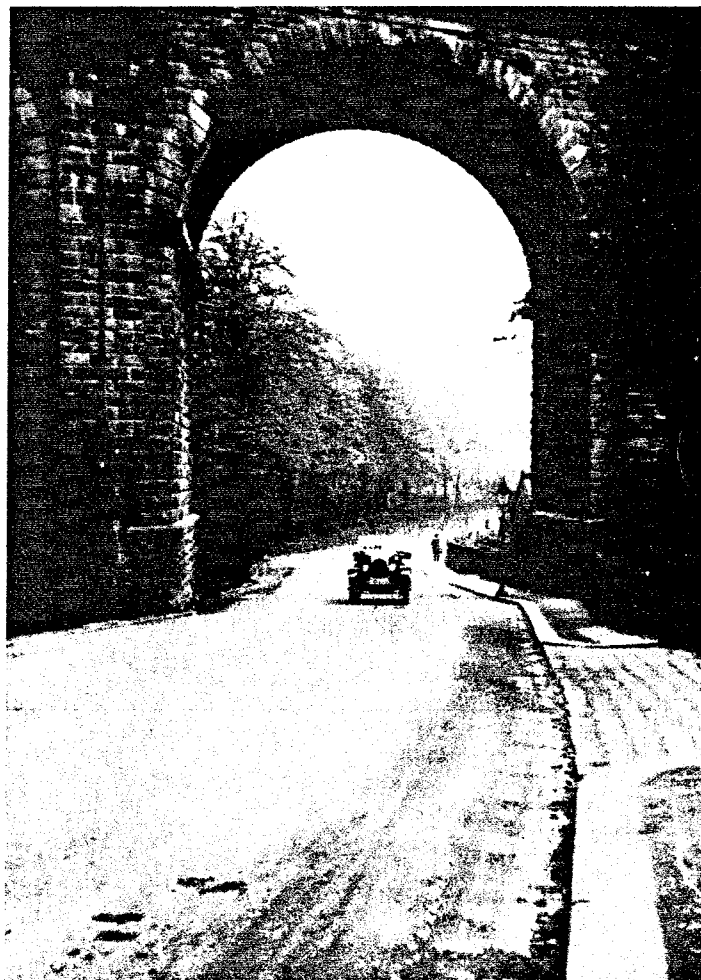


SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN



Volume 29

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Autumn 1999

Bulletin of the Saddleworth Historical Society

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Cover illustration: Brownhill, Dobcross. This 1920s view shows a motor car beneath the viaduct arch, on its way from Uppermill. The building peeping out behind the gas lamp is the former Saddleworth Ambulance Station.

Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth Collection

Saddleworth Historical Society

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The Bulletin aims to reflect and encourage interest in all aspects of the history of Saddleworth. It relies on a regular supply of articles, letters, short reviews, etc. from members and others. Fresh material is required constantly, and should be sent to the Editor, who will be happy to discuss ideas for articles (or shorter contributions) from anyone considering preparing one. Articles need not be confined to subjects within Saddleworth's borders, but should have some connection with the district.

The Society's Web site is at

<http://www.saddleworth-historical-society.org.uk>

This has full details of the Society's activities, publications, library and archives, and there is an e-mail facility. A Saddleworth Bibliography is included, and there are links to other Saddleworth Web sites.

The site is maintained by Michael Buckley.

LYDGATE CHURCH AND VILLAGE

Canon C.C.W. Airne

A Lecture Delivered To Saddleworth Historical Society,
Tuesday 6th April 1976

1: The Early Settlement

A.J. Howcroft in his *History of the Chapelry of Saddleworth* quotes from the Yorkshire Archaeological Society's Record Series, that in 1297 Lay Subsidies were paid, amongst others, by Adam atte Lidyate or Adam de la Lyed, who was assessed on a farmstead and two cows valued at 45/- and other goods and chattels valued at 18/-. This is the earliest record of any habitation at Lydgate, though it is probable that some one had lived here from the very earliest times. The road over Quikedge is a very old one and probably follows a track used long before the Romans came. It was known locally as the Roman Road or the Salt Road. A.J. Howcroft defines "Lidyate" as being "Lyed-yate", lyed from the Anglo-Saxon 'hlid', a cover, protection, and the Icelandic 'hlith', a gate or wicket. 'Yate' meant 'a road', and Lyed Yate was a lifting or swinging gate securing the road against cattle, or a toll or tythe collecting gate. Very likely the latter as members of the Whitehead family who occupied the land under the Lord of the Manor of Saddleworth, seem to have acted as his agents or attorneys. C.E. Higson has a note that in 1707 John Whitehead of Lidyate was so acting. The home of such an agent would probably be known as the Manor House, which leads one to presume that the site of Adam's homestead was the Manor House at Lower Lydgate or very close to it. Until the 1820's Lydgate was spelt 'Lidyate' or 'Lydiate', which is close to the original, and 'Lydgate' is a corruption, due probably to some clerk misreading a 'y' for a 'g'. As late as 1764, the Whitehead estate at Lydgate was referred to as *The Lydyate*, a survival suggesting the original purpose of the property as being a toll or tithe house or the home of the keeper of the gate.

After its brief claim to existence in 1297 Lydgate falls into oblivion for another 400 years, to be resurrected in Saddleworth Church Registers on the 20th October 1655 when Widdow Whitehead de Lidyate was buried. She could have been the mother of John Whitehead of Lidyate, Stapler, whose memorial in Saddleworth Church states that he died the 13th December 1715, aged 78 years and 10 months, and that he was father to 14, grandfather to 51, great-grandfather to 8, in all, 73. He was the John who was Attorney in 1707, and from him were descended the 18th Century Whiteheads of Lidyate and the Whiteheads of Shaw Hall, later of Royal George. The precise age of 78 years and 10 months fits the baptism on the 12th February 1635/6 of Johes, fil Thomas Whitehead at Saddleworth Chapel. The records therefore establish Whiteheads at Lydgate in 1655 and possibly in 1636 and probably much earlier.

Documents concerning the Whitehead Estate in the 18th century are missing, but abstracts have been preserved by C.E. Higson and are to be found amongst this manuscripts preserved in the Oldham Local Interest Centre. In his will dated 3rd September 1715, John Whitehead of Lidyate, yeoman, directed that his "messuage at Lidyate held by lease under James Farrar of Ewood, Esquire, (except a close called Coat Hill, part of the said tenement)" [was to be bequeathed] one half for his wife Catharine and after her death all to his grandson John Whitehead, eldest son of Thomas Whitehead of Ashton-under-Lyne; [also] Coat Hill to his son-in-law, Edward Kenworthy and Martha his wife. This later became known as the Kenworthy

Meadow. Grandson John does not seem to have occupied the Lidyate Estate which by some means or another seems to have become the property of his Uncle Timothy. Timothy married Magdalene Jobson of Rochdale in 1708. He seems to have been a hard headed Yorkshire business man, who could even make his piety profitable. In 1718 he built a gallery in Saddleworth Chapel, access to which was from an outside staircase. The faculty obtained for its erection granted him permission "to dispose of ye Seats in the said Gallery to such inhabitants of the said Chapelry who want the same, at Reasonable Rates, proportionate to the whole charge expended on this account the right and jurisdiction of the Ordinary always preserved".

In a footnote in Saddleworth Registers John Radcliffe, quoting Canon Raines, says that Timothy bequeathed the gallery to his son William, who dying without issue left it to his brother Timothy, and he to his daughter. The Freeholders of Saddleworth to whom the Tithes and Chancel were sold in 1813, contested the Bishop of Chester's right to grant such a faculty.

Timothy died in 1743 leaving the Lidyate to his eldest son William, an Attorney-at-law in Ashton. William leased the estate to his brother Ralph for life. Ralph married Catharine Cook of Worsley and died in 1755 aged 44 years. After his death Catharine remained at Lidyate and was the occupier in 1764 when the estate, along with the Ashton estate, was sold by auction to pay William's debts. In May 1783 the estate was again auctioned:

The Fee Simple of that Messuage Dwelling House or Tenement, with the Shops, Warehouses, Cottages, Out-buildings and Appurtenances, known by the name of Lidyate ... late in the possession of Mr. Edward Costard and now of Benjamin Wrigley the elder as tenant thereof, and of Benjamin Wrigley the younger, Joseph Wrigley, Miles, Wrigley, James Wrigley, Richard Chadwick and Lambert Deplich, as under tenants of the said Benjamin Wrigley the elder. And also the several closes belonging the Nearer Field, the Further Field, the Higher Field, the Bent, the Kenworthy Meadow and the two lower Meadows, containing ... 18 a. 3r. 15p, also in the possession of the said Benjamin Wrigley or his under tenants.

Thus, unless Edmund Whitehead of Lydiate, swailer and later innkeeper at the turn of the century, was a descendent of Old John's, the Whiteheads ended their long sojourn at Lydgate.

Of old John's many children, one James became a parson and ended his days as Rector of North Meols. He was responsible for 10 of his father's 51 grandchildren. Of the children of Timothy and Magdalene, Dorothy first married John Fletcher of Saddleworth and then John Cook, brother of her brother Ralph's wife. Her son George Fletcher was executed for his part in the Forty Five Rebellion. By her second marriage Dorothy had a daughter Mary, who married as her second husband Solomon Peter De La Hoste, a Frenchman who became Lt. Col. of the 104th Manchester Regiment, of which the Chaplain was the Reverend Thomas Seddon, the first incumbent of Lydgate.

In 1785 the Lydyate estate was sold by auction at the House of William Buckley, innholder of Lydyate. There were three lots:

Lot 1. The new or Southerly end of the said Messuage, the South end of the Bara and the Middensteads adjoining it, the whole of the Garden and the Dye House and Necessary House, Also the Waste Land standing therein, lying on the Southerly end of the said New end of the said Messuage and the Close called the Nearer Field or Garden Field, the Bent Meadow and the Farthest Lowmost Meadow, containing 6 acres.

