

Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 503 July 2021

ELDWICK & GILSTEAD GALA NEWS

3rd Time Lucky GALA DAY 2021 Saturday 14th August

Due to popular demand, we are now going ahead with Gala Day on Saturday August 14th 2021, we are a determined bunch!

On Gala Day the field itself will look very familiar. We will also be having a tug of war competition and a Dakota fly past (fingers crossed for this to be rearranged), Donkey Rides, Dancing & stalls. More news on line as bookings for the new date are confirmed.

Georgia our Gala Queen and her attendants Isabelle, Daisy Lily and Betty have been waiting patiently since March 2020 for their big day – to say they are excited is an understatement.

This year we're not charging entry nor having a programme and the field will be open from 12.30pm. This will avoid congestion and minimise too much close contact, but we ask if you could help our cause by donating what you would on the day for entry, or even a little more!!

There is a link on our facebook page 'Eldwick & Gilstead Gala' for you to make a contribution – you don't even have to have a facebook account. Nigel at the Post Office is also happy to accept donations in envelopes on our behalf too.

The first Gala was held in 1942 during the war and has been running ever since and growing all the time, with ALL PROFITS going back to community organisations for

example: Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Army Cadets, Scouts, Seascouts, Football clubs, Sports and youth groups, local children's groups... the list goes on.

Thank you in anticipation of your support and generosity, looking forward to seeing you in August.

- wish for sunshine!

To book a stall or to volunteer to help on the day please email galaeldwick@gmail.com or message our Facebook page - Eldwick & Gilstead Gala.

SCOUT & GUIDE FUN RUN NEW DATE Friday 13th August 2021

The Fun Run will be on Friday 13th August the night before the Gala with Burnt Bangers and The Birches across the road.

A 1.5 mile run starting at 7pm. **Entry forms are available – which ever date is stated they will all apply for 13th August.**

Entry £3 per runner (£4 on the day). A medal for every runner finishing.

Route:- Start from the Memorial Hall, Otley Road, Warren Lane, Stone Hill, Moorcroft, Southway, Sheriff Lane, Glen Road, Saltaire Road, Otley Road, Finish at the Memorial Hall.

PLEASE NOTE: the Gala are not charging admission but are trying to raise funds for charity and cover costs by using JustGiving so please donate for this very worthy cause.

BEER AND BANGER FESTIVAL

Despite Boris we still have The Eldwick Beer and Banger Festival which is firmly on the calendar for 20th/21st August. This is a celebration of locally sourced sausage, cremated on charcoal in a locally sourced bun with draught beers again locally sourced. We are surrounded by first class breweries producing excellent beers. The event is held in the Eldwick Memorial Hall and Birches Freehouse with covered areas on the car park.

The event will run as it has before. We will be supporting The Yorkshire Air Ambulance and hope that it will be landing on the Saturday afternoon. There will also be



entertainment in the evening.

We are also pleased to announce that we have both Bumbles Rugby and HALE two very different charities using the event to promote their work.

Tickets will be available soon.

Planning Sheriff Lane



Land at the rear of Laurel Bank, Sheriff Lane, Eldwick

This application is for six houses with access from Nightingale Walk and Sheriff Lane.

As most readers are aware Sheriff Lane is a very narrow unmade road which has a stream running down it for six months of the year. Not only is it unsuitable for private vehicles it is totally unsuitable for construction traffic. Vehicles would find access from Gilstead Lane into Sheriff Lane is very tight and extremely difficult for heavy goods vehicles.

The application is to be considered in the middle of July.

YOUR VIEWS

Please contact us with your views and thoughts and certainly news from your organisations. It would be excellent to hear from The Eldwick Juniors Football Club whose girls we understand are doing really well. News from the School, Pony Club Scouts and Guides would all be welcome. Or just people doing interesting things! Or even just having a moan!

Just email news@eldwickvillage.co.uk Or old fashioned mail to the PO. The deadline for copy is the middle of the month for publication at the beginning of the following month.



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BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Personnel changes. There have been a number of personnel changes in the last year, both with staff and councillors. We were all extremely sorry to say goodbye to Admin Officer, Laura Jowett and Town Clerk, Ruth Batterley who have moved on to posts with other town councils. Both were superb employees, skilled, knowledgeable and totally supportive of Bingley Town Council. They are missed but we wish them success in their new roles. I hope you'll give a warm welcome to the new Town Clerk, Eve Haskins and the Deputy Clerk, Nicola Mansfield-Smith, and we are lucky to still have with us our Admin Officer, Ruth Thompson.

