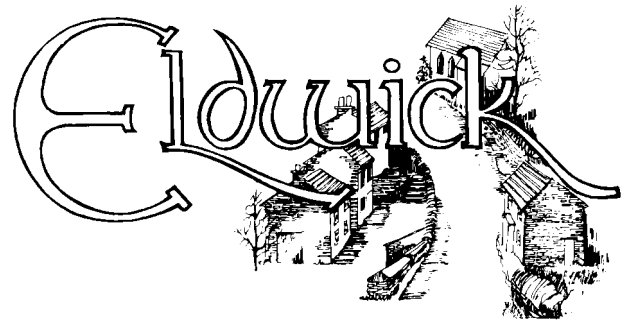


Issue No. 338 January 2007

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com



## FOREST OF BRADFORD IN ELDWICK

On a bright but showery December 2nd last, a group of hardy volunteers were taking advantage of ideal conditions, planting over 1000 broad-leaved native trees at the old Bingley Brick Pit site at the top of Heights Lane. Following the earlier example of Golcar Farm in Eldwick, the owners of the former brickworks site, latterly a landfill tip, have agreed to partner the Forest of Bradford action group in transforming the land.

Over the last 5 years some 150,000 trees have been planted at some 200 sites in Bradford, to increase woodland cover, by this group which is supported purely by grants, donations, and willing volunteers. Two or three-year old 'whips' of oak, silver birch, alder, willow, sweet chestnut, etc., from the project's own local nurseries have been planted and supported by plastic tubes on the levelled site bordered by Heights Lane and Walsh Lane. More planting is planned for the inner portion, with the rest being perhaps converted to grazing land.

Fifty years ago, when brick-production ceased at the Works, a government environmental agency tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade the site owners, to preserve the high exposed faces of the deep pit. These were deemed to be a significant geological treasure, rich in fossils and minerals of the Carboniferous era. The plea went unheeded and the vast man-made cavity was filled, first with hundreds of old vehicles by "Bingley Auto Spares", then by landfill from countless skips.

Now it seems the next generation of owners are keen to transform the disused parts of the site from industrial wasteland to rural sustainable woodland. So, High Eldwick will be losing one 'blot on the landscape' but, at least for the time being, the landmark chimney will remain as a reminder of the past.



**BIRCHES**  
Otley Road, Eldwick Tel: 01274 561265

**BIRCHES QUIZ**  
Thursday 1st February  
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Non-members welcome

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### PLANNING

06/09544/FUL Construction of cattery blocks at the Spring Kennels, Spring Lane.

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Bob's

## Snippet

Some Eldwick residents went downhill at Christmas till they were all off piste.

Dear Sir,

To carry on from the letter about Eldwick's youth mentioned in November's newsletter, I would like to voice my thoughts. My step father who is 83 years of age, blind and lives alone, has, over the last couple of years been subjected to terrifying ordeals. Someone keeps banging on his door late at night, waking him suddenly and leaving him disorientated and afraid. He lives on Sheriff Lane.

A few months ago late at night someone threw a stone so hard at his conservatory window that it smashed a large double glazed window.

We have informed the police and, like your previous correspondent, will push for a conviction if the culprit or culprits are caught.

What is the world coming to when people resort to terrifying the elderly?

Yours faithfully  
NAME SUPPLIED

## YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

On the 8th of December a coach full of members and guests departed to York to attend the annual Carol Service. It was a sunny day and the sun shone through the stained glass windows of the Minster giving a wonderful aura to the event. Jeremy Fletcher, Precentor conducted the service and the choir of Y.C.A. members sang superbly. It was a wonderful start to the Festive Season.

48 members and 2 guests attended the December 12th meeting. Mince pies and sherry were served to mark this festive month. The speaker was Reg La Pla who entertained us with a talk on Humour and Humanity in the Law. Anecdotes of humour between the legal professions showing us their sharp sense of wit. Humanity shown by the legal profession to their clients. A very entertaining talk which showed his keen observations amongst his fellow colleagues.

The next meeting will be held on January 9th. A talk on the Eden Project given by D. Metcalfe. New members always welcome.

On February 13th a talk on Vets International will be given by A. Greenwood.