This might be what is now Lower Lydgate Farm.

Lot 2. The Antient or Westerley part of the said Messuage and of the cottage adjoining thereto, also the Northerly End or other part of the said Barn and the Swine Cote adjoining the Westerley side of it. Also a small slip of Land now marked out on the Westerley side of the said Garden Field and the closes called the Further or Middle Field and the Nearer or Lower Meadow, containing 5 a. 1 r. 20 p.

This I think was the Manor House at Lower Lydgate.

Lot 3. That Messuage or Dwelling House and Stable on the Easterly side of the said Garden and the Land adjoining to the Southerly End of the Stable. Also a small slip of Land as now marked out on the Westerly Side of the said Garden Field and also closes called the Kenworthy Meadow and the Highmost Field containing 7 a. 30 p.

This I identify with Lydgate Farm.

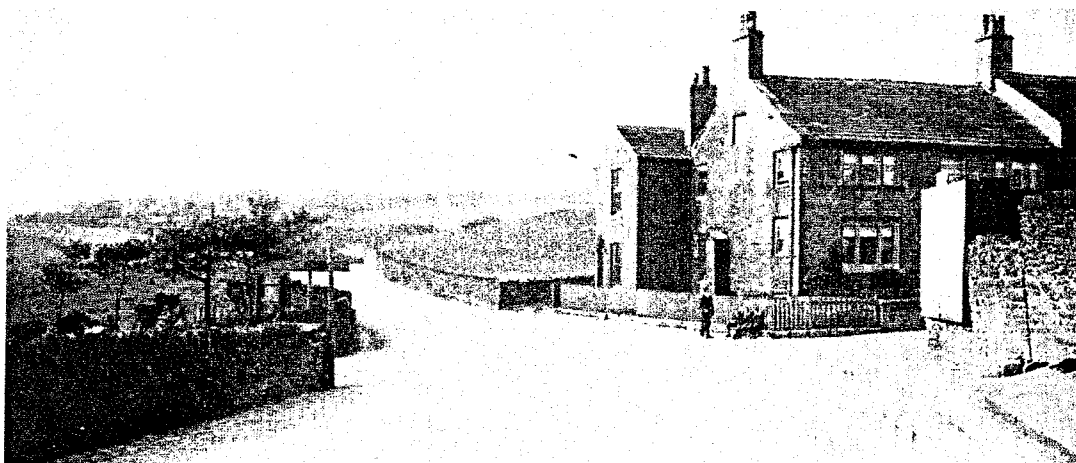
The other family prominent at the Lydyate was the Buckleys. The will of John Buckley of Lidyate was published on the 21st May 1669. He left to his wife, Sara, £100 and "all my Linnon yarn, linnon cloth and all debts owing for cloth by her formerly", also one chest, one trunk, one quilt and the "cloathes belonging to her body." To his eldest son Edmund, he bequeathed £10 "he having formerly had ... a full and sufficient childs portion" and one bedstead. To his daughter Ann "the sum of threescore pounds", and the residue to his four sons, John, William, Thomas and James, equally. John and Sarah Buckley were the ancestors of Edmund Buckley [1780-1867] of Grotton Hall and Ardwick, who from the ruins of the family fortune rose up to make a new fortune and become the village's most famous son.

It has not been possible to trace the Buckleys of Lydgate further back than John and Sara, but the family was probably an offshoot of the Buckleys of Grotton Head, in which case John was very likely a grandson of Gilbert of Grotton, husbandman, who died in 1603, perhaps the son of Edmund, as Edmund and John alternate as the names of the eldest sons right down to Edmund of Ardwick.

The question is, where was the Buckley home and which part of Lydgate was the Buckley Estate? In his will dated 21st June 1718, Edmund Buckley of Lydiate, yeoman, left his second son James "All that Messuage and Tenement situate and being at Lydiate aforesaid where I NOW LIVE which I hould by Lease under James Farror Esquire. And all my Estate farm and Tennant right therein". Also "a Close or ffield near Lydiate aforesaid called PIKELOW INTACKE which I purchased from John Buckley of Chathertone or Lyme-yate". Also "the tenement at Lydiate". Pikelow Intack was the field in which the Police Station, Fourways and the Filling Station stand, and in those days it extended across Oldham Road, which did not exist, and took in the land on the other side up to Burnedge Lane. Pikelow was the land between Burnedge Lane and the middle of Oldham Road. This however, was not the site of the homestead. The rest of the family holding is to be found in Old Lydgate. If we leave out Crawshawbent, which belonged to Grotton Head, and the Whitehead estate, which is well documented, I conclude that what is left belonged to the Buckleys, and that the Messuage and tenement in which Edmund lived must have been in the triangle between Quickedge Road and Stockport Road, with its base the Laundry boundary. The two houses now called the Millhouses and numbered 64A and B, until 1974 Robert Scott's Mill, and Moston Cottage, are all that remain. In the cellar of 64B there is a date stone on an inside wall, with the inscription

E.B.E. In 1689 Edmund Buckley, whose Will I have just referred to, may have been the husband of Elizabeth Buckley was buried at Saddleworth on 11th July 1690, and he is the most likely person responsible for the datestone. However, it is unusual to find a datestone in such a place and the probability is that this is not its original site. Either it formed part of an earlier building on the same site or it was taken from another building nearby. The Millhouse is a possibility for the site of the Buckley homestead and so is Moston Cottage. The truth may be discovered when the deeds of the properties purchased by Edmund Buckley of Ardwick about 1844, come to light. This triangle was certainly amongst them.

Information which has come to me since I last gave this lecture proves that 64A and B belonged to Edmund Whitehead of Lydgate, who lived at Ford Cottage; and in 1837 they became the property of John Mayall of Earnshawhead and Timothy Heath and passed from him to his descendents. It therefore was not purchased by Edmund Buckley. Moston Cottage therefore remains the most likely candidate as the homestead of the BUCKLEYS. [1]



Lydgate Crossroads, looking towards Platting Road.

Peter Fox Old Saddleworth Collection

Edmund Buckley had prospered. Not only had he purchased Pikelow but he had also purchased a farm at Gatehead in Saddleworth, which he bequeathed to his youngest son Robert, along with the sum of £26.13.4 and "a Dying load, that pair of Looms which he or his man usually weaves on, and all other materials belonging to the Woollen trade except one pair of Looms which I give to his brother, James." Also "all the Loose Boards at Gatehead, a Hurrey Stead, three Ladders, all the Loose Boards that are in the Lower Boakes at Lydiate, all the poules that I bought at Marsden and all the bookes in the Closet at Lydiate with the use of the same Closet for seven years after my death". Borks or Boakes is a term still used today to describe a section in a barn or shippon. The reference to his books is an interesting pointer to the educational standard of the family and suggests that Robert was more scholarly than his brothers. The eldest son John, was left an estate at Brownhill. James, who was unmarried, died intestate in 1729 and his estate at Lydiate reverted to his elder brother John. Robert died in 1753 leaving an only daughter Ann, who died in 1760. Most of Edmund's estate, therefore, returned to the eldest son and his heirs.

The next Edmund Buckley, son of John of Brownhill and later Lydiate, was born in 1718 and married Sarah Lees, daughter of William and Sarah Lees of Ashton parish. He inherited all of his Grandfather's estate, except Gatehead, which Robert Buckley had left to his nephew James. He also acquired the Broadoak estate and other property in Ashton, probably through his wife's inheritance, part of which was to be the subject of litigation, which beginning in 1763 was not finally settled until 1803.

To revert to the Whitehead estate. In 1764 the Further Highfield was probably purchased by Philip Buckley of Grasscroft, because he and his son Henry sold much of it in the last decade of the century. In 1812 John Bostock, shopkeeper of Lidgate, was the owner of Lydgate Farm and of the old Buckley property opposite. The rest of the Whitehead estate belonged to Lydgate Mill and the Wrigleys. John Bostock probably purchased it from the bankrupt estate of Joseph Brook of Huddersfield.

John Bostock was a grocer and corn dealer was well known in the neighbourhood. He served as a Chapel Warden at Lydgate and owned extensive property. He died in 1825 leaving his wife the shop, which was, I think, in Lydgate Farmhouse. There are traces in the front parlour of a shop counter and the top floor was obviously a warehouse of some sort. Moston Cottage may also have been a shop. In 1844 Edmund Buckley bought part of the triangle from Mrs Bostock and her son Peter, who lived in Mossley. In 1855 James Pennington had taken over the shop and the land which stretched to the Vicarage boundary. In 1865 John Robinson, a farmer of Grasscroft, died, having appointed Thomas Wrigley of Lidgate, Thomas Bernard of Manchester and the Reverend George Cowell of Lydgate, his executors. His estate included a farm called New Earth. This was purchased by Charles Ford of Oldham, a glass and china dealer. Charles Ford died in 1880 leaving New Earth to his son George. George Ford built a new house at New Earth, which he called the Fields. His widow Anne changed its name to the Grange. George Ford also owned Lydgate Farm and his widow also owned much other property in Lydgate, including Hawthorn Cottage which she gave to Lydgate Church, and its name was changed to Ford Cottage. When Lydgate Church was built in 1788 this cottage belong to Edmund Whitehead, innkeeper, and may have been his inn. Thomas Wrigley went to live there when he returned to Lydgate about 1871 and left it to his nephew Henry Widdop.

In 1785 on the wasteland opposite the Manor House, Joseph Wrigley, second son of Benjamin Wrigley the elder, who was the tenant of the property at the time of the sale, built a mill for the manufacture of woollen goods, and formed Joseph Wrigley and Company. There were two mills on the site, the second becoming a cotton spinning mill, also Joseph Wrigley and Company. When the second mill was built is not clear, but both firms figure in the *Commercial Directory* of 1814-15. Joseph Wrigley died in 1800 and his son Joseph, was his heir at law. In the *Commercial Directory* for 1816-17, Joshua Wrigley & Co. appears as Merchant and Manufacturer,. By 1821 Joseph Wrigley & Co. are listed as Spinners and Manufacturers and Joshua has disappeared. In 1822, under Cotton Spinners appear Joseph Wright & Co., and Thomas Wright & Co., Lydgate – Wright probably being a mistake for Wrigley. Neither firm is listed amongst the Woollen Merchants.