In 2020 the street furniture and lighting renovation project was finally completed. This has made a huge difference to the 'feel' of the town centre which looks so much smarter and welcoming. The floral displays in the centre of town and in the villages were maintained and the provision of bedding plants to various community groups continued and gave much pleasure during the various levels of lockdown.

Although the Chamber of Trade Big Lights Switch On was cancelled, the Town Council provided a Christmas Tree and continued to replace festive lights in the town centre and to roll out provision of these in the district. The Council continues to actively campaign for and promote the needs of Bingley to Bradford Metropolitan District Council on matters such as the provision of pedestrian crossings, maintaining a library service in Bingley, improvements to car parking in the town, and in responding in detail to the recently published Local Plan.

Despite the difficulties of the last year, there are so many volunteer groups in Bingley which have continued to work together and to improve Bingley for the benefit of all – The Friends of Myrtle Park, Friends of Prince of Wales Park, Friends of Bingley Pool, Action Stations, Cottingley Community Association, the Village Societies in Eldwick, Crossflatts, Micklethwaite and Gilstead and the Bingley Bloomers – to name but a few. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated people who have such a community spirit and love of our home town. Heartfelt thanks to all.

Bingley Pool Update. The recent announcement from the Friends of Bingley Pool is very disappointing. The proposed Community Asset Transfer is in doubt. The

structure of the building is unsound as a result of the failure by Bradford Metropolitan District Council to maintain the building for many years. The District Council must not be allowed to let another Bingley amenity fall into disuse and become another useless eyesore. Bingley Town Council will continue to put pressure on Bradford Metropolitan District Council and to support Friends of Bingley Pool to find a solution.

NEW DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



I'm Marcus Dearden, your newly elected District Councillor looking after your interests and concerns at Bradford Council.

I was elected on the back of my passion for community activism which I believe should be at the core of anyone representing constituents in their district.

Alongside my role as District Councillor I continue to be Chair of the Remembrance Sunday group ensuring the annual parade and service continues to take place, a member of the flood support group, Bingley partnership, and chamber of trade. For the past two years I have also been Co-Chair of Friends of Bingley Pool working hard with the present trustees with the aim of securing swimming facilities in our town.

Recent meetings on the future of the pool with BMDC have been rather disappointing, but there could be the possibility of a newly built pool and after having had a discussion with Philip Davies, our local MP, avenues of funding are being explored and I am optimistic we can succeed in obtaining much needed investment for the town.

In my role as Councillor I have been appointed on the regeneration and environment committee, as well as the Shipley area committee. I aim to be as accessible as possible to all residents, therefore please feel free to contact me with your concerns or ideas for our town. Get in touch using the below contact details, or in person at the Five Rise Locks cafe which I continue to run.

Regards
Marcus

Mobile 07811503607

Email Marcus.dearden@bradford.gov.uk

Happy Years

You may not have realised but, during the pandemic, one of our oldest village organisations has closed down, namely the "Eldwick Thursday Afternoon Club".

Last October the Acting Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs Elizabeth Tidswell, wrote to the members as follows: "It is with regret that I'm writing to you to say that unfortunately after a lot of thought and consultation with the committee that the Thursday Afternoon Club will have to close. I am sure this is what some of you expected, if it had not been for the covid 19 situation we would have had to close in the New Year due to numbers and funds. I am sure you will all agree the Club has run its course and been in existence for over 60 years and a lot of people have benefitted from it, but things have to change."

Many years ago, on 4th January 1957 to be precise, a public meeting was called in the Memorial Hall to form an Old Peoples' Welfare. Mr Harry Baker was the Chairman, and it was agreed that such an Association be formed. The first Committee consisted of President: Mr D.M.S. Harrison, Chairman: Mrs Elsie Forder, Secretary: Mrs Heather Taylor, Treasurer: Mrs Olive Hobbs, and Vice-Chairman & Assistant Secretary: Mrs Dorothy Muggleston (my mother).

A rota of ladies to serve teas one Thursday a month was organised, and the first meeting took place on Thursday 24th January 1957, where Mrs Grace Fawcett made a cake for the first raffle.

Over the years the name changed to the Thursday Afternoon Club and on 9th February 2007 the Telegraph & Argus reported that members had celebrated their 50th Anniversary in the Memorial Hall, where about 50 people sat down to a special tea and a birthday cake cut by Mrs Edith Wilson, the oldest member.

An address was given by Mrs Freda Escritt, the life president of the Bingley & District O.P.W. Association, and a gavel was accepted for use at meetings to commemorate 50 years of the club.

