

THE POETRY OF LOIS OWEN



A former Eldwick resident, Lois Owen, who died earlier this year aged 34, left behind numerous paintings, poems and writings. Her draft text of a book dedicated to improving the quality of life for those confined to their beds or housebound due to illness or disability is in the process of being edited.

However, a selection of her poems has already been produced. Poems range in mood, subject and structure and something of Lois' creativity, exuberance, compassion and faith, as well as her anguish and suffering, can be evidenced in this selection.

The booklet of poems costs £2.50 and all proceeds will be divided between three charities:

- *M.E. Research UK* which funds biomedical investigation into the causes, consequences and treatment of M.E./C.F.S.;
- *Action for M.E.* which provides information and support for M.E. sufferers and campaigns for more research, better treatments and greater understanding of M.E.;
- *25% ME Group* which is a support group for severely affected M.E. sufferers and of which Lois was a member.

Lois battled with a severe form of M.E. for over 19 years. The initials M.E. stand

for 'myalgic encephalomyelitis' but the illness is more accurately termed 'myalgic encephalopathy' (muscle pain and abnormality of brain function). Despite her disability, Lois gained a First Class Honours degree at the University of Derby and established the first therapeutic arts service for disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Derby called *Arts in Action*.

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the booklet of poems can do so by ringing (01274) 770797.

On Baildon Moor in 1994

Take me high upon a hill
Where cows stand and sway
Ignorant and silent,
Where the wind hushes and rushes
Wildly through my hair,
And I let it.

Take me high upon a hill
Where the grass grows terse and brown
And the air is young
And the landscape lies stark and lone.
There I'll find a place
Of solitude.

Take me high upon a hill
Where white ponies gallop slow,
Like a dream below,
Where the drones that come and go
Do not enter my world.
I do not care.

Take me high upon a hill,
Up Spring Lane, not far,
To rouse my senses and lull my mind,
From where I left my sorrows
Far behind.

YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

No meeting was held in August.

On the 12th of August 50 members went by coach to Castle Howard. We were fortunate to have a warm, sunny day to explore the grounds and discover beautiful acres dotted with temples, lakes, statues and fountains before taking time to relax in the walled garden with its roses and ornamental vegetable garden. We travelled home via Malton where we were able to have time to look around this market town. To complete the day we dined very well before heading for home. Thank you to Maureen Beckwith for organising a superb outing.

On Friday 25th of September the Macmillan Coffee morning will be held at Eldwick Memorial Hall from 10am to 12 noon. All are invited to call in for a coffee and all the money raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support which helps to improve the lives of people who are suffering from cancer.

Our next meeting will be held on October 13th when Bill Mitchell will be talking about Communicating through an interpreter.

DAVID WALKER

We are very sad to hear of the recent and most untimely death of David. He will be well remembered for his sense of humour and dry wit and general good nature.

David delivered newsletters for many years, turning out in all weathers and we are glad to report that Dorothy has volunteered to carry on with the delivery round.

We express our sympathy to Dorothy and family at this most difficult time.

'ELSTEAD' LADIES' CHOIR

The Autumn session commences on Friday, September 11th at 7.15 p.m. in St. Lawrence's Church Hall, Eldwick.

New members are always welcome.

For further information, please contact the Conductor, Mr. Keith Newell, on 563324

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CARING WITH CONFIDENCE IN BINGLEY
Carers in the Bingley area are being invited along to group sessions running under the national Caring with Confidence scheme.

Caring with Confidence is a programme aimed at boosting carers self esteem and confidence. It offers a series of non-sequential, 'stand alone' group sessions so carers can attend as many as they wish, whenever and wherever best fits in with their caring situation.

The seven, different three-hour sessions available cover topics from health and wellbeing, stress and time management to communication skills, moving and handling, managing medication and the financial and legal aspects of caring for someone.

The sessions are being offered by The Carers Resource and are open to anyone aged over 18 who provides any amount of care for a family member, relative, friend or neighbour. It is completely free to attend the sessions and feedback from participants has been very positive.

Sessions will take place weekly at Eldwick Memorial Hall starting on 2nd September 2009. Anyone wishing to find out more or to book a place on a session should contact Anna Jackson on 01756 700888 or e-mail cwc@carersresource.org

FREE local sessions

2 or 9 September *Finding Your Way*

Introductory session which will help you look at what matters to you and decide which other sessions you might want to do.

16 September *Caring and Coping*

Gives you time and space to look at the emotions involved in looking after someone. Strategies to cope with stress more effectively.

23 September *Caring Day-to-Day*

Looks at the essentials of looking after someone day-to-day, from medication to emergencies at home.

