

The

Saltaire Sentinel

Your Lion of **VIGILANCE** *Published monthly*

SHOPS SAY THANKS FAIR SHOW OF APPRECIATION

**IT'S NOT
THE PAPER
PEOPLE BUY,
IT'S THE
PAPER BY
THE PEOPLE**

HERITAGE ANGELS

Len Morris, together with a small party of fellow Elders from Saltaire United Reformed Church, enjoyed a night in London at the expense of Andrew Lloyd Webber last month, having (quite deservedly) reached the shortlist of four, in the category "Best repair of an active place of worship", for one of the English Heritage Angel awards sponsored by the composer.

Saltaire Traders' Association will be hosting a Christmas Fair at Victoria Hall on 28th of this month for four hours from 4pm.

The event is intended to encourage more visitors to Saltaire, and to say thank you to local people for their support during the Saltaire roundabout road works, which have disrupted passing trade. Emily Farlam of the Association says, "This is a chance to get all those Christmas presents from local shops in one warm place, with food,

drink and music to make this a lovely evening for everyone."

Pupils from Saltaire Primary School will sing carols, while Beckfoot Band, led by Classic FM Music Teacher of the Year Mr. Stimpson, liven things up inside.

A tombola, provided by Hirstwood School, and a raffle promise enticing prizes from local outlets.

Entrance to the fair will be £1 for adults, free for children. For further information drop into the Saltaire Bookshop [see below] or contact Emily at the Deli211 (Bingley Road).

**In this issue
SALTAIRE
CONNECTED
Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

SPONSORS OF TIME

Readers will no doubt have noticed that the hands of the clock on the tower of our United Reformed Church have for some time now been settled on noon. Len Morris [see col.1] asks: Do people feel that the clock is worthy of keeping going? If so, is anyone prepared to 'sponsor the time' with a donation?

Watch this space – but please forward any ideas to *The Sentinel*.

LIGHTING UP TIME

The Christmas lights will be switched on, to the accompaniment of carol singing and traditional refreshments, at Victoria Hall from 4pm on Sunday December, 1st.

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

sentinel@saltairvillage.info OR c/o The Saltaire Bookshop, 1 Myrtle Place

The Deadline is always 20th of the month prior to publication.

Roger Clarke's HISTORY OF DYEING

In this series I am sharing some of my early thoughts about dyeing in Saltaire, in the hope that readers might have additional information to share to build up an accurate picture on the pages of this newspaper.

The dyeing industry was very specialised. Before the 18th century, cloth was exported to Flanders to be dyed, and then imported as finished material. Dyeing could be done on the raw material, the yarn or the finished piece (white stuff). With the development of the textile industry in the 19th century, the major dyes were those from natural sources (animals, plants, shellfish and minerals) and included **cochineal** (*from a scale insect produces red, scarlet and pink*), **logwood** (*from flowering tree and colour depends on mordant used +pH with acid environments giving red and alkaline giving blue*), **murex** (*from snails produces red and purple*), **purpura** (*also from snails*), **indigo** (*from a plant producing blue*), **madder** (*a type of climbing shrub which produces red and orange*) and **fustic** (*a tropical American tree of the fig family producing yellows*). A mordant was needed to fix the dye into the cloth (*from the early French "mordre" to bite*). Typical mordants were stale urine and a variety of metallic ores and sulphates including alum with an aluminium base, and copperas with copper and iron bases. Yarns or pieces were normally placed in the mordant before dyeing.

Bradford stuff was formerly dyed in Wakefield or Leeds but was dyeing its own by 1797 when there were two dye houses in the town – Bowling Dye works and Peel's of Thornton Road.

Dyers needed clean, soft water. Dye works were situated upstream to obtain the cleanest water. There was a concentration of dye works along the Bradford Beck making it little more than a drain flowing out of Bradford since it also contained the effluent from an increasing population, much of which found its way into the Bradford canal.

The discovery of alpaca in 1836 presented many problems. It was possible to produce alpaca cloth without dyeing, using the natural colours of the fibre (which is hair, not wool). It ranges from black to white with 24 colours in between including four shades of grey, creams, beiges, browns etc. However, the sorting of these colours into large enough batches to satisfy the growing textile industry was impractical. Economies of scale could not be achieved, and so dyeing was the only solution. But Titus was producing worsted cloth, a mixed cloth with a cotton warp and an alpaca or wool weft. The combination of vegetable with animal fibres presented problems for the dyer. When wool and cotton were first combined it was the practice to dye them separately, since cotton was not as amenable to permanent dyes as wool. The techniques of dyeing them together were mastered by Edward Ripley and Son of Bowling in Bradford in 1837 and generously shared within the industry.

