

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

GOODS IN THE WOODS FOREST FUN FOR YOUNGSTERS

**HAPPY
EASTER
TO ALL OUR
READERS
OF ANY FAITH
OR NONE**

MILNER FIELD LATEST

As the battle to preserve Milner Field Farm, in the face of 'redevelopment' plans, continues to gather pace towards its climax, **Les Brook** keeps us informed on **Page 2**.

NEW READERS will appreciate that this is a matter of ongoing concern to this newspaper and its followers, and are politely referred, for further details, to back numbers available on the Saltaire Village website [See page 4]. Much more information is easily accessible on the internet.

A 'Holiday Forest School' in Hirst Wood, organized by *Get Out More* on **April 20th and 21st** (10.30am to 3pm) offers a programme of "play and learning" whatever the weather, to keep people aged 5 to 11 happily occupied by fully qualified leaders, with tickets from £21 per day [See below].

Ruth McBain, Manager of the Forest School, says, "We are looking forward to returning to Hirst Wood this Easter to look for signs of Spring and enjoy a range of woodland activities such as den building, wild games, tree climbing, natural crafts and campfire cooking."

Places for the Holiday Forest School must be booked in advance. Details are on the website: www.getoutmorecic.co.uk or you can e-mail annie@getoutmorecic.co.uk (Tel: 07974 35105)

HERITAGE WEEKEND

Saltaire's World Heritage Weekend this year is **Saturday April 22nd and Sunday 23rd**. Appropriately enough, as the great celebration has so soon become an annual event, thanks to the tireless efforts of registered charity *Saltaire Stories*, the latest theme is 'People's Stories', investigating how people lived, worked and played in the past and asking, "How different are lives today in the World Heritage Site?" The many varied, enticing events (most of which are free) are detailed in the excellent *World Heritage Weekender* newsletter, which most Saltaire residents will have now received.

**In this issue
LOCAL HERO
OF A HUNDRED
YEARS AGO**
[see page 2]
**Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

BIKES AND TYKES

The Tour de Yorkshire, the great bicycle race which has become an annual event since the successful visit to the county by the Tour de France, is expected to roll through Saltaire some time around midday on

Sunday, April 30th in its third and final stage, between Bradford and Sheffield. Although competition does not officially begin until the riders reach Baildon, motorists and pedestrians alike must anticipate 'limited access' to our highways and byways.

WHATEVER IT IS - SAY IT IN THE *Sentinel* !

sentinel@saltairevillage.info

The Deadline is always 20th of the month prior to publication.

SAVING MILNER FIELD

IMPORTANT DATES CHANGED AGAIN

Les Brook, who claims [quite rightly!] to be “Working voluntarily to protect a precious heritage asset”, wants *Sentinel* readers to be included in the “Other parties interested in the Milner Field Farm planning application” mentioned in his regular correspondence with local Town and District Councillors and Philip Davies MP.

[Please note: As in any important battle, the situation is constantly changing as the enemy shifts position; and bear with this monthly publication as it struggles to keep ‘up to date’.] **As we go to press:**

The planners have agreed a new ‘target decision day’ of **Monday, May 15th**.

The deadline for comments and objections is now **Monday, April 17th**.

SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT

Les tells us that March 9th saw a big breakthrough for the campaign when the Highways Officer, who previously had no worries about vehicular access to and from the Farm, announced that he “would no longer be able to support this application due to the pedestrian safety concerns it raises”, admitting that he “did not fully appreciate the conflicts that already exist between pedestrian and vehicular movements at Fisherman's Bridge.”

Also in early March, four terrific objections (“terrific” because they are all so well-argued and so trenchant) were lodged by the Yorkshire Gardens Trust and Bradford’s Conservation, Senior Countryside and World Heritage Site officers.

