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VANDALS!

How sad to report that the mindless destruction which is rife in many inner cities, now appears to be raising its head here in Eldwick. Recent events include the vandalism of the telephone box, breaking into and despoiling the Memorial Hall and now the virtual destruction of the public toilets — an incident which the police are investigating.

Surely, as a community, we are not prepared to stand by and let this continue. The morons responsible (and perhaps I am being insulting to morons) are in part the youth of this area and as such may just be your child! Whilst accepting that other bad influences may eminate from outside the village, can I make a plea that parents of local teenagers have dialogue to ensure that it is *not* their offspring who are perpetrating this lunacy.

Thank you on behalf of The Village Society.

Mike Burdin

THE LAST WORD

Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society

Dear Sir

If only your lady correspondent of December had checked her statements before writing such a bitter letter then, perhaps, she would not have had to hide behind the cloak of anonymity. In fairness to our elderly members and to try and diffuse the situation I feel it is essential that the true facts be published. Our booking of the Memorial Hall on the third Tuesday evenings in the months of 1988 and our undertaking of prompt payment was made more than 6 months prior to our first meeting in January. For more than 30 years it has been the understanding, indeed the practice. that all Eldwick organisations were allowed access to the Hall at least 30 minutes prior to the advertised time of a meeting to ensure a prompt start. We had not, at any time, been informed that these standing arrangements were to be varied in any

2. Tuesday, 20th September, was the only evening when

there was any conflict of interests between our members and the Exercise to Music Class. A few days prior I had heard of difficulties due to an unfortunate booking overlap but this came too late to inform and advise our 200 members. Consequently something had to be done for the comfort of our elderly members arriving on foot. Yes, I was responsible for one row of chairs (8) being placed near the Hall entrance. In the event few members took advantage of this facility preferring to wait and stand in the entrance or just outside the main door. A loss of 2 yards of floor space did not appear to unduly inconvenience the 6 pupils of the class for they ignored us and continued with their Exercise to Music leaving the Hall at the appointed time of 7.30. This part of the evening was further marred by one of our lady Committee members unfortunately badly twisting her ankle immediately outside the Hall. Being on the point of fainting she was offered a chair whilst emergency first aid was applied. I cannot believe that your lady correspondent is so uncaring or lacking in compassion as to suggest that we should have ignored the comfort of the elderly or injured.

3. A postal circularisation of our members would have been too costly so I took the opportunity of using your services, Mr Editor, and suggested in the October issue of the Village Society News Letter that members should not arrive at the Hall before 7.25. Meanwhile a reasonable compromise was suggested by the Society, agreed by the Memorial Hall Committee, but then completely rejected by the intransigent lady running the Exercise to Music Class. A second suggested, and equally reasonable, compromise met a similar fate. The Society then had no alternative but to seek another hall at extremely short notice. A member of our Committee was posted outside the Memorial Hall on the evening of 18th October to guide members to the Church Hall. So far as I am aware, not one of our members entered the Memorial Hall on that night or caused any disturbance to the class either inside or outside the Hall.

4. Our 15th November meeting coincided with N.E.D.S. Annual Panto and the Exercise to Music Classes were cancelled that week. We could not have asked for better co-operation from N.E.D.S. who left the Hall in a tidy condition, giving us ample time to complete our preparations enabling our meeting to commence promptly as advertised. N.E.D.S. did not return to the Hall until well after our meeting had finished and they have our grateful thanks for their full co-operation.

Our members have not suddenly grown horns nor do we ride the lanes on broomsticks. We are a friendly group asking only that we be left in peace to enjoy our activities. We don't ask for something without payment but, over the past 30 odd years we feel, along with other Eldwick Organisations, that we have gained some rights and privileges through providing voluntary services in the building and maintaining of our Memorial Hall. We zealously guard these rights and if we feel they are being threatened naturally, in the heat of the moment, we may become a little annoyed.

Yours faithfully Mr A.G. Webb Treasurer and Former President.

Dear Sir.

It is with regret that I feel I must write, to bring to your attention a series of events involving a ladies Exercise to Music Class which I have been running since last June in the Eldwick Memorial Hall.

