



Issue No. 337 December 2006

The Eldwick Village Society Newsletter.

Email: Eldwicknews@aol.com

# Merry Christmas to all our Readers

## Why not hold your business meeting or social event in Eldwick?

Birches is now available during the day for your exclusive use for business meetings, social functions, celebrations, funerals etc. There are good lounge bar facilities, good hospitality and a range of catering available. There is a private car park.

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**Ring Mike Harrison for details**  
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[www.thebirchesclub.co.uk](http://www.thebirchesclub.co.uk)

## BIRCHES

Osley Road, Eldwick 7td 01274 561265

### BIRCHES EVENTS

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
*tickets are now  
available in the club.*

**FEBRUARY FEST**  
with Oompah Band,  
Saturday 17th February



### MONTHLY EVENTS

**50's Club**, has nothing to do with age!  
**Quiz Night** on the first Thursday of every month at 9p.m.

**CAROL SINGING IN THE MEMORIAL HALL 6.00pm – CHRISTMAS EVE**

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## Eldwick & Gilstead Horticultural Society

### 2007 will be gardeners' delight for horticultural society

At last month's AGM we welcomed our new president, John Pullin, who succeeds the tireless Dorothy Isaac. And after 13 years' service at the society's equivalent of the till in Arkwright's shop, treasurer John Churchman handed over the ledgers (still in the black) to Michael Sutcliffe. Thank you to both Dorothy and John for their tireless contribution.

Before he took up the president's reins, John Pullin served as programme secretary, backed up by four specialists Sheila and Stanley Varo. Here's what they have put together for 2007:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 16 January   | Alan Mirfield <i>Eldwick Gardens of the Past</i>                              |
| 20 February  | Peter Holden <i>The Good, the Bad and the Beautiful</i>                       |
| 20 March     | Chris Abbott <i>A Garden for all Seasons</i>                                  |
| 17 April     | Trevor Nicholson <i>The grounds of Harewood</i>                               |
| 28 April     | Spring Fair   |
| 15 May       | Adrian Helm - <i>The International Tree Foundation</i>                        |
| 19 June      | Evening visit to a garden in the Aire Valley - <i>details to be announced</i> |
| July         | Coach trip to Cheshire - <i>date and details to be announced</i>              |
| 25 August    | <i>Annual Show</i>  |
| 18 September | Ken Green - <i>Autumn and Winter Colour in the Garden</i>                     |
| 16 October   | Les Barnett - <i>Wild Flowers of the Yorkshire Abbeys</i>                     |
|              | This will be an audio-visual presentation with questions afterwards.          |
| 20 November  | <i>Annual General Meeting and Faith Supper</i>                                |

All our meetings are held in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30 pm on the third Tuesday in the month unless otherwise stated. Entry costs £1 (members), £2 (non-members) and includes tea and biscuits and a raffle ticket. Why not join now for 2007 - our annual subscription is only a fiver.

M HITCHEN



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# Bob's Snippet

We did well in the sales. We got two Christmases for the price of one.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### To the Editor,

May we express sincere thanks to Allan Mirfield and his family for the superb 50 Year Exhibition at the Memorial Hall. We could have done with a full day there. Thank you also for the currant buns!!  
Tom & Barbara Bairstow

### Dear Sir

The removal of the litter bin from the pavement outside Eldwick Primary School is rubbish. We need the bin back. The new bus shelter outside Eldwick Primary is good.

John Taylor

P.S. Any chance of a barber's shop near the proposed new doctors surgery?

## YORKSHIRE COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

56 members and 2 visitors attended our meeting on the 14th November. In the absence of the Chairman, Sylvia Slater took the Chair. She began with a tribute to the late Jessie Jagger of Hawksworth, a Founder and leading member of the Association, whose funeral had taken place the previous day, with members of our branch present.

Details of the dates and times of the County and Riding Carol Services were given.

