

Ellerker NEWS

Issue No. 26
Spring 2004



A r o u n d u p o f n e w s f r o m a r o u n d t h e p a r i s h

Yorkshire Countrywomen

Ellerker YCA has just completed its 20th Anniversary year.

In February Mrs Audrey Jamson, formerly of Ellerker, spoke about its formation and history in a very entertaining way. An anniversary cake, made and iced by committee member Helen Malcolmson was cut by former chairman, Mrs Margaret Friend.



In January we had a change from tradition and had a Bingo Evening with Betty Pybus as caller and a fish and chip supper in the interval organised by Jenny Winn.

March saw a talk by the great grandson of William Boyes, on the progress of the family shops from one in Scarborough to the current twenty-eight in the North Eastern area.

We look forward to another successful year, with our annual subscription held at five pounds once more.

- MD

Village Hall

The first quarter of 2004 has got off to a good start for the Village Hall. The refurbishment works in the kitchen have been completed, with just a few 'snagging' jobs to be done. We think you'll agree that it looks very smart and judging from the compliments the Committee has received, "Joe Public" seems to think so too! The next job of work on the list is to redecorate the actual Hall itself.

If you came along to "Fanny Hill", the latest offering from The Leeds Library Theatre Touring Company, we hope you enjoyed it. The evening was a roaring success, which

assisted a great deal with the Committee's fund-raising efforts. Many thanks go to all involved who helped make it such an enjoyable evening. The Touring Company has a new play underway, a John Godber production, so we hope to hold another event in the latter part of the year. If you'd like to be put on the mailing list for such events, just contact the Secretary (Yvonne Morris on 422130).

Last but not least, the Committee will be holding a jumble sale on Saturday 20th March in the Village Hall. Doors will open at 2pm and entry is 20p. Plenty of bargains guaranteed!

- YM

St Anne's

Today is the tenth anniversary of the ordination of women. The general synod will soon be debating the retention of flying Bishops appointed to care for those members of the Church of England who find women in this role difficult to accept.

The Archbishop of York has recently supported their continuance and reminded us that ordained women clergy should be treated with the respect they deserve. Since my ordination as a priest we have witnessed the appointment of the first gay Bishop in the USA with a live-in partner and a committee has been set up to consider the impact of this on the World-wide Anglican Communion.

I personally hope that this will not lead to any change in the structure of the Church as we know it at the present time, but needless to say it has become a hot potato in some peoples' minds. I will be sticking to my broad church attitude and await the outcome of the committee's recommendations. We have a pastoral responsibility to care for all God's children and I hope that

this ethos can be preserved within the ONE communion.

The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Williams has also completed his first year in Office and he soon found himself in the middle of this controversy of the Jeffery John affair. He believes that many people had been taken aback by the strength of feeling against the nomination and of the high personal cost to them. The only thing that had kept him sane as he attempted to be a "sort of vicar for the whole country", while also trying to hold the Anglican communion together was doing the next thing that had to be done, "as carefully and prayerfully as possible" he said. He will soon no doubt hear that a priest, two church wardens, a church treasurer and two Sunday school teachers had to strip to their under pants in a village show to support the mission of the church.

If this doesn't tip the scales, whatever the American Church does will be a mere fleebite. St. Anne's PCC is especially grateful for all the support we had in making this years show so successful and particularly the fellowship that was generated amongst the whole village community. Including a donation the concert raised approximately £2,500, this will go to support the 'fabric' of the church building. Thanks must go to the Producer and Scriptwriters, without them the show just wouldn't get off the ground.

Our Mother's Day Service on the 21st March at 9.30am, will be our next special event, to which all mother's are invited, and will receive a priceless gift of creation. Our Easter Day Service on the 11th of April at 9.30 am., will again be a warm family occasion with our treasurers return from midwifery duties in the USA.

- **MRB**

Women's Institute

Over the last three months we have welcomed many new members from Ellerker and the surrounding villages. Included were some members of Elloughton-cum-Brough W.I., which has disbanded, sadly. Their loss, but our gain!

In January, Phil Copeland entertained us with his stories and we had a pie and pea

supper. Two very helpful and informative staff from the Pensions Office came in February to explain all the recent changes to pensions and benefits. They ably dealt with all the questions. Terry Richards returned in March with more 'nostalgia' – this time T.V. favourites from the 50s, 60s and 70s.



Preparations for the W.I. Rally at South Cave, at the end of May, are underway. The theme this year is 'Conservation – this green and pleasant land'.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday April 7th at 7.30pm, when Fairfield Travel will present 'Hannah Hawkswell Country'. The competition will be for 'a pretty cup and saucer'. Come and join us – for further information contact our secretary Yvonne Morris on 422130.

- **PH**

Ellerker Local History

The Local History Group, which meets every quarter, is finding out more about the origins and history of the buildings in the village. For more information about joining the Group contact Tim Pickles (422585).

- **TJP**

Grapevine

Contact Shirley Forster (423860) or Margaret Green (423776) if you wish to subscribe to the monthly Church newsletter 'Grapevine'.

- **Ed**

Parish Council

Beck Cleaning

The regular removal of vegetation from the bed of the Beck is essential to prevent flooding during heavy rainfall. If you find that you are able to spare a couple of hours one or more Sunday mornings during the Spring or Summer to help tidy the Beck as part of an informal team, please contact the Clerk or any member of the Council who will let you know the dates for 2004. Refreshments provided!

