



Saddleworth White Rose Society

In the County of York

Newsletter No 8 October 2000

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DELPH BAND CLUB 06 NOVEMBER 2000

Please note the Annual General Meeting will be held this year at Delph Band Club commencing 8.0pm on 06 Nov 2000. We hope as many of our members and friends as possible will attend. The meeting is expected to last about half to one hour after which there will be entertainment provided by Delph Junior Band and Gilbert Symes.

Videos by Dennis Allcock will show Saddleworth scenes over the last 30 years and a slide show by Mike Buckley depicting local scenes will follow this. The audience will be invited to take part in a competition to name the location of the various views of Saddleworth shown on the slides. There will also be a sop supper.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

May we remind members that the subscription renewals £3 are due on Monday 06 Nov 2000 for all those except new members who joined after 30 Apr 2000. Husbands and wives, partners, or groups may join for a joint fee of £5; this type of membership is of course available to any existing members who wish to change from individual membership to joint membership.

SADDLEWORTH SHOW

Our stand at Saddleworth Show this year was graced by the presence of the Chairman of Saddleworth Parish Council, Councillor Betty Boon and the Chairman of the Campaign for True Identity, Mr. Geoff Hoyle, when the rose "Saddleworth" was presented by Mr. Frank Ashton, BBC radio gardening expert, to Councillor Boon, who accepted it on behalf of Saddleworth Parish Council. Councillor Boon subsequently planted the rose in St Chads Park.

A great deal of interest was shown in our stand and we again acquired new members, plus the autograph, on one of our membership forms of "Gina" barmaid from the TV programme "Heartbeat" who was the celebrity of the Show.

A very limited number of the "Saddleworth" rose will be available for sale late October/early November. A price for these has not yet been decided, though this is not likely to be excessive. However, it is expected that demand will far exceed supply in this first year and so we therefore ask those of you who are not fortunate enough to acquire one this year, please be patient, we expect to have a plentiful supply next year, when the bud grafting process has got into full swing.

The individuals and organisations who made donations to the White Rose Project, plus the raffle winners (two) are to be given first option. After which orders will be taken in strict rotation as received.

YORKSHIRE DAY

As previously advertised, Yorkshire Day was celebrated on 30 July this year, instead of 01 Aug, in order to hold the event on a Sunday. And again we were fortunate with the weather, another beautiful day for our celebrations. Delph Band did a magnificent job in entertaining the crowd with some excellent Yorkshire music. Gilbert Symes was up to his usual high standard when he read the Yorkshire Declaration of Integrity plus a letter of congratulation from Mr. Chris Dawson, Chairman of Friends of Real Lancashire, the Saddleworth Morris Dancers put on an excellent display to round off that part of the event. This was followed by a Yorkshire Pudding Walk to the Diggle Hotel where the walkers were met by Colin Holt, Chairman of the Yorkshire Ridings Society and Mrs. Holt, before embarking on a superb roast beef and Yorkshire pudding meal.

The money raised from this event and from the "roses sold in some Saddleworth public houses is to be shared between Saddleworth White Rose Society and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Some of the press reports we received for this event were good and positive and were very much appreciated, others unfortunately, which implied that Saddleworth used to be in Yorkshire but isn't now, were of course completely untrue and it was very disappointing to read this sort of Rubbish from a newspaper that should know better and indeed has all the facts to hand if they would only take the trouble to carry out the research. However, that said, everyone appeared to enjoy the occasion and we feel that all was well forth while and we look forward to Yorkshire Day 2001.



Outside The Diggle Hotel

BRITISH WATERWAYS and the COUNTY BOUNDARY SIGNS

British Waterways have been approached about the possibility of erecting a county boundary sign ear Division Bridge on the canal side. This bridge is situated on Shadworth Lane on the Yorkshire/Cheshire boundary, So far we have had an encouraging response from British Waterways and we are hopeful that this request will be Approved.