You will be pleased to learn that a garden bench is going to be purchased by the Eldwick Church as part of "the Church in the Garden" project, where former members can sit and remember those happy years.

Finally, we must thank all the retiring committee in particular Mrs Frances Wilcock, the secretary, and Mrs Elizabeth Tidswell, the treasurer, for their faithful service to our community.

John Muggleston



Janus

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ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

This month has been exciting for us. Dahlias and Pelargoniums have been potted on ready for our stall at the Gala and our Annual Show Saturday 29th August.

We have had two trips, in a coach, real days out. 16 headed out at the beginning of June to the Himalayan Garden at Ripon to see the stunning azaleas and rhododendron. To finish the month another 20 headed to foreign parts staying at The Mulberry Inn near Llangollen for two nights. We took in the delights of Powis and Chirk Castle and to top it all one of my favourite gardens, Wollerton Old Hall. The roses are to die for, the cake is a close second.

Our President, Steve Wilkinson, arranges all our trips and as usual came up with a stunner. Now to find somewhere for all the plants I bought!

Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association

We are hoping to start again in 3 months time.



PLANTING

The planters are now being restocked at time of going to press, thanks to the Town Council and donations from EVS.

Michelle Chapman BEM

Congratulations to Michelle of Gilstead for being awarded the BEM for her sterling work during COVID.

DEFIB MACHINE

Just a reminder that there is a defib machine located outside the Memorial Hall. When you suspect that someone is suffering heart failure and dial 999 the Ambulance Service will direct you to the machine. They will give you a code to punch into the lock then the defib, once activated will talk you through the procedure. Very simple.

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NEWS FROM THE ELDWICK CHURCH

We continue to worship on a Sunday morning at 10.30, either in the Church building - attending on alternate weeks to allow for social distancing or at home, - following the service on YouTube. You are very welcome to join us. Give the office a ring to be allocated a seat or find us online by entering 'The Eldwick Church' into the YouTube search bar.

We have a few of our hirer groups starting to return to the building, with more re-starting in September. Our Café has been open for a couple of months with table service and we hope to provide more seating when restrictions allow. We will be running the Café for Gala day in August with seating indoors and outside. We'll also have a plant stall in our car park, near our 'Church in the Garden' plot, so come and look us up!

We are into double figures with episodes of the 'Eldwick Church in the Community' podcast. Do have a listen: the focus is on people and groups around our local area.

Our topics are of interest a bit further afield too: BCB Radio 106.6fm (Bradford Community Radio) have picked us up twice on their 'Pick of the Podcasts' feature! Our episodes include interviews with Eldwick Juniors, volunteers with Manorlands, the Bingley Foodbank and local Scouting & Girlguiding groups. Coming up: episodes about Plastic-free Bingley, a Covid vaccinator and a helper at 'Golden Oldies.'

Contact us if you would like us to pray for you or for someone in need.

Prayer requests can be submitted to prayer@eldwickchurch.org.uk where they are forwarded anonymously to our prayer team.

For general enquiries, please email office@eldwickchurch.org.uk or telephone 01274 422015.

You can keep up with everything we're doing on Facebook @TheEldwickChurch; Twitter @EldwickChurch; or on our website <http://eldwickchurch.org.uk>

Help please! Donations needed!

My name is Julie Horsfield and I have lived in Eldwick for many years. I am a front line nurse having worked for the NHS for forty two years, at the moment I am vaccinating against Coronavirus.

I'm also volunteering for the Charity Care4Calais who support refugees. I am presently supporting 30+ families including young children across West Yorkshire with food and clothing donations alongside a few other fabulous volunteers.

The current support provided is poor and the food is even worse, babies are given chicken nuggets and chips and very little fruit and vegetables and adults have a similar diet. We are trying to gather fresh produce each week to help out.

What do we need and how can you help?

- Spare clothing & trainers for both adults and children
- Food donations (fresh and dried)
- Money donations to help us buy fresh nutritious food
- Children's toys etc

Please ring me for further information and collection/drop off info.

Any help would be greatly appreciated no matter how small.

Thank you!
Julie Horsfield
07811 259646
Juliehorsfield16@hotmail.co.uk



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ELDWICK GALA - THE FIRST 15 YEARS

As a coincidence, with the 2021 Gala being twice rearranged, now to 14th August 2021, it was on that very date in 1943 that the second Eldwick Gala was held. It was the ladies of the Eldwick Home Comforts Fund who, from 1940, had raised funds for gifts to be distributed to the men and women of Eldwick who were serving in the armed forces, who were responsible for inaugurating the first Eldwick Gala. The Ladies Knitting Circle had produced all manner of goods as gifts.

