bingley, as well as several others.

Moving beyond the 'case study' of the Prince of Wales Park, there are many publications in libraries, like that of the RHS at Harlow Carr, which detail the history of parks, especially the Peoples Parks of the middle of the 19th century. Although it has never been officially explained by English Heritage, now 'Historic England', as to why the Prince of Wales Park, was given Grade II Listed status as 'a park of historic interest', it has been suggested that either the royal interest, or the working people of Bingley's endeavours, were the possible reasons.

In terms of illustrations, thanks to a local picture postcard collector, a small collection of heritage photos has been collated, mostly used, so carrying messages and dates. There are other pictures from local surveys.

What is now required are memories to be recorded from local people as to what the park used to look like, its planting, its structures and the gardeners themselves. Please get in touch.

Allan Mirfield 01274 770871
allan.mirfield@blueyonder.co.uk
Many thanks.

Letter to the Editorial Committee

I would like to add a footnote to Allan Mirfield's excellent article – "An apple a day – and more", November issue. Regarding the Milner Fields kitchen garden, the arrangement which was made with the Northern Fruit Group to visit the site was made with permission from the existing tenant in the Garden House at the time.

The kitchen garden is designated a "Bradford Wildlife Area" under the Council's Nature Conservation Strategy. Old orchards are now important for biodiversity. It was also protected at the last UDP (Unitary Development Plans) by the Council with a local Heritage Designation (Policy BH17 Parks & Gardens recognised by the Council as of local value). We hope this will continue in future, but we need to protect the site if necessary.

Susan Stead
Bradford Urban Wildlife Group
Wildlife Lead for the Friends of Prince of Wales Park

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