

Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 520 January 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR



The Eldwick Village Society were delighted to be able to present a cheque for £7,500 to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

The presentation was on 19th December in Birches. Kerry Dwyer Fundraising Director and the Chief pilot for YAA, Owen Mc Teggart received the cheque on behalf of YAA. This donation makes our total nearly £60,000

The funds this year were raised from usual events ie The Jubilee, Gala, The Beer and Banger Festival and finally the Bonfire.

Other recipients included The Scouts, Rotary, Bingley Congs, Eldwick Tennis Club Eldwick Memorial Hall, Guide Dogs and Manorlands.

Santa's Sleigh

Congratulations to Phill Greaves and co for putting on the Santa's Sleigh extravaganza. This excellent event of taking the sleigh through the village raised £1834 for Martin House Hospice.



Seasonal Illuminations on Pengarth



THANKS TO ALLAN AND JUNE FOR CAROL SINGING

A record crowd attended the traditional Carol Singing in The Memorial Hall on Christmas Eve. Many thanks to Allan and June for organising the event and thanks also to the nationally recognised organist Robert Suddall and, of course, The Salvation Army Band.

Dates for your diary for 2023

Coronation May Fun Run Friday 23rd June;
Gala Saturday 24th June; Beer and Banger Festival 18th-19th August; and Bonfire Night Saturday 4th November.

PLANNING

5G telecom installation H3G 20m street pole and additional equipment cabinets.

On Otley Road just past Warren Lane above the Prince of Wales Park

Ref no.22/05048/PNT

THE GLEN PUB GILSTEAD

We are very sorry to hear that this well known local pub has closed due to lack of support. Pubs are very important to all villages and in many cases, along with the Church are the hub of the community. A timely reminder to us all "use it or lose it".

GALA NEWS

Eldwick and Gilstead Royal Gala Disco
Friday 10th March 7pm- 8.30pm
For 7-11 year olds.

PLAY GROUND



We are delighted to see that Bradford Council have revamped the play equipment on the rec'.

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BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL

- Yorkshire Water have now lifted the hosepipe ban.
- The Remembrance Day parade in Bingley was well attended .
- November and December markets have now taken place, and the Christmas lights switch-on event with a market delivered in conjunction with Bingley Chamber of Trade.
- The Town Council has organised Christmas trees for the town centre, Eldwick and Gilstead.

Bingley Music Town:

A representative from the local initiative group Bingley Music Town informed the Town Council of their work as a community, building exercise to get local people interested in music and musicians, to prepare in part for Bradford City of Culture 2025. Constituted last month, the group has 19 members, all local people who aim to make Bingley a place where music will be celebrated. They would like to see more music in Market Square, and the Myrtle Park bandstand, as well as have more celebration of the music in the local theatre, pubs, etc. It is an initiative to pull together the existing musicians in the town, including the church bell ringers, the Operatic Society, and several choirs. The group meet on second Wednesday of month, with a view to the meetings taking place at different times and at different venues across the district, to get people to network. It is a similar idea to music cities (e.g. Liverpool, Austin, Texas), to take that model and do it on a small local level. The group will be coming to the Town Council for a start up grant at some point.

Bradford City of Culture:

Bradford City of Culture 2025. Team Representation was received from Shanaz Gulzar, Creative Director of Bradford Council's City of Culture 2025 Team, as follows:

- Plans for the City of Culture 2025 will be made throughout 2023, 2024 and 2025, to make opportunities for artists to grow skills in time for 2025.
- The granting of the successful bid to Bradford was the first time the City of Culture had been opened out to larger conurbations, and the first time that the leadership team were already part of the district.
- Four themes helped Bradford to win the bid: ★ 'Coming of age': Bradford is the youngest city in UK, where one in three

residents is under 20 years of age, which is a significant identity which will drive the future.

- ★ 'Everything is connected': Including science, technology, engineering, arts and maths; the Team demonstrated that the arts are about critical thinking, imagination etc.
- ★ 'City of the world': Bradford as a city has welcomed people from all over the world, and also want to celebrate what the city and district has given to the world.
- ★ 'Welcome Home Sexy': The graffiti near Bradford Interchange shows what Bradford is - imaginative, independent, with a DIY culture and attitude, the Bradford way of doing things.
- UK City of Culture brings attention and positive media, and Bradford won this as it demonstrated the need, the ambition and the imagination.
- Team currently consists of three people, which will be expanding to 70-80 people.
- Next year the Team will be undertaking research and development regarding the community, neighbourhoods, etc. 2024 will be a precursor of what the City of Culture year will be like, and it is planned that activities will take place every weekend in 2025 with the wider community.
- The Town Council asked how they could be involved, to ensure that Bingley takes part in the celebrations and were advised to keep in touch with the Team, inviting them to meetings and joining sessions on how to link. There will also be Neighbourhood Ambassador type roles, to look at embedding artists and fresh talent. Existing groups in Bingley, such as the theatre group, will be connected with to explore opportunities.

