

The

Saltaire Sentinel



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

BIG GET-TOGETHER SVS SUGGESTING BBQ

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

ADULT GUIDANCE

Shipleigh College will be holding another Adult Guidance Evening in its Salt Building, which is on Victoria Road, on August 27th, from 4.30 to 7.30pm.

These events, which provide information on the latest courses, and the opportunity to enroll, are always very informal and family and friends are more than welcome.

01274 327222

for more information
Stella Downs

Vanessa Pilny, Chair of Saltaire Village Society (SVS) writes: The next big Saltaire event will be the **BIG BACKYARD BARBIE** on the weekend of August 9th and 10th

The idea is that people have a barbecue in their yards or in the back garden and invite their neighbours; which will provide a good way for people to get to know each other better.

As this is a *Totally Locally Saltaire* event, the hope is that people will buy as much as possible from their local shops – *and* on the Saturday the market will be open [See Page 4].

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, August 19th (7.30pm) at Saltaire Bookshop.** All are welcome, but please let us know if you want to come as space is limited. **More on Page Four >>**

In this issue
**FIRST
WORLD WAR
SUPPLEMENT**
Plus
**ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

CHURCH OPEN TO ALL

The United Reformed Church, at the bottom of Victoria Road, will be open from 10am until 4pm on Monday, August 4th, for a special day of prayer in commemoration of the outbreak of the First World War.

Rather than being a special 'service', this is an invitation to anyone who might appreciate a silent space in which to dedicate their thoughts, 'religious' or not, to those (we all) lost.

EXTRAORDINARY STORIES TOLD BY ORDINARY PEOPLE

Saltaire Village Experience presents a promenade production round the streets and houses of Saltaire for the Festival on September 13th and 14th.

Not About Heroes – The Survivor's Tour, 1919 invites the audience to meet and share the war stories of a wide variety of characters. Performances at 11-15am and 2-30pm. Tickets £7 and £5 (concessions) from: **www.saltairevillageexperience.co.uk** and from the Festival website with further details.

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

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

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

SALTAIRE: "ALONE IN ITS GLORY"

Janet and Richard Clark recently let the *Sentinel* see a reprint from the *Bradford Observer* of May 29th, 1873, titled "Local Scenes and Characters: an Afternoon at Saltaire", written by someone calling themselves "Saunterer" and describing many of the public buildings in the village at the time.

Arriving at the Mill, he is joined by a guide who first shows him the beam engines where he is in awe that they "keep revolving the two miles of shafting and the thousands of looms, spindles, pulleys, drums and belts contained in the works... How dazzlingly bright is every inch of the great engines. If only they would stop for a moment I might adjust my necktie by the endless mirrors which they afford." Climbing some steps beside the engines they reach half way "in the midst of the flying wheels and rods, and, look up or down, we see nothing but great threatening arms moving about, ponderous wheels rushing round with Titanic energy, and huge beams swaying up and down in mighty alternation. Each single part of the engines appears to be trying its best to outdo the other parts. No sooner does one mighty beam come thundering down than the rival beam follows suit, and no sooner does one piston give a mischievous snort than other pistons snort in an equally aggravating way." Leaving the Mill he makes his way to the **Club and Institute**, where "a remarkably fine clock, presented by Mr George Salt, hangs in the vestibule - - and one of Admiral Fitzroy's barometers is suspended from the opposite wall. On the right of the hall there is a goodly sized library of some 3,000 volumes of well selected literature." On the right hand side is a reading room where "over the massive marble mantelpiece hangs the life-sized portrait of Sir Titus Salt" by Mr J.P. Knight BA. In the corner of the room is a handsome globe "which, if mere dimension goes for anything, ought to contain much more geography than the ordinary globes are accustomed to hold."

He describes the "simple elegance and beauty" of the Lecture Hall with seating accommodation for 800 persons. "Round the walls are emblazoned the names of the most celebrated musical composers" and then "a stage 35 feet wide and capacious enough to accommodate the largest concert party, unless it be a Crystal Palace chorus." Leaving this "hall of dazzling delights", Saunterer wanders through a series of science and art classrooms, to a billiard room, a smaller lecture hall, a chess room, more schoolrooms and finally "a splendid gymnasium - - where there is an armoury, in which repose the bright breech-loaders of the hundred volunteers who comprise the Saltaire Rifle Corps."

The school opposite the Institute has 1,000 scholars with their monitors and Mr Morell, their master. They are educated in four large classrooms and "are arranged according to sexes, ages, and degrees of knowledge attained." There are three large asphalted playgrounds at the back of the building "in which there seems to be room to exercise an army of soldiers." One of the playgrounds is under cover.

