

GOODBYE, OLD TREES FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

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



**In this issue
STRANGLER
AT THE
BOOKSHOP
Plus
ALL OUR USUAL
UNUSUALS**

SHARING SKILLS

Molly Kenyon is gathering names of people who can spare some time to sit with others and do a bit of knitting, explain how you self-published, or learned to repair your bike (with other skills/experiences also welcome), as she supervises preparation for the *Conversazione* at Victoria Hall on April 18th. Please contact 01274 593585 or molkeyon@gmail.com

Watch This Space!

As we go to press this month, work is in progress on the historic 'renovation' of Victoria Road; which includes the felling of many trees which have become a familiar feature of the local landscape.

Those at the top end of the road, by the alms-houses, have already completely disappeared, which is why we hope our photograph [above],

taken on January 19th, may prove to be historic.

Like most changes to our environment, this development has proved to be something of a controversial issue.

Typically, the community newspaper forgoes any editorial comment in favour of an invitation to its readers to express their views in our next issue.

RUBBLE AT T'MILL

Present disruption at Salts Mill promises, as always, to prove to be of benefit to visitors from near and far:

'The Arrival of Spring', an exhibition of work by David Hockney, is being assembled on the third floor.

Meanwhile, a History Gallery, due to be completed this month, is intended to remain as a permanent, very welcome fixture.

WHATEVER IT IS - SAY IT IN THE Sentinel !

sentinel@saltairevillage.info OR c/o The Saltaire Bookshop, 1 Myrtle Place

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

MYSTERY OF MILL HOUSE SOLVED

By **Roger Clarke**

Mill House, or The House, Saltaire Mills, is tucked away beside the canal below what is now the Visitor Information Centre (formerly the Mill Board Room). I knew nothing of its history and so began to ask friends to help me to find out more:-

It has been used as residential accommodation, and as a kitchen to cook food for office staff and the Board Room, in the past. **Colin Coates** looked at early census returns and found that it was initially lived in by servants – three in 1861 to 1881; four in 1891; two in 1901. Subsequently living there were a number of families between 1911 and the 1950's. These included spinster sisters Elizabeth and Jane Reynolds, Albert Flint Wilson and Amy Wilson, Wilfred and Maude Creasey and their son Ken, and Agnes Farrelly. Recalling the 1950s, **Frank Senior** remembers the property being the kitchen for preparing meals for the office staff, and **John Collins** (General Manager of the Estates Division of Illingworth Morris – now retired) talked of customers being given lunch in the Board Room with food cooked in the Mill House kitchens. However, change was to come with renovations made to the original dining hall building on Victoria Rd next to the railway station, now Shipley College. **Saltaire Archive** has documents dated between 1948 and 1953 of the planning and equipping of the new works dining room, canteen and kitchen for workers and office staff. In the early 1980s, it was used for storage, and John recalls how lorry loads of documents and records were taken from storage in the Mill House to the Industrial Museum. They were later moved to the West Yorkshire Archive. Later still, **Maggie Silver** remembers that the kitchens were still usable when Jonathan bought the Mill in 1986. When, in 1988, the proposal was for the V&A to house their South Asia collection in the Lobby at Salts, Sir Roy Strong brought a delegation to the Mill to discuss the idea. The Silvers put on a lavish spread for the delegates, featuring the best of Yorkshire food. Maggie particularly remembers Whitby crab being on the menu. **Eastells** provided the flowers and Maggie's friend **Susan Waxman** organised the food and the Mill House kitchen. The Silvers were wondering where to live when they bought the Mill. Jonathan considered taking over the Board Room and adjacent rooms as living space, and this included the Mill House. But Maggie was clear that she wanted a garden and didn't want to live in the same place that she worked. As a result, they bought 28, George St where Tony Harrison wrote "Poetry or Bust" while staying with them. She speaks of her time there with nostalgia and affection. From September, 2013, the Mill House has become **The Art Rooms**. Successful designer **Jacky Al-Samarraie** moved her business from Baildon Mill to Saltaire Mill House because there was more space for storage and packaging, and for a showroom and studio. Her designs include stationery, greeting cards, china, and tableware. All her products are made in Britain. She sells mostly to trade customers including John Lewis and Tate Modern, and also has an online retail store. Jacky invited me to look around and I was impressed with how much of the old kitchen is still in evidence. The dumb waiter for transporting food upstairs can still be seen, along with the original stone slabs and pantries. For more information, visit:

theartrooms.co.uk.

Stories from World War One

By Colin Coates

Against Conscription

When military conscription was introduced in 1916 it proved to be very unpopular. In Shipley a protest group was formed, calling themselves "The Shipley Council Against Conscription." They organised an open-air demonstration on Shipley Glen on Sunday, May 21st.

A resolution was unanimously carried stating that the meeting "*expressed its uncompromising hostility*" to conscription and they believed it to be:

"A grave menace to the political and industrial development of organised labour." The meeting especially condemned the "*automatic conscription of lads of 18; the effect and attention of which is to establish permanently a system of military conscription in this country.*"

The secretary of the council was **Herbert Bayliffe** of 17 William Henry Street in Saltaire. Herbert, a married man employed as an overlooker at Saltaire Mills appeared before the Shipley Tribunal, in July 1916, seeking exemption on conscientious grounds. His appeal was refused, and he was given a certificate for non-combatant service.

We do not know if Herbert served or not – he died in 1966 aged 75. You can view his biography online at

www.saltairvillage.info.

