

Ellerker NEWS

Issue No. 10
Spring 2000



A roundup of news from around the parish

Who lives in a village like this?

Why do you live in Ellerker and what if anything, would you like to change? Or perhaps a better question would be: what should stay as it is? It became evident to me, when there was a proposal to move the goalposts from the small to the big playing field, that there can be strong feelings held which are not often openly expressed — and that is just one example. Others are the new Church flagpole; changes at the Black Horse; the footpath surfaces in the centre of the village; the verge mowing; dog fouling of public areas; parking; vehicle speed limit and other traffic problems.

Please write to the Editor at Ellerker News, Sebastopol Cottage and say what are the five best things and the five worst things about life in the village. Your thoughts will be treated as confidential unless you write OPEN at the top; anonymous entries will be ignored; but a summary of all valid responses will be published in a future issue of Ellerker News. The Parish Council do their best to represent the people of the village, regrettably they are frequently ignored by Council in Beverley, however your written views may be useful to them in getting an understanding of what people in the village want from their local environment.

For me one of the best things about living in a village like Ellerker is the strong sense of community, which is so unfortunately missing from many places. This community spirit was exemplified in the concert which ran for two nights in the Village Hall at the end of January. It was obvious that many people had put a lot of effort into this production — and it was very well worthwhile.

— *Ed.*



10 Laps for the Dogs

On Saturday 26th February we, Jodie & Adele Sewell, Jazz & Jelly Rose decided to raise money; we decided to raise money for South Cave Dog Rescue. Also we had to decide how to raise the money. We thought about lots of things, in the end we decided to do a sponsored walk. Plus how far and where we were going to walk. We all decided that we would walk round Ellerker village ten (10) times. In the coming new week we went round for sponsors. Saturday 4th March we decided that'll be the day we do the walk.

On Saturday 4th March at 1:05pm we all set off, we said to each other that we will have a break after 5 laps, when we had done the 5 laps we finished at 2:35pm, we had a 10 minute break. After those 10 minutes we were off again at 2:45pm to do the other 5 laps, we were all getting tired on the seventh lap but we kept going and at 4:05pm we completed the final lap.

The final amount raised was £150.82.

Jodie, Adele, Jazz & Jelly

Village Hall

It seems along time since we first talked in committee, about replacing our ageing heating unit and also the front doors. The question of approaching the National Lottery Charities Board for a grant was discussed. The grant would be to update the heating system, replace the front doors, but more important to make the hall user friendly for people in wheelchairs. This would be to provide a ramp and toilet facilities. Facilities that are a must in public buildings today. Many hours went into form filling by the committee also our independent referee, Miss Rita Nicholls. The outcome as you know was an award of £12,500. The cost of the

building work was £16,000, this does not include the heating system or the architect's fee. We did apply for additional funding from other sources, unfortunately without success. The additional money then being taken from our National savings account. The work is now finished, carried out to a very high standard by Mr F. Hunt, Builder, of Elloughton Tel: 01482 668201. I hope you agree with the Chairman and committee, that the completed work enhances the appearance of the hall, but more important it is now accessible to everyone. The ramp and conversion to one of the toilets might look as if we have gone over the top. The plans were drawn up by the architect, passed by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council planning department, also by the NLCB as being the current regulations for this type of facility. We hope that whilst the building work was in progress that it was not to inconvenient for you, if you did experience any difficulty, we can only apologise. The date to commence building was not something that we could control. We are now as I write in the process of painting the entrance hall and toilets, when we are finished with the decorating we shall have an official opening, (date to be announced later.) We look forward to your continued support, now satisfied that access is available to all, whatever age or level of fitness. Finally, don't forget that Mrs Jessie Puckering will be pleased to take your booking for your children's party, family gathering, wedding reception, etc.

- DC

Parish Council

Police update - Chief Inspector Steven Tipple explained the current structure and the way funding is likely to affect staffing levels, he expected cuts would mainly affect middle management. The Surgery at South Cave Town Hall is very poorly attended. The modernisation of the radio system is likely to be very expensive - but essential. The Council asked for his support in their repeated requests for a lower speed limit in the village and he agreed to pursue the matter.

Caravans - Change of use at Waudby's Caravans requested by Wandahome; to become Caravan Sales. There is concern at the way the change may affect this site, especially with its proximity to the dangerous junction.

Bus Shelter & Noticeboard - A Bus Shelter has been requested for a site at, or close to, Hilltop and it is being considered in conjunction with the request for a 2nd Parish Council Noticeboard (in addition to the



one on the Village Hall). If permission for erection is given by East Riding of Yorkshire Council Highways, a meeting will be arranged with local residents.