Saunterer's conclusion? "I turn reluctantly away from the picturesque little town with a firmer belief in man's *humanity* to man than I had held when I left Bradford." He talks of "the wonders of this model town" where "taken as a whole - the town, the works and the institutions viewed together - Saltaire stands alone in its glory".

Roger Clarke

SAPIENT YOUTH

From the *Shipley Times and Express* of August 14th, 1880:

A small youth of not very bright aspect walked along Victoria Road from Salts Dining Hall carrying a tin containing soup, what kind I do not know.

He was swinging the tin backwards and forwards as he walked along, with a face of such gravity that he might have been studying the philosophy of pendulum vibrations. In an event as unhappy as it was unforeseen, he swung the tin out of his hand. But he proved equal to the emergency. He gathered the recalcitrant soup with the help of the tin lid, and used one hand to sweep it in. He then walked away with a complete absence of the swinging process.

The following day, at the same hour, the same boy appeared, skipping merrily down the street, carrying a large coloured jug or pitcher. In an instant the empty pitcher was in two fragments on the ground. Bending over them with a puzzled expression that was infinitely diverting was my sapient youth, conjuring his brains how that affair was to be accounted for. Other youths appeared to view the scene, upon which the unfortunate boy's puzzlement was replaced by a wail which plainly expressed that hope had vanished and a spanking was inevitable. By and by the mental horizon cleared, the same imperturbable look succeeded, and after a few concluding digs into his eyes with his knuckles, the youth thrust his hands in his pockets and walked again up the street as if perfectly at peace with himself and the world generally. My moral to the youth - "one thing at a time and that done well".

Research by Roger Clarke

LEST WE FORGET



The local war memorial, in the grounds of what is now the United Reformed church in Saltaire, which remains the site of the annual Act of Remembrance every November.

Exactly a hundred years after the declaration, by the British Government, of what was believed by many at the time (incredible as it may seem now) to be the “war to end all wars”, this Community Newspaper does no more than its duty in presenting a special supplement containing Saltaire’s **Roll of Honour**, together with excerpts from the local press of the time giving a sample of the way in which the news was (or was not) received and the affect the ensuing conflict had on our predecessors here in the village.

Having included these extra pages, for the obvious reason, this month, the *Saltaire Sentinel* will continue to trace the history of the ‘Great War’ from a local perspective: **Colin Coates’** ‘Stories of World War One’ column (*inside here*) will continue to occupy its regular place, while we hope that **Richard Coomber’s** research will become a regular feature. Contributions from readers are, as always, more than welcome.

ENORMITY OF EVENT NOT RECOGNISED AT ONCE

RICHARD COOMBER's research reveals how imminent war was initially (mis)reported:

History books tell us that the shot that sparked the First World War was the one fired on Sunday, June 28th 1914 by Gavrilo Princip to kill Archduke Franz Ferdinand, yet readers of the *Shipley Times & Express* the following Friday could be forgiven for not recognising the enormity of the event.

The paper gave three columns to reporting the assassination and providing background information alongside a column and a half on Shipley Education Committee and a column on a row in the House of Commons.

But the biggest story of the week, taking up more than a page, was a massive storm that resulted in fires and floods across the whole Bradford area. While now we know Britain's declaration of war against Germany was only a month away, that edition of the paper predicted the German fleet would be making a friendly visit to Portsmouth in September. 'The Kaiser is taking a keen personal interest in the matter of a return visit of the German fleet as is Dr von Bothmann-Hollweg, Imperial Chancellor, to whom the improvement of Anglo-German relations owes much more than perhaps has been acknowledged. 'England may also see a good deal of the Kaiser this year. In the course of his annual northern voyage he will visit Cowes during the regatta week and it is also probable that he will be at Sandringham for the celebration on December 1st of Queen Alexandra's birthday.' The government were clearly aware that war was a possibility – the following week there was a report of a question in parliament about whether the navy could maintain sufficient wheat and flour for bread in case of conflict. But the biggest national concern was Home Rule in Ireland while locally, strikes and riots in Keighley dominated the headlines. There was certainly no sign of anxiety when large crowds turned out for Shipley and District Friendly and Trade Society's 27th annual charity carnival in Saltaire Park, complete with sporting events, fancy dress, guessing the weight of the Sowerby Bridge Flour Society's horse, Punch and Judy and a spectacular firework display. Even in the newspaper published on July 31st, days before Britain declared war, with Austria having declared war on Serbia and with troops mobilising in Germany and Russia, it was still hoped Britain could escape the conflict. Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey, told MPs: 'The British Government continues to pursue one great object of preserving European peace and for that purpose we are keeping in close touch with other powers.' And one diplomat commented, 'Everything depends upon the German Emperor, if he wishes it, there will be peace.'

