

Saltaire Sentinel

Your Lion of

VIGILANCE

Published monthly

PARK AND PRIDE HISTORY CLUB OFFERS PRIZES

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

LOCAL ARTIST

Saltaire artist David Starley once again has an exhibition of his paintings in Shipley Library, this year from December 14th until Christmas Eve.

David's work will also be featured in the Shipley College Christmas Show in Victoria Hall and as part of the Living Advent Calendar, as well as the Christmas Arts Market in Riddings Hall, The Grove Ilkley [on December 12th] David tells us he is currently working on "a somewhat speculative view of Hirst Woods, complete with blast furnace!" – a story which we look forward to following in the new year!

There are more treats than ever on offer at this month's meeting of the Saltaire History Club – including the promise of suitably seasonal refreshment.

Erika Diaz Peterson, senior consultant to Hilary Taylor Landscape Associates, the firm responsible for the ongoing work in Roberts Park, will talk about the original creation of the park as well as the current rejuvenation, to which her own research is a major contribution.

Historian **Dave Shaw**, says, "The restored park should give all of us an increased sense of pride in Saltaire's heritage, and this talk will allow an informed appreciation of Sir Titus' intentions in its provision."

The second half of the meeting will be a Quiz on Victorian Life, the winners of which will each receive a Salts Saltaire pen – and be

be named, if not shamed, in next month's *Sentinel!*

Saltaire History Club
December 10th
Shipley College
Exhibition Building
Exhibition Road
7pm until 9

In this issue
CAROLS AND
CANDLES

Plus
WONDERS OF
WURLITZER
Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

David Worsley writes:
Lights will be twinkling in Saltaire again this Christmas when the Christmas Tree lights are switched on on Saturday December 5th. The Grand Switch On of the lights will take place outside Victoria Hall at 6.30pm, with carol singing to follow, led, we are pleased to say, by Bradford Chorale. There will be mince pies and mulled wine from 4.30pm, and the chance to meet and chat to people involved with various Saltaire organisations, such as Friends of Roberts Park (come and buy your Christmas

wreath...) and the Saltaire Village Society. It's a lovely way to begin the Christmas season. Come and meet your friends, make new ones, and help warm Saltaire's Christmas spirit. And don't forget to discover the hidden treasure of the Living Advent Calendar. Take a wander round the village and delight in the wonderful illuminated scenes that are 'opened' as December wends its way. Maps detailing the locations of the windows are available around the village; or you can download one from:

www.saltaireinspired.org.uk/livingadventcalendar.

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

saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

Deadline: 20th

The Saltaire Sentinel



**JOHN
NICHOLSON
POETRY PRIZE**

Throughout the year, we invite readers to submit original poems on the subject of Saltaire and/or Airedale, the best of which are published in these pages. (John Nicholson is the 'Airedale Poet', who died tragically on the river bank in 1843.) Below is the third of four poems this year:

**LIVING IN SALTAIRE
By Keith Preston**

It's good to live in the
village of Saltaire
With its Victorian charm
and smell of fresh air
The river, the railway and
canal are close by
Walk in Hirst woodlands a
few minutes nigh
Mornings and evenings
commuters on phones
At weekends more tourists
gaze into our homes.
The URC bells give their
melodious ring
Was that a nightingale I
just heard sing?
A mighty Wurlitzer from
Lancashire came
To give Vicky Hall a bit
more fame
Thirty years and more I've
been in my house
But I don't want to move –
it's quiet as a mouse.

[The *Sentinel* picture of Nicholson (above) is an adaptation of the engraving by W.O.Geller.]

**TINSEL AND TRIMMINGS IN
THE BURLING AND MENDING**

In the 1930s, Christmas was celebrated with much glitter and decoration in the burling and mending section of Salts(Saltaire) Ltd.