## Piano, Keyboard and Theory Tuition

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## Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society 2007 will be gardeners' delight for horticultural society

20 February	Peter Holden <i>The Good, the Bad and the Beautiful</i>
20 March	Chris Abbott <i>A Garden for all Seasons</i>
17 April	Trevor Nicholson <i>The grounds of Harewood</i>
28 April	Spring Fair
15 May	Adrian Helm - <i>The International Tree Foundation</i>
19 June	Evening visit to a garden in the Aire Valley - <i>details to be announced</i>
July	Coach trip to Cheshire - <i>date and details to be announced</i>
25 August	<i>Annual Show</i>
18 September	Ken Green - <i>Autumn and Winter Colour in the Garden</i>
16 October	Les Barnett - <i>Wild Flowers of the Yorkshire Abbeys</i> This will be an audio-visual presentation with questions afterwards.
20 November	<i>Annual General Meeting and Faith Supper</i>

All our meetings are held in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30 pm on the third Tuesday in the month unless otherwise stated. Entry costs £1 (members), £2 (non-members) and includes tea and biscuits and a raffle ticket. Why not join now for 2007 - our annual subscription is only a fiver.

M HITCHEN

## Why not hold your business meeting or social event in Eldwick?

Birches is now available during the day for your exclusive use for business meetings, social functions, celebrations, funerals etc. There are good lounge bar facilities, good hospitality and a range of catering available. There is a private car park.

Ring Mike Harrison for  
details 01274 561265.  
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BIRCHES  
Olley Road, Eldwick Tel 01274 561265

## BIRCHES EVENTS

FEBRUARY FEST  
with Oompah Band  
Saturday 17th February

MONTHLY EVENTS  
50's Club, has nothing to do with age!  
Quiz Night on the first Thursday of  
every month at 9p.m.

## PROFITS FROM CAROLS

What do cows, goats and toilets have to do with Christmas? No it isn't a strange Christmas cracker joke - these things, plus some equipment to help deliver babies safely are the gifts the folk of Eldwick sent to poor countries of the world in celebration of Christmas. At 6.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve the annual gathering of singers took place. We sang carols to the accompaniment of a brass band and heard the story that gives meaning to the Christmas celebration told by Revds Ruth Parry and Hugh Fielden. Hugh will be leaving Eldwick shortly for pastures new as he takes charge of a Parish in Earby - he will be missed. Ruth and Hugh have the privilege each year of choosing where the collection from this event goes and this year they chose the Christian Aid "Present Aid" programme (<http://shop.christianaid.org.uk>). Present Aid is an online shop produced by Christian Aid that sells 'virtual' gifts. They're unusual gifts because they change the lives of poor people around the world. Christian Aid is a development charity working in more than 50 countries, helping people regardless of religion or race, to improve their own lives and tackle the causes of poverty and injustice - it seemed a good place collect for on Christmas Eve. Hugh and Ruth said they would like to raise enough money to send a cow - £165. When we counted the money we were stunned to find we had collected £355! SO what could we do to help and where?

We have sent - 1 cow to Kyrgyzstan - £165 this will provide some people in Kyrgyzstan with a daily source of milk to drink, manure for their crops and, after a few months, calves to eat or sell. Once the cow

has calved they can return a calf to a Christian Aid partner who can then give it to another family. A whole herd of goats to Bolivia £60 - A herd of goats can go a long way in a place like Bolivia. Local farmers can borrow a male or female goat, and when the goats have kids, give them back so others can benefit from them. A gift like a herd of goats could go on and on ....Five midwifery kits to Burkino Faso. £75 Volunteer midwives in Burkina Faso receive training in everything from pre and post-natal care to HIV awareness. Once they've qualified, they get a midwifery kit which allows them to start their work. Midwifery kits contain items such as sterilised razor blades to cut the umbilical cord safely, gloves, soap and bandages to prevent infection. These simple items help newly trained midwives save the lives of both mothers and newborn babies. These vital kits for midwives really are gifts of life. A latrine in Nicaragua £55. A latrine drastically reduces the spread of life-threatening diseases such as cholera and malaria. Projects like building latrines help to improve a community's health. So much with relatively little money!

Grateful thanks to all who gave so generously, we have helped people in South America, Eastern Europe and Africa! But it doesn't have to stop there! Visit the website and see what you can buy! Get on your bike (1 bicycle to Malawi - £55), have a quacking idea (16 ducks to Bangladesh £24) or buzz along (bees to Bolivia £21) and give some hope to children orphaned by AIDS (18 hours of computer training in the Congo £11) you might open a whole new can of worms (to help produce compost £15). And who knows what we might send next Christmas Eve - make it a date - see you there!!

