

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

# A CLEAN SWEEP RESIDENTS ROLL UP SLEEVES

*The paper  
of the  
people of  
Saltaire*

## WRITE HERE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is produced, distributed (and put online) by a small team of dedicated volunteers, with the much appreciated help of regular contributors.

Yet, in order to maintain its claim to be "The Paper of the People of Saltaire" it still needs YOU. Assistance is especially required in 'chasing up', reporting on and editing stories. The *Sentinel* seeks to present a balanced recipe of local history, promotion of forthcoming events and reports of recent ones, as seen by local residents.

Marion Rolfe reports: A week before this year's Saltaire Festival began, residents of Mary and Helen set to and had a clean-up of the alley which lies between those streets.

Sue and Ken Cross, newcomers to Helen Street, instigated the event by notifying all residents of both streets of their intention to do a clean sweep from Titus through to Caroline, asking for volunteers, with lemon squash and biscuits as a reward.

Only four willing workers took part; but in just over an hour we had finished the job. We surely would have won first prize in any competition. So now we are welcoming any challenge to our superiority!

In January this year, the alley was used in location shooting of the film "Funny Cow", which is due to be released in cinemas on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

See you at the popcorn counter!

In this issue  
**HIRST  
WOOD  
SPECIAL**  
*Plus*  
**ALL OUR USUAL  
UNUSUALS**

## ADVENT ADVANCE

Believe it or not, it is already time to start thinking about this year's Living Advent Calendar! In fact, by now, all houses in the village will probably have received a colourful leaflet from

**Kate Thompson**, giving further details and an invitation to participate. The deadline is (or was) **October 1<sup>st</sup>**, so Kate tells *Sentinel* readers, "I hope you've all got your entries in in advance!"

In any case, it's well worth checking out the past success and future plans of Kate and the Calendar on the internet.

## GLEN TRAMWAY HOSTS GHOSTS

Dina Plowes tells us: Shipley Glen Tramway will be putting on some special events at Halloween. Thanks to John from the Orange Grove in Saltaire and his band of scoopers and carvers, pumpkins will

be on display over the weekend of

**October 28/29<sup>th</sup>.**

They may be joined by a skeleton crew as well as the usual band of dedicated volunteers.

**But will you spot which are witch?**

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

**sentinel@saltairevillage.info**

**The Deadline is always 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.**

## CULVERT RESTORATION

Much has been spoken and written about the architecture and restoration of Saltaire Mills (Saltaire) Ltd. On-going work, above ground, has continued unabated for many years to restore Salts Mill (Saltaire) Ltd to its former glory. So much so that today, Saltaire with its mill, public buildings and industrial housing has been recognised by UNESCO who awarded the model village the prestigious title of World Heritage Site in 2001. Spare a thought, however, to what happens below ground and what restoration maybe required. When textiles mills were built in Victorian times, civil engineers had ensured a steady watercourse supply to the sites via the construction of man-made culverts or channels. Over the course of time, these culverts were slowly coming to an end and would need urgent attention. If not acted upon the culverts could collapse, causing the ground above to subside; or alternatively they could back up, thereby causing flooding above ground.

During 1965, one of the culverts serving Saltaire Mill was found to have fallen into disrepair. On further inspection, it was discovered that 200 yards of repair work was needed to stabilise the culvert and arrest the ravages of time. Representatives from Salts Mill (Saltaire) Ltd approached the renowned civil engineers, William F. Rees of Old Woking, Surrey, and commissioned them to repair the culvert as long as they could guarantee that the proposed remedial work would not disrupt production at the mill.

The firm of William F. Rees had been chosen because they were renowned for using the 'Seergun Gunite' shell relining system which involved firing high-strength concrete onto a mould over which was positioned a wire fabric. Once this task of firing high-strength concrete was finished the result would be a reinforced, internally smooth shell.

Each 4-foot panel was cast together with reinforcement wires projecting around the edges so that it could be attached to the adjoining panel. They would then be checked by the operative who would unite the panels by firing concrete onto the joints through an air-compressed gun. This was continued until the lining was finally stabilized and the jointing matter extended back to the surface of the culvert. Any void, open joints or fractures between the new inner lining and culvert wall was finished off by pressure injecting it with a cement grout.

Although the inner surface of the culvert was slightly reduced, the end result ensured that the flow of water was improved, the culvert was restored and the production of the mill was never affected. Furthermore, the cost of this restoration was £10,000.

So next time you decide to wander around the mill site, stop and consider the debt we owe to the civil engineers who have restored and preserved the unseen, underground structures built for carrying or draining water.