Ilma Senior, who worked there briefly at that time, shared her memories with Roger Clarke:

The department was on the top floor in New Mill, with huge windows to catch the northern light. This was the only department which did not have machinery and was less dangerous than other jobs. It was very clean and quiet, and there was the space in which to celebrate Christmas in the traditional way with tinsel and trimmings. It was pretty much an all female workforce, and all were conscious that it was a prestigious job. The menders did not wear a smock or overalls, but brought in their own pinafores to wear. This select group of workers were also very creative, and would trim up their room for any important occasion – coronations, royal visits, and any other excuse they could find. There were 250 menders employed here. It was their job to rectify any faults in the lengths of cloth (or pieces), removing any knots and replacing faulty threads by hand, which required great dexterity and concentration. If the faults were fairly superficial they were passed to the “pickers”, who picked them out. There were only about 10 or 12 pickers in the whole department as most of the pieces were more seriously damaged. The most difficult pieces to mend were given to experienced menders, called “passers”, who sat closest to the windows in a row. The only access to the large room where all this work went on was by a heavy oak door with a large sneck (drop down metal bar). It made a lot of noise when it was opened and all eyes looked to see who entered, especially if it was a man. To the self-conscious 14-year-old girl that Ilma then was, the prospect of being the centre of such attention was terrifying. It was never intended for Ilma to have a career in burling and mending and so she was employed as the “machine girl”. The pieces on which the burlers and menders worked each had their number, quality and width sewn on the edge, and it was Ilma’s job to do this. On her first morning, Ilma had to return home because the smell of oil and grease in the Mill turned her stomach, so she was not sorry to become an office girl in the manufacturing department.

[Ilma, together with husband Frank, whom she met while working in the sales costings department of the Mill, featured in Roger's *Saltaire Folk* column in the *Sentinel* for October 2007.]

**MAGIC
NUMBER
THREE**

**2 Victoria Road
Open Tues-Sun
01274 - 587313**

**SALTAIRE
BOOKSHOP**

**217 Bingley Road
Open Mon-Sat 10-5
Thursdays till 8pm**

New and second hand books

**Regular Events
On Thursdays 6.30-8
Authors read and talk.
01274 - 589144**

**SALTAIRE
NEWSAGENTS**

**9 Victoria Road
Newspapers and much,
much more
Open 6am-5pm
Sundays 8am-4pm
Daily deliveries
01274 - 595389**

**CAROLINE
STREET
SOCIAL
CLUB**

(next to the Car Park)
**always has a warm
welcome for all.**

Regular events include:
Sequence dancing (Thurs)
Bingo (Mon, Tues, Fri)
Line dancing
(Monday evening,
Tuesday afternoon)
A guest artiste every
Saturday night

01274 - 585140

**VICTORIA
TEAROOMS**

8 Victoria Road

Open Daily

Coffee, tea, cakes, scones,
snacks and novelty gifts

01274 - 823092

**PETER
RANDALL**

*Gentleman's
Hairdresser*

PICTURE FRAMING

HOUSE SIGNS

AND MUCH MORE !

205 Bingley Road

01274 - 597140

The SPA

21 Titus Street

*The Authentic
Village corner shop*

Open Mon-Sat

8.30am-10pm

Sun. 10am-10pm

01274 - 826534

**SALTS
MILL**

**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



**Celebrating
the 151st
Christmas
at Saltaire
United
Reformed
Church**

***CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT***

Sunday, December 20th 6.30_{pm}

OTHER CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Sunday, December 13th 10.30am Children's Toy
Service (Donations to Blenheim Project)

Thursday, December 24th 11.30pm Communion

Friday, December 25th 11am short Family Service

CONCERTS

ShIPLEY ROTARY CLUB

Annual Festival of Christmas Music

Tuesday, December 8th 7.30 pm

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A Concert in aid of Church Funds by

Leeds College of Music

Saturday, December 12th 7.30pm

THE WINTER WURLITZER

International virtuoso Richard Hills FRCO will be playing the Wurlitzer organ in Victoria Hall at 2:30pm on Sunday 20th December. Richard, who has a long association with the Cinema Organ Society, and is currently its Musical Advisor, will be joined by members of Ilkley Choral Society during the programme of popular music from the 20th Century. The Cinema Organ Society is already looking forward to expanding its involvement with local groups and organizations next year. Peter Rushton, of the Society, told the *Sentinel*, "The next few months are going to be busy for us with some exciting new initiatives, including featuring in the Bradford Beer Festival at the end of February, and hosting the final event of the Bradford International Film Festival in March at the Victoria Hall with the 1925 'silent' version of 'Phantom Of The Opera' starring Lon Chaney." Tickets for the Christmas event are available at £8.00 by telephoning 0845 400 2208 or on the door from 2pm on the day.