Firstly I would apologise to the ladies of Eldwick and other villagers who attended my classes which I have had to cancel, due to the harrassment and rudeness of two societies also using the hall on Tuesdays, the same day as one of my classes. These societies are The Yorkshire Countrywomens Association and The Gilstead and Eldwick Horticultural Society, members of which, on their respective meeting nights, arrived half an hour earlier than necessary. They entered the hall making a lot of noise, leaving doors open and smoking and despite repeated requests for them to wait until 7.30 they proceeded to make ready for their meetings - on one night they even set up a trestle table over one of the ladies who was doing a floor exercise.

I found this very upsetting. Needless to say, so did the ladies present, the number of which have become so few that I have put a stop to the classes altogether, thanks to these societies and their behaviour. So, I want to thank them for ruining my business and I hope that now they will enjoy their pies and peas which seem to be the only thing which they are interested in.

Yours sincerely Ana Martinez

continued over

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UILLAGE NEWS



Dear Sir

It was a pity that the News Letter Committee chose the December issue, full of seasonal goodwill to publish the discordant anonymous letter 'Not Shaping Up'. While the actions of the Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society are not to be condoned, the members were put into a situation for which they were not to blame. The fault, surely, lies with the Memorial Hall for what was tantamount to a double booking. Since the hall was opened in 1956, the W.I. (now Y.C.A.) and the Horticultural Society have commenced their meetings at 7.30p.m. on the 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. At one time the room was prepared for them by the paid caretaker. While it is appreciated that the Hall needs the income from as many bookings as possible, it is not unreasonable for a minimum of thirty minutes to be allowed between any two bookings. This was not done. Both organisations were prepared to start their meetings a quarter of an hour later if the Music Class would finish a quarter of an hour earlier. They refused to co-operate. Fortunately the matter has now resolved itself, but with a little consideration this situation need not have arisen in the first place. This letter has caused considerable ill-feeling and it is unfortunate that it is so critical of the very people without whom the Hall would have difficulty in surviving. The Memorial Hall cannot afford to lose its long-standing bookings from village organisations which always rally round when support is needed.

Yours sincerely M. Birch

MEMORIAL HALL -COMMENT

The Memorial Hall management committee has been invited to comment on letters received by the Newsletter Editor for this months issue.

The Committee corresponded with all parties concerned some time ago and consider the matter closed.

W. Brier Chairman

Editorial Comment Memorial Hall Bookings

It has always been the policy of the Newsletter to publish all letters received.

In the event, the letters published this month and in November and December issues do not in any way reflect the opinion of any member of the Newsletter Committee.

However, in publishing three letters in this issue, we trust that all opinions have been equally voiced and that 1989 will be a year of continued understanding and success to all organisations in our Village.

FROM THE CHURCHES

Thanks

Our thanks to all who gave so generously at the close of the Christmas Eve Carol Singing. The amount raised was £178: half has been sent to the Armenia Appeal, and the other half to the Lockerbie Disaster Appeal.

Joint Evening Services

These continue, so far with a modest attendance...

Arrangements for the next few

weeks are as follows.

Sunday 29th January & Sunday 12th February -

at Eldwick Methodist Church (6.00p.m.)

Sunday 5th February at St. Lawrence's (6.00p.m.)

Sunday 22nd February

A United Service for Bingley, Eldwick, Gilstead & Morton. At 3.00p.m. at Bingley United Reform Church. The theme-Praying and working for Unity. The preacher - Father Ken Taylor.

Dates for St. Lawrence's

The Annual Meeting will be on Monday 27th February.

Groups will be starting to begin to prepare for Confirmation (in June): if you are thinking of taking this step please let Richard or the Wardens know.

Lent Meetings

Joint House Meetings will be taking place. You will be very welcome - from St. Lawrence's, the Sacred Heart, Eldwick Methodist Church or wherever. See Church notices for full details. Lent begins on 8th February.

