

The
Saltaire Sentinel
Your Lion of  *Published monthly*
 VIGILANCE

ACROSS THE ROAD

POST OFFICE'S NEW ADDRESS

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

NEW BUILDING

As recently reported here, Shipley College has revealed plans for a new, two storey building on the land between Maddocks Street and Exhibition Road. This month, Alison Coles provides us with more information on behalf of the College.

[See Page 4 >>]

Readers' views on this, and any other topic of local interest, are welcomed by your Community Newspaper.

On April 9th, the post office on Gordon Terrace will close, to re-open the following day across the way, at number 32 Bradford Road, as part of 'Saltaire Wines'.

Roger Clarke reports:

The same services will be offered in this 'local' (as opposed to 'main') post office, but they will be available alongside purchases made in the wine shop. **It is hoped that disabled access will be introduced to improve availability.** This is the end of an era for Shirin Karpe, who has provided such a great community service since she took over the post office in 2007, and who has asked us to thank all her loyal customers for their support. We wish her all

the best for the future. Saltaire Post Office has been a major outlet for the *Sentinel* since 2007, and we are assured by Dipak at Saltaire Wines that *this* will not change.

In this issue
**A HIDDEN
 CONDUIT**
Can you find it?
Plus
**ALL OUR USUAL
 UNUSUALS**

HELP NEEDED TO KEEP CHURCH OPEN

Len Morris writes: Saltaire United Reformed Church is open every Sunday afternoon for visitors, with the café downstairs serving tea and cakes throughout the year. It is also open every afternoon from April until the end of September.

This is made possible only by the dedication of volunteers – more of whom are now more

than ever needed. Local people will be welcomed. Training, if required, will be provided by the experienced members. There are displays within the building showing its history and details about the United Reformed Church more generally, so that a volunteer will only need to know where to point visitors.

If you can help, please contact either Len Morris 01274 597894 or Valerie Jenkins 01274 542510

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.

MEMORIES OF GWEN UPON THE GLEN

by Roger Clarke

The imminence of Easter reminds me that on Easter Monday, 1910, it is rumoured that the Glen Tramway carried 17,000 visitors out of a total of 100,000 who visited the Glen that day. The thoughts of many of them would likely turn to romance before the day was out, because the Glen was a famous trysting place with its rocks and secret corners.

How many *Sentinel* readers remember the following song?

Meet me Gwen upon Shipley Glen

He was a shy young Yorkshire lad, And he lived on Baildon Moor.
She was a pill from Lister's Mill. They met and his heart grew sore.
She shyly said her name was Gwen,
And she didn't mind meeting him again.
He plucked up courage to write a note,
And this was what the young swain wrote:

Meet me Gwen upon Shipley Glen, On Sunday afternoon.
Near "Number Nine" we'll have a good time,
And return by the light of the moon.
You'll enjoy it up there, 'Cos you'll get the salt-aire,
And you'll fancy you're out by the sea.
Then if you're willing and I have a shilling,
We'll call at Dick Hudson's for tea.

They sat next Saturday on the Glen. Said the maid with drooping head,
I've never been up here before. Then with shame all the ferns turned red,
As he told the tale to the saucy minx.
The rocks exchanged such knowing winks
When he slipped on her finger a gold brass ring,
The little birds began to sing.
Meet me Gwen upon Shipley Glen *etc, etc.*

Composer Jimmy Sutton, Lyricist Reg Bolton, Date circa 1900.

I contacted our friend, **Pat Smith**, former deputy head at Nab Wood Middle School, who had often used the song in school concerts which she arranged and conducted in the 1980s, for more information.

Pat put me in touch with **Geoff Bryson** of Calton, near Gargrave, then gravely and terminally ill but willing to share his knowledge. He wrote:-
"Reg Bolton was a local professional comedian who wrote his own material, including comic songs. At the turn of the century the idea of having small "end-of-pier" type shows in tented pavilions became popular, the idea being to capture the seaside atmosphere in towns and cities. One of these, if not the first, was the Frizinghall Pavilion in 1905 which suffered the fate of many of those flimsy constructions by either burning down or blowing away. The police used to knock up the managers if there was a rising gale during the night to ask that the theatre should be lashed down! The rebuilt Pavilion, this time in a permanent form, became the Alfresco Pavilion, later the Alfresco Garage (*now redeveloped as a number of retail outlets with car parking in front*). The Alfresco troupe was "The Dandy Militaires" appearing with comedian Fred Casburn. Reg Bolton was for some time a member of the Militaires." Geoff believes that the song continued to be sung in the Playhouse music halls by Harry and Joan Tout. **Perhaps readers can add more to the story or share discrete memories of courting on the Glen?**

Stories from World War One

by Colin Coates

Fund Raising – Tag Days

During World War One there were thousands of groups formed across the country to support the soldiers serving at the front. One of many such groups in Shipley district was started by ladies from the area. A Shipley Ladies Committee was formed, with the Saltaire Institute (Victoria Hall) as its headquarters. Its president was Lady Ellis Denby and one of its vice presidents was Lady James Roberts. The object of the Committee was; - "to provide clothing for soldiers and sailors, hospital comforts for the wounded, and also garments for persons in want in Shipley".

For raising funds, they found that flag days proved popular (also called "tag" days). It was not unusual for 150 ladies with collection boxes to be circulating in Shipley and Saltaire. The amounts collected on these flag days varied between £50 and £70 (in today's money £4,300 to £6,000).

On Saturday August 28th, 1915 there was a "bumper" tag day in aid of Saltaire Hospital. The amount collected was £90 (£7,800 in today's money); the copper coins collected weighed over 3cwt (150 kg). The officials had to use a horse and cart to convey the coinage to the Shipley Branch of the Bradford District Bank.

To help with local commemorations of World War One, please contact either Colin Coates or Dave Shaw:
historyclub@saltairevillage.info
or mobile 07736408339

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

Saltaire History Explorers Investigate

A HIDDEN VICTORIAN ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Whilst Saltaire contains many buildings of architectural merit, some less ostentatious structures have an equally fascinating story to tell. On the corner of Bingley Road and Queens Road a single storey building currently occupied by *Jeanette's Cakery* and *Bella Rouge* is, unusually, of wooden construction and provides evidence of a major engineering feat not above ground, but below it.

The expansion of Bradford as an industrial city in the nineteenth century required a water supply beyond the polluted Bradford Beck. Reservoirs were constructed on higher ground beyond the city to feed clean water through a series of conduits into the city. One of these, the Barden Conduit, completed in 1860 skirted Saltaire on its route to the service reservoir at Heaton. The pipe crosses the Aire near Hirst Mill but then disappears underground again approaching the roundabout along the line of Clarence Road. Plans of the now demolished, terraced housing behind the current co-op, show a distinctive diagonal "channel" where building was not permitted immediately above the conduit. The rear wall of the Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet still has an angular facet to avoid impinging on the line. The wooden buildings on the road frontage, mentioned above, were, according to Ian Watson's publication *In the Shadow of the Rosse*, constructed so as to be able to be demolished at short notice if access to the conduit was required. We had hoped that the recent work on the roundabout might expose the pipeline, but perhaps it was too deep. Slightly surprising was the reaction from the construction company's spokesman that they knew nothing of the conduit before our enquiry!

David and Jonathan (aged 10) Starley

[The following provides a brief history and a map:

The Engineer March 12 1915 pp251-254

<http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/images/e/eb/Er19150312.pdf>]

Saltaire Cricket Club

TABLE TOP SALE

Victoria Hall

Sunday, April 20th

There is a 50p entrance fee (under 16s free)

Doors open at 10 am.

01274 787908

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

Saltaire

MEDICAL

PRACTICE

Saltaire

VISITOR

INFORMATION

CENTRE

Shipley and Baildon

LIBRARIES

Notices - News - Announcements - News - Notices

VILLAGE SOCIETY

Vanessa Pilny Writes:

We at Saltaire Village Society (SVS) are in the process of reviewing our constitution and membership requirements. There have been suggestions that SVS might apply to be a designated body, which would entail more involvement in planning issues and other matters that affect Saltaire. To do this, we would need to have more active members and be as representative as we can be. **Please come to the next meeting if you want to have your say!**

SVS has looked closely at the College's building plans and our meeting with the Principal brought to light a wide range of opinions.

We have also been asked to support *Totally Locally*, the campaign to strengthen the local community, and to help with a musical event to commemorate the outbreak of World War One.

If you want to help SVS in any way, or just come along to one of our Tuesday meetings at Caroline Street Social Club, you will be most welcome – upcoming dates are **April 8th** and **May 20th** at 7.30pm. We can be contacted via email at secretarysvs@googlemail.com or via Saltaire Bookshop in person or on **01274 589144**.

SHIPLEY COLLEGE PLANS

Two recent information events were organised to give Saltaire residents and stakeholders the chance to view plans for a new teaching space and learn more about the College's mission, given the many pressures it is under. The setting of the College within Saltaire is popular with students and staff and currently some 700 full-time students and 3000 part-time students attend a wide range of subject areas. In February 2013 the College was judged as 'Good' by Ofsted and we have a reputation for our sympathetic approach to students, for some of whom this is a first positive experience of education. We are privileged to be located within the UNESCO World Heritage site of Saltaire, and over half the College's space is in listed buildings. We occupy three buildings in Saltaire: the Exhibition, the Salt and the Mill Buildings. We also manage Victoria Hall on behalf of the Salt Foundation. The rent that the College pays remains the Salt Foundation's primary income source which funds much of the continued maintenance costs for Victoria Hall. Over the last three years, we have invested £1.25 million on internal and external maintenance. This year we will be investing £1m in refurbishing the Exhibition Building including new windows, doors and roof glazing. To continue such investment, the College, under increasing pressure to attract more students, must remain on a firm financial footing. The proposed new build will cost c £1.9m and the target given is for work to be completed in March 2015. We understand that the proposals will prompt discussion and hope that the two events and information sharing have provided a better understanding of the challenges faced and aspirations being nurtured.

Architects' drawings can be seen on the College's website at www.shipley.ac.uk

Alison Coles

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

Archived issues include September 2010, which features Roger Clarke's history of the Post Office in Saltaire.

WINTER BANDSTAND

Caroline Social Club

FREE live music from 2pm

April 13th

Anchor Big Band

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.

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Why did the Post Office cross the road? Answers on a postcard please!" [That's a Postmodernist joke. – Ed]

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.