

CHANGE OF PLANS

MILNER APPLICATION ALTERED

**THE PAPER
 THAT
 COULD
 ONLY BE IN
 SALTAIRE**

HISTORY CLUB

The next meeting of **Saltaire History Club** is on **Thursday, March 9th** at 7pm in the Resource Centre housed by Shipley College in its building on Exhibition Road.

Co-authors Peter Nias and Mollie Summerville will discuss their book, *Manningham: People Through the Mill, Past and Present*.

Nigel Grizzard, a Jewish researcher and heritage tour guide, will talk about *Bradford's Jews and Germans*, unveiling new historic discoveries.

As always, entrance is free and everybody is welcome.

Les Brook informs us of a significant switch of tactics by the forces seeking to 'redevelop' (for which read 'destroy') the historic Milner Field Farm in the face of fierce opposition:

The previous two applications have been replaced by one (15/05338/MAF).

The new applicant is Bradford Innovation Centre Ltd. - which is 80% owned by Hartley Property Trust, the personal vehicle of Alan Lewis; Bradford and Huddersfield Universities both being shareholders.

**DON'T BE DECEIVED BY DATE
 - IT MAY STILL NOT BE TOO LATE**

The deadline for objection is now March 17th. In letters to many objectors, the date is given as March 2nd. This is wrong!

Go to <https://planning.bradford.gov.uk/online-applications/> and search for applications with the postcode BD16 4QU.

Reasons to object can be found at <http://www.milnerfieldaction.co.uk/index.php/reasons-to-object/>

In a new document intended to justify this development in the Green Belt, the applicant accepts that the creation of an 'Innovation Centre' at the Farm would be inappropriate but says that 'very special circumstances' exist to allow planning permission to be granted.

A decision is expected at the Regulatory & Appeals Committee meeting at City Hall on Thursday, **April 6th at 10 am.** Put this date in your diary if you oppose this application!

**In this issue
 The Bard,
 The Beard,
 But never the
 Bored with
 ALL OUR USUAL
 UNUSUALS**

MORE ON MILNER

The campaign to save Milner Field Farm has featured in the two most recent issues of this newspaper, with articles providing background information, which are available online at www.saltairevillage.info ('Follow the link' to *Sentinel*.)

Much more can be learnt from a simple search of the internet.

NEW READERS will appreciate that this a matter of concern to our regulars and understand, given our shortage of space, the lack of detail on this page.

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

sentinel@saltairevillage.info

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

WHAT SHALL WE CALL EDDIE?

Eddie Lawler writes:

For a few years now I've been referred to as "The Bard of Saltaire". I have taken this with a pinch of salt (pardon the pun) and also found the title ominous, due to the sad end of John Nicholson, former Salt employee who in the 19th-century became "Bard of Airedale".

When introduced as B of S, I usually say there's a syllable missing. In the context of increasing numbers (and speed) of traffic in Saltaire, I'm quite fond of "bollard" at the moment. But having completed a career as "man of many prats" (sic), I've now decided to try to live up to the flattering title and run with it.

Here is a little Saltaire greeting for readers of this Spring edition:

NOTED!

Half moon swagger

In blue-white dawn

Blackbird-song from an aerial

Frog flicks through last autumn's leaves

And glares towards the pond

(Poems can be viewed as a waste of a lot of paper due to the spacing, but the spaces are there for the reader.)

I've already launched my sixth album of original songs this year, am working on the next, and sing 'em at occasional gigs. I've three collaborative performances on the go this year: "Tracking the Brontës" with soprano Charissa Hutchins, "Two Tykes on T'Loose" with storyteller and chair of Yorkshire Dialect Society Rod Dimpleby, and "Salt's Waters" with Steve Bottoms. Details can be found on my website.

Also, with the help of newly-founded Shipley Little Theatre, I'm planning to launch a new play "Making Light" at the Saltaire Festival in September.