Changing Places Toilet Facility:

Councillor leading the project provided the latest update that the workmen still need to carry outstanding snagging work before this facility can be signed off; the facility also needs to be registered with Muscular Dystrophy UK (MDUK) before it can be opened to the public.

5G Telephone Mast, Eldwick Roundabout

The member of the public also queried whether the Town Council will be objecting to the application for a 5G mast adjacent to Eldwick roundabout. Chair of the Planning Committee, stated that this application has not yet been received by the Town Council, and when it does it will be assessed at the next meeting and a decision taken by the Committee whether to object or not.

AN ELDWICK WINTER

I wake in the morning to silence – I know
That there without warning are blankets of
snow.

It covers the garden and shimmers on trees
And soon it will harden as temperatures
freeze.

I remember the times when the Warren Lane
way
Was blocked up with snowfall for many a day
And fellows were digging – though often in
vain –
To open up channels for buses again.

But meanwhile we scrambled in wellies to
school –
In hallways, abandoned, they stood in a pool.
Our coats by the heater would steam
themselves dry
Till warmer and neater we'd don them and fly ...

Back home for our sledges – with time before
tea –
If we kept to the edges – the main road was free
But the 'rec' was untrodden and deep at the
wall –
We were chilly and sodden in no time at all.

With a snowman to build who had coaly black
eyes
And a scarf round his neck – now there's a
surprise –
We had to work fast as the daylight grew dim
And finish at last with a carrot for him.

He was all on his toddy the long winter night
With a persishing body and terrible plight –
By morning his features had thawed,
I suppose,
And some straying creature had eaten his nose.

I still like to think as the snowflakes are falling –
I sit with my drink – but the outside is
calling...
I love all the snow and I cherish the view
But the sledging and snowmen –
I'll leave them to you!

H. C.
Dec 2022



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ELDWICK & DISTRICT LADIES GROUP

At our Christmas meeting on 13th December, we were welcomed with a festive drink. Then we were entertained by a trio called PB's. They played electric Ukeles and sang both ordinary music and Christmas songs. They were very good. It was followed by tea and mince pies.

January 10th is our annual Beetle Drive. 6.30pm. Please come along if you can.

February 14th speaker will be about the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

The Committee wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.



BARBARA MENMUIR

Barbara sadly passed away on December 15th 2022 peacefully in The Glen Nursing Home. She was a library assistant in Bingley for many years and an

Eldwick resident for over 40 years. She was the much loved wife of John and mother of Andrew, Jonathan and Jamie.



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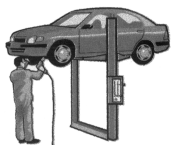
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NEWS FROM THE ELDWICK CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our Christmas services or events. Whether you came and made your own Christingle orange at Messy Church or dressed up and posed for a family snap in our photobooth Bethlehem stable, we hope you caught the real spirit of Christmas.

You can still revisit our atmospheric and well-attended Carols by Candlelight service by watching it on our YouTube channel. Just put 'YouTube' into your internet browser, then type 'The Eldwick Church' into YouTube's search bar and scroll down to find the video.

Looking forward into 2023, all are welcome at Messy Church which happens once a month on the 3rd Saturday at 3.30 pm. Messy Church is a very informal and different format of church. Each session revolves round a theme with crafts, songs, (possibly an action song!), a prayer, a story, and some shared food, (no charge).

Our reflective 'Breathe' service is taking a

breather in January (!) but will return on the 2nd Thursday of the month from February onwards. Breathe is a quiet, candle-lit 'drop-in' from 8.00 – 9.00 pm with peaceful music and songs to join in or listen to alongside reflective readings. Stay for just 10 minutes or the whole hour.

Our main Sunday morning worship starts at 10.30 am and runs for around an hour with refreshments afterwards. On the first Sunday of the month, there's also a short service of Holy Communion at 09.15 am. Catch up with everything we're doing on our website: Contact us if you would like us to pray for you or for someone in need. Prayer requests can be submitted to where they are forwarded anonymously to our prayer team. For general enquiries, please email or telephone 01274 422015.

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

CENOTAPH LOCATION

The report on the act of Remembrance in last month's Newsletter requested views on moving the cenotaph to a more central location.

We at the Eldwick Church wholeheartedly support this idea for several reasons:

- The cenotaph would be much more central to how the village is now, rather than how it was 100 years ago so that more people would pass near it more often.
- The cenotaph could be located near to the War Memorial Hall, uniting our two structures which remember and honour the war dead.
- It would no longer be necessary to request a road closure - once a simple job but now a massive bureaucratic headache.
- It would enable the less mobile members of the community to attend both the service in church and the ceremony at the cenotaph. Currently they have to wait in Church.
- It would be much simpler to arrange good amplification of the ceremony after many years of people saying they could not hear clearly.

