

Bob's Snippet

Bob has decided to retire and we wish him a very happy retirement and would like to thank him for all the snippets over the years.

HOUSE SWAP IN ELDWICK

I was going to suspend the house swap idea for a couple of months, as the interest has appeared to have diminished.

Then, I've had quite a few letters from prospective "clients", which shows that there is still a lot of interest in exchanging/selling houses in Eldwick.

So, keep them coming, the more prospective "house swappers" I have, a greater chance of matching you to your next home.

Let's get the housing market moving in Eldwick again.

Regards
Ann Oakden
17 Southway

Eldwick
email: d.oakden@sky.com

PLANNING

The following applications have been received by Bradford Council
08/07436/FUL Construction of doctor's surgery, pharmacy, veterinary practice, 3 retail units, nursery and 1, D1 (non residential) unit. Land at South West 188-190 Swan Avenue.

09/00154/FUL Construction of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling at Tamario, 18 Grange Road.

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ELDWICK LAWN TENNIS CLUB

I know it's freezing outside but it's time to think about the tennis season which starts in April.

All of us at **Eldwick Tennis Club** are wondering why so few new people join up each year. We have a healthy membership and an active club but we would like to see some new faces getting involved. Some of us think there are too many over 50s on the committee – we need some new blood!

There's an **AGM on Wednesday March 18th at 8pm in The Acorn** and you are all welcome to come along and see what goes on and how you can join in.

During the winter we have spent over £4000 cleaning and treating the courts and replacing the exterior netting so we are ready for our

Enrolment Morning on Sunday April 5 at the club from 11am – 1pm.

Subscriptions paid on or before this date are at a discounted price. Enrolment forms will be available at Eldwick Post Office.

Our subscriptions, which will not be

going up this year, are good value and the lowest in the area. We have a thriving Junior section and two under 18 teams play in the Saturday morning league. For seniors who want to play in matches there are men's, ladies' and mixed teams. Saturday afternoon and Monday evening are dedicated to matches but the rest of the time the courts are available. Juniors have their own club night on Fridays, Thursday nights are for seniors and students leaving Tuesday and Wednesday for general family play.

If you are new to tennis or just a bit rusty, Mike Walton offers coaching sessions to juniors and seniors. Contact him on 01274 564164.

So I hope you will think about joining us. We're cheaper than the gym and much more fun. If you need any more information, please contact our chairman, Paul Fawcett on 01274 771612 or our membership secretary, Maureen Beaumont on 01274 566283.

UPVC SECURE

I supply upvc maintenance and security products to window repairers, window companies, police recommended initiatives and locksmiths country wide. I also advise neighbourhood watch groups and local residents on the best and most effective ways to protect their property against euro cylinder attack.

Euro cylinder attack is the fastest growing form of burglary in the country and every house with a upvc or composite door is at risk! The Leeds area was one of the worst affected in the country in 2007.

From £20 per door The security solutions are not expensive but are essential. I supply and fit Break secure cylinders, sash jammers, Break secure Handles, all door handles, every multipoint door lock manufactured, window locks, handles and hinges.

I grew up in Eldwick and lived in the village for 25 years and will gladly advise residents the best and most cost effective way to protect their property.

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YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The meeting held on January the 13th was well attended. Flowers were presented to our Chairman, Sylvia Slater who was celebrating a special birthday.

The Annual Party will be held on March the 10th, please give names to Maureen Beckwith and tickets cost £7 each.

The Homecraft Exhibition will be held on the 28th of March at Wetherby Church Centre. If you wish to enter an exhibit contact Sylvia Slater.

Peter Watson spoke on Folklore and Supernatural.

Folklore the study of traditional arts, crafts, customs, beliefs and folk medicine. The British Isles has a rich diversity of folklore, stemming in part from the mix of cultural identity from region to region. A great deal of folklore and local legend has been lost because they are not passed by word of mouth as they used to be.

Supernatural. Ghost stories, stories from people who have seen, heard or sensed paranormal encounters.

Peter told of many anecdotes and how he collects stories from people who had an experience to relate.

Fairies, fay, fey any magical creature, a form of spirit often described as metaphysical or supernatural. The story of the Cottingley Fairies is world renowned.

An interesting and entertaining talk.

Next meeting March the 10th when our party will be held.

JOINER/HANDYMAN

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Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society

A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN UNDERNEATH THE CHEVIN

Although Alan Wilson called his January talk Plants To Die For, he had subtitled it Plants that have died and plants that I wish had died. Pretty early on in his fascinating slide presentation, it became obvious that he wanted to cover all eventualities. Living in the shadow of the Chevin where, he would have us believe, only Arctic gardeners survive the sub-Eldwick temperatures and snowdrops don't appear till May, Alan has a well-established garden in which a myriad of lovingly-tended plants, trees, climbers, shrubs and alpines thrive - or not, as the case may be.

Those that don't thrive, but which Alan dearly loves, are given a second - or even a third chance - before being cast on the compost heap. Some attempts have taken as long as five years and a financial outlay that Alan refuses to disclose.

Sitting in the darkness of the Memorial Hall while his amazingly varied slides flashed up on the screen, I listened to him reeling off the Latin names of the species he was showing us and found it was impossible to take detailed notes.

So I'll just tell our readers that he likes bulbs, wild flowers and trees, where he has space for them. If he hasn't space for certain trees, then Alan imagines himself in a country estate purchased with his (also imaginary) lottery winnings, surrounded by them and by many hundreds of exotic specimens brought back from all corners of the world by his faithful team of hand-picked professional plant hunters. There were a lot of blue ones, quite a few yellow ones, some with spiky flowers and some with lush green leaves.

This sort of fantasy gardening never involves any digging, hoeing, weeding or risk of back injury. It is my sort of gardening and, judging by his audience's reaction, it was their's too.

Alan next told us about his pond, his prolific iris and his abundance of water lilies before moving on to alpines, his patch of scree and the hedges which frame and protect his garden. We learned how the dreaded vine-weevil wiped out whole drifts of his prized primula candelabra, while their siblings grown from seed went forth and multiplied just yards away on next door's patio.

What are the plants Alan would die for? Hard to say, really, because he listed so many. I remember he mentioned snow drops, crocus, aconites, celandine ranunculus, hellebore, daffodil (narcissus February Silver and February Gold), tulip Persian Pearl, cartwheel gentians, honeysuckle, everlasting wallflower (I've got some of those), clematis and magnolia Star Wars.

The ones he wanted to die included the rampaging dog violet, the too-large leafed skunk cabbage and the ubiquitous Welsh poppy.

Alan also loves statuary and showed us slides of figures great and small, young and old, clothed and unclothed, fashioned from wicker, chicken netting, steel, bronze and stone. Most of these, he regretted, were in gardens far larger than his. But he could still enjoy them and share his joy with us.

So there you have it - Alan Wilson, a.k.a. Chevin Man, a speaker to die for indeed.

MIKE HITCHEN

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 17 March when David Moreland will tell us about Mansions & Music.

✠ THE ELDWICK VILLAGE CHURCHES ✠

ST. LAWRENCE'S NEWS

FEBRUARY

15th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship with Methodists at St. Lawrence's
22nd 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

MARCH

1st 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Big Family Praise
8th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
12.15 p.m. St. Lawrence's A.G.M.
15th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Morning Worship
6.30 p.m. Evensong
22nd 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday

LADIES FELLOWSHIP meets in the church hall at 7.45p.m. 19th February – Reginald La Pla on "Humour and Humanity in the Law". 19th March – Chris Low on "Good Morning Teacher". 16th April – Alan Mirfield on "Yesterday's news".

WALKING GROUP'S next outings leave the church car par at 9.00 a.m. on 21st February, 21st March and 18th April. Details posted in church a week prior to each walk.

MEN'S GROUP meets on the last Friday evening of each month. Details from Jonathan on 565482.

PRAYER GROUP meets in the committee room of the church hall fortnightly on Sundays from 9.30 to 10.15 a.m. and aims to pray for the parish, the community and those who have requested prayer. Details from and prayer requests to Yvonne on 562304.

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH HALL is available for hire for children's parties (one payment of £35) and community events (main hall £10 per hour; committee room £14 for half day and £27 for full day; registered charities 50% of standard hire charge). To make enquiries, contact our bookings secretary, Ann Shoebridge on 564690.

SERVICES AT THE

METHODIST CHURCH

15th February

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry
10.30 am Mr Roy Lorrain-Smith

22nd February

9.15 am Big Breakfast
10.30 am Miss Lorna Whiteley

1st March

10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry

8th March

10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls

15th March

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry
10.30 am Joint Service with St Lawrence's at Methodist Church

22nd March

9.15 am Big Breakfast
10.30 am Miss Diane Greenwood

29th March

10.30 am Mr Donald Craig

Events in March

14th March 3.00 till 5.00 pm Gilstead and Eldwick Male Voice Choir
21st March Action for Children (NCH) Spring Fayre 2.00 to 4.00 pm
28th March "Mad Hatters Party" 10.00 am till 3.30 pm. (Children's event)

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Fri Friday Walk 9am

3rd Sun 9.15am Holy Communion

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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London, SW1A 0AA

Website:

www.philip-davies.org.uk

WINTERS IN FULL FORCE.

Different generations will doubtless claim to have experienced the worst winter snowfalls and longest periods of wintry weather in local history which may well make the current winter almost insignificant.

In February 1900 so much snow fell that train services were stopped even though two locomotives were on each train. Telephone poles brought down and manual labour was used to clear local roads. In one week in Keighley, over 7000 loads of snow, from 236 horse-drawn carts, with one thousand men, were cleared whilst in Bingley snow was tipped in the river for five days.