# ELDWICK METHODIST CHURCH

Activities at church ...

## REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

**2nd Fri** Friday Walk 9am  
**3rd Sun** 9.15am Holy Communion  
**4th Sun** 9.30am BIG BREAKFAST  
**Last Wed** 7.30pm Adult Youth Group  
**Monthly Bible Study** Wed Evenings  
**Hand Bell Group** 'The Belles' Alternate Tuesdays

## FUTURE SERVICES & EVENTS

**Morning service, Junior Church & Creche**  
**@ 10.30 am every Sunday, Fairtrade stall**  
**7—9pm Youth Group**

## JANUARY

**20th** Winter walk meet at Church at 9.45  
 4 miles moorland paths with stiles  
**21st** 9.15am Early Communion  
 10.30am Mr David Varley  
 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
**28th** 9.30 Breakfast  
 10.30am Mr John Anderson

## FEBRUARY

**4th** 10.30 All age worship Holy Communion Rev Ruth Parry  
**Sat 10th** 10.00 am – 4.00pm  
 Labyrinth drop in day at Bingley Methodist Church  
**11th** 10.30 Mr Mervyn Flecknoe  
**18th** 9.15 Early Communion  
 10.30 Mrs Lyne Keating  
**25th** Rev Derek Hoe

## CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Eldwick Methodist Church Hall is available to the community for events and childrens parties, our newly refurbished kitchen is ideal for catering.  
 To enquire about dates please contact the booking secretary Phil on 774526

# HARRY WADDINGTON

1916-2006

The village mourns the death of Harry 'Coddy' Waddington, so-named for his craftsmanship in the plastering trade, who was a real character in every sense of the word.

A venerable 'old soldier', Harry was a well-known figure in Eldwick, remembered for playing his old bugle in Birches where he was a founder member, and for once being featured in the Yorkshire Post. This was to recount how Harry grew his own tobacco from seed at home, then dried and cured the leaves for his legal 25lb allowance. When smoked in his Trench pipe, bought for half a crown in 1939, the cloves and rum added in the oven-baking, together with the molasses in which the leaves were firstly soaked, "made it smell just like Christmas cake", Harry said.

His habit did not affect his longevity, working first in mills then as a building master craftsman until he was 80, then enjoying another 10 years of retirement. Some of his legacy is displayed at Windsor Castle where he once worked, within the renovated former Bingley College buildings and in many local houses. When Bingley College was redeveloped Harry was called upon to restore lavish plasterwork mouldings which only a person of his generation had the skills and resources with which to complete the task.

Harry had Welsh connections but it was a Scottish Regiment he joined for the Second World War, having first sampled army discipline in the Territorial Army. After the war Harry



worked with young boys in an A.T.C. then in an Army Cadet Corps.

He lived in the Bingley area for 50 years where he was a much sought after craftsman in the building trade by local householders.

Harry was a fount of knowledge of events in his lifetime, his military career, and his master craftsmanship before the days of plasterboard when horsehair was used in the plastering process.

At home in Eldwick he kept pigs and poultry, always had a pet dog and built a lovely garden pond for wildlife.

His bugle playing began in the army so he often played in his regimental parades with pipes and drums. After the war it was Harry who often sounded the Last Post and Reveille at the Cenotaph so it was quite fitting that both a piper and bugler played at his graveside.

So Eldwick loses another great character who will be sadly missed, together with his wife of 60 years, Nina, who passed away only a few weeks ago. Our condolences go to the whole family following their sad double bereavement.

## NEWSLETTER ON LINE

The Eldwick newsletter can now be viewed on line. If you log on to the Eldwick Memorial Club, Birches website [www.thebirchesclub.co.uk](http://www.thebirchesclub.co.uk)

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# TROUBLE AT T'MILL IN 1742

This is a story about the Lord of the Manor and his subservient tenants in the Manor and Township of Bingley who lived in the hamlets of Helwick, Gilstead, Faweather, Morton etc.

Whilst our National Archive in Kew has an impressive on-line catalogue, not every item in the millions of documents has been cross-referenced to places and names, so surprise discoveries do occur.

A set of documents has just been accessed at Kew, in research into a Bingley family who lived at Gawthorpe Hall centuries ago, which throws new light on life in Eldwick from the beginning of the 18th century. These papers also demand that a rethink is necessary as to the origins and ownership of Eldwick Corn Mill, now a private dwelling at the end of The Green, beyond the Acorn Inn.