Stories from World War One

By Colin Coates

SHIPLEY ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Following the Declaration of War against Germany on Tuesday 4th August 1914, the Shipley Detachment of the 2nd West Riding Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps were mobilised.

The detachment, formed in 1909, had their headquarters at Albert Road School, where they assembled 94 officers and men. They included the following men from Saltaire;- Sergeant Frank Giles, a mechanics labourer, living at 30 Albert Road Private James Excell, plumber, 22 Albert Road

Private Fred Metcalfe, mechanic, 14 Shirley Street

Private George William Bone, presser, 25 Constance Street

Private Albert Webb, apprentice machine maker, 9 Jane Street.

The men were billeted at Victoria Hall from Wednesday August 5th. Those living within one mile of the hall were allowed to sleep at home. After the men had passed the medical tests they were allocated to the various regiments with which they would have to serve.

Their duties would include;- Maintaining a supply of pure water for the troops, rendering First Aid and supervising the general sanitary arrangements for the troops.

On Saturday, August 8th the men marched to Shipley Railway Station where they caught the 10.32am train to Leeds. From there they were dispersed by train to join their allocated regiment.

**If you would like to help with local commemorations of World War One, please contact either Colin Coates or Dave Shaw:
historyclub@saltairevillage.info or (mobile) 07736408339**

SALTAIRE'S ROLL OF HONOUR

Bailey, Fred	Gregory, Norman Knight	Park, Thomas William
Baker, Harold	Gresswell, Fred	Pedley, Walter
Baker, Percy Gordon	Gresswell, William Wood	Poole, Harry
Baldwin, Harry Duxbury	Hall, Levi	Ridgway, Frederick Victor
Barnes, John William	Halliday, Fred	Robinson, Alfred
Barrell, William Edward James	Halliday, Joseph	Robinson, Horace
Baxter, Ernest	Hanson, Frank	Robinson, James William
Bolton, Harry	Hardy, Jesse Briggs	Rooke, Thomas
Booth, Fred	Hardy, Orlando	Ruddock, Bertrand Frederick
Bradley, Greenwood	Harrison, Francis	Rutherford, Tom
Brighton, Walter	Harrison, Tom	Scholefield, Sam
Brooks, Joseph Arthur	Helliwell, Maurice	Shackleton, Harold Sands
Brotherton, Robert Lee	Hick, Willie Smith	Shackleton, Sam
Bullock, Herbert	Hodson, Thomas	Shackleton, Tom Humfress
Butler, William	Holdsworth, Charles	Sharp, James Harry
Camm, Charles Rawson	Horsfall, Fred (1)	Sheard, Arthur
Carr, John Francis	Horsfall, Fred (2)	Skirrow, Harry
Chapman, James Arthur	Horsfall, Thomas	Spalding, John Charles
Clegg, George Henry	Jessop, Tom	Speedie, William Harold
Clough, Sam	Jones, John Ibbitson	Spencer, Holdsworth
Connell, Josiah	Joy, George Henry	Spencer, Sam
Coope, Oswald Denton	Jude, James Walter	Studley, Norman Crabtree
Cooper, Herbert	Judson, Harold	Sutton, John Edward
Davey, Arthur James	Keighley, Arthur Willie	Thompson, Arthur Oswald
Day, George Edward	Keighley, Harry	Thompson, Herbert
Day, Thomas Henry	Kitchen, Wilfred	Thornton, Albert Bernard
Doyle, Thomas Henry	Knott, Joe Samuel	Urwin, Fred
Dunn, Willie	Lee, Fred	Wadsworth, Harris
Emmott, James Alfred	Lennon, George	Walker, Edmund
Emmott, Lawrence	Love, William	Walker, George Henry
Emsley, John Whitfield	Marshall, William Stewart	Walker, Harry
Excell, Samuel Charles	McGarry, John William	Webb, Albert
Firth, Frank	Moorhouse, Harold	Whalley, Charles Smith
Foster, Frank	Mortimer, Ernest	Whalley, Thomas
Foster, Fred	Moulson, Hiram Wilfred	Whitehead, Herbert
Fynn, George	Mounsey, Alfred Raistrick	Whiteley, Sydney
Goldsbrough, Fred	Oddy, James	Woof, Marshall
Gott, John Thomas	Ogden, Joseph	Wright, Harold Reginald
Gould, Albert	Paley, John	Wright, Herbert
Green, Albert Edward	Paley, Ralph	Wright, Melville Eugene
Greenwood, Squire Clarence		

The above list of **a hundred and twenty-one** men who sacrificed their lives in the Great War has been carefully compiled by **Colin Coates**, who is at pains to point out that **research is still ongoing**. [Colin and I agreed that the Roll of Honour was best presented in alphabetical order of surname; with no reference to rank. I trust that no explanation or apology will be called for. James Duncan (**Editor**)]

Richard Coomber's 'CUTTINGS' from 1914

SHIPLEY VOLUNTEERS

Alongside the call for young men to enlist in Kitchener's Army, those who were too old (or too young) for that service were urged to join a Volunteer Force, the 1914-18 equivalent of "Dad's Army."

