

*Bob's*

## Snippet

2008 will be a short year.  
I got 50% off in the  
New Year sale.

## YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

On the 7th of December 50 members travelled to York to attend the Y.C.A. Carol Service at the Minster. The service was conducted by Rev. Canon Glyn Webster, Canon in Residence. The members' choir were superb, the pianist our own member Kath Hardy. A member from each region read Readings. The Address by Canon Webster. A very enjoyable start to the festive season.

Our meeting held on December 11th was attended by 46 members. It was a very cold evening but we were welcomed by a glass of sherry and served with warm mince pies.

2008 will be the Y.C.A.'s 25th Anniversary and a special lunch will be held at York Racecourse on April 21st 2008, price £20. Contact the branch secretary for details.

Our speaker was Graham Alcock, curator of the sdc. Colour Museum, Bradford which is dedicated to the history, development and technology of colour and is the only museum of its kind in Europe. It is the place to go to find out about the weird and wonderful world of colour. Along with the interactive galleries and special exhibitions the museum holds workshops on all aspects of colour. Everyone sees colour differently, also colour is affected by different lights in the store, at home, or in the street, different lights in different countries and at different times of the year.

He spoke of the concept of colour, how it is perceived and how it is used. How animals see colours, the red rag to a bull being a myth. How colours are used in advertising and the art of mixing colours. At the gallery education is given in the history of dyeing, textile printing and colour illusions. It really was a colourful talk by Graham with excellent graphics.

Our next meeting will be on February 12th. A talk on Old Hawksworth by Mrs. Goodwin.

New members always welcome.

## PHILIP DAVIES MP

To contact Philip ...

Call: 01274-592248

Email: [daviesp@parliament.uk](mailto:daviesp@parliament.uk)

Write to: House of Commons,  
London, SW1A 0AA

Website:

[www.philip-davies.org.uk](http://www.philip-davies.org.uk)

## TRAFFIC ISSUES – YOUR COMMENTS

### To Whom It May Concern

With regard to the parking restrictions recently introduced on Otley Road, surely anything more calculated to destroy existing trade within the village is difficult to imagine. The double yellow lines in the vicinity of the shops should be removed and the parked cars allowed to act as interference to, what would be, a clear run for speeding motorists.

Yours sincerely  
Denise Rusk

P.S. Perhaps a 'table' bump at each end of the shopping area may be an option?

### Otley Road Traffic Issues

In your last newsletter you asked for comments on the traffic issues in the village. I would like to make a few points as follows:

1. Clearly speed cameras would be the most effective way of reducing speed through the village but I would guess this is not economically possible.
2. Second best option would I think be speed bumps maybe with a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph.
3. Following the revamp of the children's play area I would also like to see a pelican crossing outside the playing fields car park. Most of Eldwick

is to the south of Otley Road and the play area is to the north so much crossing of the road is necessary to use these facilities. A pelican would have the twofold effect of assisting safe passage across the road and of slowing the traffic when in use.

4. All this will take time and we residents of Eldwick can play our part by ensuring when we drive through the village we stick rigidly to the speed limits.

Alan Dobson

### Road Markings

The arrival of the newsletter was very oportune today, as this morning I risked my life trying to turn right out of Sheriff Lane. Parking has been allowed outside the post office and more often than not you cannot see traffic from the left—especially when large 4x4s are parked there. I had to edge my way out very slowly and let any traffic pass. As I had to wait I relied on traffic from the right stopping to let me out. When people parked on the opposite side of the road this was not a problem. I feel very strongly that this is an accident waiting to happen. I am not the only person to comment on this and I know of one person who now drives along Southway and joins Otley Road at the roundabout.

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on 15th March

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Supper provided.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

7.00pm

Eldwick Primary School  
Wednesday 30th January

There will be a representative  
of the Traffic Department  
on hand!

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## CHRISTIAN AID

### Christmas Eve

Once again a large crowd gathered in Eldwick Memorial Hall at 6.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve to sing carols to the accompaniment of a brass band and hear again the story that gives meaning to the Christmas celebration told by Revd Ruth Parry and Eric Parkinson. Once again this year we chose to use the donations to buy gifts from 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. Last year the collection came to £355, this year we raised a stunning £415 – thank you so much everyone who gave so generously.

This year we have sent – a flood emergency kit (£85) this provides people in flooded areas with tools to prepare for and clear up after the floods and organise emergency evacuations; an emergency shelter at (£200) as developed during and after the tsunami to give families who have lost everything a place to live; a rainwater harvester (£22) to southwest Bangladesh where the people have no access to fresh, safe water - climate change has caused sea levels to rise, turning their water sources saline and undrinkable; a bicycle to Malawi (£55) where health care workers have great difficulty reaching people in remote places; some baby scales (£40) so that babies in developing countries can be properly monitored and finally two reading manuals (£6) each to Sudan to help with the literacy programme there.

It feels really good that whilst we have such a great time we can help so many others in the world. Make another date for next Christmas Eve – let's see what we can do then!!

