

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHURCH IS A HUNDRED AND FIFTY

*The paper
 that could
 only be in
 Saltaire*



The building known and loved by us all as Saltaire United Reformed Church (pictured above on a sunny Sunday morning) celebrates its 150th anniversary on the 13th of this month.

In this issue
**THE NORTH LODGE
 AT MILNER FIELDS**
 By Peter J Bottomley
Plus
CRICKET FIXTURES
 Plus
**ALL OUR USUAL
 UNUSUALS**

PARTY

Members and attenders of the church have been busy delivering to every household in the Village an invitation to a party, with barbecue and games, in the beautiful grounds on Monday 13th, which fortuitously coincides with the Easter Bank Holiday.

VISITOR

Rev. John Marsh, Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church 2008/09 will be an appropriate and very welcome guest when he leads worship at the church on Easter Sunday.

Probably the most photographed building on the World Heritage Site, the church plays its part in presenting a positive image of the area to the tourism industry, while its remarkable architecture shows what tremendous significance was placed upon its role by the founder of the Village. More importantly, it remains very much an active church, at the hub of local life, as witness

for example the Village Fete and the annual Carol Service, as well as the number of baptisms and weddings which take place there. It is only right, therefore, that this *Community* newspaper celebrate this historic moment - and the editor add a personal testimonial to the benefits of truly Christian fellowship which **continues** to be found at Saltaire URC.

James Duncan

EVENTS

A Service of Thanksgiving, led by the Minister, Revd. Paul Breeze, on Sunday 19th (10.30am) will be followed by an Anniversary Lunch in Victoria Hall. Other celebratory events include a Youth Arts Festival on the 24th and 25th, the launch of 150 balloons carrying prayer cards on May 31st and a non-stop Bible reading over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

A booklet charting the history of the church in the words of those who remember it is currently in preparation for imminent publication.

Watch this space.

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

E-mail: saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

Deadline: 20th

THE NORTH LODGE – FROM EYESORE TO HIGH SIGHT



The ruined North Lodge in Milner Fields has been totally refurbished in fine style and stands proudly at the top end of the estate. **Peter J Bottomley** has been to meet the new occupants.

The owner of the South Lodge said he likes the finished project and with his own house also in fine upkeep, the walk through the estate is looking like it did years ago when the place was owned by the Salts family. North Lodge has been refurbished in line with Hartley Property Trust's dynamic strategy of the regeneration of their substantial property interests in Yorkshire (made up in the main of mills and factories that once housed the Illingworth Morris textile empire). After spending £250,000 to renovate the Lodge and save it from ruin, as owners they put it up for rent and advertised it in a country property magazine.

I went to see the new occupants, a couple that come from Baildon originally with family in the Bingley area, who wanted to move back to this area from Stamford Bridge to ask them what it was like so far, living with a lot of Milner Fields history. Susan and Paul told me that their son-in-law had mentioned the Lodge after seeing it being restored and they had also seen it in the magazine, so they came to have a look, liked it straight away and decided to rent it. In August they moved in, brought their furniture and started to settle down to life in North Lodge, Milner Fields. They knew some of the history about the area and are now starting to find out more but, as Susan said, she did not really expect so much interest from the people who use the walk through the estate. "Lots of people ask about the house and if we know anything about Milner Fields, but like everyone else we only know what we find out from talking and searching the web." I told them, "Just wait for summer and then you will really find out how busy the walk gets." People from all over the place come to see the ruins or just for a walk in the area and if Susan and Paul are thinking of doing any gardening, well! I think that more talking than digging will be done, so a lot of leaning on the new fence, drinking tea and answering questions will be the order of the day. "Well," they said, "we are a friendly couple and will do our best to help with any questions that we are asked. If we do not know the answers we will direct the people to the Saltaire history web site, so get ready all you people on the chat board".