ShipleY Volunteers made their headquarters in Saltaire, at Albert Road School, where they regularly drilled, preparing themselves to protect the locality in case of a German invasion. The council and local philanthropists paid for a shed next to Ashley Lane slaughterhouse to be converted into a rifle range where they could improve their marksmanship. Soon, every weekend was taken up with field exercises and most weeks the *ShipleY Times & Express* contained a story that started something like: 'Assembling at headquarters, they marched down Victoria Road and up Baildon Green at a fine pace. 'The drummers and buglers played the men to the top of the village and after operations, rejoined the procession for the march home via ShipleY Glen. 'The practical work of the men consisted of an attack on Hope Hill from the Hawksworth side.' Some of the exercises would have graced a script about Mr Mainwaring and his television misfits, like the time one group of ShipleY Volunteers, charged with attacking a reservoir defended by some of their colleagues, persuaded a farmer to put them under a pig cover on his cart and drive them to the target. One of the attackers told what happened: 'The sentry zealously guarding the gate, it subsequently appeared – of course we did not dare to look – was quite unsuspecting. He not only allowed the cart safe passage, but politely opened the gate and shut it after us. 'When we arrived at the placid waters of the reservoir we scrambled out with yells of derision to the amazement of the sentry who was quietly smoking his pipe and leaning over the gate a hundred yards away.' But the men took their training seriously and some of their exercises would have tested younger men, like the time they had to get from Saltaire to Thornton – the fastest men setting the pace - without being observed and then march back. Just as with the Home Guard, there were some who derided the Volunteers' efforts but many agreed with Ben Mercator when he wrote in the newspaper: 'There is a common Yorkshire adage – "Nowt beats t' young uns nobbut t' owd uns" – which is much favoured by middle-aged people. I have been strongly reminded of this popular expression when looking on at the drilling and marching and sham-fighting of the ShipleY Volunteers. 'This excellent body of patriotic men might easily have taken shelter behind the excuse of being "too old" for service and the war authorities, by their schedule of years, would have given sanction to such a course. But our veterans are of good and brave British stock and at all costs have held to their purpose; their numbers grew and are still growing.'

TROUBLE AT T'MILL

Great Britain declared war on Germany on August 4th 1914. The same day, Salts Mill along with many other manufacturers in the area, announced 'we are reluctantly compelled to go on half-time commencing tomorrow.' The mill would be shut on Mondays and Saturdays and for the rest of the week, instead of working 5am-5.15pm, it would only operate between 9am and 3pm.

The company softened the blow somewhat by adding 'where houses are occupied solely by workers at these mills, no rents will be collected nor will the same be considered to be in arrears.' It was a time of great uncertainty for trade across the area, but while some companies struggled to survive, many in the textile industry were soon busy again making uniforms for the troops. By early December a report read: 'Not since the outbreak of the war has trade been so good in the ShipleY district as it is at present. Saltaire Mills illuminated at night tell their own tale. Four or five hundred workpeople are putting in overtime and practically the whole of the remainder of the three thousand employees at these great mills are now working the usual hours.'

In the compilation of this supplement, The *Sentinel* is obviously indebted to local historians **Colin Coates** and **Richard Coomber** for sharing the results of their research. Richard has recently launched a website which allows readers to follow the story of the war as reported, week by week, in the *ShipleY Times and Express* at shipleYww1.org.uk Meanwhile, **Pamela Reynolds'** Saltaire Village site at www.saltairevillage.info provides simple directions to two very informative contributions from Colin: A collection of biographies at http://www.saltairevillage.info/WW1_Roll_of_honour.html and, from August 8th, a World War One 'Diary' at <http://www.saltairevillage.info/WW1.html>

PETER
RANDALL

***Gentleman's
Hairdresser***
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Roger Clarke's Saltaire Folk
COLIN COATES

Colin Coates and his wife, Maree came to Saltaire in May, 2011 and have made a real impact here. Their analysis of the 1911 census was detailed and comprehensive, and History Club members were fascinated by the insights which were revealed.

