

The
Saltaire Sentinel
Your Lion of **VIGILANCE** *Published monthly*

WARMER MEMORIAL GRANT WILL AID RESTORATION

**THE PAPER
 OF THE
 PEOPLE OF
 SALTAIRE**



The war memorial, unveiled at a Service of Remembrance on Sunday, June 27th 1920, thanks to the fundraising of Pastor Revd. Drummond.

The World War One Memorial which has stood in the grounds of our United Reformed Church since 1920, but has recently been sadly neglected, is soon to be fully restored.

This is largely due to the generous support of the 'Grants for War Memorials' scheme, which is jointly funded by English Heritage and The Wolfson Foundation for the repair and conservation of freestanding war memorials in England, administered by the War Memorials Trust. However, as this will not cover the full cost of the task, which will involve steam washing of the stone, repointing of joints, injection of cement to exposed foundation stones, work to address sunken ground around the obelisk cleaning and

repair, by a specialist firm, of the bronze tablet which records the names of the members of the congregation who lost their lives in the Great War, any donations will be gratefully received by the church, which remains an active place of Christian worship where all are welcome. The renovated memorial will be the latest achievement in the restoration of the church, which has already resulted in improvements to the portico roof, main windows and front steps, as well as the mausoleum of Sir Titus Salt.

Since 2005, this work has been supervised by Bill Glaister, English Heritage approved architect from Overton Architects of Ilkley, whose expertise and advice has been invaluable.

**In this issue
 HISTORY CLUB
 Plus
 BANDSTAND
 Plus
 ALL OUR USUAL
 UNUSUALS**



The plaque on the memorial, bearing the names, which need to be made clearer, of local men who lost their lives in the First World War.

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.**

MORE OF THE STORY OF SALTS MILL **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.saltairevillageexperience.co.uk)

“Most, if not all mills had done very well out of the period 1937 to 1947. It was obvious from 1937 onwards that there was going to be a war, so stocks of khaki started to build. Then, in the war itself, as armies grew, they needed clothing and then replacement clothing - nearly all of it wool. Firefighters wore wool, ARP wardens wore wool. It was a good time which allowed huge cash reserves to be built up but it bred complacency. After the war, there were millions of "de-mob suits" and after that, more suits because men had become used to wearing their de-mob suit, even if they changed into overalls when they got to work. Marks and Spencer realised in the 60's that the traditional suppliers of suits - Burtons, Hepworths, Colliers etc, sold suits where customers bought a suit whether both parts fitted or not. A jacket may fit, but the trousers wouldn't. The alternative was to have a suit made to measure, but that was more expensive and the customer waited several weeks.

Worse still, most of the so-called multiple tailors had built their shops in the 30's and they were still lit with solitary light bulbs. I had worked at one of the biggest Burton branches as a 'Saturday sales boy' in the late 60's (I was paid a pound a day) and we had to take customers outside onto the pavement if they wanted to really study the cloths available. M&S realised that they could solve both problems at a stroke. They had developed colour measurement technology to measure colour accurately. All their stores, and their offices, would be lit identically (with TL84 florescent tubes) whilst they and their suppliers would use a specific system of colour measurement so that there was 'colour continuity' from one roll of cloth to the next, from one batch to the next, even from one year to the next. The really clever part was that M&S owned half the patent. If M&S wanted you as a supplier, you were allowed to buy the machinery and software, if not you couldn't because they did not want the likes of Burtons to ride on the back of their technology; technology they had paid to create. The link between Burtons and Salts was strong, and Salts didn't see the changes in technology coming. As a result, by 1978 when I was appointed MD, the mill was operating at about 20% of capacity. And, if things could not get worse than that, suits sales were falling. Men wanted trousers and a pullover and trousers used only 1.25 metres of cloth, whereas a suit used 2.5 to 3.2 metres depending on whether it was two or three piece.

But there were some encouraging aspects. Salts were owned by Illingworth Morris, a huge international company, since 1958, and their equipment was good. Salts were given first choice of any machinery which became free around the group as it contracted. In short, I was given a strong management, lovely fellow-Directors, good machines, a supportive parent-company but no orders. And everything was contained in a listed building which had been ideal in 1853, but did not suit 1979. Some challenge!”

Stories from **World War One** **By Colin Coates** **John Foster's** **Letter Home**

Mrs. Ada Foster of 29 Mary Street in Saltaire received the following letter from her husband, John, in May 1915:-

“We got out of the trenches last night with only a few casualties. We have come back to the same barn again and are quite happy with the rats running over our heads.

We live very well. I don't know where all the rations come from, but they are different from what they used to be. This morning we had bread, bully beef, jam, butter, bacon, cheese and biscuits. Things are very dear here in the town. Matches are a penny a box, and twist tobacco I never see. The roads are very bad for marching, as the pavement is so slippery. It is a long way from here to the trenches, about five or six miles. It was fairly warm yesterday, but otherwise it has been rather cold.”