Joseph Wrigley died in 1818 and Thomas his brother “reigned in his stead”. He was joined by his son Thomas. In the latter's obituary in the *Ashton Reporter* of September 9th 1876, we learn that he was educated at a Boarding School and then went straight into his father's business. He quickly learned the business, and when his father died in 1854 and the mill passed into the hands of his brother, William of Lowside, who had been his partner since 1839, he became its manager. William was a large colliery proprietor and needed someone to run the mill. Under Thomas the business prospered so much that at last his uncle took him into partnership, leaving the whole control to him. Under his sole management Lydgate Mill became proverbial as a “good shop”.

William died in 1862, at the commencement of the cotton panic, and the mill was sold after lying idle for three years. Thomas became agent and manager of Mr Harrop's mill at Bardsley and of his estates in Shropshire and elsewhere for five years, after which he retired into private life at Lydgate. He spent his remaining years in philanthropic works, giving generously to the

Church and School and to other schools in Saddleworth, and other good works. The respect and affection in which his friends held him is to be seen in the tablet they erected to his memory in the Church.

Frederick Bailey purchased the Mills in 1866, and in 1875 conveyed them to the Lydgate Spinning Company Ltd., of which his son Frederick William was Manager. Mr C.B. Grundy writes:

Frederick Bailey was the son of a Lancashire squire, and was put into cotton spinning by steam driven machinery. He was a quiet and reserved old man of the Georgian type. He always dressed in the Georgian fashion and owned two cotton mills, one at Lydgate and the other on the site of the Windsor Mill at Wellehole, now replaced by Bank Top Mill, Lees. Old Mr Bailey drove to his Mills in a phaeton drawn by a grey cob, and always wore a silk hat.

In 1875 Frederick Bailey moved to Lichfield. His daughter married Capt. John Edward Tayor of Westfield, who lost a great deal of money when the Spinning Company failed. Frederick William Bailey married Margaret, daughter of the Reverend George Cowell of Lydgate. When the Spinning Company failed he went to manage Dalton and Sons mills at Carlisle.

On 24th May 1879 the Master of the Rolls ordered the liquidation of the Lydgate Spinning Company. The Company had failed to repay a mortgage of £5,000 raised in 1875. In 1880 the Mortgagees sold the Mill property to the Livingstone Spinning Co. for £8,775. The Company also owed the Manchester and County bank £2,000 and this was not finally settled until November 1882.

An advertisement in the *Oldham Chronicle* of September 25th 1880 regarding the sale of the Mill gives a detailed account of the machinery in the Mill at that date which suggests that the Mill was completely re-equipped when the Lydgate Spinning Company took over in 1875. This with the cost of purchasing the property was probably a burden too heavy to overcome.

At the 1861 Census Thomas Wrigley was employing 257 hands in the Mill and farming 17 acres, employing two men and one woman.

On Wednesday 27th February 1889 a fire broke out in the Number Two Mill, which was completely gutted. The *Oldham Chronicle* reported the following Saturday that "the block of buildings where the fire broke out was 11 windows long, 4 high and 4 wide and contained about 14,000 spindles and cardroom preparation." The damage was estimated at about £12,000.

After the fire it seems that the property was allowed to fall into decay for in 1896 the Livingstone Spinning Company sold it to the Lydgate Woollen Manufacturing Company as being "now in a dilapidated state" for £450. The wheel had come full cycle but it was coming to halt. In 1899 the new Company went into liquidation and the property finally came into the hands of William Ripley, a stone merchant, and we can guess what he wanted it for. However he did leave the Manor House and one of the Mill buildings standing, eventually selling them to Mr. Oliver Wood, who converted the latter into a laundry, which still flourishes [2] under his son.

[1] For more evidence and counter-evidence see:

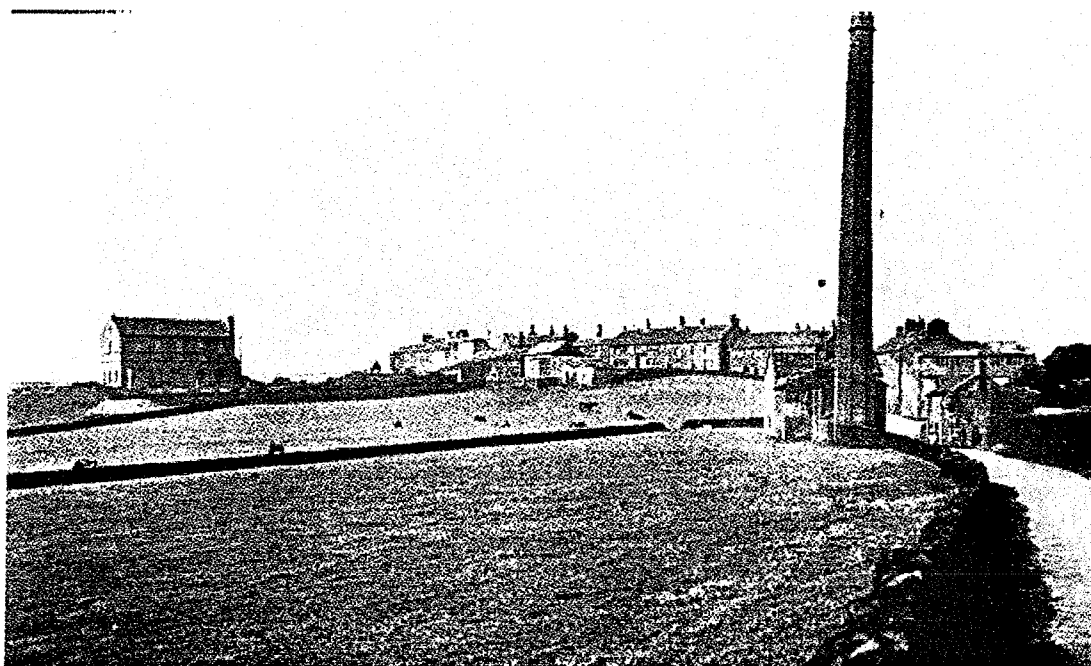
Smith, W.J. The Buckley House at Lydgate: the architectural evidence. *Sadd. Hist. Soc. Bulletin*, 7 (2), Summer 1977.

Airne, C.C.W. The Birthplace of Edmund Buckley of Ardwick. *Sadd. Hist. Soc. Bulletin*, 7 (1), Spring 1977.

Hunt, J.M. Further thoughts on the Buckleys of Lydgate. *Sadd. Hist. Soc. Bulletin*, 7 (3), Autumn 1977.

[2] The Laundry was converted into flats in 1989.

The text of this lecture was found among Canon Airne's papers, and was clearly intended to be published. Mrs Airne has kindly consented to its publication, and Neil Barrow has supplied the two end-notes. The second and concluding part, The Growth of Lydgate into a Village, will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.



Lydgate Village, ca 1910, just before the rebuilding of St Anne's Church. Lydgate Mill chimney is prominent to the left of Quickedge Road, but the mill itself is just off the picture.

Peter Fox Old Saddleworth Collection

Tasselling

Clara Shaw

Many local mills were manufacturers of woollen shawls. Fine cashmere ones were for weddings and very special occasions. Every lady had a little *red shawl* which was always handy to just put on when going about the daily rounds at home. The most popular shawl was the *big shawl*.

Everyone had at least one big shawl, which was put to many uses. It was the 'regulation dress' for going to work in the mills but came in handy for wrapping the baby in, as a tablecloth, or even extra weight on the beds in winter. It was a great comfort when you were ill.

When these shawls were taken off the loom they had long ends, which had to be 'twisted', or tasselled, to finish them off.

The mills sometimes employed people to finish them but more often the work was let out, to be done at home. They were delivered to the homes on a hand cart and collected when a further batch was left. The pay was very little but helped when ladies were bringing up their children and could not work in the mill.

The shawl to be twisted (or tasselled) was put on the kitchen table, with a weighted bar to hold it firm. The loose ends were twisted between the palms of the hands and arms, and fine whiting was used wet to do this. The twisted ends were then knotted into a fringe.

As long as Messrs William Buckley and Company of Gatehead Mills, Delph were in business, a local builder supplied them with a very good quality whiting for this purpose. The coarse variety would have made hands and arms sore with the constant friction.

The story goes that Robert Byrom of Slackcote Mills, Delph went to Africa and on seeing a woman wearing a shawl woven at Slackcote Mill, he gave her a golden sovereign.

Broadbent Forenames used in Saddleworth

L. Broadbent

As in my analysis of the Victorian census returns using Mr H.A.Brooks' computerised data (*SHS Bulletin*, 23 (3), 1993), this paper considers his data (with his kind permission) compiled from the baptismal records of St Chad's from 1615-1886, St Thomas Friarmere baptisms from 1768-1881, Delph Chapel from 1780-1851, Dobcross Holy Trinity from 1788-1837, and St John Hey baptisms from 1743-1842.

Not all children were baptised, and many of the early records from St Chad and the chapels have been lost (for instance there is no baptismal record of my grandfather Bramley, born in Diglee in 1846), so the burial records have been searched for additional forenames or dates of usage for Table 1.

Many of the records are fragmentary for the first half of the 17th century, partly because they were kept in the church ale-house (*SHS Bulletin*, 22 (3), 1992) and partly because of the Commonwealth, when records were supposed to be kept centrally in London. The parish (St Chad) records begin in 1613 although a church law of Queen Elizabeth of 1598 had required them to be recorded every Sunday in a book, rather than on scraps of paper.