30 September *Caring and Life*

Invites you to take time out and think about how you juggle competing demands and how your caring role fits with other aspects of your life.

7 October *Caring and Resources*

How you can maximise your income and access other resources which may help you or save you money as a carer.

14 October *Caring and Me*

How to be fit for life and caring. Discussion and planning around your own health and wellbeing.

21 October *Caring and Communicating*

Uses real-life caring situations to help you get the best from communicating with other people. Negotiation skills.

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ST. LAWRENCE'S NEWS

SEPTEMBER

20th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

27th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

OCTOBER

4th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Big Family Praise

11th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

18th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

6.30 p.m. Evensong

SUNDAY CLUB for children and young people meets 10.30-11.30 a.m. in church hall. Contact Jackie on 569203 for details.

LIVEWIRES TODDLERS GROUP meets 10.00-11.30 a.m. in church hall on Mondays. Contact Ruth on 560081 for details.

SEL is a group for young people wanting to explore Christian faith and meets fortnightly at Winston Grange, Otley Road, Eldwick for discussions, Bible study, videos, teaching, games. 6.00-7.15 p.m. for Years 7 to 9 and 7.00-9.00 p.m. for Year 10 upwards. Contact Chris on 564694.

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% off standard hire charge). Contact our Bookings Secretary, Ann Shoebridge on 564690.

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Email: daviesp@parliament.uk

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

Website:

www.philip-davies.org.uk

SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

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

4th October

10.30 am Mrs Margaret Preece

11th October

10.30 am Mrs Sylvia Thompson

18th October

9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry

10.30 am Mr Michael Webster

25th October

9.15 am Big Breakfast

10.30 am Rev Alf Waite United Service with St Lawrence's

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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TALL OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW.

Amongst the glittering array of prizes on display at the recent 92nd Annual Show of the Eldwick and Gilstead Horticultural Society was the 'Arthur R. Harrison Trophy'. This is a kind of supreme champion award, going to the gardener who has accumulated most points in classes for flowers, fruit and vegetables.

Whilst farming was a major activity in Eldwick for centuries, the days of the smallholder and cottage gardener came in the late 19th century. Thus the E.G.H.S. was originally attributed to Smallholders and Horticulturalists and was very popular by the 1930's, when Eldwick had sixteen small farms, five nurseries, and many 'cottage gardens' with orchards and soft fruit.

Not only is it a very beautiful trophy but it is also significant as it exemplifies the rise to fame and fortune of an Eldwick boy, from a well-known local family, who never forgot his native village. Arthur Royston Harrison was born in 1875 at Cropper Fold Farm when Eldwick had several branches of the Royston family, mostly engaged in farming or quarrying. When the Eldwick Board School opened in 1877 it became the village community centre and evening lectures were organized for smallholders and gardeners. Tommy Murgatroyd, one time headmaster at Eldwick, pioneered the setting up of allotments at the school, which the pupils worked both during school time and in evening classes. Children's efforts were rewarded not just with produce but also with certificates of merit awarded by the Paxton Society. Now, a century later, schools are once more being encouraged to develop vegetable plots to encourage children to 'grow their own'.

However, in Arthur's early days, people were moving from working on the land to take employment in mills and industry, so he began work as a half-timer, aged ten, in a Bingley spinning mill and by thirteen he was in the weaving department of the mill.

He and his brother Edmund became reed and heald card cutters, part of the

design process for manufacturing textiles, and enhanced their education at the Bingley Technical School in Mornington Road. This edifice, now in a disgraceful state, was once the epitome of further education in Bingley. Opened in 1889 by the Master of the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers from London, who also partly financed its construction, it was far important than the Mechanics Institute on Main Street. The Technical School had Science, Engineering, Art and Design Departments and took on pupils once they left normal school, as well as running evening classes. Its site was chosen for both proximity to the then newly built Mornington Road School but also because most of the working population of Bingley lived in all the terraced houses off Mornington Road.

At the Technical School Arthur was awarded a John Barren Scholarship for his efforts, to fund his future education, and his potential was duly realized by 1897 when he and Edmund set up their own business as public designers and card cutters for all kinds of fancy fabrics. From there Arthur progressed to owning West Lane Mills in 1904, forming a private company eight years later, then transferring to Burlington Mills after the First World War. His businesses were hugely successful but he played a public role on the Keighley Town Council, as Chairman of the Higher Education Sub-Committee. He endowed an annual prize for Keighley Boys Grammar School and advised on textiles at the Keighley Technical College. He was obviously a keen educationalist and was once quoted, "I am a strong believer in evening continuation classes. From my experience, men who have become outstanding in almost any industry are those who have had to continue their education into late teens or early twenties".

