

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

BANDSTAND BACK REFURBISHED PARK TO OPEN

*The paper
 that could
 only be in
 Saltaire*

CRICKET BALL

As usual, Saltaire Cricket Club's First XI played the first home match of the season in Roberts Park, this year on April 24th, with a ball sponsored by the **Saltaire Sentinel**. Unfortunately, the side was unable to repeat their earlier success against Gomersal (away, on April 17th) and suffered a seven wicket defeat to Farsley. Home matches for the First XI this month are on Saturday 1st, against Pudsey St. Lawrence, and 22nd when they face Bankfoot.

Saturday, May 22nd will see the eagerly anticipated ceremonial event to mark the opening of the refurbished Roberts Park, with bandstand.

Proceedings are due to commence at 1.30pm with the arrival of the dignitaries, greeted with a performance by

local traditional dance troupe Rainbow Morris, for the grand unveiling at 2pm. Hammonds Saltaire [Brass] Band will play 'A Vision of Saltaire', conducted by composer Jonathan Brigg, and there will be an intriguing Victorian Freak Show at 3pm.

Regular Music at the Bandstand: See page 4>

**In this issue
 NOTHING
 ABOUT THE
 GENERAL
 ELECTION
 But ALL OUR
 USUAL UNUSUALS**

CHARITY MEAL

Famous chef Alan Murchison will be cooking at Vicar's Café Bistro, Victoria Road, on May 29th. Alan agreed to the appointment only on condition that Vicar's double their charge in the interests of charity. So the price of what promises to be a very special five-course meal will be £35.40, half of which will benefit HIV sufferers in Zimbabwe. Bookings may be made by e-mail or telephone:

**vicarscafebistro
 @gmail.com
 01274 597818**

SIMPLY SALTAIRE EXHIBITION OPEN

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will formally open the *Simply Saltaire* exhibition of artwork and photography at the Saltaire United Reformed Church on Monday, May 3rd.

In addition to providing funds for the establishment of an educational centre at the church, the exhibition is also a

showcase for local talent. Many of the individuals who have made donations are local to the village, and the variety and quality of the work emphasises how much creative ability there is in the area. Their work will be on display, and for sale, daily between 2pm and 4pm until Sunday, May 30th when there will be an auction of unsold items.

WHATEVER IT IS - SAY IT IN THE **Sentinel!**
saltairesentinel@btinternet.com

Deadline: 20th

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Roger Clarke's SALTAIRE FOLK

THE QUIET MAN BEHIND THE HISTORY CLUB

The success of Saltaire History Club owes much to Dave Shaw and his wife Ann, who work closely with staff at Shipley College Resource Centre to ensure that Club members are entertained in comfortable surroundings and suitably refreshed. Dave works tirelessly behind the scenes to oversee the development of historical research in the Village. The publication of "Balgarnie's Salt" with his colleague Philip Barlo established him as one of the Village historians, and the work is used as a seminal reference for students, historians and visitors. Dave is never precious with his historical material, believing that community involvement and team working are the best way to take historical research forward. This commitment to Saltaire has come late in Dave's career, but he has early memories of the Village. Born in Bradford, in Bradford Moor, he recalls being brought by his parents in the late 40s and 50s to visit Shipley Glen. Walking down Victoria Road with its stunning architecture, he was always conscious that this was a very special place. Returning as a teenager to read the Daily Worker in the public library which was housed in Victoria Hall, his link was again temporary. He went on to gain a degree in Mathematics at Manchester University in 1962, which led to a job with the Meteorological Office and a training year in North London. Learning about practical meteorology took him all over Britain before he landed a job at HQ in Bracknell, Berkshire and married Ann. Surprisingly Dave sees a link with Saltaire here. Bracknell was a new town, built to house London overspill, and was a socially engineered environment. Both Saltaire and Bracknell were model towns, and Dave was swift to become involved in community development. The political affiliations of his teenage years had been sharpened by boarding with a Jewish family, who were communists, in his training year. He was co-opted onto the local Parish Council and from there was elected as a Labour councillor on the Rural District Council. There were plenty of issues to be addressed, from opposition to the Fair Rent Act which raised rents for many Council house tenants, to consumer rights. He spent 10 years on the Council, within which time he and Ann had two children and Dave rose in the ranks of the Meteorological Office. He became Principal of the Met Office College, and then Head of International Relations before retirement in 2001.

