

# Eldwick Newsletter

Village Society

Issue No. 497 October 2020

Welcome back, even though, for the moment we may be an electronic version. Sadly, It has not been deemed safe to allow our deliverers to do their work.

Hopefully we will have the traditional printed version of the Newsletter when it is deemed safe to deliver it, maybe before Christmas.

PLEASE CONTACT US AT [news@eldwickvillage.co.uk](mailto:news@eldwickvillage.co.uk)



Like most organisations Eldwick Village Society has had very little to do this year. The Cheese and Wine Evening was the first to go with lockdown, then Eldwick Gala, the Beer and Banger Festival and more recently the Bonfire and Fireworks Display.

We have been able to make a few donations from our reserves, but we have had little income as a registered charity.

Thinking forward, planning will be more short term, perhaps with smaller events and maybe on a more regular basis. It is better to think of what we can do rather than what we cannot do.

The Newsletter was last printed in March. Obviously in lockdown it could not go out. We are looking at various ways to communicate news for all the organisations within the village. We have a robust website [www.eldwickvillage.co.uk](http://www.eldwickvillage.co.uk) and [eldwickvillage](https://www.facebook.com/eldwickvillage) on Facebook. We would like to thank Chris Roberts of The Eldwick and Gilstead Facebook site for sharing some of our articles with the community. A form of the Newsletter will be on the website and can be downloaded for those who do not wish to read it online.

## DONATION TO YAA

Eldwick Village Society, like many charitable organisations, has had a disastrous year in terms of income. Following our usual events, supporting the Gala, The Beer and Banger Festival and The Eldwick Bonfire we would usually be able to make a substantial donation to The Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Last year we donated seven thousand pounds bringing us very near to our target figure of fifty thousand pounds over ten years.



This year we have had to dig deep into our reserves to raise two thousand pounds from our reserves. This has now been donated to YAA.

## THANKS JANUS INTERIORS!

At going to press we have already received a very generous donation of five hundred pounds from one of our major sponsors Janus Interiors.

## SPONSORSHIP FOR ELDWICK JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Eldwick Village Society are pleased to be involved with the Eldwick Juniors Football Club. EVS will be sponsoring kit for a junior team. We hope to be able to share the successes of the Club with you through the Newsletter.

On 25th October 2020 the YAA turns 20!  
To celebrate we are holding the  
**YAA Virtual Balloon Race**  
and we would love you to take part

Purchase your balloons from our online shop or contact our office if you would like to purchase balloons for a group, company or organisation

£3 each

Race starts at 12pm on 19th October 2020

Click Here to visit our Virtual Balloon Race event page to find out more

**PRIZES**

1st Place: £100 B&M Voucher (Donated by Doncaster Lakeside)  
2nd Place: Marley Stir It Up Record Player  
3rd Place: Betty's Gift Box (Donated by Betty's Northallerton)

There will also be a bonus prize for 4th Place

For details: [www.yaa.org.uk](http://www.yaa.org.uk)

## DELIVERERS

The Newsletter has a team of volunteer deliverers who go out in all weathers, delivering over twelve hundred copies. The weather has not been the problem but COVID certainly is. I thank all of our deliverers for their patience and hope that they will be busy again soon.

## PLANTING

The Village Society has donated two hundred and fifty pounds to the Town Council as a contribution to the planters in the village. They have been excellent again this year thanks to Carlton Nurseries. The Millennium Stone is planted by Sally Robinson of Lighthouse Gardens and sponsored by EVS. Thanks Sally.

## POPPIES

We hope to do our usual poppy display throughout the village with even more poppies purchased for this year.

## MANY THANKS TO

Nigel and his team at Eldwick Post Office for providing such an excellent service throughout the pandemic. Also thanks to Mike Harrison at Birches for keeping the pub running seven days a week.

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

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## ELDWICK & GILSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Sadly the show didn't go ahead and the September meeting was also cancelled. We still have hopes for October and the AGM in November. Photos taken by Sally Robinson.



Late colour on Villa Road



It could have been a boring patio



Lady Emma Hamilton rose



Harlow Carr hybrids



A colourful mix in a small border



Phyllis Bide rose

Not subtle colouring here

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

**8 NOVEMBER 2020**

At the time of writing, it seems unlikely that Remembrance events this year can go ahead as they have done in the past.

In order to keep everyone safe, The Eldwick Church will not be gathering at the Eldwick Cenotaph this year. Instead, we will be marking the event with an online service to honour those who have given their lives for us. You are warmly invited to join us on YouTube at 10.30 am on 8 November. Just type 'The Eldwick Church' into the YouTube search bar.

**At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.**

## BINGLEY JANUS CLUB

As President of Bingley Janus Club, I had the pleasure of introducing Mike Bamford, one of our members, who gave us a talk about the electricity industry on Thursday 12th March; and that was the last time we met in the Memorial Hall.

Now the local lockdown for Bingley has been lifted, it is time to consider whether we should re-start our Janus meetings in the Memorial Hall. However most of our members are in the vulnerable age group being 70 and over; and quite a number have also been shielding, so it is not a straightforward process for us even though the Memorial Hall have put in place various covid-19 guidelines for our safety.

Therefore, in order to make future meetings viable, our committee feel that at least 30 (thirty) members must be willing to be present at any future meeting, and I have been asked to canvass our membership accordingly.

Please note that if you would be willing to attend in person in the Memorial Hall this autumn starting on a date still to be determined by our committee, please email me at: [johnmuggleston@hotmail.com](mailto:johnmuggleston@hotmail.com) with the single word "YES".

(No reply and I will automatically assume that your answer is "NO".)

If you do not have access to the internet, please text me on: 07789036583

Thank you for your patience.

Keep smiling and stay safe.

John Muggleston.

President of Bingley Janus Club



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## Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association

Hello Ladies

We hope you are all keeping as well as can be expected in these strange times.

Unfortunately it does not appear that we will be able to meet up for a few months. Hopefully, perhaps by New Year, it may be possible to have a get together with a Quiz and Tea & Biscuits and a chat. We will keep you informed in future newsletters or by phone.

If anyone knows of a Member who is not well, please get in touch with Maureen our Chairman (01274 591055) or Kathleen (01274 653853).

Take care all of you. We will meet again.

Our love to you all

Regards from

Maureen and our Committee.

### MEMORIAL HALL

Obviously the Eldwick Memorial Hall was "mothballed" over the lockdown period. However we have been able to completely redecorate both inside and out. Peter Marriott has done an excellent job even relining the car park,

The Eldwick Memorial Hall Ltd is a registered charity and relies entirely on funding from lettings and rents. We are gradually picking up some of our regulars, but at the moment, we cannot take casual bookings for social gatherings which again is one of our main income streams. COVID regulations are in place and are being adhered to.

If you are interested in booking the Hall please look on our website

[www.eldwickmemorialhall.co.uk](http://www.eldwickmemorialhall.co.uk)

email

[bookings@eldwickmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@eldwickmemorialhall.co.uk)



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## NEWS FROM THE ELDWICK CHURCH

Although the building has been quiet over these past months, The Eldwick Church has not been asleep!

Early in lockdown, we set up the prayer field on the Church lawn. Many people said that they had received great comfort from 'planting' the crafted blooms or sitting quietly in the garden. We have been touched by so many folk who contacted us with poignant stories; some being unable to attend the funeral of a loved one due to restrictions. Churches further away also contacted us about our idea and prayer gardens have appeared in parishes from North Yorkshire to Devon.

In May, we embarked on a steep learning curve to produce our 'magazine-style' weekly online services which are posted on YouTube and Facebook. Who would have thought at the start of 2020 that your local church would have its own YouTube Channel! There have been memorable contributions from guest speakers and interviewees – including a very early appearance from Nigel at Eldwick Post Office. Many thanks Nigel, for helping us kick off this new initiative which has offered a different and accessible way of being in Church during the pandemic.

Rev Peter Mayo-Smith retired at the end of July. We streamed his last service on 2nd August: you can still view this on YouTube or on our Facebook page. We are so grateful for Peter's three years of ministry with us and wish him and Eileen a happy retirement when they move to their new home in North Wales. We are waiting until more of us can gather together to present our gift to them. (We will definitely do this before they move, even if it has to be outside!)

We were delighted to see the Villages Pre School reopen in July – albeit with reduced numbers. Thanks to Jane and all the hard work she puts into ensure that the children can attend safely. Jane comments, "Having re-opened in June 2020 with reduced days

and staff team, it is now lovely to be back Monday - Friday and operating under our 'new normal' guidance. The children have settled amazingly well, which is a tribute to their families, the children themselves and our team of practitioners at pre-school. We have missed the smiles, laughter, cuddles, and sense of fun that young children bring with them to pre-school, so thank you for making us feel 'complete' once more!"

Going forward, we plan to continue our online services which premiere each Sunday morning at 10.30, or at a convenient time thereafter.

You can now attend services in person (also at 10.30 am) but we are limited to a congregation of 25. If you wish to join us – and you would be most welcome – please can you let us know in advance by emailing our office at [office@eldwickchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@eldwickchurch.org.uk) Alternatively, drop into the Church for personal prayer anytime on Thursdays in October 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm. Stay for a few minutes or longer, as you prefer. Please wear a facemask.

Moving forwards, we are currently working with some of our hall hirers, considering how best to safely open our spaces again to the groups who use them.

Prayer requests can be submitted via [eldwickchurchprayer@gmail.com](mailto:eldwickchurchprayer@gmail.com) Requests are forwarded anonymously to our prayer team.

General enquiries:

[office@eldwickchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@eldwickchurch.org.uk)

Telephone 01274 422015

Keep up with everything we're doing. Find us on Facebook @TheEldwickChurch & Twitter @EldwickChurch or look on our website <http://eldwickchurch.org.uk>

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# ELDWICK'S MILNERFIELD

## THE WARREN PARK ESTATE

In Warren Lane the Warren Farm was on the west side of the lane, stretching back to Gilstead Moor Edge. It had a second access from Park Road and its fields occupied the whole of the late 1950s Heaton estate. It was the construction of Clarendon Road which eventually caused the late 18th century farmhouse to be demolished.

