



STOCK TAKING TIME

THE VILLAGE AS VILLAGERS SEE IT

**FOR THE SIXTH
TIME, FOLKS:**

**HAPPY
NEWS YEAR**

CONCERT SEASON AT St PAUL'S

St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley, (the parish of which extends into the Village) launches a season of monthly Friday evening concerts on **January 25th** with a visit by the popular **Miscellany**. Billed as "A light hearted concert by serious musicians", the programme will include "song, cabaret and even a hint of Music Hall" and promises "an evening to beat the winter blues". Forthcoming attractions include an organ recital by the accomplished **Stephen Mott** (Feb 22nd), and a celebration of early vocal and instrumental music under the heading 'Pastime with Good Company' (March 14th).

Tickets for the concerts, which begin at 7pm, cost £5 (accompanied children under 12 free) and can be reserved by ringing **595416**. The season continues until May and *Sentinel* readers will be kept fully informed.

In this first issue of yet another new year, with "resolution" reasonably fresh in many minds, it seems timely to announce interesting developments – by way of an appraisal of how this publication defines the two words **Community** and **Newspaper**.

It is extremely important that readers feel involved with the *Sentinel* to the extent of what is nowadays known as 'a sense of ownership'. Consequently, 'the team' will be out and about more in future asking for people's thoughts on local current affairs (particularly those on which the wider press presents only an outsider's view) and putting them, with names where desired, in the paper. Meanwhile, this newspaper will have a more visible presence at various public gatherings and plans are being drawn up for some special *Sentinel* events; of which more news as it develops. One particularly exciting venture here will be take production "onto the streets", using a laptop to let everyone see – and be physically part of – how the *Sentinel* is put together. There are all sorts of great initiatives being undertaken by various different bodies in Saltaire and the point has been made more than once that a little more 'networking' might benefit all. While the *Sentinel* needs to retain its independence, it also needs to be recognised by all as a vehicle potentially at their disposal. So this year Pamela will be inviting all likely parties to join our 'e-mailing list', so that they will receive a regular reminder of our deadline and a pro forma for

copy which we hope will save a lot of trouble.

Distribution

Distribution is monitored with availability to local people always the priority. Of course, we welcome our many other readers; visitors, and people of no small influence – but their attention makes it all the more important that we give them a realistic 'inside view'.

Reporting

We hope, "with all contributions gratefully received" to do more in the way of reporting events after they have happened. One role which the *Sentinel* has always undertaken, so relevant to our special setting, is the recalling of history. Now, we like to think we can combine these aspects in an even more exciting way because, with copies going into the Saltaire Archive, we are recording history, for readers of the future, as it happens.

Theme

One theme runs clearly through all the points above: This newspaper is by no definition a tourist brochure. If we tend to take a positive view of most things, that is because we are a community of positive people. The role of the *Sentinel* is to present to anyone who is interested The Village as Villagers see it.

Team

The *Sentinel* is put together by a small, dedicated team: **Pamela Reynolds** brings her technical expertise, already familiar to visitors to the Village Website, to the type-

**In this issue
REMEMBERING
CLIVE WOODS**

Plus

A NEWCOMER'S VIEWS

Plus

FRIENDS OF COLLEGE

Plus

**ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

setting department as well as writing articles, while **Roger Clarke** remains our ace reporter and interviewer in addition to taking responsibility for distribution.

Your participation is always welcome. Oh, and *my* role? :

James Duncan, Editor

**ROGER CLARKE
OUR MAN ON THE TELLY**

Locks and Quays, the series made by 'Centini' for ITV, comes to the screen this month on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm, with the episode featuring Saltaire – and well known personality **Roger Clarke** – due to be broadcast on 17th. Although we all learned a lesson about over enthusiasm from the BBCs visit last year, and although there is already a disappointing 'leak' that Roger will not be appearing in his much loved role of the Revd. Cowan, there is a strong likelihood that our star reporter will be seen as himself in shots of the canal bank. "We recorded for about thirty minutes there," says Roger, who promises "Autographs later".

