

Saddleshworth White Rose Society

in the County of York

Newsletter 36

Autumn 2007

Yorkshire Day Saddleshworth 2007



The Chairman of the Council, Cllr John Hudson and Mr Gilbert Symes who read the Yorkshire Declaration of Integrity.



Mrs Colin Holt of the Yorkshire Ridings Society who presented the Colin Holt Cup and Breakfast Hamper on behalf of the North Riding Group to the winner of the North Riding Society Duck race, R Bardsley sec. SWRS



Mr Oliver Benson leads the parade



The Yorkshire Regt's recruiting post and display stand and the climbing wall.



Mr Arthur Hinchliffe, The Saddleshworth Branch, Royal British Legion, Standard Bearer with two regulars from the Yorkshire Regt.



Friezland Junior Band with their Conductor Mr Tom Haslam.

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'Captain' the shire horse, led by Mr & Mrs Heap from Stalybridge, Cheshire.



Llamas from Saddleworth Llama Trekking, Denshaw.



The Bouncy Castle was continuously kept busy by the youngsters.



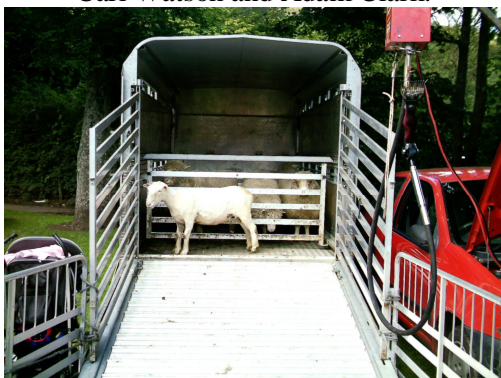
Dairy goats from Mr & Mrs Tetlow who are forming a new dairying enterprise.



A display of top quality Dry Stone Walling by Carl Watson and Adam Clark.



Mr Ian Sneed's donkey provided rides and much pleasure and enjoyment for the children



One of Mr David Hirst's sheep, which were sheared by Mr Joel Broadbent at the event.

The Yorkshire Day event was again a great success even better than the previous year. We were favoured by the good weather, a wonderful change after all the rain and a wetter summer than anyone can remember. The field was busy even before the ceremony finished at Saddleworth Museum and was still gathering momentum when the procession arrived. The stall holders and display stands were worked continuously. The Duck Race was also immensely popular and everyone appreciated the Yorkshire Tea donated again by Taylor's The Yorkshire Tea Company.

The Ultimate Insult, Five miles East of Oldham



Approximately 5 miles East of Oldham's clearly signposted boundary, at Dovestone Reservoir car park, Greenfield, Saddleworth, OMBC have erected 3 signposts falsely claiming this to be Oldham's Countryside. This is about as nonsensical as to claim that Foxdenton Hall, Chadderton is in Royton or that Alexander Park, Oldham is in Failsworth. These townships may share a common administrative authority with a misleading title but they are all separate places with their own clearly marked boundaries. The OMB Council does not appear to acknowledge the difference between one township and another. They are all separate places. The fact that the Metropolitan Borough Councillors chose to dub the Met Borough "Oldham", in 1974 does not mean that all the other townships are parts of Oldham. To use the name Oldham as an abbreviation for OMB is to change its meaning entirely and put out false information. However, OMBC are not unfamiliar with putting out false information. Six years ago after prompting by Phil Woolas MP for Saddleworth, the Mayor of OMB and the Chairman of Saddleworth Parish Council we were assured by the Strategy and Resources Department of OMBC that the tourist information boards situated around Saddleworth, falsely claiming that Saddleworth was removed from the West Riding in 1974 would be corrected. Now after six years of knowing this information to be

wrong and mis-leading, mainly to tourists but also to locals, these signs are still displaying this mis-information. To add further insult to Saddleworth, its people, its identity and its heritage we get these offensive signposts planted in our countryside. Saddleworth and Oldham are two different places. Oldham Met. Boro. is simply a local admin authority, not a place.

