

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

FLOOD RECOVERY RAIN WILL NOT STOP PLAY

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



**In this issue
BUSES FULL
OF GIRLS
Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

HERITAGE FORUM

Helen Thornton, our World Heritage Site Officer, will provide information on the latest update to the required Management Plan at a Heritage Forum in the **Methodist Church**, Saltaire Road, on **February 3rd, 7- 9pm.**

Among other things, the ongoing work on Victoria Road will be open to discussion, and Planning Officer **Laura Eastwood**, will answer questions about when Listed Building Consent is needed for properties in the village.

All welcome

This photograph of the cricket ground in Roberts Park, taken last December by **Rakesh Bargota**, to whom we express our thanks, is surely one for the history books. The much loved alpaca are clearly keeping their heads above water – as is Saltaire Cricket Club. *See Page Two >>*

TRAMWAY DRIES OUT

ShIPLEY Glen Tramway also fell victim to the deluge – not from the river but excessive water running down from Walker Wood. **The Tramway hopes to be running again this month** although,

as we go to press, it is impossible to promise a definite date. Meanwhile, **the shop and the museum remain open from noon until 4pm on Sundays**, thanks to dedicated volunteers.

For the latest information, see the website:
shipleylentramway.co.uk

WEIR REPAIRS

Hirst Weir, ‘upstream’ of the village, was, not surprisingly devastated by the unprecedented swelling of the Aire. However, with the help of generous donations from devotees around the country – and a lot of hard work by local firms and individuals – Bradford Amateur Rowing Club, which ‘owns’ the historic construction, hopes to be ‘back in business’ very soon.

So, incidentally, does the Boathouse Inn, on the bank of the river, opposite Roberts Park.

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.

CRICKET CLUB GRATITUDE

On Boxing Day, 2015, the River Aire, which runs through the village, flooded, badly affecting many business and homes. We, at Saltaire Cricket Club, found our pitch under four and a half feet of water. The pavilion, scoreboard and Half Moon Cafe were also submerged. We are well-versed in the joys and occasional challenges of playing cricket by a river. Billy Ricketts, who looks after the ground, has over the years created a range of bespoke instruments for reclaiming cricket balls from the Aire. We have also seen the ground flooded in the past, but never like this. Julien Young, who first played cricket for the Club in 1961 and who still coaches the under 9s and under 11s, stated, "I have never seen flooding of this magnitude, ever". Jeff Driver, the current President of the Club, who, like Julien, first played at Saltaire over 50 years ago and whose father played for the Club in the 1920s, reported that he had never known such devastation. "Even during the floods of spring 2000, which were terrible, the water did not reach the Half Moon Café, but on Boxing Day, the Café was under three feet of water." Ben Barraclough and Kier Brook of Wickes DIY were in touch within a day to offer help with building materials. A team of Boy Scouts turned up to help with the removal of tonnes of silt from the outfield. The Salvation Army did the same. Two women, whose names we did not manage to catch, arrived unheralded and applied hours of elbow grease to help clean the pavilion. Players, parents of junior players and the juniors themselves also turned up to help. The Bradford Cricket League (BCL), The Yorkshire Cricket Board (YCB) and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) have provided excellent and much needed support, including advice and financial assistance to help with the recovery. Many others have also helped in one form or another.

In January members of the ECB and YCB visited the ground. They commented that were it not for the 100s of hours of back-breaking labour contributed by volunteers to remove the silt there would have been no cricket played at Saltaire in 2016. It would have marked the first time since 1895 that this had happened.

The Club would like to record its gratitude to all who helped in the aftermath of the floods and helped to ensure that the rituals of cricket continue unbroken in Saltaire. Dean McMillan, club volunteer

BRADFORD AT LEISURE

THE DELIGHTS OF SALTAIRE

SALTAIRE STORIES NEED VOLUNTEERS

Rob Martin writes: (on behalf of Saltaire World Heritage Education Association, charity no.1158756)

We are planning World Heritage Weekend for 2016 and we need help. The idea is to help connect the people of Bradford to Saltaire by telling the stories of Bradford workers who came to Saltaire to sample the delights of the Glen – toboggan rides, Japanese gardens etc. and the delights which remain such as the Tramway and Roberts Park. Our plan relies on a lot of volunteers so we don't tire people out, especially if the weather is not good. So **we are asking for your help** in being an information giver/guide. **The weekend is in April, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th, and the times are from 10am to 4pm.** On the Saturday we are being helped by students from Shipley College tourism but we still need others as well. Any period of time would be helpful, so please let me know if you can help. I will be pleased to provide much fuller details of what is required, where and when.

saltairestories@gmail.com

(ANOTHER) CRICKET HERO

Colin Coates has found an interesting piece in the *Shipley Times* about William Beaver, of 6 Victoria Road, who died on January 12th, 1916, aged 69. Described as **"One of the best bowlers the Saltaire Cricket Club has produced"**, he was the first professional engaged by the club and was Groundsman "for a considerable period." In 1915 he received a medal for the best performance in a local veterans' cricket match.