ALTERNATIVE LANDSCAPE PLAN

Inspired by a comment from no less a personage than Jamie Roberts [great, great grandson of Sir James Roberts, by whose generosity we have Roberts Park] that the campaign “needed a positive vision”, an “Alternative Landscape Plan” has been submitted, sponsored by an impressive number of local organisations, ranging from Bingley Town Council to the residents of Baildon’s Upper Coach Road, with the full support of farmer David Downs and family, which includes a number of proposals impossible to realistically dispute; and is evidence of the dedication and positive approach behind the hard work involved in compiling it so quickly.

OBJECTIONS ONGOING

The latest available figures show 1,317 objections to the application alongside 5 in favour. “But that’s not good enough”, according to Les, who urges us all, “Please do whatever you can to encourage even more folk to protest.” To join members of the Salt and Roberts families – as well as the majority of local residents - in objecting to the plans to end over a century of farming at Milner Field, see

<https://planning.bradford.gov.uk/online-applications/>
and search for applications with the postcode BD16 4QU.

COLIN’S COLUMN

JUST ONE OF MANY

126 men from Saltaire lost their lives serving their country in World War One. One of these brave men was

James Harry Sharp

of 2 Higher School Street, who died on April 11th 1917.

Shown below is a letter of condolence sent to his widow by Captain George Gordon:-

“I have been ill or I should have written sooner to tell you how your husband died and what a loss he is to all in B Coy. He and two officers and his platoon were taking cover in a cellar, while waiting to go into action, when a shell hit the side of the house and brought it down on the vaulting of the cellar, which collapsed and buried them. It happened about noon on the 11th, and then engineers were hard at work digging them out ten minutes afterwards. I have never seen men work as the engineers worked, and it is one consolation to me now and will be to you, that everything that was humanly possible was done to save your husband and those who were with him. We found your husband about 6 o’clock and tried hard to revive him, but without effect. He was not disfigured. We buried him the same day beside the cemetery of the village. A cross marks his grave and soon the engineers will have put up a better cross with name and regiment engraved on it. All his effects are being collected and are being sent home. They should reach you within the next few weeks. I cannot do much to console you. Your loss is too great, but I feel for you from the bottom of my heart. Your husband was one of the best soldiers in the battalion and the friend of everybody in his company. As his Company Commander I feel his death and the death of his comrades more than I can say.”

You can read James Harry’s biography, as well as many other stories from the First World War, online at

saltairevillage.info/WW1_biographies.html

Colin Coates

PETER RANDALL

***Gentleman's
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**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

DINA PLOWES REPORTS: IT COULD ONLY BE IN SALTAIRE

When you go to a meeting like the World Heritage Forum last month, where volunteers are needed for a local festival, a local open house arts event, a local park, a local historic Tramway, to name but a few, you know you are living somewhere quite special! And that's not to mention the 19 satellite dishes which shouldn't be in a World Heritage site (but are) and help with what recipe you should use for the render in said site!

Might I suggest it could only be in Saltaire!

Brief discussion also took place about the fate of the Visitor Information Centre (not definitely decided!), the public lavatories on Caroline Street (not definitely decided!) and Milner Field. Mention was made of a need for yellow scarves to adorn the lions for the Tour de Yorkshire - and Friends of Roberts Park would love your pictures of family outings there!

P.S. the Half moon cafe may be opening soon!

HOW MANY BOOKS CAN YOU GET IN A PHONE BOX?

Hirst Wood Regeneration Scheme are delighted that they now have a disused phone box put in to replace the wooden Little Free Library in the recreation area at the end of Albert Avenue.

Saltaire Primary School students will do their usual excellent job of decorating the box, which is for everyone's use, but ET, don't try phoning home from here!

CO-OPERATION COUNTS

ShIPLEY GLEN Tramway extends thanks to customers and staff at Saltaire Co-op. To date, over £800 has been received as part of the 1% paid back to local communities; in addition to a very pleasing amount in donations from the pot on the counter! The Co-op also donates prizes to competitions at the Tramway.

BIRTHDAY 'BOYS'

POET

Tony Harrison, surely one of the greatest poets of our times, will be celebrating his 80th birthday at Salts Mill on **Sunday, April 30th**.

