

**DOROTHY IS OUR NEW PRESIDENT FOR 2010**

At November's Annual General Meeting Dorothy Isaac was elected as the society's president for the year 2010, with John Pullin as Vice-President and John Churchman as Junior Vice-President.

The other main offices will be held by Michael Sutcliffe (Treasurer), Janet Jamieson (Assistant Treasurer), John Churchman (General Secretary), Barbara Pullin (Membership Secretary), John Pullin (Programme Secretary), Stanley Varo and Norma Bartle (Excursions Secretaries), Mike Hitchen (Press and Funding Secretary), David Bell (Show Secretary), Jane Hitchen (Assistant Show Secretary), Dorothy Isaac (Allotments Secretary), Barbara Pullin (Catering Secretary).

With a marked absence of nominations for Vice-President and Junior Vice-President, these two key roles tend to be rotated among the

same few dedicated members. All societies need new blood and fresh ideas from time to time and it would be nice to see more new faces like Janet Jamieson and Norma Bartle on our committee. Thanks for your support, Janet and Norma. And thanks to Sheila Varo, who after a long spell helping Stan organise our garden visits by coach and car, is taking break this year.

Finally, this is a good opportunity to thank John Pullin for all his time and effort over the past three years. John combined his presidential role with that of speaker finder. As well as finding us some good 'uns, he's also been instrumental in introducing new technology into our presentations, which now no longer rely on candles and a magic lantern.

**OUR 2010 PROGRAMME**

- Tuesday 19 January - Children in the Garden - Jayne Franz
- Tuesday 16 February - Vegetables in the Garden - David Allinson
- Tuesday 16 March - Low Maintenance and Wild Flower Gardens - Michael Myers

- Tuesday 20 April - Gardens Large and Small - Bernard Whitehead
  - Saturday 24 April - Spring Fair and Children's Competitions
  - Tuesday 18 May - To be announced - watch this space
  - Saturday 5 June - Day excursion to Stillingfleet and Burton Agnes
  - Saturday 26 June - Plant sales stand at the Eldwick Gala
  - Saturday 10 July - Car Trek to Chris Abbot's garden at Kelberdale
  - Saturday 28 August - 93rd Annual Autumn Show
  - Tuesday 21 September - The Lost Gardens of Heligan - D F Metcalfe
  - Tuesday 19 October - Arranging the Garden - Jacqueline Iddon-Dagnall
  - Tuesday 16 November - Annual General Meeting and Faith Supper
- Everybody with or without a garden will be made welcome at our friendly meetings. These are held in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30 pm on the third Tuesday of the month. Admission for members remains at a very reasonable £1, non-members £2. This includes tea/coffee and biscuits and a raffle ticket. We look forward to seeing you.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**PAVEMENT PARKING**

As a motorist for many years, I wholeheartedly agree with the recent article in the newsletter.

Everywhere you go, cars are parked on pavements blocking access to services and making it difficult for pedestrians trying to pass, sometimes having to go on the road which is dangerous.

It is an illegal act which carries a spot fine, and I hope the authorities responsible clamp down on this forever increasing nuisance.

Name and address supplied

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**Thank you to Eldwick residents in my hour of need!**

Dear Sir/Madam

I just wanted to drop you a very quick email to say thank you very much to the residents in Eldwick who very kindly brought blankets, hot water bottles and shelter whilst I waited for an ambulance when I was knocked off my bike earlier this month (14th Dec).

Thank you also for the tea Caroline supplied to my girlfriend and family

whilst they waited with me!

I am on the mend nothing broken just very sore!

Have a great Christmas Eldwick!

Nick Murgatroyd

\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor

May I thank everyone who supported the carol singing in the Memorial Hall on Christmas Eve. Despite the snowy conditions it was standing room only! Particular thanks must go to Bradley Crowther who organised the band - many of whom are not local but had given freely of their time - and his wife Sarah who conducted at short notice.

I hope that my old friend Charles Whiteoak, who initiated the event all those years ago, would be pleased to see what he began, has now become a village tradition.

Happy New Year

June Driver

\*\*\*\*

**Christmas Eve in Eldwick**

It was good that the village Society spent some of their Yorkshire Key

Funding on new Hymn sheets for this years Carol singing. A pity they then assumed the right to takeover this annual event, so ably presented by our local church leaders over the past 20 years or more, to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

No explanation was offered for this changed format which amounted to an ill prepared, frantic, breathless race through a dozen or so Christmas songs/carols, many of which were unaccompanied by the excellent band because they had not been notified of the programme in advance, so did not have all the music.

They, the Village Society, certainly kicked Christ out of this Christmas celebration.

Shame.

Let's hope that the basic lesson has been learnt that "If it ain't broke don't fix it" so that the villagers of Eldwick are not subjected to this debacle ever again.