In *SHS Bulletin*, 23 (3), 1993 I analysed the total forenames recorded in the St Chad registers during the 17th and 18th centuries, and the families who used them. In this paper Mr Brooks' data are confined to the Broadbent families from all the Saddleworth churches for a period of 271 years (1615-1886), a total of 2059 names. 157 of the children, 93 boys and 64 girls, were given two names each, so the records refer to 1902 children, 52% boys and 48% girls.

No double forenames were given by a Broadbent family before 1800. The first was by a tailor, John and his wife Susy of Doctorhouse to Mary Ann in 1800. During the next 50 years double names became more common, though not very popular: 3 in the 1800 decade, 8 during 1810-19, 21 during 1820-29, 32 during 1830-39, and 55 during 1840-49.

A few names were probably meant to be the same but were spelled differently by the clerk, e.g. Abraham and Abram, Alice and Allis, Anna and Annah, Ann and Anne, Ben and Benn, Ellen and Ellin, Harriet and Harriot, Thirza and Thurza; they have been itemized separately to give a total of 219 names. 97 of these occurred once only, 65 twice, 24 thrice, 24 were given 10 - 49 times, and 9 over 50 times. Only Ann (129), James (169), John (202), Mary (175) and William (102) were given over 100 times. If we add to Ann: Anna, Annah, Anne, Annie and Annis, this name increases to 169; to James: Jacob and Jemmy, it becomes 178; to Mary: Mally and Maria, it becomes 208.

It is clear that pet names or nicknames became popular in the mid-18th century. Betty instead of Elizabeth and Peggy for Margaret were used from 1732 onwards; Benny for Benjamin, Mally (preferred to Molly) for Mary, and Jenny or Jinny for Jane from 1750; Matty for Martha or Matilda, Nelly for Helen, and Sally for Sarah from 1760. Whereas some diminutives remained popular well into Victorian times, e.g. Betty, Harry and Nelly, others quickly lost favour again as given names, e.g. Jenny, Matty and Peggy.

Other names which faded out of use early were often Biblical ones which were popular amongst puritans, such as Daniel, Deborah, Elias, Grace, Jacob, Judith, Moses and Rachel.

Popularity of use was much the same amongst the Broadbent families as for the parish as a whole (given in parentheses): of the girls, 17% were named Ann or equivalent (14%), 21% Mary etc. (22%); of the boys, 16% were named James or Jacob (18%) and 19% John (26%).

Several names were first adopted by the Broadbents in Regency times, some of which became popular, such as Alfred, Edward, Edwin, Frances, Harriet and Wright. Others had a biblical flavour, such as Aaron, Elisha, Elijah, Levi, Mark and Miriam. Yet others were adopted by the Victorians after 1840, some becoming popular during the following century: these included Ada, Arthur, Ernest, Ethel, Frank, Gordon, Harold, Herbert, Janet, Stanley and Walter.

Genealogists can often be confused as to the appropriate generation by the habit of calling children after their parents, specially in the 18th century and earlier. A brief and not inclusive survey of families from the data used here gave 141 where one boy was named after his father, 89 where one girl was named for her mother, and 300 families who opted for different names for all their children.

Table I. Forenames, times given, and period used.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Times given</i>	<i>Period used</i>			
			Ben	2	1788-1842
			Benn	2	1786
			Benson	1	1810
Aaron	1	1807	Benny	3	1752-1842
Abel	1	1878	Betsey	1	1751
Abigail	2	1723 -1809	Betty	61	1732-1866
Abraham	17	1639-1857	Billy	2	1778-86
Abram	1	1816	Bramley	2	1846-78
Ada	2	1877	Bridget	1	1757
Adelina	1	1876	Bromily	1	1838
Albert	4	1868-76	Buckley	1	1841
Alexander	1	1857			
Alfred	7	1816-68	Caleb	1	1820
Alice	45	1655-1884	Carolina	1	1817
Allis	2	1656-7	Caroline	2	1845-6
Amelia	10	1795-1870	Catherine	3	1827-42
Amina	2	1843-6	Charles	24	1760-1878
Ammon	7	1816-51	Clara	2	1838-71
Amy	2	1703-1869	Cyrus	1	1829
Andrew	2	1788			
Ann	129	1655-1869	Daniel	9	1642-1806
Anna	16	1634-1798	David	2	1792-1879
Annah	1	1791	Deborah	3	1653-63
Anne	14	1641-1767			
Annie	6	1865-84	Edmu(o)nd	4	1642-1885
Annis	3	1701-1879	Edward	22	1810-71
Augustus	5	1793-1872	Edwin	1	1816
			Eleanor	1	1866
Benjamin	32	1720-1846	Eli	4	1692-1868

Elias	6	1715-1821	Isabel	1	1868
Elijah	1	1807	Isabella	1	1861
Elisha	1	1806	Izabell	1	1657
Eliza	15	1806-86			
Elizabeth	32	1632-1860	Jacob	8	1634-62
Ellen	4	1834-66	James	169	1613-1884
Ellin	1	1655	Jane	31	1633-1849
Emily	2	1749-1883	Janet	1	1878
Emma	7	1830-71	Jemima	1	1815
Eneas	1	1752	Jemmy	1	1760
Aphraim	1	1850	Jenny	5	1750-91
Ernest	1	1879	Jerry	2	1822-3
Esquire	2	1807-16	Jesse	2	1776-1827
Estelle	1	1857	Johan	1	1662
Esther	26	1723-1876	John	202	1633-1885
Ethel	2	1881-6	Jonah	1	1731
			Jonathan	11'	1701-1825
Fanny	1	1815	Joseph	76	1724-1875
Frances	3	1819-75	Joshua	3	1687-1826
Francis	4	1614-1847	Judeth	2	1619-74
Frank	2	1869-71	Julian	1	1832
Franklin	2	1826-44	Juval	1	1825
Frederick(s)	14	1799-1886			
			Kezia	2	1679-1821
Gamaliel		1837			
George	33	1615-1885	Lavinia	2	1817-51
Georgina	1	1871	Lees	3	1845-54
Gertrude	1	1874	Leonard	1	1885
Giles	9	1759-1846	Lettice	1	1850
Gordon	1	1888	Levi	1	1801
Grace	3	1681-1733,	Lewis	3	1835-77
			Lilla	1	1857
Haigh	1	1828	Lilly	1	1872
Halstead	1	1820	Loftus	1	1859
Hannah	66	1655-1879	Lois	1	1799
Harold	2	1883-6	Louisa	2	1842-65
Harrie(o)t	9	1806-53	Love	1	1746
Harrop	1	1839	Lucy	8	1752-1879
Harry	8	1788-1878	Luke	1	1664
Harvey	2	1797-1846	Lydia	1	1673
Helen	1	1757			
Henerie	1	1617	Madeline	1	1840
Henry	19	1632-1879	Mahlon	2	1798-1845
Herbert	4	1864-87	Mallon	1	1789
Hervey	1	1847	Mall(e)y	25	1748-1843
Hesther	1	1833	Margaret	13	1635-1874
Hezekiah	1	1657	Margaretta	1	1638
Howard	1	1855	Maria	8	1633-1844
Howick	2	1845-6	Mark	1	1813
Hugh	1	1837	Marshall	1	1866
			Martha	22	1679-1865
Isaac	23	1649-1851	Martin	1	1786

Mary	175	1638-1886	Sarah	97	1654-1878
Matthew	2	1663-1836	Selina	3	1833-54
Matilda	5	1804-64	Seth	2	1821-56
Matty	7	1762-1803	Sevilla	1	1836
Mayland	1	1796	Sidney	1	1828
Mellin	1	1850	Simm	1	1856
Miles	2	1815-42	Simon	1	1856
Minerva	5	1833-52	Sophia	6	1836- 8
Minetta	1	1808	Squire	3	1803-33
Minnie	1	1873	Stanley	6	1854-83
Miriam	1	1816	Susan	2	1635-1833
Mordecai	1	1801	Susannah	2	1742-1834
Moses	3	1725-89	Susanne	1	1765
Nancy	2	1753-1800	Taylor	1	1868
Nanny	4	1789-1807	Thomas	42	1733-1886
Nathan	1	1842	Thirza	1	1866
Nelly	2	1760-1877	Thurza	1	1831
Oliver	2	1613-1872	Tim	1	1793
Ophelia	1	1837	Timothy	7	1747-1835
Owen	1	1829	Tristram	2	1790-2
Patience	3	1739-1813	Uriah	1	1805
Peggy	3	1732-54	Vietta	2	1843-5
Penelope	2	1790-92	Viola	1	1875
Phoebe	1	1845	Violet	1	1822
Rachel	3	1722-50	Vivian	1	1883
Radcliffe	2	1784	Wallace	1	1834
Ralph	8	1775-1880	Wallis	1	1848
Rebecca	2	1730-1844	Walter	5	1851-83
Robert	31	1632-1849	Wats	1	1800
Rufus	1	1830	Watts	1	1804
Russel	1	1843	Westby	3	1782-1817
Ruth	1	1694	William	102	1681-1876
Sally	26	1763-1845	Willie	2	1882
Samuel	35	1732-1882	Wilson	2	1841-62
			Wright	6	1807-52

Dobcross 1924

Frank Akroyd

This is the second of four instalments of Frank Akroyd's memoir of Dobcross during (and occasionally after) the 1920s. Dannie Wright has obtained a copy of the Memoir for the Bulletin, and Frank Akroyd's daughter Patricia Wisenden has given her kind permission for it to be printed. As before, the spelling, punctuation and capitalization are as found in the manuscript.