1840 brought another breakthrough in the dyeing industry with the introduction of **bi-chromate of potash** to replace the mordants listed above. The result was to increase the number of colours, all available at lower cost, but more importantly to shorten the time taken to process the material. Dyers were able to achieve in hours what previously had taken days to produce.

Stories from World War One

By Colin Coates

Driver Sam Shackleton

On April 16th, 1915 the British Troopship "Manitou" was attacked by the Turkish torpedo boat "Demir Hissar" in the Aegean Sea. Although both the torpedoes that were fired missed the "Manitou", the order had been given to abandon ship. There were 646 men aboard, out of whom fifty-one lost their lives by drowning and exposure. Amongst the dead was Driver Sam Shackleton of 147th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

Sam, born c1896 in Keighley, resided at 40 Helen Street, Saltaire with his widowed mother Annie (nee Smith). He was a mill hand in Saltaire Mill and he attended the Saltaire Congregational Church (now URC) and Sunday school.

The Rev P. Drummond Pringle conducted a memorial service for Sam at the Congregational Church on Sunday May 23rd, 1915. The bell ringers tolled a peal of muffled bells prior to the service. The 1st Saltaire Troop of Boy Scouts marched from their headquarters in Albert Road to the church.

Sam is remembered on the Helles Memorial, situated in the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey, as well as on the Rolls of Honour at Nab Wood, St Peters and the United Reformed Church.

Harry Shackleton, an elder brother to Sam, survived the war, serving with the Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner.

My article next month will be about Joshua Marshall, a cousin to Sam. He was a civilian who survived a German submarine attack.

If you would like to help with the planning of local commemorations of the First World War, please contact either Colin Coates or Dave Shaw via historyclub@saltairvillage.info or mobile 07736408339.

PETER
RANDALL

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Coffee, tea, cakes, scones,
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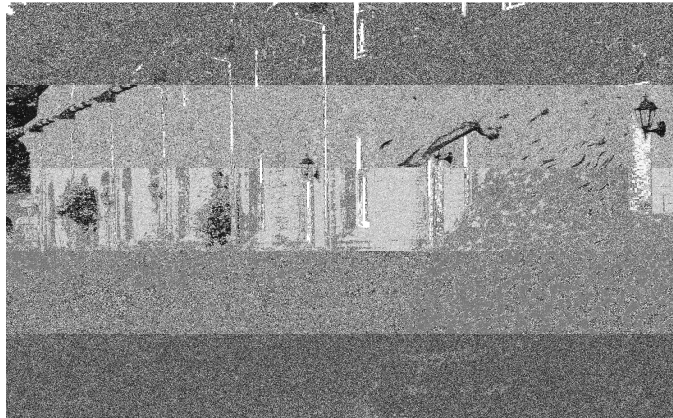
CAROLINE
SOCIAL CLUB

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has a welcome for all.
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SALTS
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Opened in 1853
and still
Open Every Day
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the Opera
SALTAIRE
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and many other, varied
retail outlets
ADMISSION FREE
01274 - 531163

Saltaire History Explorers
Investigate
OTHER WORKS OF TITUS



We all know that Titus Salt looked after his own workers. There is an argument that this also served his own interests in tying down a contented, or perhaps dependent, workforce. In fact, we don't need to look far to realise that Salt's philanthropic work extended beyond his own employees. Reading English Heritage's excellent guide to Manningham (Taylor & Gibson 2010) recently, we found that two aspects of his work were of particular relevance to that suburb. Firstly, Salt presided over the Bradford Equitable Building Society and Freehold Land Society. The aim of the society was not only to build homes for its members, but to acquire the land freehold, allowing the owner the right to vote in county elections. Under the scheme a sizable estate was built at Girlington.