His own early education was at Eldwick School and at the Eldwick Wesleyan Sunday School. Arthur presided at the centenary of the latter and produced a copy of the rules of the school from seventy years previously.

These included fines imposed for late arrivals – 2d for the Superintendent, 1d for a teacher, whilst a pupil would be 'disgraced'. Arthur loved music and was president of the Eldwick and Gilstead Glee Union and also was a great supporter of the Eldwick & Gilstead Smallholders and Horticultural Society.



So it was that, when invited to open their 20th Annual Show on Saturday 28th August 1937, Cllr Arthur R. Harrison presented his new trophy, inscribed 'as a gift to his native village'. In the same year, sadly one year before his death, Arthur was made President of The Airedale Agricultural Society Show in Bingley. Perhaps it was fitting that his interests in both horticulture and farming reflected his early upbringing and family background in rural Eldwick.

SHERIFF LANE, THE WALLS!

It will be obvious to any person using Sheriff Lane that the dry stone walls bordering on to the new Redrow estate are being demolished to gain access into the Lane. It is understandable that people will create the most direct access, however it is creating a real eyesore in such a pretty lane. Redrow still have a responsibility and need to address the issue one way or another. Letters have been written to Redrow without even getting the courtesy of an acknowledgement. Please lobby your local councillors, MP and of course Redrow. There is sadly no site manager anymore, so you will have to communicate with Redrow's head office and hope that they will have the

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



Issue No 370 September 2009

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com

ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At three o'clock on Saturday 29 August, Society President John Pullin introduced Paul Stevens, Voluntary Organisation Support Officer (Bingley) for Shipley and Bingley Voluntary Services, who declared our 92nd show officially open.

A crowd of Eldwick and Gilstead stalwarts, swelled by many from further afield, moved forward to view the exhibits tastefully arranged on tables in the Memorial Hall and across the car park in the St Lawrence church Sunday school.

This year's mixed weather resulted in fewer entries in the classes for roses and sweet peas, but to counter this small disappointment, the dahlia entries were magnificent, eliciting gasps as visitors took in blooms as big as footballs and much more colourful.

Tomatoes in many sizes and colours were well represented, onions looked bigger than ever, unenhanced by Polyfilla which has allegedly been used to increase their weight at some shows etables (in the South, of course - we do things reight in t'North).

The array of home baking entries looked irresistibly appetising, and the new class for loaves baked in a bread machine was enthusiastically supported.

Show secretary David Bell told me he was looking forward to going home for his tea later - his mother, who will be 80 next year, won five first prizes for her five entries. Chocolate cake, apple pie, butterfly buns . . .mmm, nobody counts the calories on Show Day.

Barbara Pullin's team served countless cuppas, scones, cakes and fruit juices in the Sunday school, where visitors were able to rest their weary feet and have a chat with friends.

Trophy winners 2009

There were many familiar names in the lists of winners, with quite a few new ones joining the ranks of seconds and thirds, which is good news for the Society and

gardening in general. Here are the key trophies, followed by the names of this year's winners:

- John Wild (most points vegetables) - Roger Golton
- Robert Smith (outstanding vegetables) - Geoff Hargrave
- George Todd (onions) - Geoff Hargrave
- Jack Bentley (veg tray) - Roger Golton
- HM Dawson (fruit) - Roger Golton
- Brinley Jagger (tomatoes) - Roger Golton
- Thomas Henry Shaw (best roses) - John Churchman
- Eric Cockroft (best rose) - John Churchman
- Charles Whiteoak (sweet peas) - David Bell
- Frank Whitaker (best dahlia) - Geoff Hargrave
- Leslie Lund (most points flowers) - John Churchman
- Arthur Harrison (most points vegetables and flowers) - Roger Golton
- Ernest Edwards (runner up) - John Churchman
- Banksian Medal - John Churchman
- H Whitehead (open) - Geoff Hargrave
- Yorkshire Bank (flower arranging) - Lesley Wilson
- Sydney Owthwaite (home produce) - Margaret Tetley
- Franz Trophy (Photographic) - John Churchman

The committee would like to thank everyone who worked so tirelessly to prepare the show, who worked on the day and stayed on to dismantle it after the auction of produce.

Diary Note

Our last speaker meeting this season will be on Tuesday 20 October, when Ken Green will tell us all we need to know about - Planning for Spring

You are very welcome to join us in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30 pm on the third Tuesday of the month. Admission for members is £1, non-members £2. This includes tea or coffee and biscuits and a



Two visitors admire the dahlias.



Lesley Wilson collects her flower arranging trophy



Margaret Tetley takes away her cup for home produce



Just look at these onions!



Paul Stevens introducing himself at the opening



John Churchman in pensive mood



Some of the trophies we dig and cook all year for

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