

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:colincoates@saltairevillage.info) or (mobile) 0751520432**

## **PETER RANDALL**

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## **HISTORY CLUB CONSTITUTION**

**Maggie Smith writes:**

At the meeting of the Saltaire History Club on March 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:smithmaggie6@gmail.com)

## **COMMUNITY HEROES**

On Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 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**

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***The Authentic  
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**8am-10pm**

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## **SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP**

**1 Myrtle Place**

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New/Second-hand books

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**The**

## **SALTAIRE CANTEEN**

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can also be found at

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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.saltairvillage.info](http://www.saltairvillage.info)

## **SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP**

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

On Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, (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](mailto:davidford100@yahoo.co.uk)

**Saltaire  
Cricket Club  
TABLE TOP SALE  
Victoria Hall  
May 17<sup>th</sup>  
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](http://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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## **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  
24<sup>th</sup> **Fairfax Singers**  
31<sup>st</sup> **Twelve Bars  
From Mars**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED**  
to keep concerts running  
Tel: 01274 594797  
Mob: 07910 834964  
[forp@saltairvillage.info](mailto: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](mailto:sentinel@saltairvillage.info)  
will dispose of this copy of the *Sentinel*. Please do so with care for our World Heritage Site environment.

Sadly, sooner or later you