

The Saltaire Sentinel

Hour Lion of **VIGILANCE** *Published monthly*



VOTE FOR VILLAGE COMPETITION IS OURS TO LOSE

**THE PAPER
OF THE
PEOPLE OF
SALTAIRE**

VIVA VALDI

The next meeting of the Saltaire History Club, will be on Thursday, December 3rd, at 7pm in the Methodist Church on Saltaire Road.

Eugene Nicholson will talk about Volodymyr Luciv, the refugee who worked as a spinner at Salts before becoming an internationally famous singer under the name of **Tino Valdi**.

The meeting will include the usual Christmas Quiz. Entrance free.

Saltaire is one of ten finalists in a contest, to be decided by online votes, being run by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) to find England's Greatest Place.

The 'top ten', which includes the Kings Cross Regeneration, the Peak District and Liverpool Waterfront, has been carefully selected by an "independent, eminent" panel of judges from over 200 places previously nominated by the public and votes are

now invited to decide which one will receive this brand new award, with the result due to be announced next month.

The RTPI's website says of Saltaire, "Sensitive and skillful planning has protected the essence of this unique historic settlement and kept it a beautiful place."

Agreed? See below. **Not agreed?** See below below – here's the place to say so. [Unfortunately, it is not clear exactly what the 'award' is, or how it will benefit us – but it must be good publicity! – *Ed.*]

To find out more and vote for Saltaire, visit the website at: rtpi.org.uk, follow the link, at the bottom of the left-hand column, to "England's Great Places", locate Saltaire [at the bottom of the list!] and simply click "Vote". Alternatively, Tweet or Instagram your vote using #RTPIgreatplaces
Voting closes on November 20th.

**In this issue
GUNS IN
THE PARK
Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

PEACE FAIR

Michelle Atkinson of Yorkshire CND tells us that the Peace and Craft Fair, in Victoria Hall, which will be held on **Saturday, Nov. 28th** from 10am to 4pm, is a great opportunity to buy Christmas presents and, at the same time, help some good causes.

There will be about 80 stalls, activities for children, Peace café and singing.

See Page 4 for more from Michelle, >>>

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.

CORRIDORS OF POWER

Continuing the recollections of Edward Stanners as recorded by Roger Clarke

Edward Stanners was the Managing Director of Salts Mill 1979-84. A fuller account of his reflections can be found in the Saltaire Archive at the Learning Resource Centre of Shipley College, Exhibition Road, or online at: www.saltairvillageexperience.co.uk

In Salts, given that the main building fitted into a long, narrow piece of land between the canal and the railway line, the corridors were even more pronounced. The shorter of the two, running parallel to Victoria Road, housed Administration - a long service team who had 'seen it all' and could be relied upon. I cannot recall their making a single mistake, and they were hugely knowledgeable about the mill; **Stanley King** in particular. He had a sharp mind and a lovely, dry sense of humour. The Personnel Department - run by **Barbara Free** - also operated from that part of the site. Barbara knew everything about everyone, although she was very discreet.

But it was the long corridor which ran parallel to the canal which housed the majority of the staff. Luckily, I had negotiated the right to pick my own team and quickly cut the Executive Board to three - **Alan Dawes, Donald Fowler and me**. The sales/design team was also large. We had three designers who sold directly to their own client base - **Felicity Norris, Fred Barber and Roger Mayhew**. Felicity and Roger handled the ladieswear offer, whilst Fred designed and sold the upmarket John Emsley men's range, mainly to Japan.

On the UK menswear side, **Mike Robinson** handled the larger accounts whilst **Bev Barker** chivvied away at the smaller accounts. Their cloth ranges were designed by **Rodney Oldroyd** and **Jim Smith**, who also looked after the designs created for the Middle East.

Tim Hare was perfect for our export markets since he was very much the English gentleman, exactly what our overseas customers expected.

At the Bingley end of the long corridor, the poshest office by far became the 'Board Room-come-Showroom'; although it had been built to be the Managing Director's office. Between my office and the showroom was 'the secretary's office', where **Jenny Cooke** worked. Whenever I pointed out that her version of my letter bore scant resemblance to the one dictated, she would just say, "Edward, it's just part of life's rich pattern", and walk off, laughing. Next to my office, and working towards Shipley were two larger offices, one for the men's sales team, the other for ladieswear. Then came **Donald Fowler's** office. Donald was a wonderfully mature influence on all of us. He was placid, balanced, wise and funny - often in the same sentence. Alan Dawes should have had an office on this corridor given that he was Production Director. But he refused to. Rightly, he ran production by 'walking around' and would often carry his entire filing system in the pockets of his enormous suit jacket. It looked scruffy, but it was highly effective. His right-hand man was **Tony Mason**, who had a wonderful eye for detail which complemented Alan's swashbuckling style. Between Alan and Tony, there was very little 'wriggle room' for the departmental managers.

The only aspect I did not enjoy about that time was the loneliness of being 'at the top'. It was disconcerting to know that you are responsible for the livelihoods and well-being of more than three hundred colleagues and their families. Of all the teams I have been responsible for though, Salts was far more of a community than any other and working twelve hours, most days, was fulfilling and an honour.

Stories from World War One

By Colin Coates
Shipley Volunteers

(Continued)

Albert Road School –
Shipley Volunteers HQ

Having had their application approved, the Shipley Volunteer Force held their first drill in Albert Road School on Saturday, October 31st, 1914 at 2.30pm.

There was an excellent attendance of nearly 200 men, who drilled for two hours in the covered playground.