The house is a lot different from how it was originally built, with a new two storey extension at the rear and mains running water. The last people to live in the Lodge were told to move out because the water was from a spring and was not clean enough! Now the house has all mod cons, double glazing, fitted kitchen, en-suite bathroom, down stairs toilet, central heating, a gas fire in the Gothic-arched fire place in the lounge, oak flooring throughout and a vaulted ceiling to the turret which casts light down the staircase and gives the house a feeling of grandeur. French windows lead out on to a paved patio and a double wooden garage stands by the side of the lodge and fits in well with the trees and surrounding woodland. New main gates have been fitted as well as a side gate which is not locked so people can still use the route through the estate. I think the architect, designers and builders have done a grand job, the lodge stands well at the Gilstead end of Milner Fields and I hope the new residents settle in and enjoy their new home.

So if any readers of this article are walking through the estate and see the new residents, don't be shy, stop, have a natter and pass on any history you know, to them so that they can try to answer all the questions they are surely going to get.

Ps: The owls are back as well. Susan said she could hear them twit t-wooning in the trees, so everybody sounds happy.

HISTORY CLUB ENJOYED

The many people gathered for the most recent meeting of the Saltaire History Club, on March 5th enjoyed an excellent talk by **Jean McAllister**, to mark the occasion of her retirement as Principal of Shipley College, and were treated to specially reprinted copies of the commemorative programme which celebrated the opening of the refurbished Exhibition Building by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal in 1996.

The second half of the evening featured an informative lecture by **Roger Clarke** on the life and works of poet Ann Moss, still hailed by some as the Saltaire Laureate (although she never actually lived in the Village) with readings brought entertainingly and very touchingly to life by actress and dramatist **Harriet Townsend**.

The Club is next due to meet in June, when Mr **Len Morris** will share his extensive knowledge of the history of Saltaire United Reformed Church.

**PETER
RANDALL**

*Gentleman's
Hairdresser*

PICTURE FRAMING
HOUSE SIGNS
AND MUCH MORE !
205 Bingley Road
01274 - 597140

**VICTORIA
TEAROOMS**

8 Victoria Road
Open Daily
Coffee, tea, cakes,
scones, snacks and
novelty gifts
01274-823092

The SPA

21 Titus Street
*The Authentic
Village corner shop*
Groceries, sweets,
frozen food,
Etc.etc.etc.
Open Mon-Sat
8.30am-10pm
Sun. 10am-10pm
01274- 826534

**SALTS
MILL**

Open Every Day
Attractions include:
SALT'S DINER
*Cafe in to the
Opera*
**SALTAIRE HISTORY
EXHIBITION**
1853 Gallery
ADMISSION FREE
01274-531163

CRICKET IN ROBERTS PARK

Saturdays, 1pm start:
Saltaire First XI v East Bierley April 18th
v Gomersall 25th

**IDENTICAL CHURCHES – THE
PLOT THICKENS** by Jane Hedworth

Emerging from the History Club in March an elderly gentleman spontaneously started chatting as we both headed down the road to Baildon and Wrose respectively. He fondly reminisced about the days when (as I gather) there was a kind of 'show and tell' at the club. I mentioned that I hadn't been before and our conversation moved to the topic of the Saltaire church. 'There's an identical one in Italy', he interjected as I began to explain my interest. On my asking him where, he recounted that in the early 1940's (aged 14) he was working for Waites who were a building/joinery/decorating and undertaking firm near the Ring of Bells pub. Work was being done on the Saltaire church and my friend particularly recalls a Gilbert Waite. He insisted that the Waites team informed him that they had recently been out in Italy painting an identical church; unfortunately he couldn't say where. We chatted on a little before the gentleman turned off towards Baildon. A little research (with the aid of Colin and local trade directories) indicates that there was certainly a Waite and Son decorators in that area in 1938 and in 1958 there was a Waite Bros.

Trawling through pictures of all the churches in Italy is a little daunting – maybe someone out there has the time?
Jane@ www.angloitalia.com

**JUNIOR SOLDIERS ON DUTY
AT TABLETOP FOR HEROES**

Junior soldiers from Waterloo Coy, the Army Foundation College in Harrogate, will be on hand at Victoria Hall on Sunday May 3rd at a Tabletop Sale which will raise funds for *Help for Heroes*, the charity supporting our wounded servicemen and women. *Help for Heroes* merchandise will be on sale, together with many other bargains on the numerous stalls. Attractions also include refreshments and a raffle and doors will be open to the public at 10.00am.