A Christmas Gift Sale was held to boost branch finances.

The largest attendance of the year was a clear indication of the popularity of our speaker, Allan Mirfield whose subject was "Annals of Eldwick" – (Annals – "a chronological record of the events of successive years"). He started with a report in the Bradford Observer in 1834 of the proposed sale of Eldwick Mill and took us through the years to the unveiling of the War Memorial in 1926, again from the Bradford Observer. We were reminded of the first Eldwick Gala and the opening of the Memorial Hall, re-using stone from the, by then, derelict Mill. A fascinating picture of the village before the developments of the past 40 years.

**Next Meeting  
Tuesday 9th January 2007**

"The Eden Project" with D. Metcalfe. Start the New Year with a pictorial visit to the amazing "under cover" garden in Cornwall. Visitors and new members very welcome. Our very Best Wishes to all for a Joyful Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

On Thursday a coach left the Memorial Hall in Eldwick. On board were members of Eldwick and Gilstead Thursday Afternoon Club, they were on their way to Langho for an early Christmas lunch.

The venue was the Mytton Fold Hotel where we have visited previously, set in rural surroundings not too far from Clitheroe it has proved quite popular with the members.

It has the virtue of not being too long a run but through some very pleasant country side, a good meal and then a relaxing drive back to Eldwick.

At the next meeting we shall have a talk by Bob Osbourn on Modern Victorians.



Some members of Eldwick and Gilstead Thursday Afternoon Club enjoying Christmas lunch at Mytton Fold Hotel, Langho, near Clitheroe.

## BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE North East Area Intelligence Bureau INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

North East Area HQ, West Gate  
House, Grace Street, Leeds LS1 2RP  
Tel 0113 2479716 or 2479719  
email: ne-aib@btp.pnn.police.uk

### HIGH VALUE CABLE THEFTS

Since September 2005 there have been numerous thefts of copper cable from railway lines throughout the North East, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire areas of England; particularly around Knottingley, Doncaster, Sheffield, Gateshead and Seaton Carew.

There have been many major disruptions and delays to the services provided by the railway companies due to the signal and points failures these thefts cause.

Due to the weight involved, the thieves will require vehicles to carry away and dispose of the stolen property.

There have been a number of arrests made, but it is believed that there are numerous people involved in these thefts, and that they have sites

established where cable is burned or stripped to remove insulation before being taken away for sale.

We need as much information as possible on these crimes to help us protect the safety and security of the rail network and its users. If you have any information, please use one of the contact methods on this page.

**BTP Control Tel: 0800 40 50 40  
Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111**

## PHONE SCAM

All Neighbourhood Watch members are asked to be aware of this new scam.

If you receive a phone call on your mobile from any person, saying that he or she is a company engineer, or telling you that they're checking your mobile line, and you have to press #90 or #09 or any other number. End this call immediately without pressing any numbers. There is a fraud company using a device that once you press #90 or #09 they can access your "SIM" card and make calls at your expense.

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# ELDWICK METHODIST CHURCH

Activities at church ...

## REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

2nd Fri Friday Walk 9am

3rd Sun 9.15am Holy Communion

4th Sun 9.30am BIG BREAKFAST

Last Wed 7.30pm Adult Youth Group

Monthly Bible Study Wed Evenings

Hand Bell Group 'The Belles'

Alternate Tues -

## FUTURE SERVICES & EVENTS

Morning service, Junior Church &

Creche @ 10.30 am every

Sunday, Fairtrade stall

7—9pm Youth Group



## December

Friday 22 Dec Bradford wide  
International  
Christmas Festival  
Centenary Square  
10am - 3pm

24th 9.15am Christmas Breakfast  
10.30am Nativity Service  
11.30pm Midnight Service  
to welcome Christmas Day

25th 10.00am Christmas Day  
Service at Bingley  
Methodist Church

## January

7th 10.30am Annual Covenant  
Service

Members of St Lawrence's will be  
joining us for worship

14th 10.30am Rev Barbara Walls  
21st 9.15am Early Communion  
10.30am Mr David Varley

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

28th 10.30am Mr John Anderson

## SOCIAL EVENT

WINTER WALK - Saturday 20th January



One of the trees from the Christmas Tree Festival at Eldwick Methodist Church.