Deeds already available have indicated that the building dated from about 1809, telling how it was a Corn Mill in 1828, rebuilt and adapted as a Scribbling Mill to process wool fleeces in 1845, then mechanised in 1869 to revert to milling corn.

On 6th April 1742 a court was convened at The Queens Head and The Golden Fleece in Bingley, to hear depositions of witnesses in a case out of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, between Maud and Hartley. Timothy Ward of Gawthorpe, like his father before him, was a farmer and lime-burner who operated the Bingley Corn Mill which belonged to the Lord of the Manor. The mill was situated at Ireland Bridge and there Maud expected all tenants of manorial lands to abide by the 'Custom of Suit, Soak and Service', demanded by the Lord, which included grinding all crops produced on the farms at

his mill. He also expected to receive the Toll or Multure from those tenant farmers, which was 1/24th of what was ground from the corn, grain and malt. The only exemption to this was that allowance granted to certain farmers around Helwick, on lands under the Liberty of the late dissolved Monastery of Saint John of Jerusalem, when only 1/30th was demanded.

The defendant in the case was William Hartley of Craggside in Helwick, parcel of the Bingley Manor, who was accused of not bringing his harvest to Bingley Mill, choosing instead to use his own Hand Mill, Steel Mill, or Quern set up 15 years ago, or going to other mills.

Hartley and many other witnesses called, all lived at Craggside in Helwick on land, "Taken from the Wastes or Commons some 30 years ago". They all argued that the local inhabitants had seldom gone to Bingley Mill "since Helwick Mill was built". Craggside lands lay, "south of a road lately called New Road near Helwick Gate on property sold by the late Lord Bingley to Robert Ferrand esquire and Richard Longbottom, gentleman". This means all the farms were on the south side of today's Otley Road at High Eldwick, west of the gate at Hawksworth and confirms the fact that Eldwick village originated as a linear settlement on the edge of the moor.

The major revelation from the court documents came with the deposition of one local who said, "Christopher Hardcastle, 40 years since, was occupier of Bingley Mill but also took a Water Corn Mill situate in Helwick, then lately built by Robert Longbottom".

This means Eldwick had a Corn Mill in 1700, and, furthermore it was built by the Longbottom family who in 1696 had built Eldwick Hall. Hardcastle said he took Helwick Mill as well as that at Bingley because he knew Helwick people were not bound to Bingley Mill, "so he might have them at one of them (mills)".

Richard Longbottom, himself a farmer, appeared at the Court. He said he had been born in Eldwick 70 years ago, had once farmed Hartley's land, had built Helwick Corn Mill some 40 years ago, "and it was being wrought still". Richard also said that the defendant Hartley, "does keep a Public House and has a Hand Mill for grinding his malt". "Before the road from Helwick Beck to Nether Helwick was made up in 1789, the Public House was Rattlebank Hall above Otley Road which gave way to The Fleece. Another pub or inn was at the far end of Otley Road above

Hawksworth, called The Gaping Goose, so Hartley could have been involved with either.

Richard's son, Robert, lived at Craggside where he was a Common Baker, and in his evidence he told of Helwick people using mills at Morton and Hawksworth. He also knew of James Lister at Gilstead using a Hand Mill for many years.

Another interesting fact is also confirmed in the documents which recently Geoff Fawcett of Faweather first disclosed as a local story. Old Wood farm, situated above Faweather and below Knapley Ing at the very edge of Bingley Township, once had a barn that was used as an isolation unit for typhoid patients, navvies from the reservoir construction gangs who had been living in an encampment. Geoff said that the barn had originally been a Malt Kiln and this is borne out in the evidence of Joseph Wood. He said that "some 60 years ago his grandfather built a Hand Stone Mill at Old Wood within the Manor of Bingley for grinding malt and many local people have ground their malt at Old Wood Mill. None of the mills within the manor have ever been put down or suppressed by Owners or Occupiers of Bingley Mill".

Sadly, whilst all the depositions of all the witnesses, Murgatroyd, Holmes, Wood, Hartley, Longbottom, Garnett, Lupton, Lister, Emmott, Hogg, etc. good Eldwick names, have survived, there is nothing to tell of a verdict. The documents were submitted to Mr. William Comber Kirkby at Staple Inn, London but only the evidence reached the Archives, and has indeed proved to contain a wealth of new information.

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