[p.11]

BOTTOM OF DOBCROSS

Shaw Boothroyd's tin smith & smithy, this was a building at the bottom of a flight of steps below the sign post. at a later date Saddleworth Rangers Rugby League Football Club used the building as a dressing room and for training rooms. In the wash house was an old set boiler used for hot water for the baths. After a good win the trainer Herbert Middleton used to give the lads a treat he made a stew in the boiler, made up of Rabbit, Sheep's Heads, carrots, turnips, peas etc. some used to feel quear when they got a plate of stew with a sheeps eye looking up at them, apart from this the stew was very good Herberts heart & soul was in the club & he was a good worker. Near the Tin Shop were a few houses. Hanna Thwaits kept a shop sweets, bread etc. Ada Platt and family, Jack, Else, Clara, also Sailor Jack the lodger a fire beater at Walk Mill Print works.

Grandad Singleton also lived at one of the houses.

Walk Mill was a calico print works owned by Holcombe Brook print works & managed by Mr I Bailey & I think his son worked with him. Parson Thomas was always complaining in his Church magazine about black smoke coming from the works chimney.

Sam Kenworthy's mill was over the river bridge, this was a woollen mill owned by Lord's family.

Duckworths grocers shop was across the road hence "Duckworths Corner" local bus stop. When I remember the shop Mr Birtoff was the manager.

Three houses by the side of the mill
Rodger Mills road sweeper lived in one.

[p.12]

Ned Meller & family

Gartsides had a sweet shop in the corner.
Also a house round the back of mill.

By the side of the mill was a large wooden tank and the waste water full of grease & fat used for scowering the wood and pieces was drained off into this tank, when it was full the water was drained off leaving behind a foul smelling slurry that looked like mud. A family named Smith (Sap chap) came along and scooped out the deposit and put it in canvas bags and took it away for processing, as children we were told it went to make margarine. Mr Smith's cloths used to shine with the coating of grease, he must have never got rid of the smell, I can see him now sat on the corner of his horse drawn cart, puffing away at his pipe.

Behind Duckworths shop lived Mr Mallilue & his family, Frank, Beth.
Mr Bradbury, solicitor had a Blue Bedlington dog.

WALL HILL ROAD

Walker Battye had a hand loom here weaving carpets.

Fred Flint

S Fielding & mother

Platts

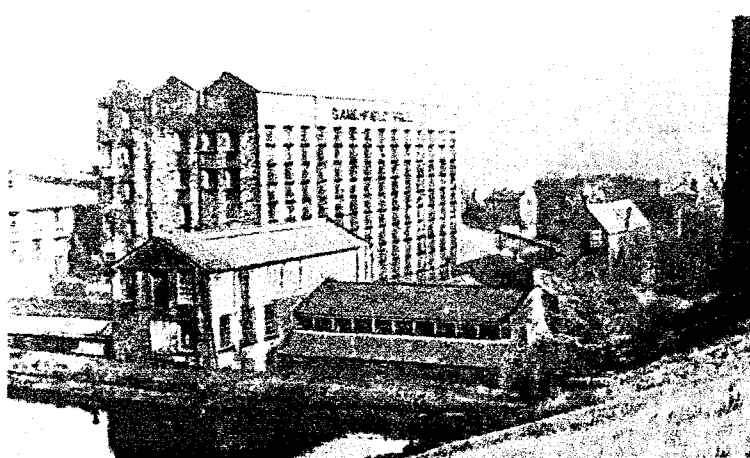
J. Bilcliffe

Bowdens.

[p.13]

BANK FIELD WALL HILL ROAD

Bankfield Woollen Mill owned by Sykes & Campinot. During the war Ebonestos Industries moulded here, the mill was destroyed by fire at a later date the offices still stand and is now a house & workshop.



Bankfield Mill (Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth collection)

Bankfield Terrace

3 G. Worthy wife & Norman

4 Whiteley's

5 Farris

Mrs Bradbury & son John Edward

C. Whiteley & family

W. Wrigley
 Mr & Mrs John Broadbent (John Anns) my grandparents
 Fred Wrigley wife & son Harry
 Gatley family
 S Gartside & family
 Mrs Mumford & Joe
 Millie Holden & Mother
 Mr & Mrs John Barlow & Gladys
 Mrs Wrigley & Alice
 Mr & Mrs Pearson
 Mr & Mrs Hampson & family Harold, Clarence
 Mr & Mrs G Broadbent (Little Guddy)
 Mr & Mrs J Bradley worked at Dye works
 Liz at Doctors (never knew her proper name)
 Aunt Jessie's Toffee shop
 L Thornley
 Mrs Gilbert & Marion

[p.14]

Tame Water House

Mr & Mrs Carr & Norman. Mr Carr was a director at Eastwood & Carr Wollen manufacturers
 Wallhill Bottom Mills.

Bagnal Houses. red brick houses between Brook Lane & Delph New Road, these were built by Cpt.
 Bagnal.

Sam Platt & family	Fred Pearson & wife
Squire Bradbury & family	Frank
Mrs Bromley, Mabel, Eunice & Eddie	Henry & Edith
Mr & Mrs Stevenson Hilda & Eddie	
Mr & Mrs Coxon & Doris, Brook Lane Cottage.	

DELPH NEW ROAD

Mr Bateson, Edith & Lily
 Mr & Mrs Royle, Hettie & Alice
 Mr & Mrs F. Allott & daughter
 "Woodthorp" Mr & Mrs E. Sykes of Sykes & Campinot
 Dorothy Walter & David Walter killed in war.
 The Misses M & A Brooke
 Mr & Mrs Herbert Middleton, Dorothy & Amy
 Mr & Mrs Meller, Annie & Frank
 Mrs Wood & daughter Charlotte, who later became Sam Cardwell's wife.
 Mr & Mrs R Wood, Alf, Freda, Eric & Margaret
 The works of James Allott & Sons (CWS
 Manufacturers of Fancy shirtings (later Compoflex
 The big house with orchard lived Mr & Mrs Flint
 Allott & family
 Mr & Mrs Shore & family
 Mr & Mrs Garside

Piggotts Yard

Mr & Mrs McDonough & a large family

Mr & Mrs Fred Schofield & son. Fred worked for E Hewkin Joiner on platt Lane & the son was [p. 15] on his way to see his father at work when he fell in the reservoir & was drowned.

The Piggott family lived at the farm, Albert, Rose, Annie, Sam, Agnes.

On Spring Brow Ladcastle Road

Mr Kenworthy & two daughters, Florrie, Sarah Ann.

Later married Ernest Sykes & they lived in the same house.

Jack Aiden Roberts & wife

Mr & Mrs Yarwood, Lizzie, John.

Ladcastle Hall

Last used as a church by Catholics pulled down dry rot.

Mow Halls

Mr Taylor had a farm his two married daughters lived here.

Mr & Mrs Percy Reed

Mr & Mrs Charlie Webzel

Woburn Abby

Holroyds Frank

Coxes Tom, Martha, Mary

[p. 16]

About this time C. Walton farmed Woods Farm, Woods Lane Dobcross, He had about 20 head of cattle 5 cart horses 4 – 6 pigs & poultry. A piece of land adjoining Mr Tanner's garden used to be called, "the plots" because it was used at one time for allotments, C. Walton ploughed it & planted oats I can remember walking over the field sowing oats with a fiddle sower, this was a machine you carried slung on your shoulder by a leather strap, a sack was full of grain which came down a shute on to a disc this disc was spun to & fro by a leather thong wrapped round the spindle, the thong was attached to a stick which you moved across your body like a violin bow. The following year he grew sweeds on the plot of land I think he must have been the first farmer to try anything like this in Saddleworth.

One of the horses was used to carry coal from Saddleworth Station to Walk Mill Print Works from 8 in the morning untill 5 at night the horse was named Bob, he was a very strong horse & fresh, coming out of the stable in the mornings he used to kick up his heels like a little pony. Prince a grey, he was used for carrying wool from the mills to the dye house owned by Liversages Some of the wool was brought from Lawtons, at Mickelhurst, Mossley. This was a nice days out in the summer sat on top of the bales of wool with the sun shining down on you. At week ends when work was done Prince used to sometimes draw a trap for Mr & Mrs Walton. Sometimes I went with them on a ride round the country. One of the horses was used by the Urban District Council collecting road sweepings etc. The others were used for farm work and any other jobs that turned up.

[p.17]

The highlight of the year was a trip to Huddersfield Fair 1/- return on the train, Mr Walton bought me a pair of riding britches & leather leggings and I felt like the Lord Mayor. Whilst he was bartering for a fresh cow I used to walk round and watch the men selling horses & ponies running them up & down to show their paces. When he had bought his cow we took it to the station and loaded it into a cattle truck to be sent to Saddleworth Station, from the station we walked it to the farm, by this time the cow was ready for milking because it would not have been milked that day because its udder would look bigger also they used to wash the cattle before selling and brush their tails and put red saddle on the bags ^{udders} to make them look in tip top condition, by the time we reached the farm the milk would be pouring out of the cows teats.

[p.18]

SCHOOL 1917 – 1926

I went to Dobcross National C.I. School.

The teachers then were – Miss Lees, Miss Jess, Miss Sykes, Miss Laycock, Miss Eyres & Headmaster A.H. Pownall. Other teachers who came & went either as pupil or teachers who did sick duty for any other who was off ill – Miss Katy Eyres, Mrs. Pogson, Miss Kelsall, Miss N. Brierley, Hanna Hudson.

When first you commenced school in the infant class you played with sand trays, practical threading boot laces in dummy boots, bead frames etc.

In standard 1 you started on the fundamentals of learning under Miss Sykes. When you reached standard 4 – 7 things were different you then came in contact with Miss E. Eyres the best English teacher who has ever been inside a school.

