



The soccer world cup has encouraged more people to fly national flags, particularly the St George's cross, in support of the England team. There are however still some Union Flags (Union Jacks) which are upside down. Flying the flag the wrong way up is generally considered to be a distress signal. The Flag Institute offers guidance on their web site, on how to display a flag.

www.flaginstitute.org Part of which is reproduced here.

The Union Flag has a correct way up - in the half of the flag nearest the flagpole, the wider diagonal white stripe must be above the red diagonal stripe. It is most improper to fly the flag upside down.

Private individuals & businesses in Saddleworth, should be encouraged to fly the Yorkshire flag. However, there is now also a 'West Riding of Yorkshire' flag which was registered last year at the Flag Institute. This may be of interest to some soccer fans as the flag looks as if it is a modified St George's flag but also has a Yorkshire Rose. Whilst on the subject of pride in local identity, it was discussed at the June SWRS committee meeting, that there are still a minority of Saddleworth businesses which advertise their address as Lancashire! E.g. **Uppermill Lancashire!!!**

Whilst it must be recognised that Saddleworth is part of the Metropolitan Borough of Oldham but only for local government purposes, Saddleworth is NOT part of the Town of

Oldham, and Saddleworth is NOT and NEVER HAS BEEN in Lancashire. The Post Office & Royal Mail no longer use the 'County' field in sorting the mail, so they don't 'care' what county name is used. Therefore for those who are proud of Saddleworth, and proud of Saddleworth's History, Culture and Identity, please use 'YORKSHIRE' or 'WEST RIDING' as part of your address. Many commercial organisations, both nationally and locally, may tell you this is wrong because their computer says so! But it is their version of the Post Office, 'Post Codes Database' which has been set up incorrectly, or inappropriately configured, by their software distributors / suppliers.

BOUNDARY SIGNS

Site meetings have recently taken place to identify suitable sites for more 'County Boundary' signs. The next sign project is likely to be on the A62 near to Austerlands Chimney, and will involve constructing a stone plinth for a Yorkshire sign. However, a suitable location for a corresponding Lancashire sign is proving more of a problem, as

the preferred location involves obtaining the consent of the owners of the land.

An additional location at the junction of Den Lane and Stamford Road will involve a trial excavation to identify any underground services. If the site proves to be practicable, a single plinth could carry both the Yorkshire & Lancashire signs.

OAT CAKES

In the days prior to the introduction of improved methods of transport, first by canal, then by rail, which enabled foods to be transported around the country, oats were an important part of the diet of the residents in the hillside communities of the north of England, particularly in the form of oat cakes. Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire and Yorkshire each had their own versions. Perhaps there may be residents of

Saddleworth who have Family recipe books, or knowledge passed down the generations. What ingredients were used for the oat cakes cooked in Saddleworth? How were they prepared? What else was eaten with Oat Cakes, and how were they stored? If anyone can help with information on Finger Posts or Oat Cakes, please contact via e-mail at geoff.bayley@delph.myzen.co.uk or by phone to 0780 105 3445.

FINGER POSTS



Now here is another request for information. For much of the 20th century, some of the road junctions of Saddleworth had fingerpost type road signs of the type pictured (above left). This is part of a local sign which was originally somewhere near the Woolpack at Dobcross. Please contact SWRS if you can help identify the locations of any other Saddleworth fingerposts. It would be terrific if

we could see some photographs too. We really would like to know the location(s) of the others.

The sign (above right) is at Bolton by Bowland, now controlled by Lancashire County Council, whilst the centre picture is of the bar at the Spread Eagle Inn, Sawley. Nice drink too!

YARM REFERENDUM

In May this year, the village of Yarm held a referendum which was organised by the local Town Council. The question put to the voters of Yarm was "To leave Stockton Borough Council and join Hambleton Council in North Yorkshire". There was a turn out of 24% with a majority of 8:1 in favour of the motion.

A Lord Lieutenant is officially the representative of the Crown in a county, and each Lord Lieutenant is appointed to represent a particular area. Roy Bardsley campaigned for several years for Saddleworth to be represented by the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, instead of the

Lord Lieutenant of 'Greater Manchester' as at present. The answer given was that the Borough cannot be split. However, whilst following up the referendum in Yarm, it was discovered that Yarm is unique in that whilst local government is linked to the Borough of Stockton in Durham, Yarm is already included

in the Lieutenancy of North Yorkshire. So the question is "Why is Saddleworth not included in the Lieutenancy of West Yorkshire"? Referenda are becoming more common. Soon there is to be one in Scotland, followed – hopefully - by one on the European Union. So watch this space!

YORKSHIRE DAY

Yorkshire day is of course on Friday 1st August. However we in Saddleworth have our celebration on the nearest Sunday which this year will be SUNDAY 3rd AUGUST.

Can you help on the day?

SWRS Annual Membership (Due date November!)

If you have not yet paid, Please send to:

M. Hall, 6, Bridgefield Cres, Springhead, Saddleworth, Yorkshire OL4 4PD

Single Member £5.00

Family £8.00

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