Colin Coates' 'World War One, The Saltaire Story' is updated weekly on the Saltaire Village website at www.saltairevillage.info

SOUTH YORKS LASSES IN SHIPLEY MILLS

Donald Swift and Alan Robinson combined to tell me how the shortage of workers in local mills after World War 2 was partly overcome by a daily bus service from villages in South Yorkshire. Salts Mill was not part of this enterprise but Masons at Victoria Mills solved some of their shortage by employing these workers between 1946 and 1950. The bus service called at South Elmsall, Upton, Wombwell, Carleton and Rothwell. The passengers were usually girls who were befriended by local young people and several went on to obtain lodgings in the Saltaire area, even marrying local lads.

The *Sentinel* would love to hear from anyone who knows more about this story. Roger Clarke

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A SNAPSHOT OF SALTAIRE
In 1902 By Roger Clarke

If you had lived in Saltaire in 1902, the housing and the Mill would have looked much as it does today. Sir Titus Salt's village was completed just before his death in 1876, and there have only been a few changes since then, with the demolition of the Congregational Sunday School, the Methodist Church and the washhouse. The Salt family influence on the Mill ended when the company went into liquidation in 1892. A syndicate of businessmen took over, and by 1902, James Roberts was in sole control. There was full employment and full order books, and business was booming. It was a year since Queen Victoria's death and her eldest son, Edward was crowned in August. In Saltaire, the Mill closed for Coronation Day, the streets were festooned with coloured paper decorations, and 5,000 children from the Shipley area gathered in Saltaire Park to hear bands, to watch Lephred's Punch and Judy show and marionettes, and then there were races with prizes were awarded.

The Boer War had just ended and there was an air of optimism around. Ladies fashions still favoured wasp waists and boned corsets, with bell shaped skirts and high necked blouses with fussy trimmings at the neck. Ankles were not to be seen, and gloves were always worn. Gentlemen still favoured formal attire and top hats were the norm. However, side whiskers were giving way to moustaches and neat beards. Trilby hats (introduced in 1895), bowlers and spats were just around the corner as greater informality was introduced. There were cars on the road, with a speed limit of 14 mph, but horses were still the main form of transportation. However, change was coming and public transport was becoming more widespread. Horse drawn and steam trams were withdrawn in 1902 in favour of electric trams in the Shipley area. There were tram sheds on Moorhead Lane which were adapted for the use of electric trams in 1902, and the tram sheds (now a wine bar and restaurant) were not built until 1904.

Electric lighting was becoming increasingly popular, but gas was still used in some public buildings and to light both streets and homes.

The cottages in Saltaire had gas rings in the kitchens for cooking, but also black leaded fireplaces in the living room where solid fuel was burnt, with an oven and hot water container built in. Washing clothes was laborious, using the set pot or copper boiler in the kitchen which required a fire beneath it to heat the water.

To be continued

The SPA
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Shipley and Baildon
LIBRARIES

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.saltairvillage.info

SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

1 Myrtle Place

**Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm**

Please contact the bookshop with suggestions, for more details of what's going on, and/or to be added to the mailing list:

01274 589144

davidford100@yahoo.co.uk

**Saltaire Cricket Club
TABLE TOP SALE
Victoria Hall
Sunday,
February 14th**

Doors open at 10 am.

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

MILNERFIELD FARM PLANS

Stella Downs writes:

Please could Saltaire residents be aware of the development plans to turn historic Milnerfield Farm (former estate farm of Titus Jnr) into a Business & Innovation Centre for the University of Bradford and demolishing the dairy farm which has been at the site since the Milnerfield mansion house.

The planning numbers are 15/05538/MAF & 15/05552/FUL. Please object by March 7th to BOTH applications on the Bradford Council website. The Facebook page is Milnerfield Action Group for news and updates.

LITTLE LIBRARY

Hirst Wood's little free library, situated in the playing fields at the end of Albert Avenue, was decorated by pupils at Saltaire primary school and local artists. One of the first such facilities outside London, the idea is 'bring a book, take a book'. There is no librarian demanding silence, and no booking in and out! Local residents have certainly taken to it! Many hundreds of books have been taken, and donated, since July last year. Fortunately, a recent spell of damage has now ceased, so Carry on Reading!

Dina Plowes

TEACHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Shipley College is pleased to introduce Teacher training courses which will be starting in September 2016. We offer the PGCE & Cert.Ed Lifelong Learning (award of the University of Huddersfield) and the Award in Education & Training. Study in a small and personal academic setting with Saturday classes and 50 hours of paid or voluntary experience. Call Enrolments on 01274 327327 or for more information see our website at www.shipley.ac.uk

WINTER BANDSTAND

Free music at Caroline Social Club, second Sunday of every month from 2pm

February 14th

**HOT AIRE
CONCERT BAND**

RSPB

On Friday, February 5th at 7.30pm in the Kirkgate Centre, Shipley, the RSPB Airedale Branch presents *Algonquin to Niagara - a tour around the Great Lakes*, offering superb images together with entertaining commentary by the popular speaker **Dr. John Mather**

Admission £3

(children admitted free.)

For further details:

01274 582078

abrspb@blueyonder.co.uk

WORLD HERITAGE

WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Like most things in Saltaire, the Management Plan relies heavily on volunteers. I should know!"