## JUNE MARSHALL

23-6-1923 – 21.11.06

One of the great things about living in the same village for a very long time is that neighbours become good friends – an extended, loyal family who weave a supportive, subtle web around each others lives.

June Marshall, who died on November 23, was my close neighbour for almost thirty years. She was always there for me in times of need. June was always there for everyone who needed her. She rejoiced in our achievements, sympathised with our sorrows, shared in the joy of the births of our children and grandchildren. June was always by our side – unobtrusive, helping, guiding and listening during the roller coaster events of our lives – marriages, divorces, sickness and death.

Over the years she contributed much to the Eldwick community. One of her great successes was being instrumental in the setting up of the Birches Club.

June's good looks, her dark hair, vivacious smile, her laughter, her big ear rings, glamorous sweaters, scrumptious scones, jams and cakes cheered us all up. We found peace in her garden.

A sunbeam at the Alhambra in her younger days, she continued to shower her beams of sunshine, love and friendship into our lives. The generosity and quiet kindness June showed to many of us will never be forgotten.

Elisabeth Chidsey 2006

## *A thought for Christmas from Eldwick Methodist Church*

We get so busy at Christmas the thought of doing something else can just fill us with horror. There are gifts to buy and wrap and send, cards to get in the post, baking to be done, food to be bought (because the shops are closed for all of two days). However, Christmas isn't really about these things so here's an idea! As you write each name on each card or gift tag say a little prayer asking God to surround that person with his peace and love and give them hope for the year to come. By just doing what you already do in a slightly different way maybe Christmas will take on a deeper meaning for you.

Dine out the Indian Way in High Style

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# St. Lawrence's News

A happy Christmas to all readers of  
Eldwick Newsletter!

## Services for December and January

### DECEMBER

17th 8.00a.m. Holy Communion

10.30a.m. Nativity Service  
(Hugh Fielden)

6.30p.m. Carol Service

24th 8.00a.m. Holy Communion

11.30p.m. Midnight Communion  
(Hugh Fielden)

25th 10.00a.m. Family Communion  
(Hugh Fielden)

31st 10.30a.m. Morning Worship

### JANUARY

7th 8.00a.m. Holy Communion

10.30a.m. Covenant Service at  
Eldwick Methodist  
Church

14th 10.30a.m. Holy Communion  
(Andrew Clarke)

21st 8.00a.m. Holy Communion  
10.30a.m. Morning Praise

**17th December** There will be mulled wine and mince pies after the Nativity Service and between 3.00 and 4.00p.m. we will be carol singing around the Oak Glen and Agincourt Drive estates with Eldwick Methodist Church.

**Christmas Eve** Carols with orchestra at Eldwick Memorial Hall, 6.00p.m. led by Ruth Parry and Hugh Fielden.

**Christmas Day** Family Communion with Hugh Fielden.

**St. Lawrence's Church Hall** is available for hire for community events (at £9.00 per hour) and for children's parties (one payment of £30.00). To make enquiries, contact our bookings secretary, Mrs. A. Shoebridge on 564690.

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## Did you know there is a Ladies Choir in Eldwick?

Eldwick Ladies Choir has been singing in Eldwick for over 52 years. The choir was started by a group of ladies from the Women's Institute – nothing to do with the famous 'Calendar girls!'. Ladies from Eldwick and Gilstead, and some from further afield, have been singing in the choir since its formation in January 1954. The choir's first public appearance was in June 1954, competing at the Robertshaw Musical Festival. One of our members who was there for that first competition is still in the choir today! Forty years later the choir sang at the Festival again, and this time we won first place and then had to worry about where to keep the silver cup safe for 12 months. Would you believe that, after passing it round and admiring it, we buried it in a secret place until it was time to return it!