Tickets will be available for a reading and book-signing at 7pm (£10 to include wine and nibbles)

PAINTER

Bradford lad David Hockney, who has, to say the least, played a part in putting Saltaire on the map, is also 80 this month.

TRAMWAY TREATS

The historic ShIPLEY GLEN Tramway, opened in 1895 and still running - surviving all kinds of unavoidable interruptions thanks to the hard work of volunteers ever since, has even more than usual to offer this month:

15th 16th & 17th

Easter Bunny Hunt - and a **Treasure Hunt** from the bottom station to Bracken Hall Countryside Centre.

Tramway running:

12:00 - 16:30

22nd & 23rd

Our **Founders' Day** and the **Saltaire Heritage Weekend**.

Free rides for anyone who can show a pre-decimal penny or halfpenny.

Tramway running:

11:30 - 16:30

30th

(Tour de Yorkshire)

Tramway running:

12:00 - 16:30

BRACKEN HALL

John Bromley tells us:

The Countryside Centre is busy with regular activities and guided walks in the area by the Friends on **April 21st** and within the Council's walks programme on **April 23rd & 25th**. See: friendsofbrackenhall.org.uk

HELP!

Your assistance, in any form, to support the *Sentinel's* claim to be "The Paper of the People of Saltaire" is always needed - and appreciated.

Notices - News - Announcements - News - Notices

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

The SPA

21 Titus Street
The Authentic
Village corner shop
Open Mon-Sat
8am-10pm
Sun. 10am-10pm
01274 - 826534

VICTORIA HALL

Many Regular Events
Rooms for Hire
www.victoriahallsaltair.co.uk
01274 - 327305

SALTAIRE CANTEEN

79 Victoria Road
01274 - 597818
Saltaire Cricket Club
TABLE TOP
SALE

Victoria Hall
Sun. April 16th
Doors open at 10 am.
For further details or to book
a table, contact
Simon Hicks: 01274 787908

BIRDING BY CANOE

This month's meeting of the Airedale and Bradford Local Group of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) will be in the Kirkgate Centre, Shipley on **Friday, 7th**.

Ian Newton will give an illustrated talk, entitled "Ecuador, Andes to Amazon", which starts on the western slope of the Andes, crosses to the Eastern slope and on into the Amazon basin, where birding is by canoe! The talk is scheduled to commence at 7.30pm but will be preceded by the Group's AGM at 7. £3 (members and non-members, with accompanied children admitted free.)

FREE GUIDED WALK

A return visit to Prince of Wales Park in Bingley on **Sunday, 9th** will reveal the great progress made in the environment. Meet at the main entrance at 9a.m. For further details of either of these events, ring 01274 582078 or e-mail: abrspb@blueyonder.co.uk

WHEELIE TO HAVE PARTNER

Our dear old friend [See right] is being 'married off' as the Council kindly presents every household in the Village with a grey recycling bin.

Senior *Sentinel* readers may recall that the idea was rejected, being strongly opposed by Saltaire Village Society, in November, 2003. Of course, history repeatedly reminds us that this how democracy works: Listen to the people, leave it a while and then sneak up the back alley.

The plan sounds good in principle, but the proposed system of alternate collections (green one week, grey the next), based on the assumption that bins will be put out and taken in appropriately, can only lead to confusion and further congestion – which includes obstruction to often emergency access. Leaflets have been delivered giving further details; and much more optimism than this newspaper can muster. **What do You think?**

[Answers on an e-postcard, please.]

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 Christians Together.

ARTS:

AN OPEN SECRET

The Arts Society Saltaire offers an open invitation to its monthly lecture in Victoria Hall on

Wed. April 5th at 2pm;
with the enticing title,
"Secret Art in the Passport –
Foxing the Forger."

Admission £5
(for non-members), with
raffle, refreshments and
a warm welcome awaiting.
[The *Sentinel* hopes to
promote the Arts Society's
meetings on a regular basis.]

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



[See left]
"Partner?
I need space!"

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 organization. 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.