**St. Paul's Church
Kirkgate, Shipley
CANDLELIGHT
CAROL SERVICE**

6.30pm Sunday,

December 20th

All Welcome

Christmas Fairs

Crag Road

Methodist Church

Saturday, December 5th

11am-2pm

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St. Peter's

Bowling Club

At Shipley Library

Saturday, December 5th

9.30am-12

SALTAIRE

BOOKSHOP

217 Bingley Road

Thursday Dec. 17th

6.30-8pm

John Leavor

Shares his expertise on
the Cottingley Fairies
£2.50 includes a drink
and a raffle ticket.

**THORNTON
SINGERS**

present

**SONGS FOR
CHRISTMAS**

in aid of Shipley
Support Group for
Manorlands Hospice.

A varied programme, of
popular Christmas music,
including solo items from
members of the choir.

St. Peter's Church,

Moorhead Lane

Saturday,

December 5th

7.30pm

Admission £8.

Notices - News - Announcements - News - Notices

VILLAGE WEBSITE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is available online, via the not for profit Saltaire Village Website, thanks entirely to Pamela Reynolds, who manages and maintains the site at www.saltairvillage.info

GIFT OF THE YEAR

There really is no reason to be stuck for ideas during this season of traditional last minute shopping panic now that the Saltaire Calendar 2010, produced by Pamela Reynolds, of Village website fame [see above] is available from a number of local outlets, including Salts Mill, Saltaire Newsagents on Victoria Road, the United Reformed Church and, of course, by order through the website itself. As previously reported, the calendar features familiar figures in surprising guise, with a genuine Saltaire lion on every page.

SALTAIRE POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

(At the Victoria Road entrance to Salts Mill)
Open Wednesday
10-00 -1.00 p.m.
Come along or contact us on : 01274 537416
contactsaltair@yahoo.co.uk

AIRE VALLEY SINGERS

Following the resounding success of their *Anniversary Composers* concert last month, the region's leading choir now invites us all to join them in their annual selection of seasonal music,

MAKE WE MERRY

Friday, December 18th 7pm
St.Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley
Tickets £8 (£6 concessions) 595416 or 563736

Seasonal Sentinel

*Greetings to All
our readers and contributors*

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY NEWS

A New Year's Eve Party in Victoria Hall will raise money for the Bradford City Burns Unit as well as Bradford and Bingley Rugby Club Under 14s forthcoming tour of France. The party begins at 8pm, with no admission after 10.30. Admission on the door will cost £15, but advance tickets, at £10, are available from a number of local outlets and from **Dave Glenister** on **07764 746634** or **enquiries@htgevents.com**

Dave, whose company is hosting the party, told us: "We haven't included food in order to keep the price down but this will be available to buy on the night courtesy of Eric Poli and The Terrace Cafe Bar. More local flavour will be added with Saltaire Brewery beers among other refreshments and entertainment provided by HTG Events!"

KATH'S BRIGHT LIGHTS

The shiny baubles of Christmas may be appearing in the high street shops, but a new exhibition at the Kath Libbert Jewellery Gallery, Salts Mill, is set to outshine them all! *Bright/Light* is a showcase of work by ten sparkling new graduates and two highly talented 'nearly new' designers - both from the prestigious Masters course at London's Royal College of Art. The exhibition is open weekdays from 10am - 5.30pm and weekends 10am - 6pm and runs until January 31st. Enquiries: 599790.
www.kathlibbertjewellery.co.uk

CAFÉ

Cuppacare, in New Kirkgate, Shipley, is "a café with a heart in the heart of town". The not for profit enterprise is kept open from 10am until 1.30pm on Mondays and Fridays by Shipley Christians Together.

CHAMPION BAND

Congratulations are in order and are offered to **Hammonds Saltaire Band** on their victory in the Northern Open Brass Band Championships, which were fiercely contested at St Helens on Sunday, November 15th. Formerly known as YBS, the band, who have been making a special effort to strengthen and publicise their close association with the Village since changing their name at the beginning of this year, were soon back on home ground, in concert at the United Reformed Church on November 28th.

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE
Does NOT talk rubbish



"I hope not to be leading a New Year conga chain around the Village!"