[Devotees of the *Sentinel* will already be aware that the Editor, though rarely lost for words when he really needs them, meets his nemesis in seeking superlatives befitting of that gentleman who has for so long been both a tremendous inspiration and a truly valued friend. Nuff said! To avoid further embarrassment to two crusty old Tykes, (on T'Loose or otherwise), **it's over to you, readers: What shall we call Eddie?**]

THE MYTH BUSTER STRIKES BACK

Well known and much respected local historian **Colin Coates** writes:

I am undertaking a campaign for "historical accuracy" regarding Saltaire. One myth that I come across when I speak to people is that in Saltaire "the workers' streets had strict hierarchy." Those who peddle this myth will tell you that the houses in Albert Road (built in 1866) were occupied exclusively by managers and "professional" people, whereas a simple sample from the 1871 Census reveals no such distinction:

| House No. | (Present day House No.) | Occupation of Head of House: |
|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Cashier in factory |
| 3 | 5 | Unemployed wool sorter |
| 4 | 7 | Independent Minister |
| 21 | 41 | Housekeeper |
| 35 | 69 | Not in employment |

[Watch out! This could be the first of several "Myth Buster" articles.]

COLIN'S COLUMN

SALTAIRE HOSPITAL

Throughout World War One, the governors of the hospital held monthly meetings which were reported in the *Shipley Times*.

Here is one report from March 2nd, 1917:-

"The monthly meeting of the Saltaire Hospital Governors was held on Wednesday evening at the hospital. Mr B Allsop (chairman) presided and others present were Mrs F Rhodes, Miss Dunn, Councillors C E Learoyd, and John Pitts, and Messrs. Walker Cryer, E L Baumann, E Clifford Fry (hon. sec.) and Mr Thos. Laxton (clerk).

The Chairman announced that the Governors had invested £25 in the War Loan. The secretary reported that the number of out-patients numbered 53, in-patients at the date of the last report, 23, since admitted 15, making a total of 38. Since then 19 had been discharged leaving a total of 19. Of these 16 were military and three civilian patients.

The following donations were acknowledged:

John Smith, thanks offering £3.3s, Bradford Dyers Assoc. Ltd., £5.5s, Mrs Fieldhouse, 10s."

Colin Coates

More of Colin's stories from the First World War can be found at:

saltairevillage.info

PETER
RANDALL
Gentleman's
Hairdresser
205 Bingley Road
01274 - 597140

VICTORIA
TEAROOMS
8 Victoria Road
Open Daily
Coffee, tea, cakes, scones,
snacks and novelty gifts
01274 - 823092

CAROLINE
SOCIAL CLUB
Caroline Street, always
has a welcome for all.
Regular Events
01274 - 585140

SALTS
MILL
Opened in 1853
and still
Open Every Day
Attractions
include:
SALT'S DINER
Cafe in to
the Opera
SALTAIRE
HISTORY
EXHIBITION
1853 Gallery
THE HOME
and many other, varied
retail outlets
ADMISSION FREE
01274 - 531163

'FUNNY COW' NOT SO FUNNY FOR KIDS

Marion E. Rolfe was 'on location' when yet another film crew came to Saltaire recently and tells us all about it: The film world (well - a small part of it) came to Mary and Helen Streets and the alley in between for a location shoot in the dark and dreary days of early January this year. Excitement for the residents? A boost to low spirits in a bleak winter month? For me: yes and no. The director really does shout "action" and "cut" and a clapperboard is chalked up to identify each scene. But standing around, waiting for any sort of action, seemed to be the main 'occupation' - and in very chilly temperatures. Young actors in the early scenes, dressed as poor kids of the 1950s: short trousers for the boys, flimsy dresses for the girls were marched again and again up and down the alley, were cued, repeated their few lines and then were asked to repeat it all once more. Those poor chapped knees! (Although they didn't seem to mind the miserable weather conditions; seemingly already dedicated to the trials inflicted on them by their chosen profession.) For the last three days, the shoot moved to a vacant terraced house at the bottom of Mary Street for interior and yard scenes. An extraordinarily large crane was put to use and the brightest of floodlights illuminated the street once dusk had fallen. From early morning to late evening, the crew and actors were at work. That dedication again! Perhaps actors do deserve those starry salaries.

"Funny Cow" with Maxine Peake is apparently due to be released in cinemas later this year. See you at the popcorn counter!