## ✠ THE ELDWICK VILLAGE CHURCHES ✠

### ST. LAWRENCE'S NEWS

Services for January and February

#### January

20th 8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.30a.m. Morning Worship  
27th 10.30a.m. Holy Communion

#### February

3rd 8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.30a.m. Morning Worship  
10th 10.30a.m. Holy Communion  
17th 8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.30a.m. Morning Worship  
24th 10.30a.m. Holy Communion

**Ladies Fellowship** meets on the third Thursday of each month in the church hall at 7.45p.m.

**Walking Group's** next outing will leave the church car park at 9.00a.m. on Saturday, 19th January.

**Homegroup** meets every other Thursday at 8.00 p.m. for fellowship and bible study. Details from Monique on 565482.

**Men's Group** meets on the last Thursday of each month. Details from Jonathan on 565482.

**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.

### SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

#### 20th January

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry  
10.30 am Mr. Keith Bolton

#### 27th January

9.30 am Big Breakfast  
10.30 am Mr Michael Bromley

#### 3rd February

10.30 am Mrs Lynne Keating

#### 10th February

10.30 am Miss Dianne Greenwood

#### 17th February

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry  
10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry

#### 24th February

9.30 am Big Breakfast  
10.30 am Communion Rev Alistair Newton

#### REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

**1st Fri** Friday Walk 9am  
**3rd Sun** 9.15am Holy Communion  
**4th Sun** 9.30am BIG BREAKFAST

**Hand Bell Group** - Alternate Tues

#### CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

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

To enquire about dates please contact the booking secretary Phil on 774526  
[www.eldwickmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.eldwickmethodistchurch.co.uk)

### AIRE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Ruth, Haley,  
Ann & Gillian

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and supported them and to wish you  
all a Happy New Year.

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Readers may recall a story on this page in August 2006 relating to the release of original property deeds by building societies, following a decision to computerise all deeds in the future. At the time there was little response to a request to make such Eldwick deeds public but those that did appear were fascinating. More recently, copies of one set of deeds have been donated to the Eldwick Archive which, surprisingly, helps to conclude the story of the Hudson family and four generations of publicans at *The Fleece Inn* at High Eldwick, for which we are deeply grateful to the donor.

In 1789 the Stansfield family, as major Eldwick landowners, gave permission for the track from Eldwick Beck hamlet to High Gate Farm at Eldwick Cragg to be made into a roadway. So it was that the Anderson farm at High Gate utilised part of its buildings to become *The Fleece Inn*, taking over from the old coaching inn at 'Rattlebank Hall' which stood opposite, on the Keighley to Otley highway.

Twenty years after the farm at High Gate became an inn, Thomas Hudson took over from Tommy Anderson in 1809 to run the pub and the 12 acre farm for 41 years. He was followed by the now legendary Dick Hudson from 1850 to 1878 who, on his death, bequeathed the estate to son John.

In 1879, according to the set of

deeds newly acquired, John bought a 3 rood plot of land off Sheriff Lane which had been set aside as Allotment 92 on the 1861 Enclosure of Gilstead Moor. Two years later he took out a £240 mortgage for, "that cottage now in the course of construction", on his plot, from the local building society which had one Robert Pollard of Eldwick as a trustee. John was, like his father, both publican and farmer so was able to pay off the mortgage by January 1893 but lodged the deeds for his properties with the Craven Bank. This was "to secure the balance which from time to time may be due from him to the Bank for future loans, advances, Bills and other charges on his account current". Sadly, John died only 2 months later and bequeathed all to son Richard, including the property in Sheriff Lane and a house in Hill Street, Bingley.

When John died, Richard was only 23 and the Keighley magistrates expressed concerns about his age and his "previous habits", when he applied to take over at *The Fleece*, better known as 'Dick Hudson's'. Richard assured them of his reformed character and was granted the license but, the deeds go on to tell us, he was made bankrupt in 1896, only three years after his inheritance.

The Craven Bank had first claim on his debts which were in excess of £825 so recovered £480 from the sale of the Bingley house and £345 from the Eldwick property. No mention in these

deeds is made of the pub and farm which may well have been mortgaged separately to the brewery and thus will be lodged elsewhere. In the Bankruptcy Court, Richard was described as living at *The Fleece Inn*, lately carrying on business at Morton Bank as innkeeper, farmer and cattle dealer. Bingley-with Morton was for many years one township so the reference still relates to his Eldwick location. Not only did 'Dick Hudson's' make Richard bankrupt, but also John Groth, as the next publican, suffered the same fate in 1897, largely because of his involvement with the *Alexandra Hotel*, one of Bradford's biggest establishments.

From that date on the brewery took full control of *The Fleece*, rebuilding it completely in 1904 and thereafter installing licensees in their employ.

Meanwhile, young Richard's plight had gone from bad to worse, following his bankruptcy, because he was back in court in February 1900, described as a cattle dealer and former publican. He was charged and found guilty of stealing three sheep, the property of the Bingley Co-Op, from grazing land in Myrtle Park, and subsequently selling them to a pig-dealer for £6. He was jailed for 4 months hard labour. The last public record of him is in the 1901 Census which shows him aged 33, a packing-case maker, living in the Barkerend district of Bradford with his wife and four young children.

So, from one small set of property deeds came valuable information, much of it hitherto unknown, relating to one of Eldwick's legendary families, and who knows what your property deeds may reveal?  
ALLAN MIRFIELD

**FOUND** – in my bedroom, living room, kitchen, whenever the cat flap or door is opened – young black cat without collar or name tag. Quite fierce and determined, he has trashed the cat flap and is terrorising the resident tabby.

Any information about this asylum seeker – who seems to appear from Dalesway, Westway or Landsmoor area – would be most welcome.

Please contact Sue Green, 3 Park Top Cottages (tel: 01274 781398) who is exasperated and contemplating re-homing the hooligan via the RSPCA.

## 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)

## C & J Bettles

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Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com

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