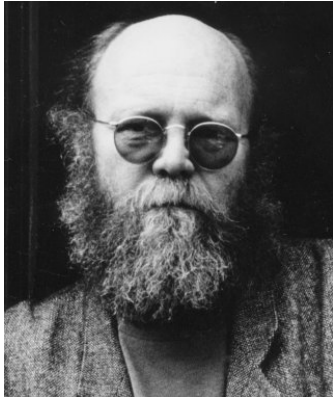
WHATEVER IT IS – SAY IT IN THE *Sentinel*

E-mail: saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

OR use the form to be found on the website: www.saltairevillage.info

FEBRUARY 08 deadline: 20th JAN

The Saltaire Sentinel



REMEMBERING CLIVE WOODS

About eighty people gathered at Nab Wood Crematorium on the cold but bright afternoon of Monday, December 10th 2007 to bid farewell to Clive Woods, who died on November 22nd aged sixty-one.

Aware that he was addressing a very mixed audience, in terms of faith, The Revd. Paul Breeze, minister of Saltaire United Reformed Church, conducted the service with a degree of religiosity which few would dispute was appropriate to the occasion.

He was not totally convinced, he said, by those who claimed that Clive had been a Humanist. Clive may have turned his back on organised religion but there remained about him a deep spirituality and there was good reason for all, notwithstanding the sadness which united them at his death, to celebrate with thanks the goodness with which he had touched their lives. Following the simple, but very moving service, a large number of those present proceeded to Victoria Hall (see column 4, opposite) at the invitation of Clive's relatives, who had travelled from Lancashire and further afield.

As they left the crematorium, many paused at the coffin, on top of which was a photograph of Clive sporting a magnificent auburn beard which, it seems, he had cultivated for some competition or other in 2003.

[Photo courtesy of Richard Heald]

Roger Clarke's SALTAIRE FOLK SPECIAL

In January, 2007, Clive Woods was featured in this column. It was difficult to "interview" Clive, who was most at home discussing the Salt family history, or the pressing issues of the day which affected the Village. He was surprised that anyone would be interested in him as an individual. He always set himself to one side in order to focus on the issues which he was passionate about. A good example came after he suffered his stroke, when he was amazed by everyone's reaction to his illness. He was deeply touched by the concern which was shown, accepting with feigned resignation that he "had" to report every day to Anne and Roger at the Information Centre, where a special chair was reserved for him, "just to make sure that I'm still alive," and laughing that he'd scared Phil Fluke, who also kept a close eye on him, by forgetting to let him know that he'd be away in Wakefield doing some historical research. He refused to acknowledge the severity of his illness, dealing with his residual symptoms with impatience because they got in the way of his work. When I asked him about the consequences of his stroke, his reply that it was "a year's lost research" reflects his single minded approach to his life in Saltaire.

Clive was first and foremost a historian, totally dedicated to making an accurate and authenticated history of the Salt family and the Village. His view of history was that it is simply a record of what men and women do in their lifetimes, and by this token Clive "made history" with his efforts to conserve and protect Saltaire in the 1980s and 90s.

I asked him about the essential qualities of a local historian. "Curiosity, a refusal to accept received opinion, and being prepared to go to any lengths to discover a new connection" was his prompt reply. These qualities suited his personality well. He was his own man, with very definite ideas about most subjects. He was also tenacious and obstinate, sometimes to the exasperation and frustration of his friends and colleagues when he neglected himself rather than giving up on an enquiry. He would follow any lead to make connections, usually resulting in him having a number of interconnected strands of research at any given time. Clive was a weaver of ideas, and his unfinished product was always going to be a perfect understanding of the enigma which was his great hero, Sir Titus Salt. As a result, conversations with Clive were usually long and convoluted as he was constantly sidetracked by fascinating side issues. It was his passion for his subject which drove him on, and which made him so engaging.