When the bell rang first thing in the morning you lined up outside the door and the teacher walked along the ranks inspecting, clean hands, clogs & shoes, detention was given for any dirty ones. We walked inside the school for prayers & the hymn, "New Every Morning". When dinner time came we sang grace before meals & when we returned we sang grace after meals, I never did know all the words to these in fact I remember once Miss Eyres had a check on who knew the words about 20% new them straight through. The bank room was the room used for serious punishment, if you went there you were in for a bad time normally you were caned in front of the class. The Bank Room was a small room used by the Yorkshire Penny Bank every Friday night, hence the name. Mr Pownall prided himself on his singing & conducting in the music classes John Yarwood played the Harmonium & piano. The ink monitor missed the singing lessons on Friday afternoons, his job was to collect all the ink wells & take them to the science room, clean & fill up with ink, ready for Monday morning. I can just remember some of the children used to work half time, that was work half a day and school half a day also some used to leave early for dinner time to take hot dinners to [p.19] relations who worked in the mills, canteens were unheard of. Monday mornings the boys of a certain age went to woodwork at Uppermill Council School Mr Ellis was the woodwork master, the girls went to cookery classes. The first time you went to Uppermill you had to be initiated by jumping Pickhill Brook lots failed & fell in. We used to play different schools at football etc. one day we were on our way to play Diggle and we were walking past Dr Ramsden's house when his Airdale dog came running out & bit me behind the leg. Mr Pownall took me inside the house and Dr Herbert bandaged my leg & gave me half a crown and told me to see him next day, I then drew

a further 2/6 after a week the doctor said to my disappointment that I was cured, I said it still hurt a little but of no avail, he gave me my last 2/6 and said all was well. Sometimes Miss Eyres took us to the Grand Theatre in Oldham to see "Henry Irvin" in Shakespear's plays, she ^{Miss Eyres} was very keen on acting, I remember we also saw "Bransby Williams" in Oldham. I think he was a Dickens actor. When we took drill the first order from miss Eyres was, Collars Off this was an order for all the boys who wore celluloid collars which were at least 3" deep and fitted outside the jacket. Miss Eyres was a very slight woman but had terrific energy and drive.

The school motto was, "Play The Game".

After school one of my night jobs was carrying medicine for Dr Ramsdens at Dobcross to Murgatroyds at Delph, he held a surgery at Delph during the day & at night John Harrison Wood and Alice Dutton dispensed the prescriptions and I took the result to be called for at Murgatroyds, summer was alright but in winter the bag was heavier with all the colds & flue medicine I received 2/6 per week. In those days you would do anything to earn a copper or two. I have walked from Dobcross post office to [p.20] John Highlys farm at Denshaw with a telegram for six pence also six pence from the farmer. How many children would walk that distance today?

There was two scholarships at Dobcross for Grammer School one was Halkyard & Whitehead ^{County} Minor ~~and I forget the other~~. I was never lucky enough to sit for one because on leaving school at fourteen I had to start work at Hutchinson Hollingworth & Co. Textile engineers Dobcross.

This is a list of my class mates taken from a photograph.

Walter Sykes	large house near Bankfield	killed in war.
Alfred Asquith	Wood Road Dobcross	died 1983
Eric Langfield	Crib Lane	"
John Yarwood	Spring Brow	"
Richard Robinson	Crib Lane	"
Robert Dust	Diggle Platt Lane Dobcross	
Eric Schofield	Bottom C.W.S. Dobcross	killed in war
Norris Dyson	Wade Hill	"
Norman Biltcliffe	Dobcross New Road	" Dead
Alice Stewart	Woods Lane	" married Strutt
Ethel Sykes	" "	"
Mollie Hall	Wool Road	" Dead
Gladis Heap	Moorland Ave	"
Ada Blundell	" "	"
Anne Dyson	Wade Hill	"
Alice White	Wall Hill	"
Molly Bamforth	Bell Arch Delph	"
Agnes McDonough	Pigots Yard Bankfield Dobcross	
Alice M Barrowclough	Long House Dobcross	
Mary Mitten	Woods Lane	"
Amy Schofield	" "	"
Lizzie Whitehead	Platt Lane	"
Vera Crowther	Round Hill	"
Nellie Booth	Woods Lane	"

Lizzie Barrowclough	Liberal Club	Dead
Alice Whitely	Banksfield Dobcross	
<i>[p. 21]</i>		
Doris Smith	Cockel Shell House Dobcross	
Frank Holroyd	Woburn Abby Dobcross	
Katy Kelsall	Diggle	
Edith Pearson	Delph New Rd (Bagnall Houses)	Dead
Wilf. Dellow	Wall Hill Dobcross	
Bessie Schofield	Platt Lane Dobcross	
Reggie Hirst	Woods Lane "	
Ida Hudson	Wool Road "	
Jamie Young	The Smithy top of Knicker Brow Dobcross	Dead
Eric Sykes	Marslands Dobcross	Dead
Stanley Biltcliffe	Dobcross New Rd "	Dead
Jim Young	The Smithy Dobcross	now bookie at Blackpool
John Lancashire	Woods Lane "	Dead
Leanard Dust	Diggle	
J.E. Brewer	Dobcross New Rd "	
Cyril Broadbent	" " " "	Dead
Alan Kenworthy	Marslands "	Dead

F Akroyd 1974

[new page, unnumbered]

Taken about 1923 – 24**BACK ROW**

1. Walter Sykes
2. Alfred Asquith
3. Eric Langfield
4. John Yarwood
5. Richard Robinson
6. Robert Dust
7. Eric Schofield
8. Norris Dyson
9. Norman Biltcliffe

SECOND FROM BACK

1. Alice Stewart
2. Ethel Sykes
3. Mollie Hall
4. Gladys Heap
5. Ada Blundell

6. Anne Dyson
7. Alice White
8. Mollie Bamforth
Teacher
9. Hannah Gartside
10. Agnes MacDonough

Third From Back

1. Alice Maud
Barroclough
2. May Mitton
3. Amy Schofield
4. Lizzie Whitehead
5. Vera Crowther
6. Nellie Booth
7. Lizzie Barowclough
8. Alice Whiteley
9. Doris Smith

- Frank Holroyd
Frank Akroyd
Katie Kelsall
Edith Pearson
Wilfred Dellow
Bessie Schofield
Regie Hirst
Ida Hudson
Janie Young
Eric Sykes

Front Row

- Stanley Bilcliffe
Jim Young
John Lancashire
Leander Dust
John Edward Brewer
Cyril Broadbent
Alan Kenworthy

2nd from front

[p.21, i.e. 22]

Fitters at Dobcross Loom Works 1926

Ogden Taylor, Albert Redman, foremen.
George Wood D, B, looms D
Bill Allsopp D
Frank Holden D
Herbert Redman out fitter D
Wilfred Rawlings D
Herbert Wood D
Fred Broadbent D
Leslie Wood D
Harold Willie Wood D
J.E. Bradbury D
Frank Flemming D
Henry Bradbury D
Fred Heeley
Harry Buckley D
Alfred Asquith D
George A. Woodcock alive 1993
Lewis Brannon D
Alf Warton D
Fred Hirst D
Fred Wood D
Harry Broadbridge D

Bill Craven (Jobbing)
Harold Kenworthy D
Frank Akroyd alive 1993
Adrian Matley D
Albert Bradbury D
Fred Whitehead D
Bill Pogson D
Tom Hirst D
Mathew Mallilue D
Alan Hawkguard D
Perin Rhodes D
Noel Haigh D
Bob Bray D
Harry Brindley D
Nelson Buckley D
Harold Heap D
Wilf Lee
William Woodcock D
Herbert Haigh D
Albert Pogson (drowned)
Albert Bransby Broadbent D
Harry Dixon D

Longley	D	Joe Bradbury Out fitter	D
Hinchcliffe	D	Joe Castle Out fitter	D
Frank Bolton	D	John Henry Castle	D
Bob? Challener out fitter	D	Frank Castle	D
Reg Tomkinson	D	Ernest White	D
Harry Hirst	D	Whitley out fitter	D
Fred Buckley Out fitter	D		

[p. 22, i.e. 23]

Loaders & Packers

Tom Redfern (Boss)
Herbert Redfern
Him Hawkins
Ben Wrigley (Prop)
Tom Lawton

Cyril Broadbent
Len Butterworth

Labourers

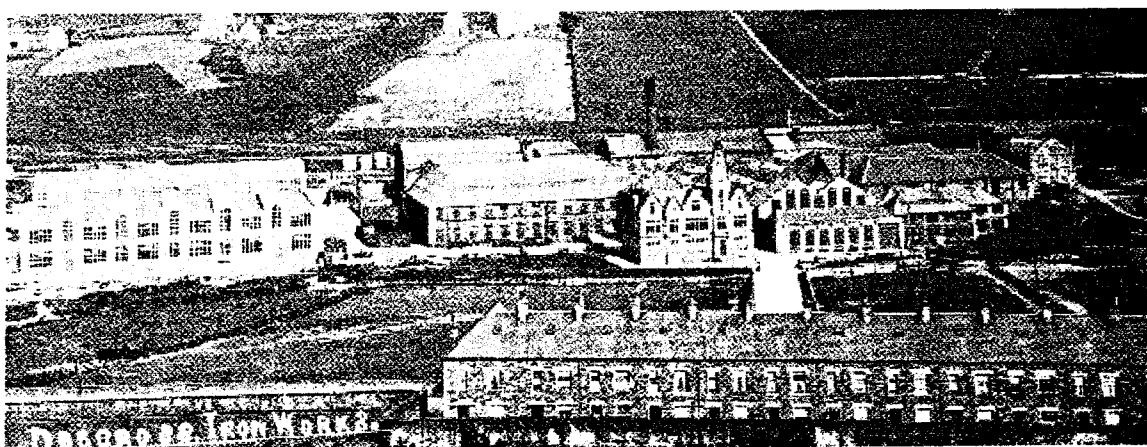
Jack Mettrick
Jim O'Keef

Painters

Jack Broadbent
Albert Williams

Store Keeper

Jim Rhodes



Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth Collection

[p. 24]

1922

At 14 years of age I started work at Hutchinson Hollingworth & Co. Ltd. Loom Works Dobcross. (Clock No. 401) 19/9 per week. The hooter used to blow at seven o'clock and then again at 7.30. At that time I lived at Woods Lane Dobcross and walked to work. Quite a number of men used to walk from Delph & Dobcross amongst them were, Ephraim May, Ernest Hall, Joe Dyson, Ogden Taylor etc.