Litter Bin - Like Dr. Who's Tardis, a new bin had suddenly appeared on the Green. This had apparently been requested by an anonymous person a year earlier and East Riding of Yorkshire Council decided that it was justified. We await to see if the bin requested for Ringbeck crossroads appears in a similar fashion.

Kingston Communications work - There was some consternation at the way work had started without any consultation with the Parish Council. KC representatives had been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting but they had declined at the last minute. An ugly grey pipe had been placed across the beck in a prominent position; a letter from the Parish expressing their unease had been sent to KC. The grey pipe was subsequently removed.

Cave Lane Footpath - A site visit was held with Mr. Lister of East Riding of Yorkshire Council. With a number of villagers he toured this and other areas of the village which are considered to have problems. His responses were not very encouraging. Many thanks to people in the village who had written to the Parish Clerk about the former existence of the Cave Lane footpath, 13 letters had been received.

Parish Paths Partnership - A report had been produced by Tim Pickles. This recorded the current state of the 5 Definitive footpaths in the Parish and made suggestions as to how they could be improved and maintained. A site visit by the East Riding Parish Paths Officer has taken place and the recommendations have been approved in principle. Costs for the work will be obtained for East Riding of Yorkshire Council to approve and pay when the work is done.

Humber Flood Bank - This is to be raised by about 600mm and will necessitate the widening of the base. The Council have asked that the widening be carried out on the side nearest the river so that the pasture land nearest the railway is not diminished and so that as many as possible of the mature Hawthorn trees can be preserved.

Planning - All households in the village should now have received a circular about Ellerker's Conservation status. There is an application for change of use for Waudby's Caravans (see above). Woodale Farm's new garage: questions

were raised about the building materials to be used and the fire escape. Willow Garth: request to fell Willow trees close to buildings.

Neighbourhood Watch - The Chairman, Mrs Lynn Waddingham, was congratulated on the Ellerker Neighbourhood Watch Group receiving a national award.

- TJP

Yorkshire Countrywomen

Ellerker branch of the Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association had East Riding Councillor Mrs Rita Hudson from Elloughton to speak on Pottery. She was in charge of Hammonds Wedgwood Department for a period of years and regularly attends Ellerker Parish Council meetings, representing us at Beverley. The competition for a jug, provided a very varied display. Mr Beaumont from Wetwang spoke in February on his experience as an evacuee, moving from a deprived area of Hull to a stately home environment and in March Mrs Newall brought a suitcase full of fans, ranging from black mourning fans to showgirl feathers.

Mrs Friend will continue as Chairman and the annual subscription is to be raised to five pounds.

- MD

Playing Fields

The Playing Field Millennium year activities started with the Children's Christmas Party on 8th January. Thirty children attended and after tea and a special visit by Father Christmas, enjoyed musical chairs, musical bumps and spontaneous games organised by Paddy Hall.

In the autumn of 1999, we received a report from RoSPA concerning the state of the play equipment on the smaller playing field and although, with some minor expenditure, most of the facilities came up to the minimum standard, we were strongly encouraged to provide some protective surfacing underneath the swings, the see-saw and the turning bars

On 2nd February, the Committee visited Askham Bryan College near York, to see the very wide range of playground equipment available. There was an equally wide range of absorbent surfaces to see in situ, which made them much easier to evaluate. As a result of this visit and subsequent meetings, outline plans have been drawn up and quotations obtained to update the facilities on the playing field We are particularly mindful of the conflicting interests of providing suitable and attractive equipment for the children of the vil-



lage to use and enjoy and the residents looking on to the Greens, the debate concerning moving the goal posts from the small field to the larger field being a case in point

The committee hope to be able to show their preferred plans and other options at an open meeting to be held, either at or prior to the AGM on Wednesday, 17 April at 7 30pm. We hope that as many residents as possible will be able to attend the meeting to give their views, particularly those whose properties front onto the Playing Fields and all those living in the village with young children

The cost of providing a recommended protective surface is high, for example it would amount to approximately 50% of the cost of installing a new set of swings The much cheaper alternatives of shavings or bark are also being considered, but we have been advised that foxes and cats find them very attractive places to do their business and they are only a temporary solution as they have to be constantly replenished.

The Playing Field Committee's main source of income to maintain the two fields. The Annual Barn dance will be held on Friday, 23rd June 2000 at White House Farm, the White Horse Ceilidh Band has already been booked, so please make a note of the date.

Forthcoming events:

AGM, Monday, 17th April at 7.30pm

Jumble Sale, Saturday, 13th May at 2pm

Midsummer Barn Dance, Friday, 23rd June, 8pm

TC-T

Millenium Group

Have you bought your Millennium Commemorative Mug yet? There just a few left now — available from Greens garden Centre. Also on sale and very popular, the Eat with Ellerker recipe book, did you see the excellent write up in the Hull Daily Mail? As it noted "real food for real people"!