On the east side of the road, almost opposite Warren Farm, the Warren Park Estate was developed in 1862 as a gentleman's residence for William Gath, a worsted manufacturer. The single building on Warren Lane, bearing the date and his initials, always had the impression of being a lodge and has ornate exterior and interior features. To the north, the recently named Slate Quarry Lane, led to a house, coach house and stables. Conjecture has always been that the 'house' was just a farm house but an 1869 advert for sale by auction gives a different picture of a whole estate. The land was surrounded by stone walls and ornamental plantations. There was, on the west side, a substantial stone house with two sitting rooms, kitchen, scullery and servants' rooms on the ground floor. On the first floor there were four bedrooms and, in the basement, extensive cellars. The farm buildings on the east side comprised an enclosed yard with mistsals for 16 head of cattle, stabling for three horses, coach house, cart sheds, piggeries, etc. The grounds had been laid out with flowering and evergreen shrubs as well as fruit trees. There was a never failing supply of spring water and an extensive range of glasshouses. On the 1893 OS map the symbol for glass is shown attached to the west end of the block of buildings and on an 1885 sale plan of adjacent land, a pond is shown at the opposite end.

The advert explains all was originally laid out by William Gath but suggests the site was eligible for a gentleman's residence in the centre of the estate. If that was the case it says 'the present residence, standing on the west side of the property would serve as a farm-house or lodge'. This is strange, because the small house on Warren Lane was obviously a lodge. Neither could it be a two storey four bedroom house. William Gath had a large family who would have lived in the main house. He left his wife and family in 1866 after being made bankrupt and divorced, fleeing to South America where he soon

remarried.

The 1869 wording says the house and gardens were occupied by Mr J. Wilson Smith and the agricultural land and buildings by Mr Skirrow. At that time Mr Wilson was renting Castle-fields Mill in Bingley but also was a partner of another company which owned a mill in East Morton. That company failed which is presumably why the Warren Park Estate was for sale.

In the 1871 Census the estate was occupied by Benson Varley, aged only 28, described as a designer in the textile trade and he later became a mill owner. In the house the family comprised his 26 year old wife, four children aged between 7 years and a three week old and a nurse. From 1877 the estate had James Fairbank, a coal merchant from Allerton, whose relation, Henry, was farming at Drake Hill in Heights Lane, Eldwick so is that why James arrived nearby?

By 1881 James was at both Warren Park and Heights, presumably Drake Hill, farming 170 acres at Warren Park. Ten years later he was a gentleman farmer and it was said he bought land in West, North and East ridings so he lived at Appleton Manor in Appleton Le Street near Malton. Yet in 1894 when a daughter married, it was stated James, her father, was 'of Appleton Le Street and Warren Park'. As a widower in 1901 he was listed in the census as farmer and colliery owner, the latter probably his source of wealth. The Fairbank family in Allerton lived at Allerton Grange and had long been in the coal business. When he died in 1903 he had 'considerable estates' leaving £50,000 in his will and was buried in Bingley Cemetery. James had also been a Bradford Councillor and was a partner in Henry Briggs brick makers. Arabella Fairbank married into the Briggs family, which eventually took the story into the 20th century. Arthur Briggs, presumably as landowner, used to come to see his Warren Park estate, some of which was rented by



The Lodge, part of the Warren Farm estate

the Robinson family of Gilstead Lane End Farm. The late Mrs Robinson told of this gentleman, arriving on the bus, smartly dressed in suit with gold watch and chain, to take tea with her.

In 2000 the Warren Park Estate came on the market with Dolittle and Dalley of Kidderminster as agents. Contact was made, after Mrs Robinson had said one of the trustees of the estate was a member of the Fairbank family and had a London address? Sadly the company replied, only saying the trustees had no wish to engage with information. At some point the estate was sold off, the tiny 'lodge' and the Slate Quarry Lane buildings converted into three dwellings. Also the land north and south of the buildings was first sold for the construction of the Gilstead Middle School, (now Eldwick Primary School), and, subsequently for the huge development of the Swan Avenue housing estate in 2004. So the Fairbank/Briggs Trust would have accumulated considerable wealth, benefitting both James and Arthur.

ALLAN MIRFIELD

Allan's Eldwick New Era book is on sale at the Eldwick Food & Wine shop, Warren Lane £11.99.

**FRIENDS OF PRINCE OF WALES PARK** have added a new Patio Seating Area. This is adjacent to the tarmac public footpath opposite the entrance to Gilstead Moor. It has been funded by a People's Postcode Lottery Grant. Manningham Concrete donated topsoil for the landscape to be seeded.

## INTERIOR PAINTING AND DECORATING



Also

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by *Chris Bettles*

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