Sergeant Mitchell, of the Bradford Pals' Battalion, was in command, and his smart military presence favourably impressed the men. He was ably assisted by two colleagues, Sergeants Mason and Redman, who directed the other instructors. Captain Crossley, of the Bradford Pals, visited the school, and received the salute when the men were dismissed at the close of the drill. Councillor Fred Rhodes (President) voiced a congratulatory note on the excellent attendance and business like tone which had characterised the first drill.

Subsequently, the school was opened each weeknight from eight to ten.

The accommodation was found inadequate for the whole of the members on any one night so it was arranged that groups of squads had special nights allocated to them.

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GUNS IN THE PARK

Richard Coomber writes:

One of the delights of historical research is those moments of serendipity when you find a little nugget hidden in a document which bears little relevance to the subject under study. Take for example a long newspaper article describing a major recruiting drive held in Roberts Park. There, along with verbatim reports of five speeches delivered from the balcony of the new cricket pavilion to a crowd estimated at ten thousand, is the following piece of scene setting:

"Two guns, which were purchased from the Government of the day by Sir Titus Salt when he laid out the park were inspected with increased interest on Saturday. These guns are on each side of the bandstand, situated on the fine broad terrace which runs the entire length of the park from east to west on the level above the cricket ground.

From the inscription on the guns we learn the warlike career of these ancient pieces of ordnance. One of them was in the Russian War in the Baltic and fired 1085 rounds. Its companion was at Trafalgar and Acre and fired 1449 rounds."

The question, of course, is where are they now?

BUS REMEMBERED

By Roger Clarke and friends: Donald Swift, aged 92, and Alan Robinson, 87, combined to tell me how the shortage of workers in local mills after World War Two was partly overcome by a daily bus service from villages in South Yorkshire. Salts Mill was not part of this enterprise, but Masons at Victoria Mills solved some of their shortage by employing these workers between 1946 and 1950. The bus service called at South Elmsall, Upton, Wombwell, Carleton and Rothwell. The passengers were usually girls who were befriended by local young people and several went on to obtain lodgings in the Saltaire area, even marrying local lads. *The Sentinel* would love to hear from anyone who knows more about this story.

BIRDWATCHING FOR ALL

Debbie White, of Airedale & Bradford RSPB local group invites us all to two meetings:

Friday, November 6th

Illustrated talk- "Islay, Queen of the Hebrides" by Gordon Yates at the Kirkgate Centre, at 7.30 pm. £3 members and non-members, children free.

Saturday, November 7th

Guided walk, St Ives Estate, Bingley. Meet at car parking area near playground, 9am. No charge.

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
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The
SALTAIRE
CANTEEN
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VICTORIA **HALL**

Many Regular Events
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up for the e-newsletter:
www.victoriahallsaltaire.co.uk
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The Saltaire Sentinel
can also be found at
Saltire
UNITED
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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.saltairvillage.info

SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

1 Myrtle Place

**Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm**

Please contact the bookshop with suggestions, for more details of what's going on, and/or to be added to the mailing list:

01274 589144

davidford100@yahoo.co.uk

**Saltaire Cricket Club
TABLE TOP SALES**

**Victoria Hall
Sundays,
November 1st & 22nd**

Doors open at 10 am.

Cuppacare

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

DAY OF DANCE PAYS TRIBUTE TO LOUISE

Michelle Atkinson reports:

Saltaire Day of Dance, a bi-annual event held at the Victoria Hall, Methodist and United Reformed Churches paid tribute to **Louise Eaton**, its founder last month. Louise, who is 80 this year and a former resident of Saltaire, danced her first dances at the event, enjoying Cossack and South Asian dancing. In the past she has always been organizing, so it was a refreshing change to join in. Over 30 dance tutors gave taster sessions for free, and a storyteller, singers, Shiatsu masseur, Dru Yoga teacher and EFT specialist also gave of their expertise. Hundreds of people enjoyed the chance to try different dances. Volunteers made delicious food, served at the Peace Café. Yorkshire CND now organizes the event and donates funds to Oxfam and Burren Chernobyl Children's Fund.

The next Day of Dance is on May 14th, 2016.

**To get involved in organizing or helping,
please contact Michelle at Yorkshire CND
01274 703795**

michelle@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF MANORLANDS

A quiz, designed by the Shipley Support Group for Manorlands (the Sue Ryder hospice at Oxenhope) for teams of up to six members each, will be hosted by **St. Peter's Church** on Moorhead Lane on **Thurs. Nov.19th**, at 7pm. **Tickets** cost £7, which includes supper/ice cream/soft drinks ("BYO" booze) and, of course, benefit a very worthy cause. To book your place, or for more information, please contact:

07793 754218

scghudson@blueyonder.co.uk

07870 775714

kathaes@hotmail.com

or "our own" **Colin Coates** on **07515 120432**

WINTER BANDSTAND

**Free concerts at
Caroline Social Club**
on the second Sunday of
every month.
Club opens at 12pm with
live music from 2pm

"STIRRING STUFF"

is promised for
November 8th
when Keighley songwriter
Den Miller
joins Shipley duo
Strid

Other activities at the Club
include:

LINE DANCING

BINGO

SALSA NIGHTS

SLIMMING WORLD

For more details, visit
www.carolineclub.co.uk
[@carolineclub](https://twitter.com/carolineclub)

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does **NOT** talk rubbish



"Greatest place to live?
[See page One]

No contest!

Best Community newspaper?
I take it every month!"