

# Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 522 March 2023

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Some important dates for your summer schedule !!

**Eldwick & Gilstead Gala 2023**  
**Gala Day Saturday 24th June**

**Gala Disco Night**  
**Friday 16th June**

6 - 6.45 for 3 to 7 year olds  
7 - 8.30 for 7 to 11 year olds

**Children's Gala Pet Show**  
**Monday 19th June**

from 6.15 for small pets and dogs

**Scout & Guide Fun Run**  
**Friday 23rd June**

1.5 mile start 7pm

All at Eldwick Memorial Hall  
More details nearer the time.

In the meantime if you would like to be involved with the planning for Gala Day, help us out on the day, have a stall on the field or take part in the parade please email: [galaeldwick@gmail.com](mailto:galaeldwick@gmail.com) or contact us through our Facebook page Eldwick & Gilstead Gala. Roll on summer!

**The Eldwick Village Society Beer and Banger Festival**  
**Friday 18th and Saturday 19th August**

A celebration of local ales and award winning cremated sausage.

This year we will be supporting the YAA who will be bringing a helicopter on the Saturday afternoon as long as operations allow.

We will, of course be supporting local charities as well.

## VANDALISM



This beautiful Beech tree has been felled. It stood in a garden at the end of Prospect Road on Sheriff Lane. A very sad loss to the whole lane.

## MORE VANDALISM

Over the half term period the wall in Eldwick 'rec was partially dismantled with the stones then being chucked on all the newly installed play equipment. Why?



If you have any information about this please contact the Newsletter [news@eldwickvillage.co.uk](mailto:news@eldwickvillage.co.uk)

## ON A HAPPIER NOTE – SNOWDROPS ON SALTAIRE ROAD



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## ELDWICK MEMORIAL HALL PARTNERED WITH BRSK.

The Eldwick Memorial Hall has been approached by the broadband provider brsk. They have installed broadband in the Hall for free and have made an excellent offer i.e. If you take up Broadband with them using the attached QR code they will give the Hall a donation for each connection.



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## BIRCHES

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NOW SHOWING SKY SPORTS

## ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At our February meeting about 60 members listened to Georgia Gilbert telling us about how to plant a "Wildflower Meadow" with, for example, poppies, oxeye daisies and yellow rattle, which is not quite as straightforward as you might think if you want them to flourish.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21st March at 7.30pm in Eldwick Memorial Hall when Sarah Hopps will be giving a talk entitled: "Glorious Spring Gardens"- which is something to look forward to.

In the meantime: prune bush and climbing roses; plant your summer flowering bulbs, and plant your shallots, onion sets & early potatoes.

Happy Gardening !!

## BINGLEY JANUS CLUB

44 members attended our AGM in February, where the retiring committee were thanked; the annual accounts were approved; and our new President for this year, Wally Quirk, was warmly welcomed. Annual subscriptions are now increased to £15 whilst the weekly charge stays at £2 per week.

We always have a variety of interesting speakers, and here is a flavour of what is to come over the next few weeks:

Thursday 23rd March: Tony Plumbe "What happens behind an envelope?"

Thursday 30th March: Bishop Toby of Bradford "His Life and Times"

Thursday 20th April: David Davies "The awkward Neighbours 1945-2020"

Thursday 27th April: Graham Mitchell "Why Stanbury never had a Station"

As always, you will receive a very warm welcome at 10am on a Thursday morning in Eldwick Memorial Hall before the talk begins at 10.30am.

If you require any further information, please contact our Secretary, Graham Anderson, telephone 01274 563843. Bye for now. Cheerio.

## Mother's Day

The winter has been long and chill  
With frosted trees around  
The village gardens, cold and still,  
Have black and frozen ground.

About the church and in the park  
And borders on the lane –  
The earth is sleeping – silent; dark –  
Awaiting sun and rain.

When suddenly new shoots appear  
In tiny coats of green  
And changes in the atmosphere  
Are slowly felt and seen.

Then hearts rejoice and spirits soar  
To see it all transpire –  
As snowdrop, crocus – here once more –  
Wear nature's grand attire.

While catkins pirouette and dance  
Like lambs so newly born –  
The signs of spring's exuberance  
Bring bright and welcome dawn.

Soon little tots will join the throng  
Of Sunday congregation  
And take their posy gifts along  
For Mother's celebration.