When a boy started he was put in the stors for about twelve months, making chains for the looms and running about for every, Tom, Dick & Harry. Ernest Hall from Field Top was the foreman the boys that worked in the stores when I did were Harry Broadbent, Hanging Gate Diggle, Harold France Diggle, Leonard Hirst farmer Woolroad, and a boy from Slades who came from Blue Coat School Harold something I cannot remember his last name. The corn

chamber was next to the stores, and Sam O, Kits used to chop the hay for the horses kept in the stable just accross from the stores, Mr Hollingworths wachman was Christopher they used to fetch the wages every week from Dobcross Bank in the coach. Mr Hudson inside the coach & Sargent Thornton sat on top with the driver. In the corn chamber Mr Hollingworth kept a number of vetran cars, no steering wheels but a handle we used to play about with them untill we were chashed off. Harry Wood a pattern maker whos bye name was Totty, used to come to work on a motor bike and sidecar and kept it in the stores. At night I used to push it outside for him ready to drive away & sometimes he gave me a lift to Wool road. One night I thought I would be a bit clever so I started the bike up and attempted to drive it out the trouble was I let the clutch out to sudden and took part of the door [p.25] with me. John Breirly (John O' Bants) was the weaver above the stores told Harry Wood that I was getting a bit to bold on his machine. in fact I was very lucky to stop the bike outside because outside was a drop of about 12 feet into the river. I never rode it again. On Saturday mornings my job was to go to a green grocers shop at Kiln Green kept by Ernest Hall's uncle, I got the provisions and then walked to Field Top with them & then back to work for 12 o'clock.

Opposite the stores was the "Hardening Hole", (all the various depts were called Holes.) George Clark worked in this one, he was very bow legged and lived near the "Navigation Inn" in Woolroad he used to pack the things for hardening in metal boxes filled with bone meal, and then place them in the furnase, afterward quenching them in oil or water.

After my time was up in the store I was moved to the drilling dept. working for, William Broadbent, "Bill O Looks" who was quite a character in his own right. My job was drilling levers ready for riveting together, the levers were used in the Jacquards. I did not like the work in the drills and was glad when they moved me into the Fitting Shop.

I could not reach the vice so I had to stand on a block of wood. Harold Kenworthy was the boy above me and he taught me my jobs, the main job was fetching drinking water in a bucket & brewing up. I used to take any dinners that required warming up to the oven in the boiler house every dept had a shelf of their own in the oven, I could not resist braking a bit of a good pie crust & eating it. Some-times when you went for the hot dinners one would be missing as the Foundry Workers were [p.26] not particular whose dinner they took in fact one lifted the crust & ate the inside and the[n] replaced the crust. In hot weather I used to go to the branch C W S for, Oat Meal to mix with the water to cool the men. Every man and boy had his own work to do. The first jobs for boys were, Making Box Chains, assy. levers, Picking Shafts, weighting levers, Picking Stick Bkts etc. If you got behind you found yourself in trouble with Ogden Taylor. When a new boy came into the shop I was moved up to the next job which was Positive take Up Motors, this was a good job as it entailed a good deal of fitting, making keys & meshing gears etc. About this time the apprentices had to go on short time along with the men who had been on three days a week for quite a while, we worked three days in three weeks and when it came your turn to work you did not want to turn in. When we were on short time we used to go "lorry jumping", we used to wait at the bottom of Woolroad and when a motor lorry came along we used to jump on the back & ride to Marsden or Huddersfield some of the drivers did not take kindly to this and used to stop and chase us off with a length of rope, others used to put on speed if they saw you trying to get on or off. The speeds were nothing like they go today. Arthur Buckley & I used to do a lot of walking all round the moors, we were up at Black Moss one day in the winter & we could see the waves freezing as they lapped the shore I think these days were the happiest days of my life no money but all used to enjoy ourselves

After a while the firm became busy again & it was back to work. [p.27] I was now approaching 21 so I was put in a gang, this was a group of men building a type of loom. I was put with Nelson Buckley, Bob Bray. Nelson was the Box man & leader, Bob was the driving man he built the driving motion and I was the lever lad the lever lad did all the odd jobs & crawling underneath work, here again you had to keep up with the rest of the gang.

My education started in earnest now and in Nelson Buckley I had a good tutor. He was a keen huntsman and taught me the old hunting songs also how to take snuff & chew tobacco, (I did not care for this). I remember a boy called Alfred Asquith had just started courting a girl in Ashton and Nelson asked him who was taking her out when he was not there, Alf said nowone. Nelson replied turn back some night and watch her, he did and she met another bloke when she had seen Alf to the bus stop. Alf's courtship came to a sudden end. Nelson lived at Holly Grove in the same house my grandmother Broadbent "John Anns" wife lived in. He gave me a cutting of Honeysuckle and I planted it at Delph in turn I gave a cutting to my wifes Uncle Taylor at Tunstead. In later years when we moved to Flixton M/c I took a cutting and planted it their, later when our daughter got married she had a cutting & took it to Hollingworth Hyde Cheshire and every time I see this bush I think of Nelson.

At this time the automatic loom came into being and I was given the job of finishing the loom off and running them before shipping them I enjoyed this work. I also had a spell on Axminster Rug Looms also Dandy Looms and a short spell on Gripper Carpet Looms the trouble and fault with Dobcross Looms they were made too good and lasted too long, looms made in the 1800 are still running I saw some whilst on holiday [p.28] in 1975 in North humbrian in a small weaving shed making fancy suiting and scotch plaid.

Arthur Buckley a fitter at the Loom Works lived at Edge End with his father Nat Buckley and his step mother who was Mrs Garnett before her second marriage. Buckley went in the Merchant Navy and he did very well for himself during the war he received the "George Cross". After the war he was a Customs & Excise Officer in the far east. He brought up two sons who both went to "Russell College" and they did very well. The last time I saw him he had come out of retirement and taken a job as a Government Inspector. He was living on the Wirrell in Cheshire.

[new page, position uncertain, probably a later insert]

One day I came home from work dirty and wearing my first cord long trousers, A man came along with a camera and took my mother's and I photograph, He came again with the photo, the same picture is still knocking about in my collection of odds and ends.

When you get your first pair of long trousers you change from being a boy into a man. And when you start work at fourteen you are in a mans world, if you an apprentice you are the dogs body for everywhone to kick around and the work is very hard many a time I have sat at the table having my tea when I have put my head in my hands and dropped off to sleep at the table.

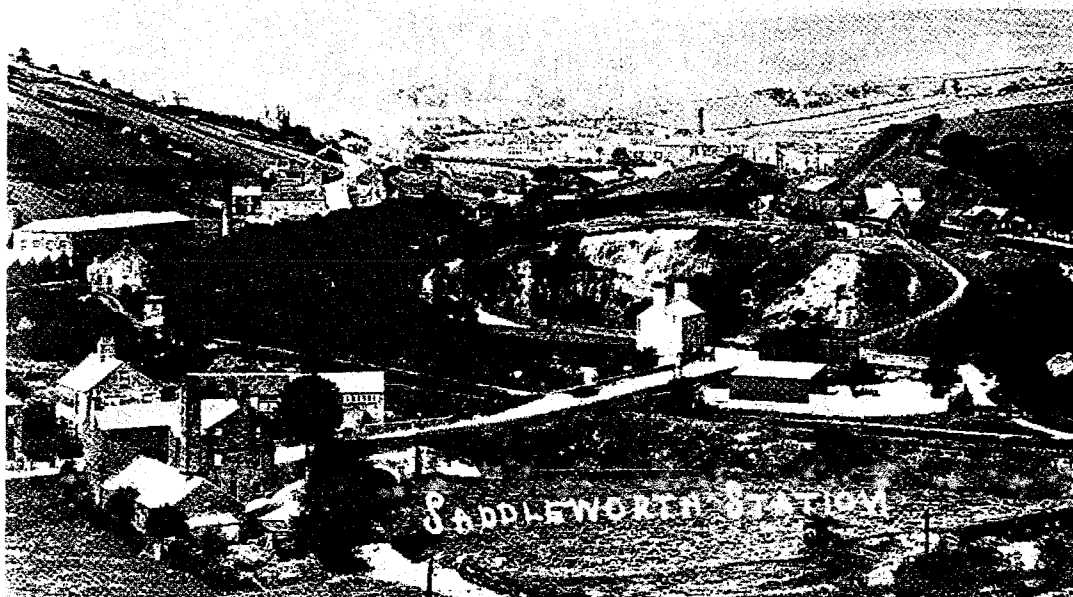
I was lucky because my gang leader, a gang leader was in charge of four men and an apprentice building the looms. My leader Nelson Buckley, Holly Grove, was good with me he taught me how to work, grow up, and take the rough with the smooth he was also a huntsman and he used to teach me the old hunting songs. Sometimes I went out with the hounds he was one of the whippers in along with Joe O Laker. After the hunt we all returned to the Cross Keys for a bowl of stew and a sing song. Buckleys left the Inn at that time Father Mother, Fred, Hilda and

Harry he worked at the Loom Works with me. Of all the people who worked with me in the fitting shop not many are still with us.