The Ellerker and Hilldales Village Day is on Saturday, 15th July and starts at approximately 1pm with a Family Fancy Dress parade from Mill Hill. Yes, Mums and Dads and Children are invited to join in the fun, dressed in futuristic outfits — more details later. All past Ellerker residents are invited to this special day, so please let them know about it. The Millennium Time Capsule is now filling up and shortly will be buried again (the first interment was done accidentally when it

was empty!). If you have any items you would like have considered for inclusion please contact Janet Green.

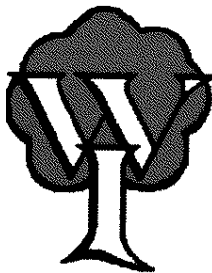
- *DHWG*

Women's Institute

The new millennium has started well for Ellerker WI. We had a lovely meal at our January meeting where our local poet, Phil Copeland, entertained us with his prose and stories. January also saw our first jumble sale of the year which, as usual, was very successful.

Ellerker WI came third in this year's Spring Bulb Show and Mrs Jessie Puckering and Mrs Mavis Cooney excelled once again at Line Dancing, gaining their Gold Medals.

At the February and March meetings we had talks from local baker, Richard Skelton, and hypnotherapist, Robin Shields. Richard had a tough job judging the competition as the members produced some delicious heart-shaped shortbread. Robin had an equally difficult job, this time judging old-fashioned remedies – potions, concoctions and brews ranging from the delicious to the quite bizarre!



- *YM*

St. Anne's

We celebrated the start of the Millennium with a floodlit church and the Union Jack flying in the churchyard. This was a means of showing our last respect to a millennium that had witnessed the partial death of this Union. Questions soon started to be asked - if Beverley Minster and St. Mary's were flying of St. George, patron saint of England, why were we out of step in Ellerker? Well, the answer is, we were celebrating the erection of our Millennium Flagpole with the Union Jack as a parting gesture to a United Kingdom. During Lent we are concentrating our minds on the Kingdom of God, the living, glorified Christ who lets us share his life and sustains us on the way.

He certainly sustained us during our Millennium Concert. Less 'Dutch Courage' was in evidence this year. Who would have believed that the first Millennium St. Anne's Man would be prancing about in his underpants. Thankfully they were a good fit - well better than the B&B looking like a

pawn shop that had lost a third of its equipment.

Names are permitted this year. David continually inspired the production committee to invite as many artists as possible to take part and reinforced our stamina with his and Claire's food for thought. Needless to say David worked tirelessly to make this year's two night production a great success and he is now using his stage name, Michael Flatfoot to encourage additional participants to display their talents in 2001!

The literary skill challenge cup certainly will be presented to our step carpenter whose presence will always remind us of Parson Peter's Vicar's Knickers on the Flagpole. May his knickers fly for evermore. It's a good job he purchased them from the appropriate charity shop.

With the income from this Millennium Concert we have now approximately 80% of the cost of refurbishing the church roof. An Evening of Brass with the East Riding of Yorkshire Motor Services Brass Band on Friday 28th April 2000 will enhance this refurbishment fund within striking distance of our target figure. Please will you give this concert maximum support so we can refurbish the church roof as soon as possible, with the necessary financial security to complete this major millennium refurbishment project. Donations of raffle prizes to Frank Barratt and additional financial donations towards the roof will be warmly accepted by him. To celebrate St Anne, the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Grandmother of Jesus during the Millennium Year we have invited the Bishop of Hull to preach on Sunday 23rd July prior to the Feast Day with St. Joachim her husband on the 26th July 2000.

This St. Anne's Day celebration will be an opportunity for floral decorations. Please let us know if you wish to exhibit on this special Millennium Day. The Millennium Committee have also requested that we similarly decorate the church during the Ellerker Millennium Weekend on 15th and 16th July 2000, so please choose your weekend to help us make this a colourful occasion.

Future planning includes Open Gardens in the spring of 2001, Orchestral Concerts/Recitals in the church and a visit to Taize near Cluny in south-east France, open to any teenagers in the village who would like to experience this Christian Community of Reconciliation. Weekly inter-continental meetings bring together young people from numerous countries, those in the summer drawing up to 6,000 participants at a time. We'll keep you posted. Please let us know if you

are interested.

Forthcoming Events:

28th April 2000,
An Evening of Brass at Brantingham Park.
23rd July 2000,
St. Anne's Millennium Day Service with the
Bishop of Hull.