The 1933 blizzards began on February 22nd in East Yorkshire and arrived in Eldwick two days later with one storm lasting twelve hours, bringing 14 feet drifts driven by easterly winds. The open air market in Bingley was abandoned and in Warren Lane the snow was between three to six feet deep so that bus services were cancelled for six days. It was at the Eldwick junction with Otley Road that drifts towered to twelve feet high so workers had to dig a passageway for pedestrians. A bus attempted the route from Bingley to Eldwick on the Saturday, reached halfway up Warren Lane, where it was snowbound until the Monday afternoon. Outlying farms were isolated, cars were abandoned, and in one case a driver left his two-seater on the Friday and could not find it when he returned later in the weekend. Dairy farmers resorted to horse-drawn floats to get the milk churns through the snow, postmen waded through drifts, and the doctor made urgent calls on horseback.

Also isolated was Dick Hudson's and A Special Correspondent reported this story on Thursday 2nd March 1933. 'The tale has been told that when, some years ago, the first bus arrived at Eldwick, and it was left there ten weeks while the residents were taught to get in and out. There has been no bus since last Friday, but if another one ever does get through, the residents will not need teaching to get in at any rate. The road to Dick's is still blocked with several feet of snow, but when I made the journey up there I heard the sound of shovels striking walls as willing workers dug a way through. Sunday's supply of butcher's meat arrived at noon, carried by the farmer's man so both he and the beef were received with cheers. The family at Dick's met me, the first customer, with, "We'd two people yesterday, six on Sunday, three of them on skis." The beef was soon in the oven and I was soon enjoying a piled up plateful of beef and potatoes, preceded by a pancake precisely 18 inches across. The beef was a welcome change to the bacon, eggs and old hens that had been the diet for days. Farmer Chew from Knapley Ing came smiling through for two ounces of twist and "wondered if't missus could let him hev a bit o' yest as we were ommost wi'ah't ca-ak." On my way down to Eldwick I saw a jocund crowd of men and lads, with horses and half-forgotten milk floats at Plantin Top. It had taken four hours 'from't farm comin't fields way' to get this far. Drifts of 12 to 15 feet had blocked up the road and when I saw them later, returning home, they were still smiling. "Wees noan ferget this winter



for a while," said one to me, "but then we've gotten through so what does it matter?" Unemployment was very high at the time so men were allotted to dig snow from roads by the Labour Exchange. In Shipley in one week over one thousand men were taken on in such a way but bureaucracy reigned and many more who volunteered to clear snow were turned away by foremen if they did not have the necessary 'ticket'.

1947 saw scenes reminiscent of the great snow up of 1933 but in a different way with snow on the ground for 54 days continuously due again to bitter easterly wind patterns.

The thaw in 1933 took place within days and saw flooding, even in Eldwick where Teasedale's newsagents had to call the fire brigade to pump out the cellars of the shop in Otley Road. In 1947, frozen ground from record low temperatures proved an ideal resting place for continuous snowfalls and soon Warren Lane was filled in. The snow was level with the wall tops, cars became stuck, and even the snow plough struggled up Parkside then came to a halt in Warren Lane. Snow had to be cleared from the school gates before children could get in and farmers delivered milk by sledges. Coal deliveries were difficult and coke disappeared as fast as it was made.

George Papworth, who had a nursery at Beech Grove, was unable to reach his home at Cropper Fold Farm out on the moor so had to return and sleep at nights in one of his greenhouses. Fortunately his wife was away staying with relatives in Cambridgeshire.

1963 brought another January/February freeze and snow lay on the ground even exceeding the period recorded in 1947

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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The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.
Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com



GALA NEWS

GALA DAY SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 2009

THIS YEARS THEME – “ PANTOMIME ” – Start planning your float now for the parade

To advertise in the program, have a stall on the day, take part in the parade, ring 01274 774758
email : eldwickgala@blueyonder.co.uk

GALA QUEEN SELECTION DISCO

FRIDAY 4th April 7pm – 8.30pm

ELDWICK MEMORIAL HALL

With Eldwick's own fantastic DJ

For 7 to 11 year olds to choose the Gala Queen and attendants for this years event.

ENTRY £2

Gala Queen Entry Form

ELDWICK AND

GILSTEAD GALA

Saturday 27th June 2009

I would like to be considered for **Gala Queen / Attendant** for the 2009 Gala. The Gala Queen will be chosen at the '**Gala Queen Selection Night**' on **Friday 4th April, 7pm till 8.30pm** in Eldwick Memorial Hall (Disco entry £2). The Gala Queen should be 11 years of age or over and the attendants between the ages of 7 and 10 (girls or boys). The Gala Queens name and all Attendants names will be drawn out of a hat by the 2008 Gala Queen. The Gala Queen and her attendants will ride in the Gala Parade, and are invited to attend other local Galas in 2009 and 2010 representing Eldwick & Gilstead

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. No. _____

School _____

Age _____

I do live in Eldwick or Gilstead.

Signed _____ parent

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