His reconnection with Saltaire came in 1995. He and Ann often ventured north to visit their Bradford relatives, and heard about the New Mill conversion. Purchase of property here began their split life between Saltaire and Bracknell, where their son and three grandchildren still live. Their daughter and two other grandchildren live in Norfolk. In Saltaire, Dave was introduced to the intricacies of Village history by Clive Woods, and was also involved with Saltaire Village Society. Contact with the Salt family, especially Denys and Eva Salt, led to a fascination with the history of the Salt family, and he and Ann are now a useful link with descendants of Sir Titus who are increasingly involved in the village and events here. His fascination with the generations of textile workers who made it all happen is equally apparent, and he is as concerned with the living history of the Village as he is with its Victorian roots.

Without Dave's inspiring example of team working, his professional and meticulous historical research and presentation, and above all his drive, integrity and commitment, it is doubtful that the Saltaire history scene would be as vibrant as it is today. But always quietly, in the background and never seeking self promotion.

The next meeting of the History Club is on Thursday, June 17th, beginning, as usual, at 7pm, in the new venue, which is the Dance Exercise Room at Victoria Hall, accessed via the Lockwood Street entrance.



NOT SO SIMPLY SALT

Organisers of the *Simply Saltaire* exhibition were amazed when an anonymous donor gave a bust of Sir Titus Salt for sale. The bust (*above*) stands one foot high and is in unglazed porcelain or Parian Ware, dated 1877. As Sir Titus died on December 29th, 1876 this may have been a commemorative piece. There is a similar bust in a display cabinet in the entrance to Victoria Hall. Roger Clarke said: "The donor told us that her father had been given the bust by a very elderly lady in gratitude for his help in enabling her to continue to attend the church despite her infirmity, and for other acts of kindness." Nothing more is known of the old lady or her family. As the *Sentinel* goes to press, Roger is hoping the bust will appear as a feature of the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*, due to be filmed in Victoria Hall on April 29th.

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is always in need of people willing to act as reporters on a part time, voluntary basis, visiting events and conducting interviews.

WORK ON CHURCH - AND WHO WILL FOOT THE BILL

With the picturesque portico of the United Reformed Church presently obscured by scaffolding, the church's publicity officer **Len Morris** explains to *Sentinel* readers exactly what is going on and how it is being paid for: The canopy around the front of the tower is being repaired and rotting timbers replaced. The roof will be made watertight so that the stream no longer runs down through the inside via the lights when it rains, as at present! The steps will be reseated and the railings up the steps replaced. The work is being monitored and approved by English Heritage Architects to ensure that the building's heritage is preserved.

English Heritage have provided £116,000 towards the restoration that is to cost £237,000 to implement. The church, assisted by local companies and the community, has raised £40,000. £35,000 is VAT but this can be recovered from the government, leaving £6,000, which the church is confident it can raise. **The next stage** is to restore the windows within the church that have been vandalized over time, to repair the Mausoleum housing the remains of Sir Titus Salt and his family following deterioration with time made worse by the theft of lead during 2009 and to spruce up the statues of Sir Titus Salt in the church vestibule and the Angel Gabriel in the Mausoleum. English Heritage has already promised a grant of £125,000 towards the cost which is expected to be in excess of £200,000. The church is now at work raising funds to allow that to be achieved. **The work will not stop there!** The rooms below within the church are planned to be modernized to better suit the needs of visiting schools, tourists, the church and the local community. Disabled access will also be installed to the church itself and the rooms below. As a grade one listed building it is essential that the heritage of the building is preserved so this will not be a simple task. When the church is "watertight" the Heritage Lottery Fund will be prepared to discuss the possibility of a grant towards this work as will some other grant making trusts. There is always some left to be found so the fund raising will, no doubt, still be busy in 2011.

