

## HOUSE SWAP OF ELDWICK

I am hanging up my coat after 10 months as I think my idea has run its course. I've enjoyed it immensely, and am delighted to have helped some Eldwick residents achieve their hopes of selling their houses. The tally up to this July has been 42 enquiries, 4 house sales, 8 near misses, 5 house sales that would have gone through if the vendors had not had second thoughts about selling their houses (very frustrating for all concerned). The rest I was unable to help due to different expectations. All letters will be destroyed, and I thank everyone concerned for putting their trust in me.

Ann Oakden

## SORRY HALEY

We apologise to Haley Bevan for referring to her as Holly.

## NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

We apologise if your newsletter has been late. We have approximately twenty volunteer deliverers who turn out in all weathers, however they do have holidays like normal people.

If you would be interested in acting as a relief deliverer please email your details to the newsletter.

## PLANNING

The following planning applications have been received by Bradford Council.

09/02962/FUL Division of existing house into two, demolition of extension and construction of new house in garden at 2 Timble Drive.

09/03299/HOU Construction of 2 storey side extension at 6 Glen Road.

09/03291/OUT Construction of three bedroomed two storey house with double garage at Beggars Roost, 2 Heather View, Glen Road.

09/03342/FUL Construction of agricultural implement shed/store at 2 Faweather Grange, Sconce Lane.

## ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### Providing Services of Benefit to the Local Community

A warm welcome to Paul Stevens, who is booked to open our 92nd annual show in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 29 August. Paul is Voluntary Organisation Support Officer (Bingley) for Shipley and Bingley Voluntary Services, which was formed in May 2008 with the merger of Bingley Voluntary Action and Shipley Council for Voluntary Services.

SBVS now has 13 staff, most of them part-time and provides a range of services for the local community, primarily in the Bingley area but with a district-wide remit for some services. These include Day Care for Older People, Community Transport, Luncheon Clubs, Community Centres, Support to Community and Voluntary Groups, Public Patient Involvement Forums, Flood Action Planning, Research Projects, Community Development, Volunteer Bureau, Wheels to Work, Activities for Older People and Youth Clubs/Facilities

Little House and Cardigan House are probably two of the SBVS's best-known projects: Little House is the smaller of the two community centres managed by Shipley and Bingley Voluntary Services and is located in Bingley town centre, just off Market Street. A vitally important community centre, Little House is available to hire seven days a week 365 days a year. It can be booked by community groups, organisations or

individuals and is easily accessible for all client groups. There is excellent on site parking and wheelchair access to the centre. The centre consists of a medium-sized meeting room with a separate kitchen area. There are sufficient tables and chairs to accommodate approximately 40 people.

Cardigan House Community Centre is on the ground floor of our premises on Ferncliffe Road, Bingley. The large function room holds up to 70 people and has a fully equipped commercial kitchen. It is available for hire 7 days per week, 52 weeks per year.

Paul will probably be telling us more on 29 August.

### Autumn meeting

Allan Mirfield will be our guest speaker at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 15 September, when he will tell us about the gardens of Sark, in the Channel Isles.

### Staff shortage "dogs" new product debut

The Society regrets it has had to cancel the launch of its new gardening aid, a combined fertiliser and cat repellent named K9 FeCal. Recent poor weather and an ageing membership means that the volunteers needed to collect the raw material from the environs of Sheriff Lane have not come forward in sufficient numbers to make the product viable.

## Childminding Vacancies Available

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# YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

At our meeting on the 14th of July 44 members attended.

Our summer outing to Castle Howard on the 12th of August. Departure times 8.45am at Warren Lane, 8.50am at the Memorial Hall.

At our September meeting there will be a competition for a miniature garden. This will be displayed in a margarine tub or tub of a similar size. All members are asked to try their hand and show their green-fingered talents.

September 25th is the date for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, held at the Memorial Hall from 10am to 12 noon. All proceeds go to Macmillan Cancer Support who help to support people with cancer and their families.

