



LIGHTING UP TIME GREAT GET-TOGETHER AGAIN

*Where
Villagers'
views make
the news*

TOURIST INFO

Two years ago this month, our front page lead story was the closure of the Saltaire Tourist Information and Gift Centre at 2, Victoria Road. Now we have learned of a new plan for a 'TIC' in the old Mill dining hall, next to the station

– which is unlikely to open before 2010. Councillor Martin Love has asked for the issue to be placed on the agenda for the next Saltaire Project Team meeting. Roger Clarke has been investigating.

See page two >>>

For the second year running, Saltaire will have its own community Christmas tree, in the grounds of the Victoria Hall, the illumination of which will be a grand public spectacle.

The Grand Switch On will be on Saturday 6th at 4.30pm. Maria Glot will be switching on the lights and Bradford Festival Choral Society will lead the carol singing, accompanied by the Gawthorpe Brass Band. There will be free mulled wine and mince pies served afterwards.

OPPORTUNITY

"The event provides a great opportunity for everyone to come together in celebrating the beginning of the festive season in true Saltaire style", says David Worsley, who has once again been hard at work for some time now bringing his idea to fruition.

Over the weekend of the 6th and 7th, the Hall will host a Craft Fair, featuring nineteen stalls of crafts and gifts as well as demonstrations by several of the participants. Organiser David Harrison, who hopes to be showing his own skills in leather carving, told us:

"We have been working with the Christmas Tree Committee to arrange the times of the Grand Switch On of the lights by way of arranging to keep the Gawthorpe Brass Band to play at the event."

MUSIC

Music will be provided throughout the day by Ian Beddow on guitar and keyboards, as well as by the brass band who will play a variety of music, including carols.

Keep track of the Living Advent Calendar by visiting: www.saltaireinspired.org.uk/livingadventcalendar Meanwhile, photographs of the past two years' participants can be seen on the Saltaire Village Website [address on page four>>].

In this issue
**CAROL SERVICES
AND CONCERTS**
Plus
ALMSHOUSES
Plus
**ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

FOLLOWING CALENDAR MADE EASY

Locating the twenty-four properties which, from the first of the month, will be taking part in the Living Advent Calendar, will be easier than ever before this year. Maps showing the locations of all the windows involved will be available all round the Village, and the Calendar now has its own website, which will help to keep track of the progress of the windows as they open.

WHATEVER IT IS – SAY IT IN THE *Sentinel!*

E-mail: saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

Deadline: 20th

SALTS **MILL**

Opened 1853
and still

Open Every Day
Attractions include

SALT'S DINER
Cafe in to the
Opera

SALTAIRE HISTORY
EXHIBITION

1853 Gallery
AND MUCH MORE
ADMISSION FREE
01274-531163

VICTORIA **TEAROOMS**

8 Victoria Road
Open Daily
01274-823092

PETER **RANDALL**

Gentleman's
Hairdresser
AND MORE !
205 Bingley Road
01274 - 597140

VICAR'S

79 Victoria Road
The café/bistro
serving
food for thought
ALL ages welcome
01274-597818

The SPA

21 Titus Street
The Authentic
Village corner shop
Mon-Sat 8.30am - 10pm
Sunday 10am - 10pm
01274- 826534

TOURIST INFO SHORTFALL

Well known tour guide Roger Clarke
shares his thoughts on the provision of
World Heritage Tourist Information

The recent closure of the Shipley Information Centre on Wellcroft, next to the Library, dealt a blow to tourist information in the district. Limited information can still be obtained from Shipley Town Hall where Reception staff try their best to be helpful, but it is now only concerned with access to Council services and for benefits such as Passport to Leisure applications and Blue Badge registration for the disabled. There is an area in the entrance where leaflets are on display. It is nothing like the comprehensive service which was formerly offered in the much more centrally located Wellcroft. Meanwhile, in Saltaire there is still no sign of developments to set up a Tourist Information Centre (TIC) to assist the thousands of visitors who come to the Mill and village each year. Providing information for visitors on site is such an obvious basic requirement in promoting tourism that it is difficult to see how any planner would miss it, but Bradford Council has significantly failed to give it any sort of priority or urgency over the past 10 years or more.

Roger and Anne Heald ran the Information and Gift Centre at Number 2, Victoria Road from 1993 to January, 2007, filling the gap in provision which the Local Authority failed to fill, but they have now closed this shop. There is currently only a small leaflet display in Victoria Hall, well away from the main tourist footfall in the Mill, and totally inadequate to meet visitor needs.