David Johnson & Richard Wallace

ELDWICK METHODIST CHURCH

National Childrens Home

The Bring & Buy Sale and Cream Tea, at the home of Mr & Mrs Muggleston in December raised £160. Thanks to all who supported the cause.

Dorothy Muggleston

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BIRCHES FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Pub Olympics — 19th January Burns' Night/100 Club —28th January Board Games — 31st January

Bingo Night — 7th February
Valentine's Victuals — 18th
February

Quiz Night — 23rd February 100 Club — 25th February Table Tennis Tournament – 8th March

Irish Night — 18th March 100 Club — 25th March

Birches Club recently made a donation to the Children in Need Appeal of £120. This was the result of our President's Appeal.

THE KEYS TO SUCCESS

Mrs Wendy P. Clarke, piano and theory teacher of Eldwick would like to congratulate all those pupils who recently passed their theory examinations with the Royal Schools of Music:-

Grade 1:

Samantha Ogden 97 Robyn Vesey 90 Kim Clarke 86 Kate Gledhill 82 Adam Wilkinson 80 Bobbi Clarke 80 James Crosbie 67

Grade 2

Ruth Hartley 93

She wishes all her pupils well and hopes that 1989 will be an even more successful year.



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our first meeting in 1989 will be in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 17th January commencing at 7.30p.m. when we will be showing Members' Slides.

Membership Cards and Seeds & Fertilizer Catalogues for 1989 will be distributed during January. Any member who has not received copies by early February should contact our Secretary, Mrs. Harper, 15 Lyndale Road, Eldwick (telephone: Bradford 564951) Annual Subscriptions (£1 per member) are now due and can be paid at our monthly meetings.

Our trip for 1989 will be on Saturday 10th June to Powis, a Medieval Castle with extensive landscaped gardens in Wales. Light lunches and teas are available in the courtyard tearooms. We will only be booking one 53 seater coach therefore would members interested please hand in their names at the January meeting or as early as possible to Mrs Harper or Mr Webb, 160 Warren Lane, Eldwick (telephone: Bradford 565755)

Mrs Dewhurst will speak to us on 21st February on 'Flora and Fauna of Europe'. This is the last date for submission of your seeds/fertilizer order.

Special dates to note for 1989 include, collection of Seeds and Fertilizers from Eldwick Church Hall - 4th March, Annual Spring Fair - 6th May, Annual Trip - 10th June, Annual Show - 26th August.

It is with regret that we have to record the death on 16th December of Randolph Cawthra. Randolph had been an active member of our Committee over many years, always willing to help at our Annual Shows and Spring Fairs. Our sympathies at this time are with his wife and family.

A.G.Webb

Eldwick & Gilstead need Safer Roads

As a community we are now represented on the Bingley Road Safety Committee by Mr Bryan Rollason. Should you have any comments or concerns regarding traffic safety or other matters, please contact Bryan on 562135. He will be pleased to raise these points with the appropriate authority.



GYM CLUB XMAS PARTY
At this age obviously not yet figure conscious!

ELDWICK & GILSTEAD OLD PEOPLES WELFARE

We had a most enjoyable Christmas Party the first week in December. With all traditional fayre, Turkey, Ham etc, etc. and a delicious Christmas Cake, made by our Chairman Miss Hilda Wade. All members received a Christmas Card, with a small gift. We were then delightfully entertained by the Bingley Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

On the 12th January we go to the Alhambra Matinee to see "Dick Whittington", and re-open in the Hall on 19th January, when we will greet the New Year with Cake & Sherry.

Welcome will be given to any new Senior Citizens in the village.

Dorothy Muggleston

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ELDWICK ENJOYED CHRISTMAS YET AGAIN

The Village Society erected the Christmas tree which was donated by Mr John Ryan. Unfortunately the remains of his boxer shorts stayed at the top of the tree! More lights were provided from Village Society funds.

Father Christmas worked his usual magic and the joint Church Carol Service packed the Memorial Hall. Later Chas n Dave entertained a packed Birches for an alternative carol singing. Thanks again to all volunteers who helped to make Christmas very successful.

The New Year started well with the usual Fancy Dress celebration at Birches - as the photographs illustrate.



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