Our speaker was Ian Butterfield, a country ranger and bat warden. He gave information on bat types within our region and their habitat. He also dispelled myths such as blind as a bat, as bats have good eyesight but find their way through echolocation, by emitting short shouts of ultrasound and listening to echoes they build up a detailed picture of their surroundings. Bats are the only truly flying mammal and a quarter of the worlds mammals are bats. There are 17 species of bat in the U.K. all of which are protected by law because their numbers have decreased so dramatically. Bats don't make a nest but roost in caves, crevices and hollow trees. Their food is insects, midges and beetles and they hibernate in winter when food is in short supply. Bats are warm blooded and covered in fur and usually have one pup a year, the young pups start to fly at 3 weeks although their mother will still be feeding them. Bats are important to the countryside and it is important that they are conserved. In our local area we have the long eared bat which hovers around the top of trees, in Shipley Glen there is the noctule bat which inhabits the hollow trees and can often be seen half an hour before sunset. The whiskered bat is inhabiting Ireland Bridge in Bingley so renovation must wait. The talk was very informative and gave us an insight as to why conservation is so important.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 8th of September when our speaker will be Steve Thorpe, the subject Gardening for Children.

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# ✠ THE ELDWICK VILLAGE CHURCHES ✠ ST. LAWRENCE'S NEWS

## AUGUST

23rd 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion  
 30th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

## SEPTEMBER

6th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
 10.30 a.m. Big Family Praise  
 13th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Methodists followed by Faith Lunch)  
 20th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

**Ladies Fellowship** meets in Church Hall at 7.45 p.m. 17th Sept. – Liz Brumfitt on “Slightly Spicy Food”. 15th Oct. – A.G.M.

**Walking Group** Next outings leave from Church carpark at 9.00a.m. on 22nd August, 19th September

**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). Contact our Bookings Secretary, Ann Shoebridge on 564690.

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 Write to: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA  
 Website:  
[www.philip-davies.org.uk](http://www.philip-davies.org.uk)

# SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

## 16th August

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

## 23rd August

10.30 am Rev Andrew Taylor

## 30th August

10.30 am Rev Derek Hoe

## 6th September

10.30 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry

## 13th September

10.30 am United Service with St Lawrence's at St Lawrence's

## 20th September

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry  
 10.30 am Rev Nigel Ogley

## 27th September

9.15 am Big Breakfast  
 10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry – Back to Church Sunday

## 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](http://www.eldwickmethodistchurch.co.uk)

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## MURDER MOST FOUL

August and the 'Glorious 12th' is still of huge importance today on the moors above Eldwick, on both Bingley and Ilkley Moor. Large parts are now owned by Estates with gamekeepers employed to manage the land and to help maintain the population of game birds. One gamekeeper lives at the former Shooting Lodge known as Foxholes at the top of Heights Lane.

Nearly 150 years ago the shooting season was much more important than today when the owners of the moors, as Lords of the Manor, like Mr Ferrand of Bingley and Mr Horsfall of Hawksworth, entertained their wealthy friends for days of sport. Annual Game Lists were published showing ownership of the moors and licensed gamekeepers, which in 1854 showed that even Titus Salt had shooting rights on Malham Moor. In August 1906 The Rombalds Moor Shooting Party of seven guns achieved a new record of 135 brace of birds in one day.

Such was the regard for the sport, with equal regard for the importance of gamekeepers, that even 'The Times' newspaper reported the murder of a gamekeeper at Hawksworth in 1862. The story is an epic, with witness reports from familiar locations, including a very important one in Eldwick.

William Smith, alias Davey, the head gamekeeper of Timothy Horsfall of Hawksworth Hall was shot at 7 o'clock in the morning on November 5th in 1861. In his dying statement he said he had set out at 4am to watch some pheasant preserves. He had long suspected an old poacher, named James Waller, who had 'previous form', was often up to no good in the district. Davey met Waller, who was armed with a double-barrelled gun, in Springs Wood at Hawksworth but Waller immediately took flight. After a short distance, realizing Davey was gaining on him, Waller turned and discharged one barrel into the chest of Davey. Putting his hand to his chest, Davey cried out, "Oh Jem, thou has done for me at last." Taking no notice, Waller then discharged the second barrel,

shattering the hand which Davey held to his chest.

Waller then ran off, left his gun at his house nearby, then returned, pretending he had just come across the scene where, by now, others had gathered. Waller expressed surprise and said, "Who has done it?" Davey replied, "Oh Jem, thou hast done it; thou hast shot me." Waller replied, "Why, I have never been out of the house this morning until now." He was then allowed to walk off and subsequently the constabulary scoured the countryside by night and day without finding him.