Perhaps of more relevance to Saltaire, not least in architectural similarity, closer to the heart of Manningham at Lily Croft, Salt contributed financially to the Bradford Tradesmen's Houses, founded in 1867, with the aim *to house old tradesmen, pensioners of the Tradesmen's Benevolent Society, who, though no fault of their own had fallen on hard times.* We set off to explore and found the buildings tucked behind the new police station opposite Lister Mill - an oasis of calm in a busy urban region. Two stone alpacas, reputed to have come from Salt's home, flank a small chapel and four rows of highly ornate terrace houses face each other across well cared for gardens. Run by a charity, the homes still provide accommodation for retired people, a particularly long lasting legacy of Sir Titus and his fellow mill owners.

David and Jonathan (aged 10) Starley
[Pictured above: Some of the houses and one of the stone alpacas tucked away at Lily Croft.]

The SPA

21 Titus Street
The Authentic
Village corner shop
Open Mon-Sat
8am-10pm
Sun. 10am-10pm
01274 - 826534

SALTAIRE
BOOKSHOP

1 Myrtle Place
Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm
New/Second-hand books
01274 - 589144

VICARS

Café Bistro
79 Victoria Road
"Pop in and see us!"
01274 - 597818

ADVERTISING

All the establishments promoted here serve as outlets for this paper. Advertising space is NOT for sale.

The Saltaire Sentinel
can also be found at
VICTORIA HALL

Saltaire
UNITED
REFORMED
CHURCH
Saltaire
POST OFFICE
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MEDICAL
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Saltaire
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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

REPORTERS ALWAYS WANTED

To fulfill its role as the community newspaper, the *Sentinel* needs to contain reports of recent events, to complement its promotion of forthcoming attractions and articles on local history.

Write-ups by readers are always welcomed.

Cuppacare,

in New Kirkgate, Shipley, is a non-profit enterprise kept open from 10am until 1.30pm on Mondays and Fridays by Shipley Christians Together.

Saltaire Cricket Club TABLE TOP SALE

Victoria Hall
Sundays,
Nov. 3rd & 17th
Doors open at 10 am.
01274 787908

A WORTHWHILE EVENING

Colin Coates attended the **Saltaire Connected** meeting, organised by Saltaire Village Society and hosted by Caroline Social Club last month. Colin, who was representing both the History Club and Saltaire Archives, tells us that he received expressions of support, including enthusiasm from the local Women's Institute, to whom he will give a talk next April, for the research he is undertaking in preparation for commemorations of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War [see page 2].

A lot of interest was also shown in the Saltaire Archive – although a few people had not heard of it (obviously being 'incomers' who have not yet discovered either the Village website or this newspaper; both of which were frequently mentioned in a positive light at the gathering). "So all in all," Colin concludes, "a worthwhile evening; just a pity there were not more members of the public in attendance."

AESTHETICS OF UTOPIA

Yet another new book featuring our village is now available. *The Aesthetics of Utopia* by Sheila Binns compares Saltaire with Akroydon and Bedford Park (west London), noting the similarities and differences in beliefs underlying the motivations of their sponsors and exploring how architects Gilbert Scott and Norman Shaw, as well as Lockwood and Mawson, translated their aesthetic ideals into the reality of typically Victorian decorative ornamentation. **Sheila will be talking about the book at next month's meeting of the Saltaire History Club.** Meanwhile, look out for leaflets offering the opportunity of a £4 discount.

STOP PRESS

David Ford, of Saltaire Bookshop, tells us that the presence at the Traders' Fair [see front page] of a jolly old man sporting a red outfit and white beard may be of interest to our younger readers.

CORRECTION

An article in last month's *Sentinel* made reference to a female Station 'Master' at Saltaire during WWI. **Roger Clarke** has asked us to clarify that the lady in question was, in fact, a porter. We apologise in particular to **Richard Coomber**, whose speech to the History Club was thus misquoted in our pages.

WINTER BANDSTAND

Caroline Social Club offers a varied programme of music on the second Sunday of every month from October to May. Doors open at noon and the show starts at 2pm. **Admission free**
November 10th
The Twofiveones

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Now, I could write a book
...!"

The Saltaire Sentinel, written by the people of Saltaire and photocopied by Shipley College in the heart of Saltaire every month, is not affiliated to, nor in any way controlled or influenced by any group, society or organisation. sentinel@saltairvillage.info Sadly, sooner or later you will dispose of this copy of the *Sentinel*. Please do so with care for our World Heritage Site environment.