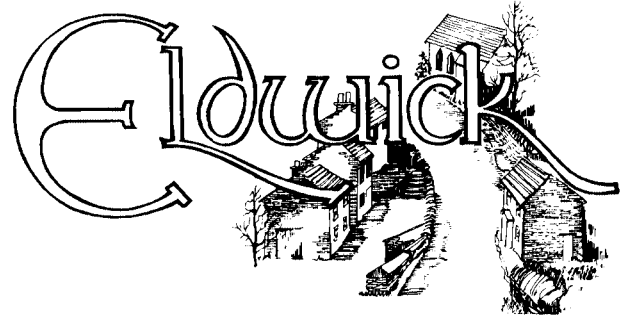


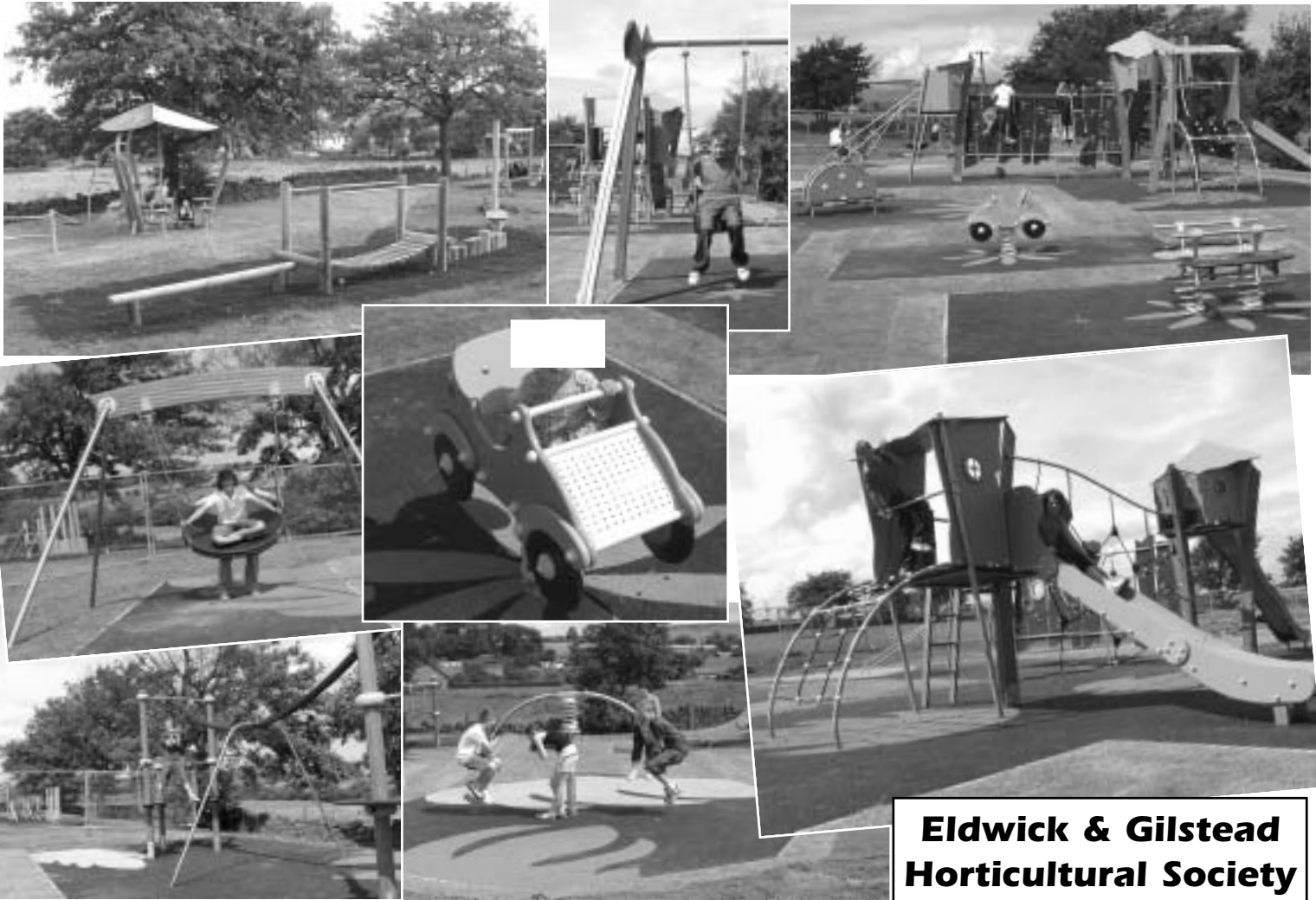
Issue No. 345 August 2007

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com



Eldwick Rec Revival



Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society 90TH ANNUAL SHOW

On Saturday 25th August
in Eldwick Memorial Hall

Doors open at 3.00pm

Show opened at 3.15pm by

Lord Mayor Councillor Robin Owens.