Inevitably, like most single minded people, he was seen as a little eccentric. I thought that I was taking a risk when I broached this with him, but to my surprise he took it as a compliment. He noted that Sir Titus had been similarly single minded, and his other great hero, Charles Waterton, a naturalist, (and a friend of Sir Titus) was certainly an eccentric. It was his brilliance and thoroughness as a scientist which Clive so much admired, as well as his rather unorthodox methods. Waterton was also an accurate and keen observer of animals. Clive commented that "his description of a three toed sloth almost brought me to tears".

These heroes had another appeal - their quirky sense of humour, which Clive shared with them. At a personal level, that is the impression of Clive that I treasure the most, when his face relaxed into a grin with mischievous and child-like humour, and I could see the thing which Clive had most difficulty in seeing - that so many people loved him for himself.

Following Clive's funeral at Nab Wood, there was an equally well attended Wake at Victoria Hall. Memories and anecdotes were shared, and gave us all a poignant picture of the personality of this unique figure in our community. **Clive's nephew John and niece Jackie** talked affectionately about his intellectual abilities, and of his huge heart and passion for his work. Friend of 44 years, **Larry Anderson** reminded us that Clive was always different from the herd. For example, as a 17 year old student he dressed like a middle aged don in tweeds and cardigans (nothing changes then!). He also fought a duel in an honourable cause (the rights of black South Africans), with real swords - and won. **Phil Fluke** recalled how Clive and he travelled all over Britain and abroad with Phil and his harmoniums. Clive often acted as a hurdy-gurdy man, as well as being chief Harmonium Shifter. **Eddie Lawler** recalled Clive's alternative humour. When a party conversation turned to earliest memories, Clive claimed to be able to remember the moment that he was born. He said that his first words on entry to the world were "Oh, no - not again!" **Richard Freeman** of the Shipley Glen Tramway talked about Clive's seclusion. Frustrated by an inability to contact Clive (no doorbell, phone or computer), Richard bought him a mobile phone. After a week or so, Clive switched it off - he said that the problem was that people were ringing him up and disturbing his life - "so this is the last call", and he never switched it on again. Contributions from the floor included one from a fellow bookshop owner who recalled Clive's generosity towards other traders, providing potential competitors with information and carpentry skills to help them with their businesses. Messages had also been received from **Denys Salt** and **Lord Wallace** of Saltaire, both acknowledging Clive's contribution to Saltaire. Denys described him as "irreplaceable", and none of the gathering would disagree with that. **Roger Clarke**

The Saltaire Sentinel

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FIRST IMPRESSIONS

RACHEL NOBLE, who moved into the Village a few months ago, shares her observations: I don't think I'm speaking out of turn, when I say that Saltaire is a strange little place. A bit like stepping back in time, but still having to access to a 24 hour supermarket and an off-licence. The reason why I feel it is particularly strange however, came to me when reading an article claiming that a fifth of people don't know the names of their neighbours. The article was demonstrating that community spirit as we know it, no longer existed, but I think Saltaire is living proof that it is alive and well. Some communities are led by a major employer (Bourneville, Port Sunlight), or by a shared goal (Greenham Common) but Saltaire seems driven by a pride for the place we're living in. The fact that the village is a UNESCO World Heritage site certainly gives Saltaire an identity, but the community aspect of the village extends to more than simply Sir Titus' buildings and a sense of history.

Projects such as the Advent Calendar, Saltaire Festival and Village Society seem to show that residents have a real sense of passion for where they live and for those they share it with. The Heritage Trail, part of this year's festival demonstrated this even further - Saltaire residents were happy to invite complete strangers into their homes, offer them a cup of tea and talk about art - and a lot of people took them up on the offer. I think there are few places that generate such a feeling of passion and unity.

Saltaire is talking of going carrier-bag-free. Many other towns and villages have also raised this as an intention, but I think Saltaire has a real chance of achieving it. There's clearly a demand for it, and most importantly, residents are prepared to put a bit of effort in to achieve something which will have benefits for future generations. If we can do this, there's no telling what else we can do...