Davey died about half-past eleven the same night, at the farmhouse of Mr Denby at Faweather. He was 38 years old and left a widow and a child. Waller was 34, with a wife and three children and had repeatedly been before magistrates in Bingley and Otley, for poaching and even for shooting at a neighbour. In August he told a policeman that he would never be taken again by Davey, he would shoot him.

Witnesses told how they had seen Waller in the area, knew the sound of his gun, and heard cries of, "Waller, Waller." Even Timothy Horsfall gave evidence of going to see his stricken gamekeeper and writing down what Davey told him. He read the statement back to Davey who affixed his mark to it, spent time with his wife and mother-in-law before passing away.

It was not until Sunday 17th November that Waller was finally tracked down and captured. One story goes that somehow his wife had known where he had been hiding and it was her trail of footprints, on a frosty morning, taking him food, that alerted the constabulary to the barn at Birch Close Farm in Eldwick. When a group of ten surrounded the barn and called him out, Waller gave himself up.

Next morning he was brought from Keighley lock-up to Bingley Court, which was crowded to overflowing. After hearing evidence from many witnesses, including Mr Horsfall who produced the signed statement, the



inquiry took eight hours and the prisoner was committed to trial at the next York assizes. This took place on December 18th and, after hearing all the evidence, it only took the jury three quarters of an hour to return a verdict of guilty. The learned judge said the verdict was a just and correct one and passed a sentence of death on Waller, in the usual form.

It was the second week of January when the execution took place, as a public spectacle. Waller had confessed his guilt to the High Sheriff and acknowledged the justice of his sentence. It is said that, as it was a Saturday, the crowd of between 8000 and 10000 included some who had travelled all the way from Bingley. Waller was 'launched into eternity' at 12 noon, having earlier told his wife, "I have two children in heaven and hope to meet them there."

This story was one of the favourites, as part of a themed walk entitled 'Saints and Sinners', of the late Ernest Davies, who led walks for Bradford Countryside Service which were highly informative and entertaining. Ernest even tracked down a stone stile above Spring Wood where the crime took place and would point out the pockmarked stone had five tell-tale signs of shotgun pellets. He also concluded the story of the murder in Birch Close barn where he is pictured above.

*C & J Bettles*

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### 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)

Issue No 369 August 2009

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com



# GREAT AFTERNOON OUT

## ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Dacre Banks venue proves a great afternoon out



On 11 July a group of around 30 members and guests made their way to Yorke House at Dacre Banks to inspect the beautifully managed gardens of Pat and Tony Hutchinson, who have been developing their two-acre site with colour-themed borders full of flowering and foliage plants and shrubs for more than 30 years. (Pat is a skilled flower arranger and grows her own exhibits here).

With an extensive water feature including a large ornamental pond and stream, there was lots to see and admire. According to time of year, there are other seasonal sights such as a nut walk, rose walk, patios, gazebo, millennium garden and a wildlife area. The grounds enjoy spectacular views across Nidderdale and after taking in these and everything else on display, we sat down to tea and scones with strawberries and cream in the Yorke House marquee. The sun shone down. . . it was simply paradise. (And the second cup was free!).

Once again, thanks to Stan and Sheila Varo for arranging a very enjoyable, interesting and entertaining afternoon out.

## Eldwick Memorial Hall Trust

The Management Committee is both grateful and pleased to acknowledge the award of a grant of £1500 from Bradford Council's Shipley Area Grants Advisory Group. A successful bid was made for finance from the Community Buildings Fund which will enable the replacement of the Memorial Hall's ceiling panels in the near future. This will be principally for energy conservation but will also enhance the overall appearance of the interior of our excellent village hall to appeal to both potential and existing clients.

## GARDEN PARTY

with Afternoon Tea, Raffle & Tombola

at Middle Heights Cottage  
Heights Lane, Eldwick

on Saturday 5th September

2.30 – 4.30 pm

Adults £5.00

(including Bucks Fizz & Afternoon Tea)

**All proceeds to  
Action for Children**

## Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society

## 92nd ANNUAL SHOW

FRUIT, VEGETABLES, FLOWERS,  
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**Saturday 29 August  
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