CELEBRATING LANCASHIRE DAY

**WITH FRIENDS OF REAL LANCASHIRE AT THE KINGS ARMS,
GRAINS BAR, 12.30pm to 1.30pm, SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2000**

This celebration of Lancashire Day with the Friends of Real Lancashire is an important day in our calendar because it marks the true and proper boundary between the county palatine of Lancaster and the county of York, as recognised by the government. We shall meet this year at the county boundary at Grains Bar where presents to mark our friendship will be exchanged with FORL. SWRS will present FORL with half a Yorkshire lamb, produced and reared by local farmer Craig Bradbury at Fair Banks Farm, Diggle, this will then be handed to a local Old Peoples Home for the benefit of the residents.

The occasion will commence at 12.30pm Sat 25 Nov 2000 and we are to be honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Oldham Metropolitan Borough, Mr. John Dillon and the Mayoress Mrs. Philomena Dillon and also by the Chairman of Saddleworth Parish councillors. Mrs Betty Boon and her consort Mrs. Mel Saxon. A Lancashire hot-pot meal will be available at the Kings Arms, Grains Bar, at a cost of £3.99p, tickets, which include one complimentary drink, are available from the secretary, Saddleworth White Rose Society, 52 Church Road, Uppermill, Saddleworth, Yorkshire OL3 6EJ. It should be pointed out that Lancashire Day is actually the 27 Nov but is being celebrated two days early in order to take advantage of the weekend.

A HAPPY EVENT

We send our congratulations to Anthony and Ruth Mysak on the birth of their daughter, Lydia Faith on 24 Aug 2000, which also happens to be Ruth's birthday. Ruth was until recently the vice-chairman of Saddleworth White Rose Society, she is of course still a member.

The White Rose of York Collection

The following items are now available through the Society

Yorkshire Polo Shirt.....	£14.00p each
Sweatshirt.....	£15.00p
Round Neck T Shirt.....	£10.00p
VNeckTShirt.....	£10.00p
Baseball Shirt.....	£17.00p
Ties.....	£9.50p

All these items in blue with the Yorkshire motif and White Rose plus many other items of Yorkshire merchandise.

A Saddleworth Tale

The Great Saddleworth Mineral Strike By Phil Clay

"If you lived in a house that's owned by someone else and you find something valuable under the ground, would it be yours or would it belong to the owner of the house"? This question was asked by Derrick Morgan as he stretched on the reclining car seat contemplating the stars, which were in their full glory, from our position high on the Holmfirth Road. "It would belong to the owner of the land unless it was treasure-trove" I replied. "How would you manage to get it for yourself then"? I then explained that one would have to buy the land, including mineral rights, before anyone found out what was there. "How would you buy it from the police then"? At this time Derrick lived in a newly built police house in Wellmeadow Lane. From the rear garden the land sloped quickly upwards, across a field, to the rear of Church road where I was fortunate to live. At this point I realised that Derrick had come across some hidden wealth whilst he had been digging into the bank of his garden to lay down a hard standing for his car.

Eventually, after swearing on oath that my lips would be sealed, he let me into the secret. While digging he had struck a gusher, black gold, (oil). He had quickly covered it up to avoid detection by prying eyes and daydreamed of becoming the Uppermill Jed Clampet. His eyes were glowing with a strange light and if it had been daylight I'm sure I would have been able to see the pound, shilling and pence sign in them. "There's no way you can do this alone, you will need a partner and I'm the man for you." I said. He reluctantly agreed no doubt thinking of his profits that now are half the amount he expected. As the hours slipped by numerous plans were discussed without a satisfactory conclusion and it was decided that more schemes would be inevitable the following night.

As I arrived home just as dawn was breaking I was able to find some old paint and a board, slip over into the field and erect a large notice which read, 'MORGAN'S OIL WELL. PRIVATE PROPERTY. KEEP OFF.' What I omitted to tell the future millionaire was that for the last three years I, and my neighbour, had been disposing of old engine oil by digging a deep hole in the field and uncovering it every time I had a new supply from the sumps. The oil well ran dry.