The choir was very popular in the area in the 50s to 90s, giving concerts in the Eldwick Memorial Hall (sometimes in aid of the Memorial Hall funds), and in church halls and school rooms around the district. Sometimes concerts were shared with the Gilstead Male Voice Choir. Annual concerts were held in the Bingley Arts Centre when the Bingley Male Voice Choir joined us. They rehearsed in a room at the Ferrands Arms and some of the men would adjourn there at the concert interval – one or two being totally lost to the second half of the concert! In those early days the choir competed in many choral festivals in the region, travelling as far as Harrogate, Ripon and York.

The choir has always been very good at supporting local and national charities

with donations from the proceeds of concerts, and until a few years ago we also held an annual 'ploughman's lunch' in the Memorial Hall to raise funds, in particular to increase our donations purse.

Since the late 1980s the choir has rehearsed in the St. Lawrence's Church Hall under the leadership of Mr Keith Newell, and accompanied by Mrs Shirley Yeadon, who has now been playing for the choir for over 30 years. There have only ever been three conductors. Initially there was Mr Sykes from Baildon. In 1971 Charles Whiteoak of Bingley took over the baton for over 20 years, and when ill health forced his retirement in 1990 Mr Keith Newell from Eldwick became our conductor. There have only ever been three accompanists. Miss M. Walker accompanied the choir for the first two years, then Mr H.H. Gott was with the choir until 1974. Mr Gott was in his 80s when he retired and Mrs Shirley Yeadon took over this important supporting role at the keyboard.

The nature of concerts and competitions has changed as the years have gone by. A few years ago the choir visited Bolton Priory to sing evensong on two or three occasions, and we also gave a concert at Fulneck Church at Pudsey. More recently we have restricted our concerts to one at Christmas and one in Spring, held in St. Lawrence's Church Hall and followed by a buffet supper. We meet on Friday evenings from 7.15 to 9.15pm from mid September to early December and then from mid January to early May – we do like to have a long summer holiday but we meet up a couple of times in the summer for a meal and a chat! We sing a mixture of two or three part songs, some old, some new, some from the musicals, nursery rhymes and humorous pieces, and carols at the Christmas concert of course. We are a very friendly group, and on rehearsal nights there is a lot of fun and laughter as well as some serious singing. We don't make people audition to join us, but we do give new members a warm welcome. So if any new or existing residents in the area would like to give their voices an airing please do come along on a Friday evening, or, if you prefer to talk to someone first, telephone Keith Newell on 01274 563324 or Shirley Yeadon on 01274 562225.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas Children's Disco on Friday 1st December, held at the Memorial Hall. It was a huge success raising £250 for Manorlands. The children were a credit to their parents and school. When buying pop and crisps they were all polite and well mannered, they even asked where the bins were. At the end of the night there was not one crisp packet or plastic cup on the floor. Well done!

People on the whole seem to have very little patience with children and teenagers. They seem to forget that manners should be used by ALL ages. Good behaviour often seems to be ignored while bad behaviour always gets the attention, but not this time!

J. HOGG

## VILLAGE SOCIETY AGM

The AGM was held in Birches on Monday 4th December. The accounts were audited and accepted as a true financial record of the year. The chairman made mention of the sad passing of Bill Brier who was a Village Society stalwart for many years. He stated that the only role that the society really fulfilled these days is that of publishing the newsletter. He thanked all the contributors and the valiant army of volunteers who go out in all weathers to deliver the newsletters and especially the advertisers for their support. It is now possible to view the newsletter by logging on to the Birches website at [www.thebirchesclub.co.uk](http://www.thebirchesclub.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)

## CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Eldwick Methodist Church Hall is available to the community – please contact the booking secretary Phil on 774526

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