Gerry Carter

N.B. - The new Carol books were funded by The Memorial Hall and The Village Society not Yorkshire Keyfunding. The Carol singing was started by The Village Society thirty years ago and has always been a Village Society Event. Ed.

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# YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

A Christmas theme to our meeting held on December 8th where members enjoyed Christmas music and festive fayre. Members of Elstead Choir sang, accompanied by Shirley Yeadon at the piano. Shirley was later joined by Kath Hardy at the piano for a delightful duet. All members joined in to sing carols with great gusto. The committee had arranged the fayre and gave readings and anecdotes throughout the evening, a big thank you to them all for a very entertaining evening.

On December 4th around 50 members travelled to York for the Annual Carol Service. The weather was kind with a blue sky overhead throughout the day. During the service the Rev Canon Glyn Webster, who spoke of the celebration of Christmas, gave the address. The choir was superb and deserve congratulations for all the time they put into their performance. Once again Maureen Beckwith organised a superb trip, we even had a very entertaining coach driver.

The next meeting will be on February 9th; the speaker will be D. Wadsworth, topic Friends of Harlow Carr.

All new members welcome.

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

## JANUARY

24th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

31st 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

## FEBRUARY

7th 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Big Family Praise

14th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (with Methodists)

21st 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Morning Worship

**Travelling Nativity on Christmas Eve** despite the snow, about 50 adults and children came to follow Mary and Joseph (without their donkey) on their journey through the village in search of the stable where Jesus could be born. Afterwards we were all grateful for the hot chocolate and mulled wine, and thanks go to all who helped, especially Chris Lowe and the police.

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

# SERVICES AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

## JANUARY

17th 9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry

10.30 am Rev Barbara Walls

24th 9.15 am Big Breakfast

10.30 am Mrs Katheen Miller

31st 10.30 am Communion

Rev Terence W Porter

## FEBRUARY

7th 10.30 am Rev Ruth Parry

14th 10.30 am Mr David Varley

21st 9.15 am Communion Rev Ruth Parry

10.30 am Joint service at

St Lawrence's

28th 9.15 am Big Breakfast

10.30 am Mrs Ann Fox

## REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

**1st Fri** Friday Walk 9am

**3rd Sun** 9.15 am Holy Communion

**4th Sun** 9.15 am Big Breakfast

## 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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# A WINTER'S TALE CONCLUSION

Courtesy of the diaries of the late John Pike Knight, shortly to be published in 'A Victorian Gentleman' by his grandson, the story has an amusing ending. To ensure funding was adequate to meet the needs of the distress committee, canvassing initially raised £40, a substantial amount at the time. Mr Knight described how the largest local landowner with a mansion at St. Ives, whom he declined to name, never acknowledged letters asking for a donation. In contrast George Lane Fox of Bramham, another local landowner, donated £10, expressing regret for not sending more because of lack of any income from his Irish estates, which previously had yielded £12,000 per annum.

Once a thaw set in and "the kindly earth invited back to its breast the hardy workers of the soil and the quarry", it was decided to give the Eldwick 'cottiers' a final treat. A hundred of them were invited to the Wesleyan Schoolroom at Eldwick Beck which had been decorated with greenery. Rounds of beef and ham were supplied to satisfy the guests and the children also received a sizeable bun and an orange.

The entertainment that followed was led by Mr Knight who entered the room carrying a box about a foot square which he placed on a small table. He asked the audience what they thought was in the box and after several suggestions he let down the front of the box to reveal the quaintest head ever seen, of some antiquity. Feigning initial fright, Mr Knight addressed the head. "Who in the world are you ? "Tubal Cain sir", was the reply. "Where did you come from ?" asked Mr Knight. "Egypt, sir". "How old are you?" "Four thousand three hundred and seventy years, come

next", Tubal replied. "Are you married and what do you call your wife?" asked Mr Knight. "Our Sarah" said Tubal. At this the audience burst into laughter because a man well known as selling humbugs at Shipley Railway Station always assured his customers they were made by 'Our Sarah'. This hawker had even presented the King and Queen – then Prince and Princess of Wales, a packet of humbugs when they stayed at Milnerfield in Gilstead, whilst on a visit to the area to open the Bradford Technical College.

When the laughter subsided, Mr Knight asked the audience if he should cut off another head and put it in the box to be asked questions? Mr Mallett of Moorland House in Otley Road was suggested but he declined so Mr John Bruce, a person "who always acted with the decorum of a church elder" was next suggested. Every hand in the audience went up in response. So John Bruce came on stage and, by some miracle, when the box front was reopened, his head was smiling at the audience from within. "How are you neighbours, I am glad to see you", he said.

"The audience could not believe their eyes, their staid saintly neighbour, last seen holding forth in the pulpit of their village conventional and here before them, grinning out of a box".