Colin was born in Hartlepool in 1955, attended all-boys schools throughout his education, left school without A-Levels and joined the Merchant Navy for four years. He left the Navy because of problems with his eyesight, and in 1975 joined a company which made hydraulic seals for pumps. This was his life for the next 34 years, in various production control roles in a number of related companies, which took him to Tewksbury (for 15 years) and then back to the North East in 1996. In 2010, he changed industries completely and joined TB Ramsdens in Guiseley (better known locally as Wendy Wools because the previous owner had links with JM Barrie of Peter Pan fame), producing knitting yarns about which Colin knew nothing. However, he did have 34 years of computer, organisational and co-ordination skills, managerial experience and, obviously plenty of common sense. As Sales Office Manager, he now uses spreadsheets and data bases in his everyday work, and these are the computer skills which he employs at home too.

Apart from researching WW1 Saltaire, he has researched his family tree back to 1710 when he believes that he may be related to the Rank family of flour and film fame. Colin might not have seen himself as a historian, but he has always been interested in history and its links with local politics. He began researching this in Hartlepool and hopes to continue this work in Saltaire, continuing an interest of historian Clive Woods.

Colin's other interest is the Shipley Glen Tramway where, since 2011, he has been part of a team of hard working volunteers who do a great job in keeping the tramway running.

Colin is very generous with his time, and is willing to share his knowledge with local groups. He has another skill to share – devising quizzes for local groups and charities. He did a lot of this in Hartlepool and hopes that it will take off in Yorkshire too.

His final word when I interviewed him was to thank his wife, Maree for helping and supporting him with his research and in promoting the History Club, without which he would not have made the contacts which have brought him so much fulfillment.

The SPA
21 Titus Street
**The Authentic
Village corner shop**
Open Mon-Sat
8am-10pm
Sun. 10am-10pm
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SALTAIRE
BOOKSHOP
1 Myrtle Place
Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm
New/Second-hand books
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VICARS
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All the establishments
promoted here serve as
outlets for this paper.
Advertising space is
NOT for sale.

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PRACTICE**
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LOCAL MARKET

The Saltaire Local Produce Market has been re-launched to coincide with the national 'Love Your Local Market' campaign (#LYLM2014). Products available include:

Cheese, pickles, honey, pies, ice cream, fresh fish, curry sauces, baked goods, beers, tea, coffee, plants, venison and organic fruit and veg.

The Market will be held on the second Saturday of every month, 10am - 3pm in the car park on Exhibition Road - so the next date is August 9th. You can talk to us on Twitter or Facebook and upload photographs to Instagram, (#Saltairemkt). **Interested in trading at the market? Contact us on 01274 432245.**

Diana Greenwood

Saltaire Cricket Club TABLE TOP SALES

Victoria Hall
August 3rd & 31st
Doors open at 10 am.
01274 787908

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.

BENCH FOR BEAR IN WASH HOUSE GARDEN

Dina Plowes writes: People may remember that I raised funds towards providing a bench in the Wash House Gardens on Caroline Street. Thanks to a lot of generous people, I raised over £600, but unfortunately it would appear that this is not enough.

Can anyone think of a way to persuade 'the powers that be' that a bench would be great in this much used area, and by a bus stop which many people use.?

It was to be called Bear's bench, after the well known and much loved big Grey cat who lived with me. He was sadly killed by a car last September and I would love to think that the bench could be achievable in his memory. The money is currently being held by Saltaire Village Society (SVS), who I'm sure, like me, would love a solution. **Ideas, please, to SVS, (details below) or myself, at dinaplowes@gmail.com.**

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Take a picture of yourself with products you bought locally to celebrate the Big Backyard Barbie on Saturday, August 9th [See front page] and send it to

www.totallylocallysaltaire.org

to be in with a chance of winning £50 of Saltaire High Street shopping vouchers. That's the local High Street's way of saying "Thank You."

SALTAIRE VILLAGE SOCIETY CONTACT DETAILS

Saltaire Village Society can be contacted by e-mail at secretarysvs@googlemail.com or via the Saltaire Bookshop, 1 Myrtle Place, in person or by telephone on 01274 589144 - or like our Facebook Page!

VILLAGE WEBSITE

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

www.saltairevillage.info

BANDSTAND PROGRAMME

FREE music at the bandstand in Roberts Park every Sunday this month from 2.30 pm.

3rd Yorkshire British Legion Band
10th Penny and the Sausages
17th Hall Royd Band
24th Rainbow Morris and Fiddle 'n' Feet
31st Fiona Katie Roberts

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"'Backyard Barbie' [See Page One and left] sounds like my kind of girl!"

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@saltairevillage.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.