

# Saltaire Sentinel

Your Lion of

VIGILANCE

Published monthly

## ONGOING LEARNING SENSE PREVAILS AT VILLAGE SOCIETY

*The paper  
that could  
only be in  
Saltaire*

### STATEMENT

Highlights from the Village Society's Vision Statement, which was on display at the AGM, include hopes to see progress during the coming year towards:

a 20 mph zone to improve road safety in and around the Village; success for the Heritage Lottery bid which will facilitate improvements on Victoria Road; and a suitably located Tourist Information Centre.

The Vision Statement, which contains a great deal more, can be viewed online by following the clearly defined links from the Village Website at [www.saltairevillage.info](http://www.saltairevillage.info)

It has been "a strange year of ongoing learning" for Saltaire Village Society. This was the message with which Rob Martin began his annual address, as co-Chair, to the Society's Annual General Meeting in Caroline Street Club.

### ACTION

In a justifiably positive and optimistic report, Mr Martin detailed the many initiatives in which the Society participates in a leading role, including the current review of the World Heritage Site Management Plan, singling out "the Saltaire Four", (trees at

the junction of Saltaire and Victoria Roads, much reported in these pages of late) as a good example of how sense can be made to prevail and commenting in conclusion, "Without community action all we would have now is four stumps".

### PROJECT TEAM

Meanwhile, the Society has a clearly audible voice on the Saltaire Project Team, which was described as "getting better" and becoming "the main body to pull together local departments" for the good of the community.

[More on Page 2 >>]

### In this issue

**A FLORA FEAST**

Plus

**FUN WITH THE ORGAN AND OTHER MUSICAL TREATS**

Plus

**ALL OUR USUAL UNUSUALS**

### FESTIVAL

Speaking on behalf of the organisers, Maggie Smith allayed fears that the major works in Roberts Park will have any impact on what is already "a fully booked programme of events" for the Saltaire Festival this September.

### STREET SIGNS

The Saltaire Village Society campaign to complete the re-instatement of the Prussian Blue street signs, publicised in last month's *Sentinel* is already having some success, with four firm orders and a further number of genuine enquiries.

### Saltaire History Club

Resource Centre, Shipley College

Exhibiton Road Building

Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> 7pm (until 9pm)

Len Morris will talk about the 150 year history of Saltaire Church.

Dave King will reveal more about the Whitlams, Lady Caroline Salt's family.

All Welcome

Admission Free

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

E-mail: [saltairesentinel@btinternet.com](mailto:saltairesentinel@btinternet.com)

**Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Editorial**

**VILLAGE SOCIETY**

A masterpiece of organisation, the Saltaire Village Society Annual General Meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup> turned out to be one of the great highlights of the local social calendar, which our front page does not allow space to do justice. The co-Chair's speech was, while fully informative, of an appropriate length to allow lively discussion of matters of importance to local people and, as somewhere in the region of twenty 'agencies', ranging from the College to the Cricket Club (and including the Community newspaper), had taken up the invitation to be represented, a great deal of very useful 'social networking' took place. Entertainment was provided, towards the end of the evening, by the GMC Jazz Band (who certainly did not go unheard).

The Village Society is by no means a "closed shop". (Incidentally, the Committee was re-elected unopposed, although the point was made that further members may constitutionally be co-opted and applications are still invited.) It has, admittedly had its "quiet times" since it was formed twenty-five years ago by Clive Woods, but the fifty or so people who attended this gathering were left in doubt that it is now once more in the ascendancy as a powerful force for the wellbeing of Saltaire and deserving not only of the support but the *participation* of the community.

**James Duncan**

**Roger Clarke's Saltaire Folk  
HILTON DIXON BROOMHEAD**

[At the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service at Saltaire on April 19<sup>th</sup> a number of members were presented with a special certificate from the United Reformed Church in appreciation of their longstanding dedication and hard work. Among them was **Hilton Broomhead**, to whom Roger had already spoken for this column:]

Hilton Broomhead is very proud of his unusual name. The Hilton is after his uncle, and is more usually spelt with a "y". The Dixon is his mother's maiden name, a practice often adopted in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Hilton was born in 1926. He came to Saltaire to live when he was six years old, having been born at Hove Edge in the Brighthouse/Lightcliffe area, quite close to Sir Titus's home at Crow Nest. His father was a curator at Hipperholme Grammar School after World War I, but then applied for a job as caretaker at Saltaire Congregational Church (now the United Reformed) and Sunday School. The family came to live at 43, Caroline Street, opposite the Sunday School (now the car park), which was the caretaker's house. Since then, Hilton's life has focussed on the Saltaire church, to which he has brought skills developed in his professional career in management, in the cotton waste industry. He was a Deacon in the Congregational Church and is an Elder in the United Reformed Church. He was Secretary and then Chairman of the Finance Committee and Chairman of the Sports Club, encouraging the considerable numbers of young church members after World War II to join in cricket, table tennis, badminton, billiards and other sports.

Hilton, surely one of the longest standing church members, has seen ten ministers come and go since 1932. Perhaps his most responsible role was as a Trustee of the church, a position which he held for thirty-eight years, twenty-three of them as Chairman. The most demanding period was undoubtedly the restoration of the church during the 1990s, which cost half a million pounds. (The church cost Titus £16,000 and took one year to build in 1859.) Hilton has some fascinating photographs of the work being done, for example when the tie bars were put in place to pull the outside walls inward, and others of the restoration completed in 1959. (Photographs of the organ pipes with large gold stars painted on them show how much the church has changed over the years.)

As well as church, Hilton spent much of his time in the now demolished Sunday School. He recalls that during World War II he was unable to use it, and all classes had to be held in the church rooms. From about 1940 until the end of the war, the Government commanded that the Sunday School building be used as a hospital for casualties of German bombing raids. Fortunately, bombs were not directed at Saltaire and the building reverted back to its original purpose after the war, until it was demolished in 1972.

Hilton has helped shape the future of the church through his careful management. I find it humbling to think of the many hours of selfish work which have been invested by him, and many other people at the church, to ensure that the building remains one of the jewels in Saltaire's crown.

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**The *Saltaire Sentinel* JOHN NICHOLSON POETRY PRIZE**



Poems are invited throughout the year, with a view to publication in these pages in September, from any *Sentinel* reader. There are no stipulations regarding length or form, although subject matter should be restricted to Saltaire and/or Airedale.

Further announcements to follow.

[The *Sentinel* picture of Nicholson (above) is an adaptation of the engraving by W.O.Geller.]

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Attractions include:  
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**Saltaire United Reformed Church  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**FLOWER FESTIVAL**

This year's annual Flower Festival at Saltaire United Reformed Church will be bigger and brighter even than before in keeping with the celebrations to mark the building's 150th anniversary. Festivities will include a special concert on the Saturday and the three day event will culminate in a Renewal of Marriage Vows Service.

**Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

The Festival begins with a Preview at 7.30pm, to which admission is by £5 ticket. Musical entertainment, cheese and wine will be provided

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**

The church will be open 10am-4pm for visitors to enjoy the floral displays. Then, at 7.30pm, **CHORDIALITY** with Musical Director Peter Sherlock, present

**An Evening of Choral Music featuring excerpts from Dvorak's Mass in D**

Tickets cost £5 (£4 concessions) with all proceeds in aid of the Church Restoration Fund.

**Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

Following the morning service, which will begin as always at 10.30am, the church will remain open until 4pm for viewing and at 4.15pm the **Renewal of Marriage Vows Service** will begin, in a suitably glorious floral setting.

**For more information, telephone 593923**

**BALLOONS**

A large crowd turned out in the beautiful sunshine, swelling the congregation after the morning service on Sunday May 31st, to watch one hundred and fifty white balloons, each with a prayer card attached, launched from the church grounds as part of the anniversary celebrations – and in the appropriate context of it being Pentecost..

**FETE DATE**

The annual Village Fete, organised by church members and held in the church grounds for the benefit of the local community, will this year be held on **July 11<sup>th</sup>**, hoping to replicate the successful response of the Village Party held in April.

**HOT AIRE**

The popular musical ensemble *Hot Aire* will be performing in the church grounds on **July 5<sup>th</sup>** as part of this year's relocated 'Saltaire Bandstand' season.

**MAGIC  
NUMBER  
THREE**

**2 Victoria Road**  
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**01274-587313**

**SALTAIRE  
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Cards, tobacco etc.  
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**SALTAIRE  
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**217 Bingley Road**  
**Open Mon-Sat 10-5**  
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New and second hand books  
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**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](http://www.saltairvillage.info)

**BILL'S DAD'S SCHOOL MEDAL**

*Sentinel* reader Bill Shackleton, who now lives in Bingley, writes: I have a medal presented to my father in 1900.

On the face is the Shipley Coat of Arms and the inscription:- "Shipley School Board 1874."

On the reverse it reads:- "Presented to J. Shackleton, Albert Road Mixed School, for regular attendance during the three years to 30th November 1900."

**Bill would like to know if anyone else has a similar medal.**

**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

[contactsaltair@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:contactsaltair@yahoo.co.uk)

**HALF MOON MUSIC**

The renovation of Roberts Park in Saltaire is now well under way, and the works on the promenade have, as already publicised, obliged "Saltaire Bandstand" to re-locate for its four summer Sunday concerts, across the river to the grounds of the Church. But music can still be heard indoors in the Half Moon Café every Sunday afternoon from May 24<sup>th</sup> to September 13<sup>th</sup>. The café music will be provided by a range of local songwriting and music-playing talents. That final Sunday in September will be part of the Saltaire Festival, and as many of the summer performers as can get along will play to say "so long but not goodbye" to the Half Moon Café, which will be handed over later that week to the contractors for a big makeover. The Park and the Half Moon should be ready for an official re-opening in new glory in April 2010. Until then, the café remains open every Saturday and Sunday.

**Eddie Lawler**

**The Half Moon Cafe, Roberts Park  
Free Acoustic Music on Sundays 2 – 4pm**

14 June	Gerry Cooper	Blues Guitar
21 June	Otra	Folk Duo (plus)
28 June	Reuben & Sarah	Folk Duo (plus)
5 July	Achord/Voice Male	A Capella

**TABLETOP WURLITZER**

The ever popular tabletop sales in Victoria Hall, organised by Saltaire Cricket Club, have become yet another regular venue for live music in the Village. The next one is on **June 28th**, (10am-1pm) when, as well as "beating the crunch and having a munch" as advertised (moderately priced refreshments are available), bargain hunters will be able to enjoy music from the famous Wurlitzer. Tables for the sales can be reserved by ringing Simon on **01274 787908** or Jeff on **07730 813631**

**CRICKET IN ROBERTS PARK**

**Saltaire First XI** 1.30pm start:

Saturday, June 14th v **Pudsey St. Lawrence**

Saturday July 4th v **Manningham Mills**

*Watch this space* for details of the *Sentinel* Ball and this year's match for the *Sentinel* Shield

**ORGAN**

**CONCERT FUN**

**Keith Hearnshaw** FRCO, ARCM, the international concert organist who believes that "Organ concerts can be fun", will be bringing an exciting programme designed for new and regular listeners, to **Saint Paul's Church, Kirkgate, on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7.30pm.**

A special attraction of Keith's presentation is the High Definition video projection, which offers the extremely rare opportunity of excellent views of the virtuoso's dazzling footwork as well as keyboard expertise at the console.

The concert is one of many events which aim to raise funds for the restoration of the church's historic and unusually fine Binns organ.

**Tickets will cost £5, on the door, with a concessionary rate of £4.**

**WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE**

Does **NOT** talk rubbish



"The Village Society even claims credit for cleaning up the alleys!"

**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.