There are now plans to open a TIC in the old Mill Dining Hall, on Victoria Road, immediately next to Saltaire railway station. The building is part of Shipley College. This would be an ideal location, and it is encouraging to find that the Council and the College are working together to plan to develop the site. Funding seems to be the problem. **Craig McHugh, World Heritage Site Officer**, and **Councillor Martin Love** have been helpful, as always, in outlining the current state of negotiations, but the picture remains frustratingly bleak. It seems unlikely that there will be any improvement in the actual provision, on the ground, of local information for tourists or residents in 2009. **Patricia Tillotson, Visitor Economy Manager with the Commercial and Support Services Department of the Council** says that Shipley College is in the final stages of its bid to fund a £15 million project in which a TIC in the Shipley College Mill building would be a part. If the bid is successful, the TIC would be in the first phase of work, and building work could commence in summer, 2009. Assuming the most optimistic view of progress, on this timescale, visitors will still be without anywhere to take their enquiries until 2010. In the interim, local shopkeepers and staff at the Mill answer questions from tourists as best they can, but there is nothing to equal what Roger and Anne Heald used to provide, or what other centres such as Bradford, Haworth, Skipton and Ilkley have enjoyed for many years. As a temporary solution, it would be good to find the Council and College thinking creatively to work more closely with the private sector in the area, such as the Mill, to resolve the immediate shortfall. There is an enormous amount of goodwill towards Saltaire from local businesses which are proud to be based here, and their regular sponsorship of events and projects are a testimony to this. Saltaire has been a World Heritage Site since 2001. It is doubtful that you would find another Heritage Site anywhere in the world where the needs of tourists and visitors have been so neglected and ignored.

SALTAIRE **BOOKSHOP**

217 Bingley Road
Open Mon-Sat 10-5
Thursdays until 8pm
New and second hand books
Regular Events
On Thursdays 6.30-8
Authors read and talk.
01274-589144

SALTAIRE **NEWSAGENTS**

9 Victoria Road
Newspapers, sweets,
cards, tobacco etc.
Daily door-to-door
deliveries
Open Mon-Sat
6am-5pm
Sundays (new times)
8am-4pm
01274 - 595389

MAGIC **NUMBER** **THREE**

2 Victoria Road
Open Tues-Sun
Fantastic organics
01274-587313

ADVERTISING **in The Sentinel**

All the establishments featured in this column and the one opposite serve as outlets for this newspaper and are promoted on that basis. No financial transaction is involved. Enterprises and initiatives are mentioned elsewhere, as are events, in the context of their interest and benefit to the local community; not for the profit of individuals or businesses.

Please note that space in the *Sentinel* is not for sale but neither is it offered free for commercial advertising.

SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

217 Bingley Road
Festive Event

Thursday, Dec 18th
ROBIN HOOD –
The Yorkshire Legend
Explained by
Barbara Green
Mince pies, etc.

Also this month
Thurs.11th Ian Parks, poet
and author of 'The Cage'.

Forthcoming
January 8th 2009
Frank Dickinson, Nab Wood
poet: "Them Days Are Gone".
All events are on **Thursdays**
6.30-8. £2.50 admission (in
advance or on the door)
includes refreshments and a
raffle ticket for the prize draw.

WOODWORKERS' FESTIVAL SALE

**FOR SALE: REMAINDER
DOORS AND WINDOWS**

(Heritage specifications)
4-Panel back door and casing
(New) door size = 800 x
1960mm casing size 900 x
2050mm to suit masons
opening approx 870 x
2035mm **£60.00**

4-Panel Back door only (New)
door size = 678 x
1962mm **£30.00**

SLIDING SASH WINDOWS
(Ex demo!) 3/6 Pattern D01
1060 x 1690mm – Green gloss
painted and glazed **£30.00** 3/6
Pattern D01 1075 x 1610mm –
White primer painted **£30.00**
**PROCEEDS TO SALTAIRE
FESTIVAL**

Bradford Woodworkers
01274 499353

CHRISTMAS FAIR

December 6th
11am – 2pm
CRAG ROAD
METHODIST CHURCH
"Come and bag a bargain."

Seasonal Greetings
to All our readers
and contributors
from The Saltaire Sentinel

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

6.30_{pm} Sunday, December 21st
At Saltaire United Reformed Church
and at Saint Paul's Church, Shipley

Shipley Rotary Club Annual Festival of Christmas Music

(Sponsored by PACE MICRO TECHNOLOGY)
Otley Brass Band
and Shipley Musical Union

Saltaire United Reformed Church
7.30 pm Tuesday, December 9th
Tickets £4(conc. £3) ring 595600

AIRE VALLEY SINGERS present

A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS

Our popular annual selection of seasonal music with
refreshments to match

7.30_{pm} Friday, December 19th
St Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley.
Booking: 01274 563736 or 01484 717473

GLEN SINGERS
25th Annual **CHRISTMAS CHARITY CONCERT**
Bingley Arts Centre

7.30_{pm} Saturday, December 20th
Tickets £8 or £7 Call 592093 or 408809

In aid of Bradford Nightstop

ISIS PROJECT PARTY

in need of gifts
Organisers of the Isis
Project, on Farfield
Road, Shipley, are
looking for gifts for their
Christmas Children's
Party.