For more information, to make a donation, donate your unwanted goods or to book your table please contact Robin on Bradford (01274) 593320 and leave a messages if there is no immediate reply.

**MAGIC
NUMBER
THREE**

2 Victoria Road
Open Tues-Sun
Full of surprises
01274-587313

**SALTAIRE
NEWSAGENTS**

9 Victoria Road
Cards, tobacco etc.
Open 6am-5pm
Sundays 8am-4pm
Daily deliveries
01274 - 595389

**SALTAIRE
BOOKSHOP**

217 Bingley Road
Open Mon-Sat 10-5
Thursdays till 8pm
New and second hand books
Regular Events
On Thursdays 6.30-8
Authors read and talk.
£2.50 includes
refreshments and a
chance to win a book.
01274-589144

**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.

VILLAGE WEBSITE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is available online, via the not for profit Saltaire Village Website, thanks entirely to Pamela Reynolds, who manages and maintains the site at

www.saltairvillage.info

CONVERSAZIONE IN JOURNAL

The Saltaire Journal, Volume 1 Number 2, published last month, presents the fascinating results of Roger Clarke's extensive research into the Saltaire Conversazione, the great social event which took place annually, from 1878 until 1964. The informative text is enhanced by original drawings by Kate Clarke as well as historic photographs. The *Journal*, published by Juvante Publications of Saltaire, is **available to download from the Village website.**

SALTAIRE POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

(At the Victoria Road entrance to Salts Mill)

Open Wednesday
10-00 -1.00 p.m.

Come along and talk, or contact us on:

01274 537416

contactsaltaire@yahoo.co.uk

ARTS TRAIL WEBSITE GOES LIVE

The website for this year's Arts Trail is now live. "We are excited about the possibilities for this year and are looking forward to another fantastic event," says organiser **David Worsely**.

www.saltaireartstrail.co.uk

STRIDING OUT FOR CHARITY

This year's Shipley Stride will be taking place on Sunday, May 10th. The sponsored walk, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, will take its usual circular route of five and a half miles, starting outside Bracken Hall countryside centre on Shipley Glen and taking in some of the areas most stunning scenery. This fantastic family event provides refreshments and facilities (but, unfortunately, is not suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs). **If you are interested in taking part**, please visit: <http://www.macmillan.org.uk> and follow the links to register online, or call the West Yorkshire Fundraising Office on: 01924 232440. **Laura Riach, Fundraising Manager (Bradford), Macmillan Cancer Support**

SALTAIRE CYCLISTS FOR PARIS

Saltaire residents Katie Owens and Laura Sutherland will be cycling from London to Paris during June (26th-29th) to raise money for the Royal National Institute for the Deaf. "We are desperately trying to raise £2000," says Katie, "and any help would be wonderful". www.justgiving.com/katieandlauratourdefrance

CONCERTS AT St. PAUL'S

The present season of regular concerts at St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley continues on **Friday, April 24th at 7.30pm** with a showcase performance by *The Baildon Players*.

The final concert of this year's season, on May 15th, will feature the ever-popular *Hot Aire*, together with music groups from local primary schools. Proceeds are for the church fabric and the fund to restore the church's historic Binns organ.

Tickets cost £5 if purchased in advance or £6 on the door. **Reservations: 01274 595416**

COMMANDO FITNESS FUN

By Joe Rayner

As of Monday, March 30th we will be returning to do all exercise sessions in Roberts Park (as this is what our clients would like) after our winter migration to Lister Park on evenings. There is a free trial always available for anybody wanting to start a fitness campaign in time for the summer holidays etc., and we still cater for every fitness level. One other thing worthy of note is that we have now prepared for our Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge in May (all 3 in under 12 hours) by conquering them all individually over the winter so we will be putting our training regime to the test. **Commando Fit is not only good exercise; it really is an excellent social group as well.**

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does **NOT** talk rubbish



"For me, commando fitness is part of the job!"

The Saltaire Sentinel is written by the people of Saltaire and photocopied by Shipley College in the heart of Saltaire **EVERY MONTH**. It is not affiliated to, nor in any way controlled or influenced by any group, society or organisation.

Sadly, sooner or later you will dispose of this copy of the *Sentinel*. Please do so with care for our World Heritage Site environment.