Open Classes and Members Classes.

Entry forms obtained from Eldwick Post

Office, Gilstead Post Office, Bingley

Library and the Council Shop.

Entry forms in by Friday 24th August.

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Bob's Snippet

Some Eldwick houses have names not numbers and van drivers ask how to get to a sunny bank near Melbourne.

YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

July's meeting was attended by 59 members. Our new chairman Sylvia Slater took the chair.

Kath Hardy gave feedback from the Association's A.G.M. Membership within the association is growing and now stands around 2,000. She spoke about the entertaining talk given by Gervais Phinn, the novelist and quoted some of his amusing anecdotes.

The Founders Group lunch will be held on 5th of October at 12.30 at the Wharfedale, Arthington. If you wish to attend give your name to Maureen Beckwith.

The MacMillan Coffee Morning will be held on Friday the 28th of September at Eldwick Memorial Hall. Margaret Newman is organising this event and members who wish to help please contact Margaret.

Our speaker was Lee Davis a natural history photographer on wildlife through the lens. Photographs shown were taken within Yorkshire and most taken in a wild setting. Time, patience and talent produced some spectacular photographs. Lee, winner of several photographic awards, travels throughout the region with his camera for shots of birds and wildlife. His work can be viewed on www.leedavisphotography.co.uk.

Our next meeting will be on September 11th, the speaker will be Mr. Britton on Countryside Services.

PLANNING

07/05625/FUL Construction of extension to side at 20 Timble Drive.

07/05800/FUL Construction of first floor extension at 15 Landsmoor Grove.

07/05911/FUL Construction of 2 storey side extension at Farfield Cottage, Glen View Road.

07/06002/FUL Retention of wooden fence to rear and side of property of at 48 Otley Road.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

The Eldwick and Gilstead Thursday Afternoon Club met for an afternoon tea on 19th July in the Memorial Hall. The event, which was well attended, signalled the beginning of a three week recess so that the next meeting will be on August 16th when the subject will be "Bradford Trams and Trolleys"

Members enjoyed not only a very pleasant meal but also a raffle with good prizes.



On the Killing of Chicks

Recently, I was driving up Glovershaw Lane going towards Baildon moor, on



the stretch which goes between the fields just below the cattle grid. It was a lovely sunny day. Lapwings were in the fields and two tiny, handsome Lapwing chicks were scurrying down the edge of the road on the opposite side to me, a little further up. Their bright, black eyes shone in the sunlight as they hurried along. It was spring. New life – they were only a few days old. Here they were in this new exciting world, off to see what they could see, trying out their new found freedom. Frantic parents flew low over the road, screeching at their offspring who carried on down the road, unheeding, as fast as their spindly legs could carry them.

Suddenly, hurtling down the moor, on important business, came a middle-aged man, pushing his car to the limit, rushing over the cattle grid 50mph. There was no way I could get to the chicks. No way I could make him see the chicks in the road. Splat! Right in front of me, the new life was wiped out. On he drove, oblivious to the tender, precious lives he had just extinguished.

Pulling over, I jumped out of my car and picked up the chicks. One was dead, a mangled heap of tiny wings and broken legs, its head smashed in; the other not dead, its small chest twisting in agony. It died in my hand. I put their bodies in the field, saddened at such careless destruction of life.

The Lapwing parents were crying and calling desperately for their chicks. They stayed in the same place for two days, calling and calling. All that caring, careful feeding, attention and investment for the future gone to waste.

Lapwings, sometimes called Peewits, are becoming increasingly rare throughout the country but in Eldwick, we are fortunate that this beautiful bird with its round brown wings, white body and elegant dark green head plume choose to nest in our fields in good numbers. Lapwings eat many harmful insects and are the farmers' friends and a joy to see in early spring.

The road between the fields leading to the moor has a 30mph speed limit, unheeded by many. All it takes when driving over this short stretch, especially in spring, is to observe the speed limit and watch out for these beautiful little birds that may be running in the road.

ELISABETH CHIDSEY B.A.

BIRCHES

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Birches Presents TERRY WEBSTER

One man Comedy and Music Show
on Saturday 29th September
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BIRCHES/MEMORIAL HALL

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'ELSTEAD' LADIES' CHOIR

The Autumn Session commences on
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 14th
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New members always welcome
For further information, please contact
the Conductor, Mr Keith Newell,
on 563324.

**FROM ELDWICK & GILSTEAD
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
- 28th June 2007
Eldwick Primary School at 7pm**

Police Issues

PC John Plummer gave a report on policing in the local area during the past 6 months.