The local newspapers kept track of Gala news and it was on 1st August 1942 an article was headlined 'An Eldwick Gala - it is hoped that the Bingley Hospital and the Eldwick and Gilstead Home Comforts Funds will benefit considerably from next Saturday's Eldwick Gala.' It went on to explain that the entertainment was to be varied, comprising a concert in the church schoolroom, a whist drive and some children's sports on the Recreation Ground. There would also be open air dancing on the lawn of Mr & Mrs McKay at Meadowcott. A cricket match of Ladies versus Gentlemen and a fancy dress parade would be attractions.

In 1943 for the second Gala, events on the day would be from 2.15pm to 10.30pm, including a Pony Show for entrants from within a six mile radius of Eldwick. The sports to be held would include a Tug of War between the men of the Eldwick & Gilstead Home Guard (Dad's Army) and members of the Bingley branch of the National Fire Service. The Whist Drive in the marquee would be followed by locals giving a concert in the Eldwick Council Schoolroom. In that period, and for decades earlier, that location had been the venue for all kinds of community and social events.



The week before Gala Day the dancing at Meadowcott was from 8.15 pm to 10.15pm, moving to the school to continue between 10.30pm and 11.45pm. In 1944 the Canal Ironworks Band led a procession to the field and it was in the year there was an innovative Gala cross country race. It was for 14 to 18 year olds who had to run from the Rec up to Dick Hudson's on a prescribed route but could then make their return by a way of their choosing! The winner completed the race in 18 minutes and six seconds.

Mr Birch, the headmaster of the Eldwick School and a major figure in the community, was chairman of the Gala committee and suggested at the 1944 AGM that funds raised at the next Gala should not only be donated to Bingley Hospital but also the committee may devote some of the money to the intention of building a village hall. The following year, when entry to the Gala was six pence or three pence, a small model of the proposed village hall was on display. The 1946 event was such a washout that the sports for children were not held until 30th August. In the next few years the features of the Gala were races organised by the Bingley Harriers and Athletic Club and by Mr Baker of Middle Farm who introduced the Pony and Gymkhana Shows. To add to the rural nature, a Calf Show was run by the Aire Valley Young Farmers.

MICHAEL YATES

We are sad to report the death of Michael Yates who died recently in hospital. Michael lived all his life in Eldwick and was a much liked character. He spent most of his working life at the original Eldwick Car Services.



The sixth Gala in 1947 had the ponies on show but also competing in a variety of races such as leaping, trot and gallop. The programme of the Harriers included a one and a half mile road race, a six mile walking race and a three mile fell race (which was actually won in 19 minutes and 6 seconds. A 1949 press story headlined 'No Gambling At Eldwick Gala'. Mr Birch intimated that the Gala was for the village and not for a large number from elsewhere who may take to betting on the pony races. The next Gala was another washout, so bad that the event only had a balance of nine shillings and ten pence. So it was vouched that the 1951 date would be when the Festival of Britain was being celebrated. Despite poor weather again, there was a new event with 32 entries of Border Collies competing in Sheep Dog Trials. 56 ponies were in the show, the Harriers had an eight mile walking race and a two mile team race for boys.

In 1952, John Edwards, for long a village stalwart, was elected vice chair of the Gala committee and it was that year when July rather than August was proposed for future Galas. However 1953 was Coronation year and so the event was brought forward to June. Muriel Spencer became the first ever Gala Queen and a whole week's programme took place. Bingley Little Theatre was to stage a play in Prince of Wales Park and a Coronation tribute suggested was to remove the Market Hall back from the park to Bingley.

For 1954 Mr Birch proposed to change the format of previous years by having no sheep dog trials and less adult races but more children's events. It was decided to have a Gala Queen annually, chosen from entrants judged on appearance, carriage, bearing, poise and speech. Heather Longbottom was successful and was in the parade led by the Hammonds Sauce Works Band. In 1955 it was said there were 2000 people at the Pony Show when there were 80 entries for the Gymkhana, some from as far away as Selby and Tadcaster. The Bradford Cycle Club brought amateur cyclists for 'slow cycle races including tent pegging, and an egg and spoon challenge'.

Rain curtailed some of the 1956 Gala - no procession and an opening ceremony in the church! Although building Eldwick Memorial Hall had been progressing it was not until late in 1956 that it was officially opened. From then onwards, from 1957, together with the Rec, the Eldwick Gala could expand with more indoor events to be included in the programme, as it has to this day.

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