COLLEGE AT HEART OF COMMUNITY

Staff and Governors at Shipley College have long shown their commitment to Saltaire and its history. The Salt Archive is housed there, and there is a strong link between the Salt family and the College Principal, **Jean McAllister**, who is acutely conscious of the legacy of educational excellence which she has inherited. OFSTED reports confirm that she is succeeding.

FRIENDS OF SHIPLEY COLLEGE: The College is keen to discover how you feel that it can be more effectively involved with the Saltaire community. It invites anyone to complete a short questionnaire about this which will shortly be available for you to download from the www.saltairevillage.info website.

There is also a special group of the Friends of Shipley College who are interested in local history. It supports the presence and maintenance of the Salt Archive at the Resource Centre in Exhibition Road. If you are interested in joining this group, and especially if you have library or archive skills and computer skills, please get in touch with **Julie Woodward** on 01274 327225 or email jwoodward@shipley.ac.uk

Since Summer, 2007, the Saltaire Sentinel has been printed at Shipley College, where **John Hanslip**, Reprographics Manager, and **Tom Lewis**, Reprographics Technician, have worked hard to help us to get local news to you each month.

DAVID FORD'S SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

217 Bingley Road

Open Mon-Sat. 10- 5

Late opening Thurs. till 8
New and second hand books

EVENTS THIS MONTH

Thurs, Jan 24

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ADVERTISING POLICY

A small number of local concerns enjoy regular, if modest, advertising in these pages. These are all establishments which serve as outlets for the newspaper. To that extent only, there is an element of business in the exchange. Far more importantly, however, carrying the Sentinel involves an understanding of its community ethos by which, in a sense, outlets advertise each other. No money changes hands. Advertising space in the Sentinel is not for sale. Other businesses receive occasional publicity through what might be perceived as 'advertising' features. It must be stressed that the emphasis here is always on the value of such items as news and on the benefit, as well as interest, to the community, of their subject.

The Saltaire Sentinel

MORE - NOTICES - NEWS - ANNOUNCEMENTS - NEWS - NOTICES - MORE

SALTAIRE VILLAGE WEBSITE

Here I am - typesetting the Sentinel for it to go to press before the Christmas holidays - and I'm writing this piece on 17th December, if truth be told. The Sentinel will be available from 2nd January, so our readers will know if it's been a White Christmas (or not!) - or if World Peace broke out suddenly on New Year's Day (pray to God). If only I had a time machine, I could write about these events. In the event of a White Christmas - I'd tell you that I was out with Patrick and our two dogs and we had taken photos and that there was a new gallery of snowy Saltaire on the website. If World Peace really had happened, I wouldn't comment - no one would care what I felt about it, though heaven knows, I'd be a different woman to the one I am now, who feels pressed with worry about the future of my grandchildren, and their children to come. Have you ever heard of **Medina S. Griffiths**, the first Headmistress of Salt School for Girls (1876-86)? I got to know about her from **Sally Rackham**, an indirect descendant of Medina's who wrote to the website from Tasmania. Sally inspired me to find out more about Medina's life. I ended up writing a presentation for the **Saltaire History Club** on Medina, and co-presented it with my daughter, **Elizabeth Lockwood** at the Christmas meeting. There was mulled wine, mince pies, a fabulous talk on Women's Education by **Hattie Townsend**, and thoughts of Medina, supported by a PowerPoint presentation, of course! She was an inspirational woman and, heck, was Saltaire lucky to have her input! She emphasised the importance of character and kindness above all else - the ability to problem solve, to think independently, to be honourable and "true in all womanly relationships", never forgetting that family responsibilities often dominate women's lives. In one of her speeches she welcomes her girls back to school and asks them to: "Begin the year with increased hope, for hope is energy begun, and energy - success!" And that's what I'll leave you with. Before the holiday is over, I'll make sure that Medina's words are published on the website. **The next History Club meeting will be on 31st January, 7.00 pm at Shipley College, Exhibition Road. All Welcome!**

Wishing all a Happy and Peaceful and *Hopeful* New Year.

