

January 2012

Edition 3

# Eldon News

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## Special Interest Articles:

Community Awards

Photographic Competition

Village Green Applications

## Eldon Community Centre

*Did you know that Eldon Community Centre has a Cafe which is open on Wednesdays & Fridays between 9.00 a.m. and 12.45 p.m. for breakfast, lunch and take-away meals at very reasonable prices?*

*The Centre can also cater for special occasions, including - weddings, birthdays, engagement parties, social events, children's parties, bereavement receptions and company meetings or conferences*

*Catering hygiene at the Centre has recently been awarded 5 stars, so you can book your event with confidence.*

*Room hire, buffets to order and a bar service are all available. Community Centre telephone – 01388 775955 or ring Diane on 01388 773309 or Ronnie on 01388 777462.*

## Good Neighbours?

Do you have a good neighbour who is always helping others and deserves a special mention? Someone who has worked hard in our local community?

Nominations are invited for the Eldon Parish Community Award. Two awards are on offer – one for young people up to 16

years of age; the other for people aged 17 years and above. The winners will each receive a plaque and a £100 shopping voucher.

You can nominate someone **who lives within the Parish** either in writing or by sending an email to the Clerk at the address below.

Please tell us the name and

address of the person you wish to nominate; their age and, **in not more than 250 words**, why you think they deserve an Award. You should also include your own details.

The deadline for nominations is **29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**. The winners will be announced in March.

## Get Snapping!

The Parish Council wants to see your favourite photographs of Eldon.

If you have taken any photographs in and around Eldon Parish over the last year or so, why don't you enter them into our competition? We hope to have a Parish Council and Community website in 2012 and would like to put some images of Eldon onto the web-pages. There are 3 prizes of £65

of shopping vouchers on offer – one prize for each winning entrant.

If you have any photographs you would like to enter into the competition, please send them to the Clerk, with your contact details. You can submit black and white or colour prints by post to the address below; alternatively, you can email your images to the Clerk, preferably in jpeg

format. Photographs must be your own work. The closing date for the receipt of photographs is **29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**.

Judging and the award of prizes will take place in March. In submitting photographs, it will be assumed that you have consented to their use on the Parish Council and Community Website if they are selected.

## The Disappearing Bus Stop?

You may have noticed some of the steel panels in the bus stop on Eldon Bank have been missing.

Three panels were stolen overnight on separate occasions in July and August 2011 after thieves drilled out rivets holding them in place. The police have been informed.

The removal of the panels may be linked to a series

of metal thefts in the area.

Because each panel was stolen on a separate occasion, the Parish Council's insurers apply a policy excess of £250 per claim - £750 in total, which the Council would have to pay if making a claim.

As the cost of replacing the three panels and welding them (and the other panels) into place is

£800, plus the cost of repainting, the Parish Council has decided to fund the repairs from its existing budget. Sadly, this means that other projects will suffer.

If you have any information about the thefts, please contact Shildon police. Or, you can ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Happy New Year!

Eldon Parish Council would like to wish all residents of Eldon Parish a very happy New Year.



Mr Thornton receives his Best Kept Garden Certificate from Councillor Vernon Chapman



Mr Spears and his Grandson with their Certificate from Eldon Parish Council for the Best Flower Garden

## Village Greens

The application for registration of the land behind the community centre as a village green is now with the County Council and awaiting a response.

The application to register land opposite New Row as a village green was sent to

## Parish Plan

Work on the Parish Plan continues. Anyone living in Eldon Parish is welcome at the Working Group which meets monthly in the Community Centre.

The Parish Plan is an important document for Eldon and will set out our aspirations for how Eldon and Old Eldon will be

the County Council in July 2011.

Following public notice of the application, the Parish Council was approached by solicitors acting for the new landowners, asking that the application be withdrawn. It is believed that local residents who

improved and developed in the coming years.

The Working Group is currently considering the Household Survey responses from questionnaires sent to households in the Parish in 2011. Many thanks to all those all responded. The prize draw winners

originally supported the application have been offered private garden land by the new owners and no longer wish to pursue the village green application.

The County Council has been advised and asked to determine the request.

were Mr & Mrs Hardy and Mr & Mrs Anderson.

We also got comments from young people at a well attended event last August when young people and their parents had a great time. The magician, police vehicles and other activities were a big success.

## Village Fun Day

The Village Fun Day, supported by Eldon Parish Council, was held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

Despite a damp start, the event was well-attended, with a bouncy castle and slide, fairground organ, face-painting and a number of stalls. The Parish Council will support

a similar event in 2012 which will also include some of the activities from the young people's consultation event held earlier in August.

An under-spend on the village fun day, meant the Parish Council was able to sponsor the Community Partnership organised Halloween Party. The

Halloween event was a great success, with everyone turning out in costume for the occasion!

The remaining under-spend supported the Christmas party for older people in Eldon Parish held in the Community Centre. Thanks to all those who took part in and organised these events.

## Garden Competition

Judging for the Parish garden competition took place in July and August, 2011.

The judges were impressed with many of

the gardens on show, all of which contribute to making our Parish a better place to live in.

The winners, by category, were Mr & Mrs T Rigg

(Best Vegetable Plot); Mr & Mrs M Thornton (Best Kept Garden); and Mr & Mrs D Spears (Best Flower Garden).

Congratulations to all!

**Harry Robinson** – We are saddened to report the recent death of Harry Robinson who was a guiding force in the creation of Eldon Parish Council and was its first Chairman. Our condolences have been sent to his family.

### Contacts:

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