He recommended the West Yorkshire Police Website for further information.

www.westyorkshire.police.uk

He warned residents to take special care to protect vehicles and property from break-ins. The police are targeting professional criminals and crime has fallen to a low level.

Residents were warned about the vulnerability of euro-profile locks and measures were outlined which would prevent break-ins through PVC doors fitted with locks. SPEED is an organisation which can help with advice.

Traffic and Highways Issues

Simon D'Vali (CBMDC Highways) explained:

- The Otley Road Traffic scheme is incomplete. There are issues over parking and turning procedures. The original aim to slow traffic down functions well. Some of the measures may have to change. Issues were raised by residents. A resident on Otley Road had not received any leaflet about the proposals.

- A resident complained about lack of consultation. Others disagreed and said there had been a lot of consultation over the past 3 years.

- A resident complained that traffic pulling out from houses is difficult because some vehicles keep close to the kerb along Otley Road.

- Access from some roads is difficult eg. Glenview Road. Visibility is very poor, particularly for right turns.

He explained that some parking bays may be too close to junctions and there will be a review of the whole scheme. Also some delays in completing the scheme are due to legal requirements.

- The temporary nature of some measures may make it more inconvenient.

- Some flexible cones are placed in positions where they get knocked over.

- A resident of Glovershaw Lane agreed that measures have succeeded in making people think. The measures are good but drivers do not adhere to speed limits.

PC Plummer explained that when the scheme is completed speed checks can take place. Police can take other measures. Information about the best times for enforcement would be useful. Residents can help police to prioritise their time.

- A resident suggested that SPEEDWATCH could become involved. Residents can take enforcement into their own hands.

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ST. LAWRENCE'S NEWS Services for August and September

AUGUST

19th 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
26th 10.30am Holy Communion

SEPTEMBER

2nd 8.00am Holy Communion

2nd 10.30am Holy Communion

THIS IS A SPECIAL JOINT SERVICE WITH ELDWICK METHODISTS. IT WILL BE LED BY THEIR MINISTER, REV. RUTH PARRY, AND THERE WILL BE A LUNCH AFTERWARDS

9th 10.30am Holy Communion

16th 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evensong

23rd 10.30am Holy Communion

LADIES FELLOWSHIP meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7.45pm in the church hall. 20th September - T.M. Slocombe on "The Lighter Side of the Law". **WALKING GROUP's** next outing will leave the church car park at 9.00am on Saturday 15th September. Further details will be posted in church a week prior to the walk.

SUNDAY CLUB for children and young people - 10.30-11.30am in the church hall. contact Jackie on 569203 for details.

LIVEWIRES TODDLER GROUP - 10.00-11.30am in the church hall on Mondays.. Contact Ruth on 560081 for details.

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH HALL is available for hire for community events (£9.00 per hour) and for children's parties (one payment of £30.00). To make enquiries, contact our booking secretary, Mrs. A. Shoebridge on 564690.

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SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

19th August

10.30 am Mr Roy Lorrain-Smith

26th August

10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls

2nd September

10.30 am Joint service at St Lawrences

9th September

10.30 am Mrs Rita Armitage

16th September

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry

10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry

23rd September

10.30 am Mr Mervyn Flecknoe

30th September

10.30 am Communion Rev Barbara Walls

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

2nd Fri Friday Walk 9am

3rd Sun 9.15am Holy Communion

4th Sun 9.30am BIG BREAKFAST

Monthly Bible Study Wed Evenings

Hand Bell Group - Alternate Tues

CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Eldwick Methodist Church Hall is available to the community for events and children's parties, our newly refurbished kitchen is ideal for catering.

To enquire about dates please contact the booking secretary Phil on 774526.

www.eldwickmethodistchurch.co.uk

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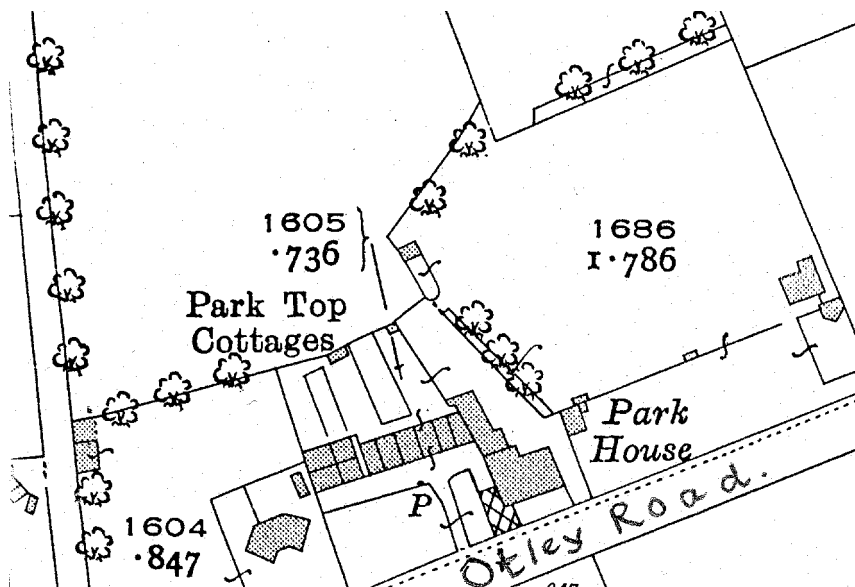
IF WALLS COULD SPEAK

Over countless decades, the rain, ice, windblown grit, and salt from roadteams, had seriously eroded the boundary wall of "Tor Knot" in Otley Road. When the sturdy original blocks of sandstone had been reduced to rounded crumbling boulders and some of the flagstone capping had been stolen, the owners called in the stonemasons. Removing the weathered stones, the workmen revealed an inner wall which had been constructed with handmade bricks.

These bricks date from the time of Enclosure in 1861 when Robert Pollard acquired various plots of land in Eldwick and Bingley. He was a wool merchant with a business in Bermondsey district of Bradford's wool trade but lived, like many wealthy industrialists, in Manningham. His landholding in Eldwick was either side of Heights Lane into Otley Road, some 15 acres. In the late 18th century, the only buildings between Warren House and Eldwick Beck Bottom were Brick Kiln and Dunnock, both near Eldwick's crossroads. Robert made Brick Kiln his home and enclosed the land on Otley Road and Heights Lane.

This stretched up to today's Eldwick Riding Club, in one direction, and almost up to the present Landsmoor estate. He constructed two fine entrances with tall gate posts in stone, one at Heights Lane Corner, the other up Otley Road in front of his Brick Kiln House. The brick lined wall he constructed for today's "Tor Knot", continues in front of "St. Albans" before turning at right angles behind houses in Landsmoor, with the same flagstone capping.

Brick Kiln House (now Park House Mews) and the later Brick Kiln cottages (now Park Top Cottages) have nothing



to do with the old brickworks and chimney at Heights Lane/Walsh Lane. The site in 1847, which later became the brickworks, was called Brick Kiln Flat and was merely a quarry. It took its name from brick kilns nearby which were used to reduce limestone, so it could be 'slaked' and spread on farmland to improve 'sour' soil. From the glacial till in the quarry came limestone boulders, transported by glaciers from the dales.

By 1870 Robert Pollard was both merchant and farmer, of Park Road Farm, 12 acres, living at Park House in Otley Road. In 1897, the year before his death, Robert saw his daughter marry John Barron, son of wealthy William Barron. Ada Lavinia Pollard had her wedding reception in the grounds and gardens of Park House which were extensive.

The Barron family had a business empire as grocers, straw and hay merchants, coal and stone merchants, boat owners, canal carriers and wharfingers. They had wharves in Bingley, Micklethwaite and Apperley Bridge. William Barron may have been working the quarry at Brick Kiln Flat for stone and limestone. Then he discovered a 45 foot seam of blue clay shale which could be used in the manufacture of bricks. So by 1875 the Barron's business enterprise was augmented by brick and tile making. This was when the brickworks began, becoming the Bingley Brick & Tile Co. Ltd. by 1889.

John and Ada lived first at Claremont, the mansion with the tower off Park Road, Bingley but after William's death went to live at Park House, Eldwick.

The Barron family lived there for many years, took an active part in local life, both William and John chaired Bingley U.D.C. and were involved in the Bingley Improvement Commission. By 1901 the Bingley Brick and Sanitary Tube Co. Ltd. were making drainpipes to sewer local streets. The Barrons enjoyed their big gardens, winning prizes at major flower shows. In 1909 a garden party was held in the grounds adjoining Park House, in aid of the Eldwick Church. Stalls were run by Mrs Barron and Miss Pollard, with sweets and flowers from Mrs Elliott's stall. The music during the afternoon and evening was provided by Wilson's Orchestral Band, with the Church Choir. There were games and races for the children, competitions for adults. £22 was raised for Church funds.

In later years Park House became an hotel, run by Capt. Benfield, and housed some permanent residents. Then it was used as student accommodation by Bingley College before being rebuilt as a private residence.

To complete the story, the flagstone caps which remained on the old wall were bought by Birches for the new stone patio area. So another piece of local history is added to the Birches/Memorial Hall site from days gone by which could tell a tale or two.

ALLAN MIRFIELD

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

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