Pamela Reynolds
www.saltairevillage.info

THE GRAND SWITCH ON

December 2nd 2007 saw the Grand Switch On of the Saltaire Community Christmas Tree Lights by Eddie Lawler's magic umbrella. Over 200 people turned out on a wild and wintry night to join in the carol singing with Bradford Festival Choral Society, and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies. Thanks to everyone who gave up their time to support this event with special thanks to all those who contributed. A total of £809.70 was raised by the community towards the overall cost of £1026, with the remainder covered by the Saltaire Festival Arts Group who organized the event. **Gordon and Harriet Mathie**

LOCAL ARTISTS' CHARITY EXHIBITION

Paula Dunn and **Steve Simpson**, two of the artists who opened up their houses as part of the hugely successful Saltaire Arts Trail, are teaming up for a joint exhibition of their latest work, to be staged over the weekend of February 9th and 10th, with a preview evening on Thursday 7th from 7pm. The exhibition, which will raise money for the Candlelighters charity for children diagnosed with leukaemia, will be situated in the reception areas of **Saltaire Orthodontics** at **No.4 Victoria Road**, generously made available by owner **Sandeep Sharma**. Anyone interested in attending the preview evening should contact paula@pauladunn.co.uk to request an invitation or telephone **581375**.

CALLING ALL EVENTS ORGANISERS!

Bradford Council has recently re-launched its Visitbradford.com website, which is the principal source of tourist information for the District. All businesses wishing to attract tourist trade are encouraged to take a look at www.visitbradford.com and contact jacqui.bennet@bradford.gov.uk if you would like add further details. A powerful new feature is the Guest Link, a facility that allows organisers to upload their own event information which is automatically made available on sites such as visitbritain.com and yorkshire.com, as well as visitbradford.com. Training is required to use Guest Link, but if you are interested in a future workshop in Saltaire contact craig.mchugh@bradford.gov.uk for more information. **Craig McHugh**

STORM IN A TEA MUG

January, 1890: Weavers and spinners in Salts Mill threatened to strike when a notice was posted to prevent them taking food and drink into the Mill. They said that it was an attempt by the firm to force them to buy food in the dining hall, which was run by the Bradford Coffee Tavern Company. Mr Edward Salt intervened and said that hands would be able to use the dining hall unrestricted, and that they would have every privilege which they had possessed in the times of the late Sir Titus Salt. The notice had been posted to prevent time wasters warming their meals before the bell for meal time had been rung. In future, facilities would be made for hands to do everything which they used to do inside, on the outside of the workplace. As a parting shot, the workers complained that the tea which was served in the dining hall was undrinkable, receiving the reassurance that in future only good food and tea would be provided. **Roger Clarke**

CONTACT SALTAIRE

Based at the entrance to Salts Mill. Wednesdays, 10am to 2pm. Come and talk about community issues. E-mail: contactsaltaire@yahoo.co.uk

BRACKEN HALL COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE

Glen Road, Baildon,
Shipley

Friday 19th

Guided walk to Cliffe Castle

(9 miles)

Return from Keighley.
Train fare and lunch required.

Meet at Bracken Hall
10.30am. Friday 26th

Family walk to Hirst Wood

(3 miles)

Bring along a drink
and a snack.

Meet at Bracken Hall
10.30am. Sunday 28th

Fungi Foray in Shipley Glen

(2 hours)

Meet at Bracken Hall
at 2pm
584140

SHIPLEY RETIRED MEN'S FORUM

Meetings, with a guest speaker, on alternate Wednesdays in Shipley Library at 10.15am
New members welcome
591745

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Every Tuesday 12.30 - 2pm
Lower Hall, Otley Road
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Does NOT talk rubbish



"I *always* get too much inside me over the festive season!"

The Saltaire Sentinel is written by the people of Saltaire and photocopied by Shipley College in the heart of Saltaire EVERY MONTH. It is not affiliated to, nor in any way controlled or influenced by any group, society or organisation.

Sadly, sooner or later you will dispose of this copy of the Sentinel. Please do so with care for our World Heritage Site environment.