

The
Saltaire Sentinel
Your Lion of  *Published monthly*
 VIGILANCE

COUNCIL TREE TALK PETITION AWAITS RESPONSE

*The Paper
 of the
 People of
 Saltaire*

TRAMWAY EVENING

Shipleigh Glen Tramway present an Evening of Musical Entertainment at Victoria Hall on Friday, October 24th at 7.30pm, featuring the Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ played by David Lowe, guest baritone singer David Bainbridge and The Glen Singers. Tickets are £7/£6 with all proceeds going to the Tramway. Contact Dina Plowes on 07905 000545 or Richard Freeman 07773 001250

Vanessa Pilny of Saltaire Village Society (SVS) Writes:

A council committee meeting to discuss the trees (and other works) on Victoria Road will be held on Wednesday October 8th at 5.30pm in Committee Room 1, City Hall.

This is in response to the petition that asked the council to look again at their initial decision to remove all the trees and not plant any replacements. The lead petitioner has delegated the role of spokesman to me and I will have five minutes to speak. I have asked the council to give

me the results of the test digs that were performed a couple of months ago but have not received them yet. The public can attend the meeting and given that hundreds of people signed the petition I am hoping that as many as possible will be able to go and support it.

Our next SVS meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday October 7th at Knox-McConnell Architects, 24 Victoria Road, Saltaire. All are welcome, but please let us know if you want to come as space is limited.

See Page 4 for SVS contact details.

In this issue
**WOMEN AT
 WAR WITHOUT
 FIGHTING**
Plus
**ALL OUR USUAL
 UNUSUALS**

FRESH PRODUCE

The Local Produce Market, which is held on the second Saturday of every month (10am-3pm) in the car park on Exhibition Road, continues to grow with even more new traders joining the nineteen already established. Richard Green sells organic vegetables and plants, Rachel Coats a wide selection of dairy products, and Richard Englefield sweet and savoury pancakes

WORLD WAR ONE CONCERT PARTY

See Page 3 >>>

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.

WOMEN AND PACIFICITS

Colin Coates tells us: In our research so far we have no women from Saltaire who were killed in action or indeed who served in the forces during WW1. However, women played their part and I have already published three stories about them, which can be found in the *Sentinels* for March, April and May this year. In addition, a weekly diary, published online at http://www.saltairevillage.info/WW1_Saltaire_Diary_0001.html will show their importance. Information on conscientious objectors is hard to find, but my research is ongoing. *Meanwhile, see right >>>*

CHASING THE SIXPENCE

Roger Clarke reviews Rachel Bellerby's new book

Salts Walks thrives on repeat bookings, and so it was with great pleasure that we recently rejoined Titus Salt School to talk with more of their students about the process of dyeing in Salts Mill. The content and direction of our presentation owes much to the questions asked by students and our interaction with them. So it was that we found ourselves focusing on the olfactory impacts of life in Victorian England and life today. With the scene already set by talking about how smelly life in Bradford was, and about the use of stale urine as a mordant to fix the colour in the cloth, **Maria Glot** remembered that the dyeing process using aniline dyes was just as smelly as that using natural dyes. Her source was a delightful book, which I thought that *Sentinel* readers might like to share with us. It is called "**Chasing the Sixpence**", subtitled "The Lives of Bradford Mill Folk", by **Rachel Bellerby** and published by Fort Publishing Ltd in 2005. The sixpence involved relates to the practice of workers changing jobs to seek better wages.

The book looks at life in Bradford textile mills between the 1920s and the 1970s as seen through the eyes of 61 respondents to Rachel's advertisement in the local press. Because it is in the everyday language of ordinary folk it makes for compelling reading, and Rachel has skilfully organised it into sections which consider both work and home life, as well as the changing fortunes of the textile industry over this period. It is down to earth, humorous and very easy to read. The short section on dyeing talks about the dense steam in which the dyers had to work, the practical jokes played by the workers on each other and on visitors, and the noxious chemical smells which marked out dyers from the rest of the workforce:

"You'd see them walking home and they'd always stand out by the smell. It was a real strong chemical smell. It must have stuck to their overalls. Their hands would be dark coloured with the different dyes and I bet they never got the dyes out of their nails. They tended to stick together, I suppose because it was quite specialised work and people were always complaining about the smell if they sat near to them on breaks. I mean, what were the poor chaps supposed to do?"

The book is not only about Saltaire, but the experience of mill life was similar throughout Bradford and district, and Salts Mill was not significantly different from anywhere else. I guarantee that it will resonate with *Sentinel* readers who worked in the Mill, and appeal to those who want some real understanding of what life was like in this mid 50 years of the last century.

Stories from World War One

By Colin Coates

Mary Isabel Salt –

"Pacifist and Proud Of It"

Not everyone was in favour of the war, many were pacifists and a few were not afraid to air their views. A granddaughter of Titus Salt was as she declared publicly "A Pacifist and Proud of it."

Mary Isabel Salt, born on September 6th 1876, was the youngest of four children, and the only daughter of Titus Salt Junior and Catherine Crossley. Following her fathers' death in 1887 she lived with her widowed mother firstly at Milner Field, then at Denton Park in Ben Rhydding. Throughout the war years they were living in Harrogate.

Brought up as a Liberal, Isabel was a popular public speaker throughout the war years, sometimes speaking twice on the same day. She was a suffragette, and spoke on numerous occasions at Victoria Hall, Saltaire. Isabel became disillusioned with the Liberals and she joined the emerging Labour Party. In one speech she is quoted as saying: "The great hope for the future lay with the Labour Party."

In the run up to the 1918 General Election she spoke at election meetings in support of Tom Snowden, the Labour Party candidate for Shipley.

Isabel never married and she died on May 21st, 1968 in Chichester, aged ninety-one.

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

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RANDALL
Gentleman's
Hairdresser
205 Bingley Road
01274 - 597140

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CONCERT PARTY

A First World War Concert Party, billed as "Performed by talented local people", will make two appearances in the village before hurrying over the hill to provide the grand finale to the Ilkley Literature Festival Fringe.

The show has been devised and will be directed by Saltaire's own singer-songwriter, poet and impresario **Eddie Lawler**, who tells us that as well as famous verses from the time, "The performance will feature songs to join in, most of which are well-known, but the audience will be treated to some re-discovered gems from the early 20th century, including *Meet Me Gwen On Shipley Glen*, which will be sung for the first time in over 100 years" [although attentive *Sentinel* readers will recall it from our April 2014 issue.]

The Concert Party can be seen (or, rather, joined) at **Caroline Social Club on Friday, October 17th at 7.30pm and Saturday, 18th at 2pm**. The price of admission is £7, but please note the promised concession of £5 for "seniors, juniors and those in appropriate costume".

Tickets are on sale at the Club and can be reserved by e-mail to eddie@eddie-lawler.co.uk

VICTORIA HALL NEWS

Moira Fuller, Venue Manager at Victoria Hall, reminds us that the beautiful Grade II Listed building, which opened in 1871 as a 'centre for recreation, culture and learning' [and since 2003 has been a popular outlet for the *Sentinel*] has five "stunning" rooms available for hire for weddings, conferences, classes and other events. Part of the recent rebranding is an upgraded website which gives further information and access to a monthly e-newsletter: www.victoriahallsaltaire.co.uk
01274 327305

REPORTERS REQUIRED

The *Sentinel* is always in need of people willing to report on local events, conduct interviews and/or generally have a 'finger on the pulse' of public opinion. As well as being published – and stored – online at the Village website [See page 4], copies of this paper are held in the Saltaire Archive at Shipley College and we like to think that researchers of the future will appreciate access to Saltaire *as the people who live and work here today see it*. No experience is required, no regular commitment is involved and there is no need to apply for an interview.

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
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VILLAGE WEBSITE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is available online every month, together with **archived issues**, via the not for profit Saltaire Village Website, thanks to **Pamela Reynolds**, who manages the site at www.saltairevillage.info

TWO SAD LOSSES TO CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

It is with great sadness that we report the deaths of **Hilton Broomhead** and then **Bert Thornton** last month. Both were much loved and respected members of the community. They will be greatly missed and fondly remembered, not least at Saltaire United Reformed Church, to which they each gave a long lifetime of devotion and a truly immeasurable contribution of time and effort in many roles. Bert was featured in Roger Clarke's *Saltaire Folk* column in June, 2007 (on the occasion of his 90th birthday) and Hilton in June, 2009.

BIRD WATCHING

Bradford Ornithological Group meets at Saltaire United Reformed Church on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm.
www.bradfordbirding.org

"ALL ABOUT HEROES"

Now that it's all over –
'To wrap fact in a story is to give it power'

Says **Hattie Townsend**

For five performances during the Saltaire Festival, large audiences (sometimes almost alarmingly large!) moved round the streets and gardens of the village and followed the narrative, sometimes heart-breaking, sometimes outrageous, of the nine characters presented whose lives had been darkened and changed forever by the Great War.

As the writer/director, the performances of the actors, professional or experienced amateur, aged from nine years old to richly mature, filled the roles with a truth and energy beyond my expectation, and to them I owe a debt of gratitude.

In conversation after the performances, two families shared their stories of the trauma of 'post traumatic stress' moved by the plight of the shell-shocked soldier, rejected by his community, played with such sensitivity by Ian Barwick. It is therefore fitting that a donation from the very modest profits from the play will be sent to 'Combat Stress' the veterans' mental health charity, who help present day sufferers from this affliction.

To the Saltaire Festival and everybody who supported the production, Maria Glot of Saltaire Village Experience and I extend our warmest thanks and hope that you will see the promised film by next year.

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!

WINTER BANDSTAND

Free music concerts at **Caroline Social Club** on the second Sunday of every month

Club opens at 12pm with live music from 2pm

October 12th
Nightflyers Big Band

Saltaire Cricket Club TABLE TOP SALE

Victoria Hall
October 19th
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.

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"As neither 'senior' nor 'junior', I am relying on my 'costume' to get me into the Concert Party on a 'concession'!" [See Page 3]

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.