Of course, there would be issues to address:

- exactly where to move it to
- obtaining permission from the heritage authorities
- funding the scheme
- what to do with the present site

However, we believe that answers can be found and would result in a fitting, and more accessible memorial to those who gave their lives.

Signed:

Rev Brian Greenfield,
Minister, the Eldwick
Church
Sue Huntington
Carole O'Neill
Gill Jowett
Margaret Hartley
Ann Barker
Anita Armstrong
Julie Smith
James Huntington
Christine Cubitt

Alan Brown
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A HOUSE FOR A HOME – OR NOT?

Whilst the Friends of Prince of Wales Park volunteers are about to enter the eleventh year of their work in the park, one situation has been beyond their control. They have seen the gradual deterioration of the appearance of the once iconic building in the park as well as the sporadic occupancy of tenancy of the Park Lodge. It is as many years now since the building housed a head gardener and family and an equal amount of time since Bradford Council, as owners, carried out any form of maintenance on the exterior or interior of their building.

As well as the house and its visible gardens to front and side, there is much more to the property. At the back of the house is another garden leading to the entrance to Park Road. Up the drive from the house behind fencing is a large stone building housing the former Ladies p.c. two stores and a lean-to workshop with windows and Perspex roof. Beyond that was a very formal garden, (pictured), cold frames and a large lawn. All of that land has become overgrown and the outbuilding disused.

As may soon be described by a local estate advertising the property for sale shortly, the Lodge is quite a simple building. In the description of the official Grade II Listing of the park, the Lodge is described separately as a one and a half storey stone Lodge with timber panel detailing to plain and half hipped gables beneath a blue slate roof, set to the south side of the main entrance. Within the main building is just a large front room with view down Park Road and beyond, two bedrooms, a small bathroom, small kitchen and pantry, no upper floor or cellar, just a stone built boiler room beside the back door. At the time of writing, all is in need of considerable renovation and sympathetic modernisation. As a house, at present, it is considered to be uninhabitable, lacking parking space and access as well as being sited in a public space.

It was not ever thus, with its origin dating back to the late 19th century. As has been written here before, the Enclosure Commissioners awarded land to the Bingley Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor as a charity for the people of Bingley. In time, when created as a park,

the responsibility was with the Bingley Improvement Commissioners who were in existence between 1847 and 1894 and the Bingley Local Government Board (1863 to 1894), both giving way to the new Bingley Urban District Council in 1894. The BIMPC consisted of elected but unpaid property owners given to improve the town. The BLGB had elected residents as councillors for the town, collecting rates.

After the park opened in 1865 some 21 trustees were invited to form a management committee, regulating expenditure from public donations. Soon there were insufficient funds to continually improve the park so it was decided to ask the BIMPC to extend its boundary to include the park. This was agreed in 1874, at a time when damage was being made to trees, plants and seats in the park. Subsequently posters were put in place offering rewards for information regarding damage and even a plain clothes policeman was put on duty in the park in 1880.

It was the Wharfedale and Airedale Observer of 24th July 1885 which reported on an important meeting of the Park and Property Committee of the BIMPC which discussed the need for the park to have a Lodge. Damage was becoming serious and it was said it was quite time for a plan for a house to be prepared. To build such would cost a few hundred pounds but it would enable the park keeper to have a home from which he could watch the park better and it would be an ornament to the park also. It was clear that it was after the man had left the park that damage was being done and that would show the necessity of having a small cottage at the bottom of the park for the keeper to live in. During the discussion there was a suggestion that, since the park had five entrances it should have five such buildings. This was met with derision as was the suggestion to install a Turkish Bath. Nothing further was done and it was only when government legislation, passed some years previously, had given permission for local government to apply for loans related to public health, that an application was made to benefit the park.

There were technical difficulties which



meant the BIMPC could not receive such a loan so instead it was the Charity Commission which agreed in 1886 to loan £1000 for the construction of a Lodge and for other improvements, stipulating the period of repayment should be thirty not the sixty years requested. In actual fact no figure was ever recorded for the building of the Lodge but it was completed by 1890 and included a bell hung on one of its walls for the park keeper to ring at closing times!

Thereafter, from 1891, each census includes details of the occupants and, bearing in mind the size of accommodation; in 1911 Joseph Clarkson aged 32 was head gardener in residence together with his parents and three siblings. Six persons in four rooms, (only front room, two bedrooms and a kitchen needed to be included). Nevertheless the family had a very nice rent free house with even a coal allowance.

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