Isis provides an essential
service to women from all over
the district suffering from
varying degree of mental
distress, including post-natal
depression, who have been
referred to the centre by their
doctor or health visitor. One in
three people will suffer from
mental illness at one time in
their lives and it is the aim of
the Isis Project to help women
survive the trauma of mental
distress by providing time and
space within a safe and
nurturing environment, so that
healing and recovery can take
place. Via a wide range of
group activities, the users of
the centre are encouraged to
build confidence and self
esteem, and to realise they are
not alone and that there are
many other women
experiencing similar feelings
and difficulties. The centre,
which opens from 9am to
4.30pm, is unique as it provides
an OFSTED inspected free
crèche catering for children up
to the age of five.

As Christmas is coming and
our houses will be filled with
more and more presents, it
seems an opportune moment
to pass on to an extremely
worthwhile cause those toys
and games that might be
tucked away in a corner or
hidden at the bottom of the
toy box. You can be assured
that they will be greatly
appreciated by the staff at the
Isis Project and the women
who use the centre.

You can contact the centre on
01274 532858, email Susan at
susan@isisproject.co.uk
or visit their website:
www.isisproject.co.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is available online, via the Saltaire Village Website, thanks entirely to Pamela Reynolds, who manages and maintains the site at www.saltairvillage.info The site is interactive, not for profit and staffed entirely by volunteers.

PARKING PROBLEMS AT ALMSHOUSES

In February we reported on problems with car parking at the almshouses at the top of Victoria Road, arising largely from the conflict between the needs of the current population and the need to conserve the past. Shipley Community Housing Trust (Incommunities) and the Conservation Department of the Council had a difficult problem to balance the needs of the residents with the requirements of Saltaire as a World Heritage Site. An inconclusive meeting in November, 2007, has been followed by further information gathering from residents. They were asked to complete a questionnaire to identify the most needy in terms of access to their cars. The Conservation Department stated that they will look at the possibility of disabled parking bays for residents with a need i.e. disabled badge holders. Given that there is too much demand for limited resources, the Council should be complimented in its open and transparent approach to the problem. There may yet be other ways to satisfy demand, and the Council have accepted that in the interim visitors can still use the access path to pick up and set down when required.

Roger Clarke

**Saltaire History Club
CHRISTMAS MEETING
December 11th from 7 to 9pm.
Exhibition Building, Exhibition Road.
Film Producer and Director David Weber
introduces his new film, *The Story of Saltaire*.
Plus Christmas Quiz
All Welcome – and it's free!**

AWARD FOR LOCAL BUSES

Many people in Saltaire find the local public transport very good, writes Rav Wilkes. We have a modern rail service with good bus services by First Bradford and Keighley & District Travel along Gordon Terrace. If you have not yet sampled the luxury leather seated 662 service maybe the following will tempt you. Keighley & District Travel, operator of the Bradford Keighley 662 and the Leeds Keighley 760, was recently named 'City Operator of The Year 2008' at prestigious awards held in London, following scrutiny by independent judges, in recognition of passenger, revenue and profit growth whilst maintaining high levels of customer satisfaction and quality of operation generally. Further investment coupled with strong marketing activity has significantly grown passenger journeys on targeted primary services and the company's management style and culture has ensured a stable workforce which has been well supported and further developed throughout the year. The UK Bus Awards Scheme is designed to recognise and reward excellence and good practice in a wide range of disciplines associated with the operation, design and promotion of bus services. Over the past twelve years, UK Bus Awards nominees have provided excellent examples of quality and innovation. Nigel Eggleton, Transdev Blazefield's Director of Business Development, said; 'We're delighted to have won this award, which is true recognition of the hard work and commitment put in by all our staff.' Further information about the award may be found on the www.ukbusawards.org.uk website. Bus info can be found by googling either bus company or by ringing Metro at 0113 245 7878 who will answer inquiries and mail timetables to your door.

HAPPY OUTCOME FOR LUCY

Following last month's story about Lucy Bauer, the teacher with fond, childhood memories of Saltaire who had been put in touch with Denys and Eva Salt through the Village Website, **Dave Shaw** tells us that Lucy has been in touch again with news that the Salts have visited GIBS, the school in Graz, Austria, where she now works. "Denys talked to the pupils who are working on the Industrial Revolution about Saltaire for one and a half hours. He was fabulous", says Lucy. This is just the latest in a succession of happy outcome stories instigated by the website and helped along by Dave.

LIBRARY BUS

The Library Bus arrives on Caroline Street a little after 6.30 pm every Wednesday, and stays for about half an hour near the junction with Albert Road. Anyone who is housebound can apply for a Home Delivery service. For information, ring 433669.

EXHIBITION

Curiouser and Curiouser – New British Graduates, the exhibition of intriguing jewellery collections, runs at the Kath Libbert Gallery in Salts Mill until January 30th.

SALTAIRE POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

(Based by the entrance to Salts Mill on Victoria Road)

**Open Wednesday
10-00 -1.00 p.m.**

We are here to help with any problems or concerns regarding Police, Council and community issues, as well as personal safety, security, etc.

**Eco bags available now
and they are free!**

**CONTACT US ON:
01274 537416
E.MAIL:**

contactsaltaire@yahoo.co.uk

**WORLD HERITAGE
WHEELIE**

Does NOT talk rubbish



**"Don't let the Highways
Department hear about
our Christmas tree !"**