Eugene Nicholson

## COLIN'S COLUMN TERRIFIC

### THUNDERSTORM

Like most readers, I will long remember the 2015 floods that hit Saltaire and Shipley on Boxing Day. Looking through the archives, Saltaire was frequently the victim of flooding. Here are extracts from a report in the *Shipley Times* of July 14th 1900:-

"Yesterday afternoon, between two and four o'clock, one of the most severe thunderstorms and the heaviest rainfall for many years occurred. At times the lightning was almost one continuous sheet of flame, while the thunder cracked and rolled with unbroken continuity and water fell in sheets. The thoroughfares became flooded to a considerable depth and the water made its way into the cellars of many dwellings in the lower part of Saltaire. In the Girls High School (Victoria Road) some of the children had to be carried out of one or two of the classrooms, owing to the flooding of the premises by the volume of the water which rolled down George Street and made it quite impassable for a time. At Saltaire Mills the combing shed was flooded."

There was no talk of global warming in 1900!

Colin Coates

## INVITATION TO ROUND TABLE ON RADIO

**Bradford Community Broadcasting (BCB)** (BCB Radio 106.6fm) always welcomes new contributors to reflect the diversity of interests in the district by participating in radio programmes which include music, news, minority groups, activities, events, poetry, sports and more. 'Round Table' is a discussion programme every Friday from 12 noon that goes out live, based on local and national news and other topics of debate. The discussion is chaired but contributors are encouraged to voice their views strongly, whilst respecting the opinions of others. **If you would like to give it a try,** contact **Katherine** at BCB either by email [hello@bcbradio.co.uk](mailto:hello@bcbradio.co.uk) or by telephoning **01274 771677**.

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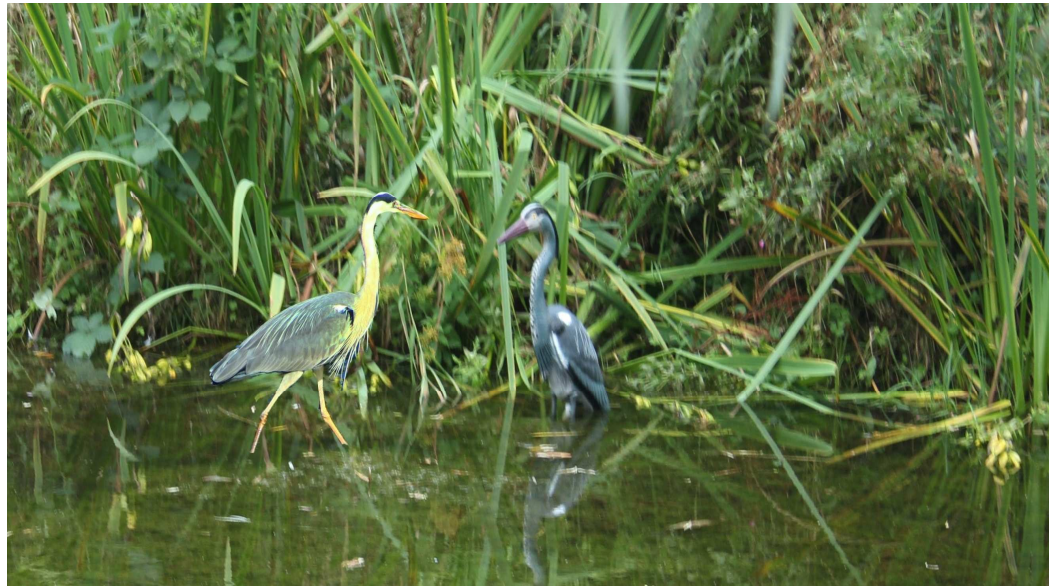
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# HIRST WOOD REGENERATION



*A plastic heron was put in the pond to deter the live heron eating the creatures down there - but it looks as though she has found herself a friend!*

## ON THE SHORTLIST FOR AWARD

Naturally delighted on receiving the message, "Congratulations - you've been shortlisted for a Skipton Building Society Grassroots Giving award of funding!", **Pauline Bradley-Sharp**, Secretary for the Hirst Wood Regeneration Group, calls on *Sentinel* readers: "Please help us be one of the winners of £500 towards projects in and around Hirst Wood and Saltaire. You can see our profile and vote for us at:

<https://www.skiptongrg.co.uk/apply-for-funding/2017-shortlisted-groups/yorkshire-and-the-humber/>

(We are number 33.) Please ask your friends and families to vote for us too."