CHARCOAL BURNING IN HIRST WOOD

We might take our local woods for granted; a convenient place to walk the dog perhaps. There is a general belief that such areas survived from the ancient past because they were on land too poor for either growing crops or grazing of stock. It is surprising then to find that many woods once earned higher rental incomes than agricultural land. In some parts of the country farmed fields were replanted as woodland; the driving force being the demand for charcoal for the iron industry. Trees such as oak and hazel were coppiced by cutting the trunk to ground level and harvesting the re-growth on a regular cycle of 7-20 years. This means of cropping 'wood' was entirely sustainable and did not lead to deforestation, but did compete with the growing of mature trees to produce the larger 'timber' needed for ship building and house construction. Nowadays, few counties have as little woodland as West Yorkshire and it is a precious resource. Over two damp days in January a small team of volunteers helped a survey organised by the 'Celebrate Our Woodland Heritage' project to record archaeological features in Hirst Wood. These included two charcoal-burning platforms above the bend in the river. These flat areas were created by cutting into the hillside and using the surplus earth to further extend them on the down-slope side. On these platforms 'clamps' of stacked wood covered with turves of earth were set alight and allowed to smoulder slowly over several days. This drove off the volatile components leaving charcoal; a clean, effective and valuable fuel, suitable for use in the local iron production industries, but also as a cooking fuel, ingredient for gunpowder and as a pigment.

There appear to be no surviving coppiced trees in Hirst Wood - and considering these can live for a hundred years or more, the platforms must be old - but how old? At a future stage, the Woodland Heritage Officer, Chris Atkinson, is hoping to carry out limited excavations at a couple of sites to extract samples for scientific dating. When did charcoal burning stop? It hasn't! Volunteers of the Bradford Environmental Education Service convert wood from thinning and coppicing into charcoal and make it available for sale, providing a more environmentally responsible alternative to imported, often less sustainably resourced, barbeque charcoal.

David Starley

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

Saltaire Cricket Club
TABLE TOP SALE
Victoria Hall
Sun. March 19th
Doors open at 10 am.

For further details, or to book a table, contact Simon Hicks: **01274 787908**

SALTAIRE CANTEEN

Now open every day
79 Victoria Road
01274 - 597818

The SPA

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

VICTORIA HALL

Many Regular Events
Rooms for Hire
www.victoriahallsaltaire.co.uk
01274 - 327305

BRITAIN'S GOT TALONS

This is the intriguing title of a talk to be delivered to the Airedale and Bradford Local Group of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds by **Peter Smith** at the Kirkgate Centre in Shipley on **Friday, March 3rd** at 7.30 pm. Admission costs £3 for members and non-members, with children admitted free.

FREE GUIDED WALK

The Group's monthly walk for **March** is on **Friday, 5th**, setting out from **Dowley Gap** (more precisely: the parking area opposite the Fishermans Arms) under the guidance of local expert Mark Doveston. From **9 am.**, the walk will take "approximately" two hours.

For further details of either of these events, ring **01274 582078**
or e-mail: abrspb@blueyonder.co.uk

JAZZ NIGHT

Peter Frank &
The Dixieland All Stars
Featuring Loretta Scott
Bingley Arts Centre
Friday, March 24th 7.30 pm
Tickets £10
available from: Bingley Arts Centre
(Mon-Fri 11.00am - 3.00pm)
In support of Manorlands Hospice

Aire Ensemble presents **SPRINGTIME AIRES**

Music to lighten our hearts and put a spring in our step, featuring famous pieces by Faure, Saint-Saens, Lloyd Weber, and Ivor Novello.

Caroline Lisk flute
Deborah Pennington clarinet
Yuko York piano
Bethany Pennington mezzo-soprano

Friday, March 17th 7.30pm
St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate
Tickets: £10 on the door,
£8 in advance from Saturday Café
(at the church) or **Tel: 01274 595416**

Proceeds: St. Paul's Church Roof Appeal.

WINTER BANDSTAND

Free concerts at
Caroline Social Club
on the second Sunday of every month. Club opens at 12pm with live music from 2pm. For more details, visit www.carolineclub.co.uk

CUPPACARE

CUPPACARE is a popular café and bookstall, open to the public on most Mondays and Fridays, from 10am to 1.30pm in New Kirkgate, Shipley. We are a non-profit service provided by Shipley Christians Together.

TRAMWAY

Would anyone interested in becoming a volunteer please ask for a form at the ticket office or call Richard on **07773 001250**. We would love to hear from you!

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Don't talk to me about film crews. [See Page 3]
They always cut all my best scenes!"

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 organization. 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.