- MB

Millennium Tree planting

All the trees are now in the ground and ready to re-start their growing. This was a mammoth task, with 210 trees to plant, and there are many people to thank. To the Landowners who gave permission to plant trees on, or adjacent to their land. To Tony Barratt who dug many of the holes in which to plant the trees. To Suzy Healey who provided stakes and guards for the trees. To the people who were involved in the planting: Jake Jackson, Philip, Katy and Bethany Wood, Ricardo Rodriguez, Dennis Cooney, Jim Acey, Tim Pickles, Harry Hotson, Louise Mitchell, Bill and Yvonne Morris.

Trees were also provided for their own planting to: Chris Bradley, Angela Puckering, Suzy Healey and Julie Blanchard. At Blanchard's Stables the Horse Chestnut trees grown by the village children have been planted, these will eventually grow to a size where they can provide shade for the horses. The Horse Chestnut which won the children's competition, grown by Zed Richards, has been planted down Sands Lane. The varieties of trees planted in Sands Lane and beyond Sands Bridge are Oak, Ash, Sycamore, Mountain Ash and Alder. Those planted down Ings Lane are Silver Birch, Ash, Beech, Sycamore, Mountain Ash and Alder.

The trees were purchased from funds raised by the Millenium Group and a number were donated by Greens Garden Centre, the weed mats



at the base of each tree were given by Mark Green. Thanks to all who participated in any way with the planting. At the moment the trees may be hardly noticeable, but in 20 years time they will be a real feature of the village.

David Green, Ellerker and Hilldales
Millennium Group

Easter Litter MacPick

**It's official — MacDonalds will
sponsor us for the litter pick on Saturday,
22nd April!**

If you wish to raise money for your favourite charity, please register with Tim Pickles by 12th April, saying which charity you wish to support.

For each full bin bag collected on the day MacDonalds will pay £1. You will join the picking team at your own risk, but gloves, picking sticks and bags are provided (by East Riding of Yorkshire Council).

Last year we collected 56 bags in total over the Easter weekend, let's hope we can do the same in one day this time!

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.
- TJP

Acknowledgement

Many thanks to British Aerospace for their assistance in producing this publication. - Ed.

Song Thrushes

This attractive bird is becoming scarce across Britain. Its song is often associated with spring and its short verses, usually sung in threes, are a sure sign of rapidly lengthening days. Their number has reduced across the country by almost two thirds in the 16 years between 1981 and 1997, so that now it is quite a treat to see or hear one. If you have one singing in your garden please let me know.

Tim Pickles (422585)

Spring dawn

I climbed up the hill in the darkness, a
little while before day-break.
I sat down at the top with my back

to the trees, overlooking the vast plain of the Vale of York five hundred feet below, still a black void save for a pin-point of light issuing from an isolated farm-house kitchen.

There was a slight mist, and the only sound was the dripping of the moisture from the trees behind me.

I sat there enjoying these quiet moments, the smell of damp earth and grass sweet to my senses.

A lone owl swooped silently by, making a last foray before settling for the day in a crotch of his favourite tree.

A hedgehog trundling through the litter of dry leaves and twigs under the trees sounded like a miniature tank in the silence.

As the first sign of light appeared in the eastern sky it silhouetted the edge of the trees as I looked in that direction.

The silence was broken as usual by a black-bird; his first notes as clear as the pipes of some mythical Pan.

One by one the others joined in, swelling the sound, until the majesty of the dawn chorus filled the air. It surely must be one of the most beautiful sounds on earth.

As the light increased the valley below unfolded before me, and even the power stations twenty five miles away, with a bit of imagination, could have been distant castles rising from the mist.

The first rays of the sun itself creeping over the horizon caught the edge of the trees, glistening on the pristine green of the new leaves, as yet un-sullied by summer's dust, and shining through the moisture still clinging to the lower edges, appeared to etch them with diamonds.

The bird-song diminished as quickly as it had begun, as that joyous heralding of a new day gave way to the constant search for food. Only the seemingly

tireless lark, which had already risen on high, was singing, and the odd yellow-hammer still calling for a bit of bread and no cheese.

The sound of a tractor leaving a farm in the valley below; the plaintive cries of lambs and bleating of their mothers in the pastures; and the occasional bark of a far-off dog.

A kestrel began covering his territory with wide over-lapping circles, hovering in each one, looking for an unwary mouse or shrew for breakfast.

And another day of wonder had begun.

*Reproduced
by kind permission of
Philip Copeland*

ELLERKER EVENT DIARY APRIL — JUNE

April

- 4 Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17 Playing Field AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 28 An Evening of Brass at Brantingham Park

May

- 3 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 4 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13 Playing Field Jumble Sale, Village Hall, 2pm
- 23 Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm

June

- 1 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23 Barn Dance, White House Farm, 8pm

Ellerker News, funded by 7 Ellerker village organisations, produced for the benefit of those living in Ellerker and Hilldales.
Editor - Tim Pickles (422585) Funding & Distribution - Jim Acey (424380)

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor