

Saltaire & Sentinel

Your Lion of

VIGILANCE

Published monthly

ALL TOGETHER NOW ONE BIG HALLELUJAH CHORUS

**THE PAPER
WITH
PLENTY
TO SING
ABOUT**

BOOKSHOP EVENTS

Peter Leach will be talking about his newly published Pevsner Guide to Leeds and Bradford, when he is the guest at the **Saltaire Bookshop, 217 Bingley Road on November 19th.** The book is the latest in a series which examines the architecture of our finest cities. The following week, November 26th, **Mark Kneale and Glyn Watkins** will be bringing forgotten railways back to life in a prose, poetry and film show entitled 'Midland Lines'.

Both events commence at 6.30pm and admission is £2.50, which includes refreshments and a chance to win a book.

A great opportunity to participate in the fine old Yorkshire tradition of standing to sing the much loved Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's *Messiah* arises this month.

CONCERT

As part of a nationwide project organised by the BBC and English National Opera, the highly acclaimed **Aire Valley Singers** are inviting everyone to "bring your copies and your voices and join us" when they perform the piece as an item in their next concert at St. Paul's Church, Shipley.

PROGRAMME

The programme for the concert, celebrating the anniversaries this year of four famous composers, includes Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, Mendelssohn's *Kyrie* and anthems by Purcell, as well as another popular piece by Handel, *The King Shall Rejoice*.

The Aire Valley Singers' concert is at St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate on Saturday, November 21st at 7.30pm. For tickets, at £8, which includes refreshments, ring (01274) 595416 or 563736.

**In this issue
WHEN IS A LOFT A
LOBBY?**

**Plus
IS HISTORY MORE
THAN A HOBBY?**

**Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

RUMMAGING WITH GOOD REASON

A Rummage Sale to be held in Victoria Hall on Sunday November 22nd will raise funds for the Plastic Surgery and Burns Research Unit at the Bradford Royal Infirmary. The sale, from 10am to 1pm, is being organised with the invaluable assistance of HTG Events, a local company better known for supplying music and entertainment for parties, weddings and corporate functions. A further twelve similar sales are planned, one a month during 2010, to mark the 25th anniversary of the

fire at Bradford City Football Club's Valley Parade ground, with all proceeds in aid of the Unit. **Dave Glenister**, Event Co-ordinator at Victoria Hall, himself a Bradford City fan who moved to the city in 1984, said, "Victoria Hall always welcomes the opportunity to support worthy causes and is particularly pleased to get behind a charity with such local significance at a time when The Burns Unit could be faced with closure without additional funding"

To book a table e-mail: enquiries@htgevents.com

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

saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

Deadline: 20th

The Saltaire Sentinel



**JOHN NICHOLSON
POETRY PRIZE**

Throughout the year, we invite readers to submit original poems on the subject of Saltaire and/or Airedale, the best of which are published in these pages. (John Nicholson is the 'Airedale Poet', who died tragically on the river bank in 1843.) Below is the second of four poems this year:

SALTAIRE

By Jim Saville

Built in the age of paternalism
for convenience and social
engineering,
A labour force near at hand,
docile, sober and God-fearing.

A place in the open country,
away from the grit and the grime.
Free from the constant pollution
and the ever present crime.

Built with the best materials
to a clearly thought out plan.
Mirroring all the best features
of that truly modern man.

Through the years they prospered.
Workers and factory combined.
Until like the rest of the industry,
the textile trade declined.

The clanking machines were
abandoned
and small firms took their place.
The growing urban population
started filling the rural space.

But here in this little corner
we know Titus got it right.
For in our own special village
the future's still looking bright.

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



Photograph of the Lobby from the Albert Bowtell collection , donated to the Saltaire Archive, housed in Shipley College, by Joyce Bowtell.

LOOKING INTO THE LOBBY

The **Kevin Cummins** exhibition in the Mill last month was a double treat: Not only were the photographs stunning, but the setting was breathtaking. **The Lobby** is not normally open to the public and so **Maggie Silver's** decision to use it for the exhibition was much appreciated. **Davina Silver** organised the exhibition and placed the photographs around the walls, which meant that the floor space was entirely open, allowing us an unrestricted view of the full extent of the gallery. It is the topmost gallery in the Mill, and at the time it was built was the longest room in the world. It is the length of St Paul's Cathedral and is almost as impressive. There is a lot of natural light through the glass roof, and it requires only a little imagination to think what it would be like when full of spinning machines. I had reflected no more than this about the room until I had an enquiry, via the Village website, from **Professor Alan McInley** from St Andrews University, who was writing a book about the impact of French philosopher Michel Foucault (1926 – 1984). Amongst many other things Foucault was interested in the link between power and control and the use of space. He considered the large rooms in prisons and many oppressive workplaces, and the Prof became very excited when I showed him images of the Lobby. He saw it not only as the most effective way of housing the hundreds of spinning machines but also of controlling the thousands of workers employed in Salts Mill. I thought that it was an intriguing thought and I had certainly not considered it before.

Bearing in mind that Titus was reputedly a bit of a control freak with all his rules and regulations, perhaps this is also an example of the same trait. There is much evidence of his generosity and benevolence, of course, through the existence of the public buildings in the village and his charitable works, but he was also a shrewd businessman who knew that it was in his best commercial interest to have control over the most variable and unpredictable of his resources, his "operatives".

I am also left with other puzzles: Why was it called "The Lobby", which is normally an entrance hall? What was the experience of people who worked in this environment? There are still many *Sentinel* readers who worked in the Mill and I would welcome their comments about this remarkable space. Please let me know on 01274 592944 (after 5pm), via the www.saltairvillage.info website where I have an email link, or via the editor using the email address on the front page. **Roger Clarke**

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HISTORY CLUB GUEST

Erika Diaz Petersen, senior consultant at Hilary Taylor Landscape Associates, the company responsible for the current work in Roberts Park, will deliver a talk entitled 'Saltaire's Model Public Park: Creation and Rejuvenation' to the Saltaire History Club when it meets next on **Thursday, December 10th** at 7pm in the Resource Centre of Shipley College, Exhibition Road.

TED THE MAGNIFICENT

Last month, we announced the sad news of the death of Ted Warburton, who for many years presided over the opera sets in Salts Mill. Here, **Malcolm Gray**, owner of Carlton Antiques, remembers his old friend:

Edward Warburton, affectionately known as Ted, or as he called himself "Ted the Magnificent", was born in Wibsey, Bradford in 1932. He received a grammar school education at Grange Boys Grammar School until the age of 16. On leaving school he worked in the wool trade, but at 18 years old was "called up" for National Service, serving in the RAF. He was posted to the stores Department, where he was told to issue the men with potties. The ranks had plain white ones but the officer's potties had gold rims. After the War he worked in the wool trade as a buyer for the next 25 years. Later he was to open a shop with his wife in Main Street, Haworth selling rugs, antiques and bric-a-brac, as well as running a bed and breakfast establishment. He came to Salts Mill to work at Skopos as a salesman until the branch closed and he approached Maggie Silver for any other opportunities in the Mill. He was given part time work looking after the security of the Opera Sets, created by David Hockney, on the Third Floor. With the remainder of his time he ran a stall on Todmorden market buying and selling antiques and collectables from spring to autumn. He also rented a Unit at Cawthorne Antique Centre, doing most of his buying at Wilsden Auction Rooms and at car boot sales. Provided the weather was good, he could be seen every Sunday morning bagging a bargain at Bingley Car Boot Sales.

Ted had a wicked sense of humour. He was very "dry", and well liked by everyone who worked with him at Salts Mill. He loved Saltaire. His death was a great shock to us all and he will be sadly missed. He had an operation but while recovering he fell and died a few days later. Knowing Ted, he would not have wished to have been ill for long and to be a burden to anyone.

All the establishments featured on this page serve as outlets for this newspaper. **Please note that space in the *Sentinel* is not for sale but neither is it offered free for commercial advertising.**

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(Monday evening,

Tuesday afternoon)

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Notices - News - Announcements - News - Notices

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

PAMELA'S CALENDAR

Copies of the Saltaire Calendar 2010, produced by Pamela Reynolds, are available from a number of local outlets, including Salts Mill, Saltaire Newsagents on Victoria Road, the United Reformed Church (church funds benefit from purchases made here) and, of course, from the Village website [see above]. Featuring some familiar figures in surprising guise and with a genuine Saltaire lion on every page, the calendar, like the website, is a credit to the community and a showcase for some truly breathtaking photography.

SALTAIRE POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

(At the Victoria Road entrance to Salts Mill)

Open Wednesday
10-00 -1.00 p.m.

Come along or contact us on : 01274 537416

contactsaltair@yahoo.co.uk

LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Dave Shaw, who attended the Saltaire Learning Development Partnership (SLDP) seminar at Victoria Hall on October 7th on behalf of Saltaire History Club, **reports:**

The SLDP – a joint campaign to develop local learning resources – is still at an early stage. This contrasts with some other World Heritage Sites, which have well established programmes, and where more resources have been applied to that end. Craig McHugh, Bradford Council's World Heritage Site Officer had convened the seminar, which attracted about thirty participants from a surprisingly wide spectrum of interests. A previous meeting, in September, had identified the broad scope of what a partnership of interests could hopefully achieve in the future, which would include increasing a sense of pride and ownership in Saltaire, promoting its environment and the learning resources we have, and being aware of our visitors' educational needs; eg. in keeping with changes to the National Curriculum. Clearly, the planned partnership, to which Saltaire History Club should be able to contribute, is not just about providing teaching packs for schools. It has a much wider scope which ideally will address the needs of all categories of people wanting to learn about Saltaire, for ages ranging from pre-school groups to the University of the Third Age. Groups with an already expressed interest in the Partnership include Salts Mill, Shipley College, Education Bradford, Saltaire United Reformed Church, Saltaire Village Society, Shipley Glen Tramway, Brackenhall Countryside Centre, the Museum of Reed Organs and Harmoniums, the Cinema Organ Society, and Dream Achievers Ltd (based in Shipley Wharf, and providing opportunities to explore cultural heritages centred around the canal's resources). Securing resources for the project will be a challenge, but the wide body of parties involved should optimise our chances of that. The issue is very much within the remit of the History Club, and we should continue to engage in the Partnership. Any members of the Club wanting to engage directly in this activity, or simply find out more, are invited to contact me. The workshop was very well organized – congratulations are due to (History Club member!) Craig McHugh.

CAFÉ

Cuppacare, in New Kirkgate, Shipley, is "a café with a heart in the heart of town". The not for profit enterprise is kept open from 10am until 1.30pm on Mondays and Fridays by Shipley Christians Together.

ORGAN CONCERT

Organist and composer Paul Fisher will give a concert at St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, on Saturday **November 28th**. The programme of popular and classical music, to commence at **2.30pm**, will include some of Mr Fisher's own compositions.

The admission charge of £6 on the door will support the church's ongoing appeal to raise a total of over £50,000 to restore the magnificent organ, which was built in 1892 by the celebrated firm of J.J.Binns.

Teas will be available.

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE
Does NOT talk rubbish



"Learning resources?
I could show them a thing or two !"