Bridges



In response to our enquiry, ERYC Highways have confirmed that they are responsible for the maintenance of all bridges over the Beck. We await the first 'test case' to see what effect this has. NB. We now understand that wooden footbridges are excluded!

Notice Board

The 2nd Notice Board is due imminently and should be in place before the end of March.

Planning Applications

- 1) Church House - Demolish existing and erect new double garage – 2nd Application - APPROVED..
- 2) Mount Airy Business Park – Change of use - APPROVED.
- 3) Keeper's Cottage, Dale Road, Brantingham – Extension - APPROVED..
- 4) 1 Croft Cottage - Extension – 3rd Application – APPROVED.

Mill Hill Salt Bin

A 2nd Salt Bin for Mill Hill has been provided and the original one has been moved closer to the dangerous bend where gritting is particularly important.

Parish Council Clerk

The new Clerk for the Council is Terrie Williamson of Satis House, Main Street. She will officially take over from Dick Cathcart on Thursday, 1st April 2004. Dick will retain a watching brief for a few weeks to ensure a smooth handover.

AGM and Village Assembly

All residents in the village are warmly invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Council in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 13th May 2004.

Village web-site

ERYC have offered free web space to the Council. Tim Pickles has agreed to take this up and in conjunction with other village bodies design a site which will act as a directory to anyone wishing to obtain information about the village organisations and local services.

Polythene tunnels

Concern was expressed at two large plastic tunnels which have been erected in recent months, one blue and one green. The Clerk is to make enquiries about the status of the

blue one in a garden at the top of the hill. It is understood that the green structure near Ring Beck crossroads is a 'maternity tent' and therefore is temporary.

Mobile Phone Masts

Concern was expressed at the plans to build a mast adjacent to Water Lane bridge. One member was perturbed at the way cables had been laid to service the Hutchinson 3G/ Gridcom mast on the pylon on Brantingham Road. At one point a large power cable has been run over the beck only held out the water by being propped up by a short piece of piping.

Next meeting: AGM and Village Assembly, 13th May 2004 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

- TJP

Playing Fields

The Christmas Party went well, 30 invitations went out and there were 22 replies. Everyone who came got a special present. As usual it was held on the first Saturday after the schools returned in January, it must have been one of Father Christmas's last visits before he went back to the toy factory.

We finally evicted the Moles from the Green. They made their first appearance at about the time of the Wedding reception held on there in May 2003 and even left a present by making a mole-hill inside the marquee. Their tunnelling was starting to make the surface unsafe and would have made the grass difficult to mow if they had remained.

The three litter bins have been repaired and re-treated with wood preserver, thanks mainly to John May. We wanted to retain the original steel and wood versions rather than going for the plastic ones, which seem to be the ones on offer from East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The very popular 'Grey Fergie' tractor has finally given up the ghost after developing a serious crack and has had to be removed. We are considering what we should replace it with.

A national 'compensation culture' has developed in recent years, which many regret and as we know from recent news is seriously affecting our Education system and the NHS. It is even making an impact upon

the Playing Field. Not only does the Committee have to insure against injury claims for users of the Playing Fields, we also now have to insure every event that we run just in case someone is injured and they decide that the event organiser is liable. This will affect the Sports Day, the Christmas Party but especially the Barn Dance. It will also be the responsibility of anyone who uses the Fields for an organised event to ensure that they have their own Public Liability Insurance cover.



The Barn Dance is the main money-earner for the Committee so the threat to its future is very worrying. Alternative events are being considered in order to raise the £1,500 per year which is needed to keep the Playing Fields ticking over, including Caravan Weekends and more Wedding Receptions on the Green.

For the last 8 months the Committee has been considering the transfer of the Trust (technically the 'Custodian Trusteeship') from the Charity Commission to the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA). The NPFA would have no more control over the running of Playing Field affairs than does the Charity Commission but there are benefits which are not to be sneezed at. They will provide Legal Advice, Technical Advice, an Annual Inspection and Public Liability Insurance – all Free of Charge. They are obviously experts in their field so the first two of these benefits will be very valuable when we need this type of advice. The last two benefits are easily measured financially, since we currently pay just under £600 per annum for our Insurance and the annual RoSPA Inspection. As far as we are currently aware there are no drawbacks to the transfer, although some members of the Committee are cautious about making the change. We have contacted one Playing Field Committee who have already made this switch successfully and we will be contacting another two to see if they have had a similar experience. If the Committee reach a decision to recommend the transfer, a meeting will be called to give the whole village an opportunity to make their views known.

The Annual General meeting will be in held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall on Thursday, 22nd April. If you care about the future of the Playing Fields please come along, make your views known and perhaps join the Committee and make your contribution to the village community.

– PW & SJW

REFLECTIONS

On thinking of things that used to be
Of favourite haunts in days gone by,
To visit again the scenes of youth
You may be tempted bye and bye.

Yet if you go, you're sure to find
It's not at all the same place now,
And shattered dreams would round your fall
And disappointment crease your brow.

It's better by far — let memories stay
Safe in your heart and lock the door,
Lest it be broken by the truth
That what you knew is there no more.

PC

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Philip Copeland*

Acknowledgement

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– Ed

ELLERKER EVENT DIARY APRIL — JUNE

April

- 1 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 WI, "Hannah Hawkswell Country", Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 Easter Day Service, 9.30am, St Anne's
- 22 Playing Field AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm

May

- 5 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13 **Parish Council AGM**, Village Hall, 7.30pm

June

- 2 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 3 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm