

# Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 509 January 2022

## A Happy New Year to all our readers!

### Donation to YAA Fifty Thousand Pounds at last!



We are delighted to announce that The Eldwick Village Society have just handed a cheque for eight thousand two hundred pounds to Kerry Dwyer, Director of Fundraising for West and South Yorkshire, this makes a total of fifty thousand pounds over the last few years. The money has been raised from various events with the Beer and Banger Festival being the main one. As readers will be aware we have worked closely with YAA including them bringing the helicopter to the festival.

We owe a great debt to all the people who have made this donation possible i.e. the volunteers, the sponsors and the many organisations who have helped as well. And, of course, all of you who have attended these events. Eldwick Village Society will continue to support local organisations and charities.

**How convenient.** Many thanks to the considerate person who placed the Portaloo at the junction of Glen Road and Saltaire Road. Very convenient for dog walkers



### EVENTS FOR 2022

The Village Society have planned the following for 2022:

Cheese and Wine Tasting in Feb (date to be confirmed)

Spring Family Barbecue (date to be confirmed)

Burnt Bangers at the Fun Run and Gala 24th 25th June

Beer and Banger Festival 19th 20th August

Bonfire and Fireworks Display 5th November

### Eldwick & Gilstead Gala Queen Selection Disco

**Friday 4th March at Eldwick Memorial Hall** from 7 - 8.30 pm for all 7 - 11 year olds.

Look out for entry forms in the February edition, on line and at school.

Gala Queen or King from year 6 and 4 attendants for girls and boys aged 7 to 10 !!

Disco Entry £2

**Happy New Year from your Gala organisers !  
2022 Gala Day Saturday 25th June**

### ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We are looking forward to our first speaker of the year on Tuesday 18th January. Sarah Owen-Hughes "knows all the dirt" – how to grow smarter from the ground up.

Subs will also be due. The good news is that if you join (for only £10 for the year) the meetings are free for 2022. Non-members are always welcome, at £3.



We are also delighted to have taken over the maintenance of the Millennium Stone from the Village Society and have plans to make a lot more of a show than previously. This winter, bulbs have been planted in the grass as well as the bed itself, a lavender border

### Christmas in Eldwick



and a couple of roses, to start the perennial planting. A team of volunteers will keep on top of the area. Please do say hi if we are working there. Bigger plans are afoot, but need approval.

## Paul Rae C.A.R.P.E.T.S

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

My wife and I, who are in our late eighties, were taken aback by a loud bang on one of our windows. This happened in the evening of Sunday 5th December, a bit scary to say the least.

Some young person or thug, threw a raw egg at the window, and as you can imagine it made a right mess, which was obviously intended.

I don't think anyone should be treated in this manner, especially the elderly. I suppose he thought it was funny and got away with it, well, maybe one of the neighbours saw him OR caught on CCTV? (We will find out). That being the case, he could be recognised and prosecuted.

When something like this happens, it's not a nice feeling – you feel shocked and threatened. If whoever did this and are reading this letter – GROW UP. Treating the elderly like this could have serious consequences.

Name and Address supplied  
P.S. Has any mum wondered where her missing eggs have gone from the fridge?

Dear Editor

I am thinking of asking around to see if there are any people in the area who are learning to play a musical instrument (especially guitar) who would be interested to meet once or twice per week either during the day or evening (Covid permitting) to help each other out with advice/suggestions etc. with the aim to improve their playing 'fun' – maybe we may, in the end, be able to play a song together!

This would not be a profit-making group, nor is it a tuition lesson, or paying for a teacher session as I am not a teacher, only someone interested in improving our playing ability. It would simply be for people who are at a similar level of ability, who may be able to help each other.

There is a small venue in Eldwick that will allow us to use their room and will charge a reasonable fee per hour, which could be divided by the number of players attending the sessions, if agreeable.

Interested people may contact me by email at stavrotheman@yahoo.co.uk and we could take it from there.

John Taylor

## BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

### Dates for your diary 2022

#### Events:

Saturday 5 February 2022:- Monthly Saturday Farmers' market. (Held on the first Saturday of each month 10am to 2pm)

#### Council Meetings:

The next ordinary meeting of the Town Council is at 6.30pm on Tuesday 18th January 2022

The agenda for the meetings can be found on the Town Council website within the Documents section.

You can see all the council meeting dates in the Events section calendar on the website.

#### Councillor appointment

Ros Dawson co-opted to the Town Council as a member for the Priestthorpe ward.

#### Bingley Christmas Lights

Bingley Lights Switch On went ahead, despite the bad weather, on Saturday 27th November. There are a few problems with some of the lights; however, Festival Lights in conjunction with their contractor and Bradford Street Lighting are continuing to work to resolve the issues. In addition to the Christmas lights in the Town Centre and Crossflatts the town council have installed new lights and a Christmas tree in Gilstead. The Council will be rolling out Christmas lights in other villages within the districts of Bingley next year.

#### Litter Picks

Community litter picks took place on Sunday 14th November and Saturday 11th December.

Thank you to all the members of the public who gave up their time to make Bingley a cleaner place for everyone.

If you know of any areas in your neighbourhood that warrant a litter pick please get in touch with the Town Clerk and it can be added to the list of litter picks for 2022

We trust you all had a very happy Christmas, your local councillors Heseltine and Truelove wish you all a happy, peaceful and Healthy New Year.

#### Changing Places Update

The Town Council agreed the Business Case and a Tender Report for a Changing Places toilet facility in Bingley town centre.

A preferred contractor has been agreed, appointment will be made in early 2022.

The outcome of the bid for Government funding towards this facility put in by Bradford Council is still being awaited, however the Town Council agreed to cover the costs whatever the outcome of this bid.

#### Office hours

Following the recent Government Omicron guidelines the Town Council's offices at The Hub, Myrtle Place are temporarily closed to the public.

Bingley Town Council can be contacted by email at enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk or by phone on the following numbers:  
Town Clerk: 07529 222679  
Deputy Town Clerk: 07703 188660  
Administrative Officer: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 077835 19439

## SOLD OUT – MANORLANDS FUNDRAISER BREAKS PREVIOUS RECORD

"Oh what a night" as Frankie Valli once sang, the event which took place at the Birches/Memorial Hall on Saturday Nov 27th was once again a roaring success and after all costs, the sum raised was £2030 for Sue Ryder Manorlands.

Anton Kitchen who organised the event said "Once again the night exceeded our expectations in every aspect the feedback from all who attended has been fantastic, it has become so popular the plan is to make it an annual event".

Those who attended danced the night away to the fantastic group 'Bootleg 60's'. The evening was presided over by Emcee Bob Harrison who conducted the Auction with some great lots and our thanks go out to Rob Slater, Helijet Leeds and Landrover Experiences with the star lot again being a 3 night stay in a wonderful house in York donated by Andrew Higgins.

There were in excess of 25 raffle prizes donated by local businesses and individuals, for which we are very grateful.

Special thanks also go to the Eldwick Village Society for free use of the Memorial Hall, Mike Harrison and his staff at the Birches, Richard Fernside for his technical expertise and Graham Brewster for taking photographs.

Plans for next year's event will be underway early next year and tickets made available mid year so those who were disappointed not to be able to secure tickets this year, as they sold out so quickly, can hopefully join us next year.

A huge thank you to all who attended and supported the event in any way.



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## Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association

Our December meeting was attended by 23 members. We had no speaker so had a Quiz, mince pies and drinks.

Our next meeting is on January 11th 2022 at 6.30pm. It is our Annual Beetle Drive so please come along.

The Committee hope you have all had a good Christmas and wish you all a very Healthy 2022.

New Members are always welcome. Please contact Bev on 01274 565077.

## Carol Singing

Many thanks to Allan and June for doing the annual Carol Service which was held, as usual, in the Memorial Hall on Christmas Eve supported by the Salvation Army Band.

For obvious reasons there were less people in attendance but they still enjoyed themselves.



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## NEWS FROM THE ELDWICK CHURCH

**Happy New Year** from the Eldwick Church! We hope that you managed to drop into one of our festive services or events; or perhaps you followed the Angel Trail round the village.

**Welcome Rev Brian!** Our new Minister, Rev Brian Greenfield arrived in



time for the busy Christmas period. Rev Brian joined us from Sutton, Cowling and Lothersdale where he was Assistant Vicar. He is now Priest in Charge of St Paul's Shipley, Priest in charge of Christchurch, Windhill, and Minister of the Eldwick Church. This is a shared post and Rev Brian will work the equivalent of 2 days a week in our church.

He's been getting to know us, and we have been finding out a little about him too. Here's Brian in his own words:

*"Dear friends, I am so excited to be appointed to this post and to join with you alongside my Methodist and other colleagues, in all that God is doing in Eldwick, Shipley and Windhill."*

*Prior to becoming a parish priest, I spent 15 years in I.T., then another 15 as a secondary school ICT and Computer*

*Science teacher.*

*In my spare time, I follow a Merseyside football team. I also enjoy listening to music, getting outside taking walks and meeting up with family.*

*Although our three sons have all now flown the nest, Ruth and I have brought our friendly collie Rosie with us and she, like us, is very much looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you."*

**What's on at Church?** If you want to know what's on, there's lots of info on our website: [eldwickchurch.org.uk](http://eldwickchurch.org.uk)

Our website calendar shows what's happening each day. Alternatively, drop in on us one Sunday – services start at 10.30am; or come for a coffee and some cake at our Link Café (9.30 am – noon on Tuesdays and 10.00 am – 1.30 pm Thursdays).

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](mailto:prayer@eldwickchurch.org.uk) where they are forwarded anonymously to our prayer team.

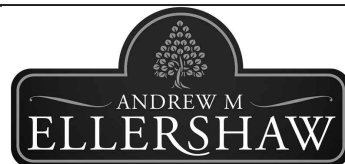
For general enquiries, please email [office@eldwickchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@eldwickchurch.org.uk) or telephone 01274 422015. If you want to hire a room, you can check availability & make a request at [eldwickchurchbookings.org.uk](http://eldwickchurchbookings.org.uk)

You can keep up with everything we're doing on **Facebook** @TheEldwickChurch or **Twitter** @EldwickChurch.

## Eldwick Village Society AGM

**Monday 24th Jan at 6.30**

**in Birches**



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## BACK TO SCHOOL?

May we hope that the new term, the first of 2022 can bring more of a normal return to schooldays in the light of recent disruptions due to the pandemic, causing isolations and even closures for some classes? Although not quite as serious as the virus which has prevailed, the log books of the Eldwick Board School record a whole host of absences, varying from illnesses to severe weather. There were schools in the Eldwick vicinity which predated the establishment of the Eldwick Board School in 1877, that in the High Eldwick Chapel of 1815 and the Eldwick Beck Methodist Schoolroom of 1832. A very different kind of school had been erected in 1874 at High Eldwick when a new schoolroom was built for the benefit of workmen and children connected with the reservoir works. It was purely for a minister to conduct religious services each Sunday in the first instance but developed later thanks to donations of 'the gratuitous distribution of hymn books, periodicals and tracts'. Were the navvies and children well versed and educated to such an extent as to enjoy such?

The Eldwick Board School, financed by their Lordships of the Education Board in London, was managed by the Bingley School Board. Eldwick School cost £1,680 to build plus the teacher's house for £400. By 1880 the Bingley Board had built all the schools of the surrounding villages, costing £24,942 with 2160 scholars on roll. However the average attendance was only 1670 and was this because attendance was not compulsory by 1888? As has been recorded here before, the winter of 1881 brought severe hardship to Eldwick village with repercussions for the school. At that time the majority of pupils would have been living in the cottages of Eldwick Beck Bottom, the Brick Kiln Row (Park Top) or the New Row adjacent to the Corn Mill at the top of The Green. Beyond those locations were all the farms but were the families of the villa owners of Glen Road and Prospect Road patronising their local school?



So it was in the beginning that two large classrooms, only divided by a curtain, were constituted within the 1877 school building. The original plan shows Class I for younger children measured 36 feet by 22 feet, that for Class II 17 x 22. Two separate entrances to the building, a corridor outside the rooms, no facility for staff, outside toilets and a rough piece of land for a playground. Initially, pupils on roll in 1877 numbered 53, almost doubling to 104 by 1937 when the extra classroom was built as an extension to the rear of the building. In February 1908 the inspector came to call when there were 75 children registered, 43 in the Infant Class, by comparison the average attendance was 60 in total with 20 Infants. The comprehensive report tells how the new headmaster had brought improvements but 'standards may improve once the reticence of some of the children has been overcome'. Children read and write well, use oral comprehension, and oral arithmetic. For the Infants, some of the lessons are too long and elementary work 'is undesirable for children under five'. The premises report reminds that previous faults had not been corrected – nothing done to adapt the closets for infants and the playground is still rough.

Moving into the 1920s and beyond the log book entries by the head teacher often do dwell on the impact of both the weather and illnesses suffered by the children. At one time in 1927 there was a repeat of the smallpox epidemics of the previous century when the whole village had been seriously infected. On December 23rd of 1927, just days before Christmas – when school was still in session? 'Attendance has been very low during the past three weeks owing to smallpox and a

large number of children have been vaccinated'. Further entries in later years report 24 out of 70 pupils absent with measles, whooping cough and scarlet fever. As a result of the latter, the school was actually closed by the sanitary inspector. Worst still in 1936 when absences were caused due to diphtheria as well as measles. In 1938, after Mr Birch had taken up his post three years earlier, it was written that 'between September 1935 and November 1936 this three teacher school has had six head teachers and 5 Infants teachers'. Alec Birch of course served for many years.

It was not all doom and gloom, with a school closure when Princess Mary visited Bingley in 1927 to open the public baths, 4 days off for the Coronation of King George VI in 1937 with an historical tableau for the children in the new Myrtle Park. Wartime reports included the arrival of evacuees, 20 from London who did not depart until 1945. A special treat came in the following year when all the children received bags of sweets from the Australian people and then three large cases of apples, courtesy of the British Columbia Tree Fruits Ltd were shared at school. In 1953 everyone was presented with their Souvenir Coronation Cups. Have you still got yours? Archive photos are the 1925/26 tableau with teacher Miss Smailes and pupils, and of the 2001 Eldwick School Sale. Only some children have had names provided, such as Winnie Boocock, Phillis Eichel, John Sutcliffe, Andrew Heughan, Ronnie Greenwood, Lily Murgatroyd, Grace Whiting, Edgar Greenwood, and Joan Varey. Any families now could add more names if they have that picture?

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