Pride in Chadderton

(The Facts)



1. Chadderton is an ancient township, with its own identity, and a rich and varied history and heritage.
2. Chadderton has never been, and is not now part of the Township of Oldham. Its borders remain clearly defined by boundary signs.
3. Oldham Council was abolished in 1974, as were the councils of Chadderton, Crompton (Shaw), Failsworth, Lees Royton and Saddleworth. However none of these townships were abolished, divided or had its boundaries extended.
4. Chadderton is one of seven townships that make up our local metropolitan borough. Together they share a common administrative authority, and council to which each elects councillors
5. Our metropolitan borough was given the name 'Oldham, a purely arbitrary choice that is open to change in the future. Similar authorities in our region use generic titles such as Tameside Trafford, Kirklees.
6. The *metropolitan borough of Oldham*, and the town of Oldham, are not one and the same entity. It is the use of the same name that causes confusion.

7. The regeneration of Chadderton is taking place in consultation with the residents of Chadderton. The other townships in the borough have their own individual programmes of redevelopment.

8. The best interests of Chadderton are served by councillors co-optees, and others, who have local knowledge, appreciate its history and heritage, and are fully aware of local issues and concerns.

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At last a mayor who knows she is the Mayor of the whole Borough.

At long last the Borough appears to have a Mayor who recognises the fact that she is the Mayor of the Borough, not the Mayor of Oldham, the latter title being abolished in 1974 but which still gets frequently used in error. We wish her all the best during her year in office. We feel a good way to round off her year in office next May would be to have changed the prefix of the Borough to something more acceptable to the other communities.

The White Rose Committee is politically unbiased being made up of members who support each of the three main parties and others who like myself have allegiance to none.

Extracts from the Mayor of Oldham Metropolitan Borough's inaugural speech.

Cllr Mrs Anne Wingate

People from this Borough are often told that they should have higher expectations and aspirations, and greater self esteem. However I would say that if you look more closely at the different communities which make up the Borough there is no lack of pride or strong sense of identity.

I was present when former MP Charles Morris made a speech saying, "In 1974 Failsworth did not join Oldham – Oldham joined Failsworth!", and I applaud that sentiment and local pride. In a Borough of nearly 220,000 residents we have many strong and varied communities. People do not have to be the same even when they belong to the same family.

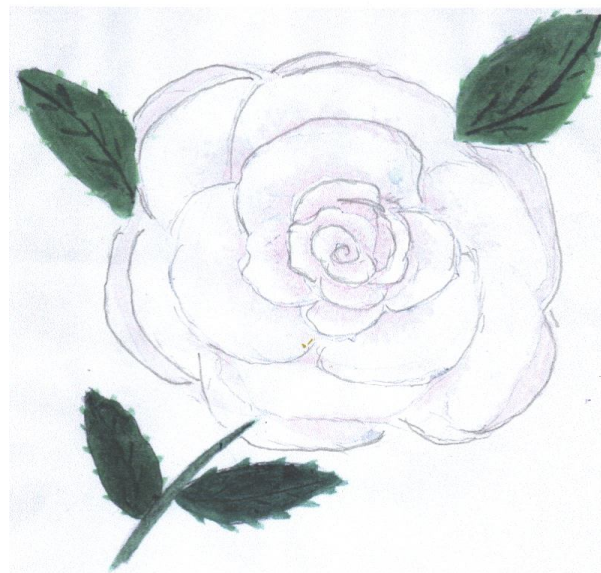
As a now fully-integrated Shaw Gawbie – I hope – I appreciate the strong sense of belonging to a identifiable neighbourhood; the importance of old place names; of memories of buildings long-since demolished; of special customs and important dates, and particularly of the people who form the small core of every neighbourhood and who see that community events happen.

I have thought long and hard about what the theme of my Mayoral year should be. Should it be music, art, languages, education? But what is closest to my heart is what I want to call "Celebrating Communities".

I am curious to learn more about the areas that make up our Borough.

The White Rose

Beautiful and bright. It's lovely and white.
It's vibrant and gay. What is it ?
That I write about today



Why! "The Saddleworth White Rose" of course! from Marion Brookes, Greenfield
The **Saddleworth** Rose plants are available at £4.50 each. Ring 01457 878 768

AGM 06 Nov 07 7.30 pm

The SWRS AGM will be held this year at the Masonic Hall, Uppermill. £10 per head inc. supper. Please book via secretary SWRS. 01457 878 768.