John survived the war. You can view his full biography at

www.saltairevillage.info

HOW TO HELP

If you have queries, or information on World War One, or would like to help with commemorations, please contact Colin on colincoates@saltairevillage.info or (mobile) 0751520432

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

HISTORY CLUB CONSTITUTION

Maggie Smith writes:

At the meeting of the Saltaire History Club on March 12th this year, a proposal was made that the club – after many very successful years under the leadership of Dave Shaw – should consider adopting a formal constitution. The reasons for this were explained and include the fact that some of the very active members over the years who have done sterling work to both encourage and present research into Saltaire's heritage, need to have a committed and named group of people to pick up some of the tasks involved in building on the club's resounding success for the future. The constitution clarifies the purposes of the club, allows for individuals to become members and therefore influence the future direction of the club, and ensures that all concerned know who will be accountable through set Annual meetings.

The constitution is a simple, not-for-profit, unincorporated model that also gives powers to the group to raise funds and, if required at some future point, lease buildings or employ staff. For copies of the constitution and/or a membership application form, please contact me: smithmaggie6@gmail.com

COMMUNITY HEROES

On Thursday, March 19th, the Shipley Area Committee judged 18 individuals and groups for a Shipley Community Heroes Award, 2015.

Two Saltaire nominations were for **Marion Mawson** and **Hattie Townsend**.

Hattie was nominated because of her outstanding contribution to the Saltaire Festival and to creative community involvement in dramatic productions in the village. Last year, she wrote, cast, produced and directed 'Not about Heroes', a promenade play, set in 1919; the latest of a series reflecting the wealth of experience which Hattie brings to the village based on a lifelong career in schools, colleges, theatre and film.

Marion was nominated for a lifetime of community service to young people. A leader in the Girl Guides for 50 years, 30 at Saltaire Methodist Church, she now helps with St Paul's Church Rainbows. She has run a Toddlers Group in Saltaire for the past 40 years, and at Hall Royd (now Northcliffe) Church for 37. She has also helped to organise a Wives' Group at Saltaire Methodist Church for over 20 years which, in addition to providing meals for the elderly, has annually raised thousands of pounds for various charities. She is still active in all of these roles.

Roger Clarke

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

The

SALTAIRE CANTEEN

79 Victoria Road

01274 - 597818

VICTORIA HALL

**Many Regular Events
Rooms for Hire**

Visit the website and sign
up for the e-newsletter:

www.victoriahallsaltaire.co.uk

01274 - 327305

***The Saltaire Sentinel*
can also be found at**

Saltair

UNITED

REFORMED

CHURCH

POST OFFICE

MEDICAL

PRACTICE

VISITOR

INFORMATION

CENTRE

Shipley and Baildon

LIBRARIES

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.saltairvillage.info

SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

**1 Myrtle Place
Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm**

On Wednesday, May 6th, at 7pm, we have our monthly book club where we shall be discussing Kate Atkinson's *Life after Life*. Two weeks later, on Wednesday, May 20th, (also at 7pm) we shall be hosting a question and answer session with Alan Hall, author of "Bradford in 100 Dates". All are welcome to this free event.

Please contact the bookshop for more details and to be added to the mailing list:

01274 589144
davidford100@yahoo.co.uk

**Saltaire
Cricket Club
TABLE TOP SALE
Victoria Hall
May 17th
Doors open at 10 am.
01274 787908**

THE DENYS SALT MEMORIAL AWARD

Thanks to a donation of £100 from Denys Salt himself, Salts Walks are establishing an annual art competition for school children, awarding 4 prizes of £25 each year to the winning children, not the schools. The art subject can be anything to do with Saltaire. Entries can be paintings, drawings, collage, photographs or sculpture. There are four categories of entry for Early Years, Key Stages 1 and 2, and the best for originality. For further information, including entry forms, see www.saltairvillageexperience.co.uk

RINGING THE CHANGES

Kath Libbert has another exciting display at her Jewellery Gallery on the second floor of Salts Mill: The 14th Annual Alternative Wedding Show, **Rings ... The Changes**, featuring rings that are subtly surprising, delicately different and, says Kath, "definitely not the norm", runs **until June 28th**.

CONFUSED CONVERT

Dina Plowes writes: As a newcomer to Saltaire, I must confess to being a confused convert! I enjoy the fact that there is plenty going on, but get muddled as to who is organising what. Wouldn't it be a good idea for everyone to come together and tell residents what is available to them? Otherwise, how can we make informed input to any discussions/debate about the village?

COLLEGE COURSES

ShIPLEY College are offering Free City & Guilds Practical Gardening Skills courses in June lasting five weeks. Weekend courses for May & June also include Spring Plant Propagation, Summer Vegetables & Edible Hanging Baskets. Stella Downs says: **Enrol now!** To enquire call **01274 327327**.

BANDSTAND PROGRAMME

Enjoy Free music at the Fabulous Bandstand in Roberts Park on Sundays, 2.30-4pm.

May
24th **Fairfax Singers**
31st **Twelve Bars
From Mars**

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED
to keep concerts running
Tel: 01274 594797
Mob: 07910 834964
forp@saltairvillage.info

Cuppacare

is a non-profit café and bookstall run by Shipley Christians Together in New Kirkgate and open to the public on **Mondays and Fridays from 10.am to 1.30pm.**

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Community Heroes?
[See Page Three]
Yet again I'm 'left out'!"

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@saltairvillage.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.