To help with local commemorations of World War One, please contact either Colin Coates or Dave Shaw:

**historyclub@saltairvillage.info
or (mobile)**

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SALTAIRE CANTEEN

Sentinel readers may have noticed that an exciting new venture has opened at the corner of Caroline St and Victoria Rd where Vicars Café/Bistro used to be. **Saltaire Canteen** opened on December 6th, 2014 but was then closed for Christmas. It reopened in January and now serves meals three days a week – Monday and Friday (9-30 to 3-30), and Saturday (10-30 to 4-30). These are meals with a difference because they are created from “**Intercepted food**” which is food which would otherwise be thrown away. Two of the organisers are **Duncan Milwain and Angus McNab** who source their food from open markets and supermarkets, or after Christmas from generous people who've just overstocked for the festive season. 95% of their food comes from these kinds of origins, and currently they buy in things like milk, eggs, cream etc. The other difference is that you pay what you feel the meal is worth, and if you genuinely can't afford it then you needn't pay at all. Just like Vicars, this is a cafe with a Christian ethos, and Duncan feels that he has a duty to share and redistribute the essentials of life with everyone. The Rev Jimmy Hinton, one of the founders of Vicars, and his wife, are involved with the Shipley Food Project, a social enterprise which runs Saltaire Canteen. I've called in a few times and have been impressed with the buzz of chatter from contented customers. The menu last time I was there was cauliflower soup with croutons; potato and pea soup with potato skins; turkey massala and rice; red pepper/bean/chickpeas and flatbread; meringue/red berries; coffee/chocolate cake and lime ginger cake. Delicious. Local volunteers help to cook and serve the food. Last week two ladies from Portugal and one from Italy, and one man who used to be employed in a Michelin Star restaurant in Cumbria joined the group, and together they bring their skills and tastes to serve delicious food. The idea is not new. In December, 2013, the Real Junk Food Project was set up in Armley, Leeds, and lawyer Duncan helped them to become established using his professional skills. Since then the idea has spread with 10 new café's opened and 40 more preparing to open. There is no set pattern to the premises. One in London is built from wooden pallets, many are in church halls and one to be opened later this year will be in a Grade 1 Listed building. Similarly, the food is obtained from a wide range of sources.

The *Sentinel* wishes Duncan and Angus and their teams every success with their Canteen, and with their plans to use the upstairs rooms for community activities. **Roger Clarke**

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

SALTAIRE
BOOKSHOP
1 Myrtle Place
Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm
New/Second-hand books
01274 - 589144

The
SALTAIRE
CANTEEN
79 Victoria Road
01274 - 597818

ADVERTISING
All the establishments promoted here serve as outlets for this paper. Advertising space is NOT for sale.

The Saltaire Sentinel
can also be found at
VICTORIA HALL
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VILLAGE WEBSITE

The *Saltaire Sentinel* is available online every month, together with **archived issues**, via the not for profit Saltaire Village Website, thanks to **Pamela Reynolds**, who manages the site at www.saltairvillage.info

SALTAIRE BOOKSHOP

**1 Myrtle Place
Tuesday- Saturday
10am - 5pm**

On **Wednesday, February 25th**, the bookshop will be presenting a reading and discussion of Kathryn Hughes' new book on Bradford in the First World War. Starting at 7pm, the event is **free**. Please go to the shop door on the evening and arrive in good time to guarantee a place to sit. On **Thursday, March 19th**, The Strangers famous vocalist and guitarist **Hugh Cornwell** will be reading from his new novel "Arnold Drive". This event, hosted by the bookshop, will be held at Saltaire Methodist Church at 7pm. Tickets are £3 each and available from the bookshop. A ticket will offset the cost of the novel by £3. Contact the bookshop on **01274 589144** for further details.

ORNITHOLOGICAL GROUP ON THE WING

Last month, we reported that the Bradford Ornithological Group has a new venue for its monthly meeting. Unfortunately, due to a technical error, the website at which further details can be found, was omitted from our piece. It is: www.bradfordbirding.org. Apologies are also proffered for the (unusual, we hope) spelling error in our heading [which, interestingly, no reader has pointed out – *Ed.*]

ROLL OF HONOUR ADDITIONS

Colin Coates, who continues his commendable research into the subject, informs us that three names need to be added to the Roll of Honour, published in our special August 2014 issue, of men from Saltaire who gave their lives in the Great War:

**Halliday, Sam
Johnson, Joseph
Sharp, William**

Full biographies can be found online at
[http://www.saltairvillage.info/
WW1_Roll_of_honour.html](http://www.saltairvillage.info/WW1_Roll_of_honour.html)

REMEMBERING DENYS

Following the death of Denys Salt, great-grandson of Sir Titus, on December 21st, 2014, a **Book of Condolence** is open in the vestibule of the United Reformed Church on Victoria Road. The church plans a special memorial service in April.

Meanwhile, the local community will be well represented at the interment of Denys' ashes in Cheltenham on 13th of this month, on which the *Sentinel* hopes to report in its next issue.

WINTER BANDSTAND

Free music concerts at **Caroline Social Club** on the second Sunday of every month from 2pm (club opens at 12)

February 8th

Chaz T Duo

Bouncing original songs

**Saltaire Cricket Club
TABLE TOP SALES**

Victoria Hall

February 8th & 22nd

Doors open at 10 am.

01274 787908

Cuppacare

is a non-profit café and bookstall run by Shipley Christians Together in New Kirkgate and open to the public on **Mondays and Fridays from 10.am to 1.30pm.**

WORLD HERITAGE WHEELIE

Does NOT talk rubbish



"I wish the Saltaire Canteen every success. I've had my bellyful of *wasted food*!"

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 organisation.**

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.