When giving Pauline the good news, Stacey Stothard, on behalf of the organisers at Skipton Building Society, commented, "We received over 700 applications from community groups, clubs and organisations across the UK and we're really impressed with the work that you do. To make it to the shortlist stage you beat off hundreds of other applicants and were able to clearly demonstrate the positive impact our funding would make in your local community. In order to fairly allocate the funds now we ask the public to tell us who they would like to receive the funding. We will profile you and all the other shortlisted applicants on our website: [www.skiptongrg.co.uk](http://www.skiptongrg.co.uk)"

Voting closes on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

## BURIAL GROUND TOO BIG A JOB ?

A lot of time and effort has gone into arranging a major clean-up at Slenningford Woods and the Hirst Wood burial ground. There are roe deer in these woods and volunteers are needed to help them to have a good habitat to live and breed in. The War Grave Commission has recently installed some new headstones in the Hirst Wood burial ground to mark the resting places of members of our armed forces from Shipley, Saltaire and other surrounding homes, who fought during WW1. Nevertheless, it remains a very neglected location. The owners are actually St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley, whose website reassures us [?], "The burial ground is left to nature and care must be taken on the pathways and steps in wet weather." **Pauline Bradley-Sharp** concludes, (realistically, if without her typical optimism): "Hirst Wood Regeneration Group have considered trying to get some funding to tidy the place up but we have pulled back as we think the project is too big for us." [What do other *Sentinel* readers think?]

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

## **VICTORIA HALL**

Many Regular Events  
Rooms for Hire

[www.victoriahallsaltair.co.uk](http://www.victoriahallsaltair.co.uk)

**01274 - 327305**

## **The SPA**

**21 Titus Street**

**The Authentic  
Village corner shop**

**Open Mon-Sat**

**8am-10pm**

**Sun. 10am-10pm**

**01274 - 826534**

**Saltaire Cricket Club  
TABLE TOP SALES**

Victoria Hall

Sundays,

October 1<sup>st</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup>

A wide variety of stalls offering jewellery, small collectible antiques, toy cars, books, good quality second-hand clothing, bric-a-brac and much more besides.

Admission 50p. Doors open for customers 10am-1pm.

To book a table, ask Simon Hicks: on **01274 787908**

## **BIG BAND AT CLUB**

Gordon Tetley Big Band can be heard at **Caroline Social Club**, every Monday, (except Bank Holidays and August) at **8.30pm**.

Fantastic music from the longest running Big Band in the area, performing both classics and modern arrangements; Swing and Jazz. With over 600 numbers in their repertoire, including many from Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Buddy Rich to name but a few, you're guaranteed a great night of musical variety and entertainment.

The initial enthusiasm which led the late Gordon Tetley to form the band 48 years ago is unwavering, with a 17 strong line up of five saxophones, four trumpets, four trombones, and piano, bass, drums and guitar.

**The band also features Michaela Smith on vocals**, performing some fabulous songs from a selection of great singers.

**Admission only £2 per person.**

### **AIREDALE & BRADFORD RSPB**

**Friday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>** : 'Secrets of the Lune Valley' – an illustrated talk by Dr. Kevin Briggs, in the Kirkgate Centre at 7.30pm. £3.

**Sunday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**: Free Guided walk at Northcliffe Dike and Red Beck. (Meet in Cliff Wood Avenue car park at 3pm.)

**Saturday, Oct.28<sup>th</sup>**: (11am-3pm) Falling Leaves Event at Cliffe Castle, Keighley.

**To learn more, Telephone: 01274 582078**

**E-mail: [abrsbp@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:abrsbp@blueyonder.co.uk)**

## **AUSTEN'S ARCADIA**

**Marion Allinson writes:** 2017 sees the 200th anniversary of the early death of Jane Austen, aged 41. She wrote only six novels and yet remains one of the most popular English writers. Join **Arts Society Saltaire** in Victoria Hall at 2pm. on **Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**, (£5) as Jane Tapley takes us on an exploratory journey to find out who Austen was and how she realised her remarkable talent.

**[www.theartsocietysaltair.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietysaltair.org.uk)**

## **WINTER BANDSTAND**

**Free concerts**

(with donations to support the performers welcome) at **Caroline Social Club** on the second Sunday of every month.

Club opens at 12pm with live music from 2pm.

Real ale at £2 a pint.

**Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Saltaire Strummers  
Big Town Boogie**

For more details, visit

**[www.carolineclub.co.uk](http://www.carolineclub.co.uk)**

## **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.

### **WORLD HERITAGE**

#### **WHEELIE**

Does NOT talk rubbish



"I always do my best to keep the alleys tidy; although, admittedly, I sometimes need a bit of a push !"

**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](mailto: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.