PERFORMANCE OF PURCELL

Leeds Baroque will be performing Purcell's *The Indian Queen* at Salts Mill on **Sunday, June 20th**, commencing at 4pm. Tickets, at £15 (£12 concessions) are available now from the Early Music Shop, at the Mill. Tel: 01274 288100

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ADVERTISING POLICY

All the establishments featured in the 'small ads' on these pages serve as outlets for this newspaper and are promoted on that basis. **Please note: space in the *Sentinel* is not for sale, but neither is it offered free for commercial advertising.**

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

THANKS, PAMELA

Profuse thanks are due from the *Sentinel* to Pamela Reynolds, without whose technical prowess and generous assistance, recent publication of this newspaper would not have been possible

CRAFT MARKET

There will be a Craft Market, organised by HTG Events, to raise money for the Burns Unit at Bradford Royal Infirmary and Cancer Research UK, from 10am in Victoria Hall on **Sunday, May 2nd.**

Cuppacare, in New Kirkgate, Shipley, the café with a heart in the heart of town", is a non-profit enterprise kept open from 10am until 1.30pm on Mondays and Fridays by Shipley Christians Together.

SALTAIRE POLICE AND COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

At entrance to Salts Mill
Wednesday 10am-1p.m.
01274 537416
contactsaltair@yahoo.co.uk

AIRE VALLEY SINGERS

Directed by Barbara Bancroft
present

MUSIC IN MAYTIME

To include the premier of 'The Thinker' by Jawaid Sattar and Geoffrey Kinder
Saturday, May 8th at 7.30pm
St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley
Tickets (inc.refreshments) £8 (Conc.£6)
01274 584787 or 01484 710052

REGULAR SUNDAY MUSIC AT THE BANDSTAND

Regular Sunday afternoon concerts begin on May 23rd, the day after the grand opening, with classic jazz from Twelve Bars From Mars. **Eddie Lawler**, who deserves so much credit for the new building, said: "I would like to thank those who appeared in previous years when we didn't actually have a Bandstand."

May 30th sees a double bill shared by vocal harmony group Champagne Perry and acoustic guitar trio Wrong Side of the Rainbow. **Nigel Gotteri** makes a very welcome return with his harmonium recital on Bank Holiday Monday, May 31st, and a week later Acromnia and VoiceMale make up another double bill.

All performances due to commence at 2.30pm.
The Sentinel will be publishing the programme on a monthly basis.

BAD LADS AND JUSTICE

Roger Clarke found this in the *Shipley Times and Express*, published in May, 1880 :

Arthur Spencer (13) of 27, Shirley Street and John Bower (12) of 6, Amelia Street , stole property to the value of 2/- from Crabtrees, Confectioners shop in Westgate, Shipley. They gained entry down a cellar grate, and stole 6d in copper, wine, ginger beer, keys, a hairbrush, a riding whip and a cork remover. They were later found by a policeman asleep in a hamper.

[I would like to know what the policeman was doing asleep in a hamper – **Roger**]

Bower, of previously good character, was discharged with a caution. Spencer was regarded as having led him astray, and was sentenced to a period on a training ship until he should be 16 years of age.

Concert Season at St. Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley
Fridays at 7.30pm
May 14th
AIREBOROUGH GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY

Founded over fifty years ago, the Aireborough G&S has fifty-six performing members, who present a number of concerts every year, in addition to the annual opera (which this time was *Pirates of Penzance* at Yeadon Town Hall in February).

There will be an opportunity for the audience to sing along with these talented performers.

Admission at the door £6
Tickets purchased in advance **£5. (01274 595416)**
Accompanied children under 12 free.

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"Refurbishment, renovation; I'm beginning to feel rather left out again !"