I know it well – for I was there  
In Sunday-best array  
With ribboned ringlets in my hair –  
One bygone Mother's Day. H.C.

## WORK ON LODE PIT BECK (opposite)

The Aire Rivers Trust has been working with volunteers to reduce the amount of "run off" in to Lode Pit Beck by the bridge on Saltaire Rd.

The aim is to reduce the amount of debris going into the beck. The intention is to improve the quality of the water as it goes in to the River Aire thus improving the fish stocks.

## Christmas Eve Carols

June and Alan would like to thank everyone who joined them for the Carol Singing on Christmas Eve. How gratifying to see the Memorial Hall full once again, it seemed we were back to normal at last!

Sadly it will be the last time we will enjoy the company of the Salvation Army band. They have taken the decision, reluctantly, to forego commitments on Christmas Eve as many of their members now have young families of their own with whom, quite understandably, they need to be. We cannot thank them enough for the joy they have brought to our event over many years.

The collection, including a £100 donation from the Village Society, raised £380 which we hope will help the Salvation Army to continue their wonderful work.

Thank you once more and we look forward to seeing you on Christmas Eve this year.  
June Driver



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## ELDWICK & DISTRICT LADIES GROUP

At the meeting on 14th February our speaker Elaine O'Brian gave a very interesting insight into the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. She mentioned that it costs £19,000 per day to run. She brought along a few items for the members to buy.

Next meeting is 14th March. Our speaker will be Deinol Williams, talk is called "Arctic Cruise".

Our Party this year is on 9th May. It is a Coronation Party. Price £14. This is for members only.

New members always welcome. Please contact Bev on 01274 - 565077

## THANK YOU TO GOOD SAMARITAN

I should be pleased if the lady who came to the assistance of my husband who fell as he was walking along Moorcroft/Stone Hill with our son on the morning of Friday 17 February 2023 and who gave my husband First Aid, could contact me so that we can thank her.

Sincerely  
Gillian Anderson  
75 Warren Lane  
01274 565767

## HEALTH INFORMATION PROJECT - PEOPLE NEEDED

- You will be asked to read a medicine leaflet and answer some questions about it.
- The session will last around 30 mins and be conducted over Zoom.
- You will receive **£25** for taking part.
- Projects are ongoing - you can take part more than once.
- For more details, email us with your name and contact number: [readability\\_testing@outlook.com](mailto:readability_testing@outlook.com)

## BOND GARDEN SERVICES

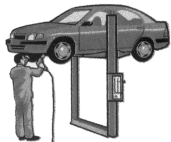
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# NEWS FROM THE ELDWICK CHURCH

We are now in the season of Lent which leads us up to Easter. At church we are following a theme about Jesus' journey to Jerusalem.

We start Holy Week with our Palm Sunday services on 2nd April: a simple Holy Communion at 09.15am and Family Worship at 10.30 am. On Good Friday, 7th April there is a time of reflection in church from 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm, led by Rev Terry Keen. On Easter Day, 9th April, there is a short sunrise communion service at 7.00 am on Baildon Moor - near the top car park where the ice cream van sits. In past years we have met sometimes in snow, sometimes with the backdrop of a glorious sunrise, but it is always a very special time. Our main service is an Easter Family Communion celebration later that morning in church at 10.30 am.

You are warmly invited to our services, whether in Lent, at Easter or at any time. To

answer a query once sent to us, you don't need to be a member to worship with us. Just turn up!

Our Link Café runs each Tuesday from 9.30 am - 12.00 noon with hot drinks, cake, and scones & on Thursday from 10.00 am - 1.30 pm, when light lunches are also served. It's run largely by volunteers from both church and the local community. If you're interested in helping at Café, please contact Julie Smith on 01274 442015.

If you want to find out more about the Eldwick Church, our website is a good starting place: <http://eldwickchurch.org.uk>.

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 phone 01274 442015.

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## A DIFFERENT KIND OF BOUNDARY WALK

In times gone by there was an annual tradition to walk the bounds of the Parish of Bingley not just for exercise but to confirm their existence. For members of the Long Distance Walkers Club the 32 mile circuit of the historic route could be made today in some way and time of their choosing. My name was mentioned in a description of the walk, having said that, "due to the preponderance of 'facilities' on parts of the route, walkers would not want for a drink!" In actual fact the reference was meant to be close to home, with a collection of 17th to 19th century 'establishments', if only in existence today, being included in a walk.

The original local route started at the Kings Head pub in central Bingley, for the group to walk onwards and upwards, via a pub called the Plough Boy. After Eldwick was reached, the walkers followed the Beck up to the Fleece. This was in the times of Tom Hudson from 1809, father of Dick, from 1850, whose name was later to replace the original title of the 18th century inn. From there, the way led to the highest point of Rombalds Moor before descending to the 17th century Gaping Goose Inn, sometimes called the Goose and Gate at Intake Farm. Like many extremities of the moor when reaching roads, gates were installed within boundary walls and fences. The former Gaping Goose building, pictured, is sited on the high Otley Road at Eldwick Crag, opposite the road junction to Hawksworth, appropriately still called Goose Lane.

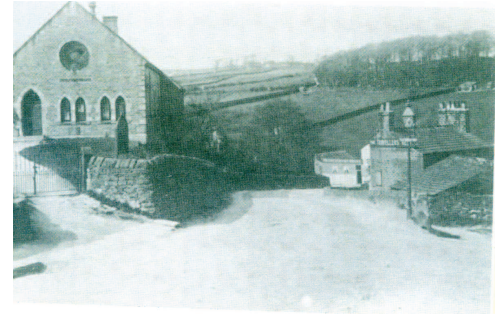


A party of 50 or 60 walkers would have been led by the Lord's steward, one Joshua Crompton Esq of Esholt Hall whose family once owned Eldwick Hall. It would be at his expense that a real

party might take place around noon when Tom would arrive on horse and cart with cheese, bread and ale for refreshments. The Gaping Goose had quite a reputation thanks to Joshua. In 1786, his land agent for all the considerable Eldwick property, held a meeting in Bingley to discuss forming a new road up to The Fleece. At that meeting it was said that the miry way that was the road beneath Eldwick Crag had hitherto been kept in repair by his Lordship. He was then prepared to allow 15 guineas to be provided to the inhabitants to undertake the repair of the old road. It was in regular use by the 'jagger men' who travelled from Keighley to Otley and Ilkley with fell ponies, laden with panniers for trade. So the existence of the inn would have been welcome for one and all!

The first licensed victualler at the beginning of the 19th century was Miles Watmough followed by his son Abraham in 1837. William Lund in 1861 was the first to be recorded as both victualler and farmer, with 180 acres. That was because, after his time, the licence was dropped following the venue hosting cock fighting, gambling and bare knuckle fist fights. Many a 'round' was fought behind the inn. Even without a licence, one later tenant in 1872 was described as 'having come down in the world in low circumstances,' in other words he was not often sober. He was followed by the Davey family who only drank their very own fresh spring water.

For a variety of reasons, increasingly in today's world, old pubs are finding times hard so, on the doorstep, with the Glen Hotel closed and the Acorn Inn under new management, just Dick Hudson's is happily trading as ever before. The Travellers Rest (said to date from 1810), pictured, was followed by the Acorn Inn, first listed in trade directories in 1853. The Glen Hotel was one of the first buildings to be erected on the previous 'waste' of Gilstead Moor after 1861, by dialect poet Ben Preston. It is famously said that, "when 'hi' cem into a bit o brass" – by marrying into the Hammonds Brewery family – he built himself a villa type residence and called it Hammondale, today's Netherdale in



Saltaire Road. Despite the incorrect notice by the bar in the Glen, his new house did not become the Glen, the original building carrying on as before. Broadstones, down at the bottom of Sheriff Lane was a 17th century Quaker settlement of linen weavers before becoming a Temperance Hotel with the onset of early tourism to Shipley Glen. To move with the times it became licensed premises with dancing on a sprung floor and, thanks to holiday cottages, later known as 'New Scarborough'.

In many ways, the history of the Travellers Rest is often not realised today. It had the advantage of having a brew house as well as being a beer house, as opposed to an inn. The Acorn gained that status only because the accommodation at the Travellers was linked to the pub. The late Maureen Green-Royston who lived there at one time, gave a full description, including how, at the back of the building, she would play with her friends in the empty mill dam, then full of tall overgrown weeds. The Travellers Rest closed in 1933 after being sold as a private residence with a covenant not to be returned as a beer house. Later residents said they imagined they could still hear the atmosphere of the former pub with talking and music!

ALLAN MIRFIELD

### INTERIOR PAINTING AND DECORATING



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