Mr Knight then asked Mr Bruce if he would like to say a few more words and the latter replied, "Mr Knight, I Have a favour to ask you. Will you promise when you put my head back on my body, you will be sure to put it right way forrard ? I have always tried to walk my way straight before my neighbours and they would cry shame on me walking on a Sunday to the Chapel with my head looking t'other way !"

Mr Knight answered that he would most carefully replace the head, looking the right way, closed the box and left the room. He was convinced that the audience had no doubt Mr Bruce's head alone had been in the box. Even the Bradford Observer, which had sent a reporter to the event, made interesting comments in the paper on the next

morning. After some kindly remarks on the entertainment generally, the reporter wrote, "Mr Knight then introduced a box, in which he exhibited some very naturally constructed wax heads, that appeared to look and speak most naturally!"

What had originally been written as diary memoirs for the benefit of his family in later years have turned out to be fascinating reflections of life in Eldwick many years ago and we are indebted to his grandson for the privilege of being able to share and enjoy them.

## PLANNING

09/0113/NMA01

Non material Amendment to planning approval

09/0113/OUT

To shorten front garden to approved dormer bungalow by 4.5m to account for discrepancy in original plans at Farfield Cottage Glen View Rd.

09/05737/FUL

Construction of a stable block for horse isolation/ rehabilitation and new dwelling for supervisor at land to the East of Whitecroft Farm High Eldwick

09/05778/HOU

Change of use of existing garage to annexe to main house with external alterations to include dormer windows at Low Head Otley Road

09/05929/HOU

Internal alterations and extension at 2 Southway

09/05934/FUL

Division of existing house into two, demolition of extension and construction of a new house at 2 Timble Drive

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Issue No 374 January 2010

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: [eldwicknews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eldwicknews@yahoo.co.uk)

## THE TRAVELLING NATIVITY

We are pleased to report that the travelling nativity did go ahead despite atrocious weather conditions. The donkey could not make it nor could some other members of the cast. However thanks to the Reverend Chris Lowe and her team the show did go on and the intrepid group made their way up Otley Road to the Memorial Hall where they were told by Mr. Mirfield that there was no room in the Memorial Hall or Birches, and anyway their public liability insurance did not cover childbirth, so they had better make themselves comfortable at the back of the Sunday School. They did as they were told and enjoyed a bonus of mince pies and mulled wine in the Sunday School. Carols were sung, the story of the nativity was told and all who had made the effort to attend did enjoy themselves. The nativity was followed by carols in the Memorial Hall with the usual excellent brass band music and a visit from the large bearded man dressed in red.

Later on Christmas Eve the Christmas Music turned more to Jazz with the Robert Suddall Trio, featuring the excellent



singer Lauren Spink in Birches.

There were of course the traditional Christmas Services in the Churches, in all, something for everyone, and all free!

Thanks again to all those people who gave up their time to make Christmas in Eldwick a very special time.

## VILLAGE SOCIETY AGM

In December the Village Society held its 31st AGM. An account of the activities for the year was given. The Village Society produces this newsletter and thanks were given to all those who advertise, contribute and deliver the newsletter. Special thanks were given to Angela Lawless of Highlight Type Bureau who actually makes this publication happen, without Angela there would be no Newsletter. Among the other activities are the Bonfire where the Society works in partnership with Birches and we are pleased to say that donations from the profit have now been made to the Bingley Sea Scouts, The Tennis Club and the Eldwick Juniors Football Club. The Society would continue to meet regularly with the Neighbourhood Police Team to discuss priorities for policing in the village. We were still involved in improving the centre of the Community i.e. The Memorial Hall and Birches. We are working much more closely with Bradford Council through the Shipley

Area Coordinator's Office and are glad to report that we were now able to fund IT equipment, which is now being used by organisations in both the Memorial Hall and Birches. We will continue to support the Fun Run and the Gala by cremating sausage!

The audited accounts were presented.

The elected officers are:

Tony Clegg Chairman, Allan Mirfield Vice Chairman, Chris Bailey Treasurer and John Edwards Secretary.

## LITTER BINS

Following negotiations with the Council we the Village Society have been able to acquire two litter bins which have been placed at the top of Sheriff Lane and further down the Lane at the end of Lodepit. Dog walkers will be glad to hear that dog waste can be placed in these bins as long as it is in a secure plastic bag. We are sure that this will help a great deal in solving the problem of dog mess especially in the lane below Woodlands.

## ELDWICK SNOW PHOTOS

BY BOB HOLT



**PLEASE NOTE change of email address for the Newsletter**  
[eldwicknews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:eldwicknews@yahoo.co.uk)

## 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)

*Paul Rae* C.A.R.P.E.T.S

*Please call Paul on 07778 568845*

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