[p.29]

Nick Names

Bill O Lukes	William Broadbent	Foreman drills
Sam O Kits	Sam Wood	H.H. Stables
Fred O Nappies	Fred Whitehead	Standige home
Ben Prop	Ben Wrigley	Delph
		Wrigleys who went to America he allways said he was related to chewing gum
Bill Poo	Bill Hirst	farmer Woolroad
Hervey at Bottom O loan ,(Lane)		
Albert at "Waggon"		
Billie "Bombay"	Billie Bradbury	(father worked in India)
Coffie Bill	Bill Farrond	
Sid O Dicks	Sid Schofield	
John Annes	John Broadbent	
Billie Funion		Mythom
Alf O, Dans		
Ned O Billiemans		
Jack at Bottom O, loan (lane)		
Smo Benny	Bengiman Winterbottom	6'-6" tall
Happy Jack	Jack Osboldeston	projector man Uppermill Pictures
Hervy Peg-leg	Hervey Bradbury	Diggle



Brownhill, Dobcross. Woolroad left middle distance; the Loom Works centre background.
Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth Collection

Letter

The Likely Lads: Uppermill Methodists Football Team Photographs

Mr A. Broadbent, Rimmon, Braystones Road, Beckermest, Cumbria CA21 2XX

Those persons I knew very well I have identified; others are marked as ? and most of them I remember by sight.

Both John William Holden and Sam Grimshaw were my uncles. Julius Ratcliffe taught me the piano for a few years.

Squire Lawton and Edith and only child Kenneth lived a few doors away in Church Road and the latter was my friend for years. Also Rupert Wood and Rose with Dorothy and Albert lived in the same row and we were also great friends.

Rev. John Williams was Methodist Junior Minister and, which appeared to be traditional, lived in Delph. Both Ministers had to cover all of Saddleworth with the indefatigable Local Preachers.



The Likely Lads I: Uppermill Methodists circa 1900

Standing: ?; Bax; John William Holden; Harry Thornton; Sam Grimshaw; ?; "Razzer" Wood, ?
 Middle Row: ?; ?; ?
 Front Row: Julius Ratcliffe; Arthur Farrand; Squire Lawton; ?

At least three players are fathers of sons in the Likely Lads II picture: Julius Ratcliffe, Arthur Farrand and Squire Lawton. There are six I cannot place although one or two faces are familiar. "Razzer" Wood: I never knew his real forename but his brother was Rupert who I knew well, his son Albert was about my age. I think Rupert and Razzer, and sister Emily were cousins to Dr. Albert who was, in my day, Superintending Scientist at the Admiralty Torpedoes and

Mines Establishment, HMS Vernon, Portsmouth. Location? I've no idea but presumably it was Uppermill.



The Likely Lads II: Uppermill Methodists circa 1935

Standing: Squire Lawton; Gilbert Bradbury; Jackie Smith; Rev. John Williams; Harold Empson; Herbert Burton; Herbert Schofield; Bobby Garlick; George Bailey.

Kneeling: Stanley Farrand; Fred Wood; Kenneth Lawton; ?; Handel Radcliffe.

Taken almost certainly on Uppermill Cricket Ground.

GNAEUS JULIUS AGRICOLA

J.C. Carr

The name Agricola appears frequently with reference to Castleshaw and associated Roman Roads and forts. When Waterhouse built Manchester Town Hall, he made a gesture to the city's Roman past by including a representation of Agricola over the main entrance.

He was born in A.D. 40 at Forum Julii, the modern Fréjus, where Julius Caesar had planted a colony of his Eighth Legion veterans, and went to school in Massilia (Marseilles) where his mother moved after his father's death. As a first step in his career he held a commission as tribune in a legion in Britain in A.D. 61, the year of the Boudiccan revolt. He distinguished himself enough to win promotion to the staff of his commander-in-chief, Suetonius Paulinus. He then held the usual offices of the "cursus honorum" – the senatorial career ladder : Quaetor in 64, tribune in 66, praetor in 68 and legate of a legion, again in Britain, under Petilius Cerialis, then becoming Governor of Aquitania. He was consul in 77 for some months and immediately that year or the next became Governor of the Province of Britain, when Vespasian was Emperor in Rome (69 – 79). Here he spent seven summers in campaigns, completing the conquest of Wales and reaching into Scotland. In about 79 Agricola had moved to subdue the tribes of Northern Britain. The Brigantes were a loose confederation of tribes in our area. Roads were constructed and forts built about a day's march apart to defend communications, to house and service the troops – legionaries and auxiliaries. Castleshaw is half-way between the major legionary fortresses of Chester (Leg. XX) and York (Leg. IX the VI) on the road built to link these across the Pennines. Manchester lies next to the South-west and Slack at Outlane, Huddersfield, is next to the North-east.

During Agricola's time his sons, Titus 79-81 and then Domitian 81-96 succeeded the Emperor Vespasian.

The fort at Castleshaw lasted only from about 79 or 80 to the mid 90s, when it was abandoned. About ten or fifteen years later a fortlet was built over part of the old fort in about 105 but this, in turn, was closed down about 120 – 125. The Romans were only here for about fifty years.

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 1999

"It's good to be in Saddleworth,
O'er the green miles and the grey
There's no better earth for roaming
And no better folks I say.
Ammon Wrigley

The initial lecture in October by Catherine Rew on The Pumphouse People's History Museum transcended politics and told the story of ordinary cotton mill workers, how they organised themselves and developed the Labour movement. The Peterloo Massacre of 1819 loomed large as did the magnificent union banner collection. The links with the Co-operative Movement was familiar to all who has possessed a store number and collected the divi from Foundry Street in Oldham. Altogether a convincing and warm talk enjoyed by a large audience.

The lecture season continues in November and the first three lectures are presented as follows:-

Thursday
4th November 1999

The Bernard Barnes Memorial Lecture
Yorkshire Cotton : The Yorkshire Cotton
Industry, 1780-1835 Dr. George Ingle.

Wednesday
10th November 1999

Restoring the Huddersfield Narrow Canal
Alan Stopher.

Thursday
16th December 1999

Annual General Meeting
A visit to the Saddleworth Historical Society
Website.
Michael Buckley.

An observation comes from Clara Shaw of King Street, Delph, mentioned in a letter from Albert Broadbent of Beckermeth, Cumbria, Bulletin Vol.29. No.1. "Dr. Bird and his daughter Hannah lived at Linfitts in the 1920's, I do not think he practised at that time.

His daughter was a dressmaker and made me a Bridesmaid's dress.

I think she lived on after her father died, but as I was only a child I do not know very much. Dr. Bird was living at Linfitts according to the 1915 Electoral Register."

PUBLICATIONS.

Castleshaw Local Interest Trail No.11.

Join the marching legions on the Castleshaw Trail which takes you through the lightside pastures of Roche Abbey to view an Agricolan Fort and the later Roman Fortlet. Visit the

many waterpowered woollen mill sites of this busy 18th Century valley, when your feet would not have been the only ones traversing these ancient hollow ways, used from Bronze Age times. No wonder antiquarian Ammon Wrigley was fascinated with the rich history of this beautiful valley, it covers the whole aspect of human endeavour and bears witness to our heritage, a history lesson that becomes a most enjoyable walk. The cost of this trail is £1.30 plus postage - see Publication List.

Reduced price publications for your Christmas Gift Book List.
Cherry Valley Chronicles - Letters from Thomas Buckley & Family - Successful immigrants to Cherry Valley, Massachusetts, U.S.A..... £5.00 plus postage 20% UK only.

Saddleworth 1914-1919. The experience of a Pennine Community during the Great War.
Soft Back reduced to £5.00 Hard Back reduced to £10.00 plus 20% postage UK only.
See Publications List.

Forthcoming Events at the Museum.

Coffee Mornings and Boutique	Every second Wednesday of the month 10.0 am- noon
Sunday Lunch 21st November, 1999 4093	Details from Museum 0145 787
Friends Christmas Trip to the World of Wedgewood, Barlaston, and Christmas lights, Castleton. (A few seats left)	Wednesday 24th November, 1999
Friends Annual General Meeting.	Tuesday 7th December, 1999

Changing Exhibitions.

"What's What" - A Display of Costumes from the Museum Collection.	Early November.
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Art Exhibitions.

Peter Stanaway & Steve Capper.	Until 7th November, 1999
Trichotomy 11, Sue Platt, Alice Rafferty, & Norma Cheffins.	13th November to 5th December, 1999

An appeal is made for members and their friends to collect, during early March next year one contemporary item from every shop in Saddleworth. These will be displayed in 'Collection 2000 Exhibition' which is planned to run from Easter until early September, 2000. After this Exhibition these items will be stored for future display. Further details are available from Christine Bowman.

SADDLEWORTH CIVIC TRUST LECTURE.

The Architecture of Church and Chapel in Saddleworth by Alan Petford combined with Annual General Meeting. Thursday 2nd December, 1999 at the Museum. 7.30 p.m

SADDLEWORTH W.E.A. PROGRAMME JANUARY TO MARCH 2000

Writing for Business and Pleasure. Tutor Mike Fox.
Mondays from 10th January 2000: 11 weeks
Saddleworth School, Uppermill. 7.15 - 9.15 p.m.

Architectural Achievements at Work and Worship. Tutor Richard Hills.
Thursdays from 13th January 2000: 11 weeks.
Saddleworth School, Uppermill. 7.15 - 9.15 p.m.

Birds for Beginners. Tutor Anne Parry.

Tuesdays from 22nd February 2000: 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. 6 weeks
Mainly outdoor course based at The Satellite Centre, Greenfield.
Warm waterproofed clothing and strong footwear essential. No dogs allowed.

Enrol at first meeting. For further information telephone D. Latimer 0161 633 3205

MEMBERSHIP SECTION.

Welcome to the new members who are listed below and we hope they enjoy their membership to the Society.

Mrs. P.S. Harrison
Mr. & Mrs. T.J. Betterton
Mr. & Mrs. E. Gould
Mr. & Mrs. D. Wareing
Mr. & Mrs. N. Wisenden
Miss L. Lally
Mrs. Lynne Hopkin.
Mrs. B.R. Toms
Mr. P. Anderson
Mrs. Jean Sanders
Mr. & Mrs. M.D. Newberry

Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Bessacar, Doncaster.
Macclesfield.
Grasscroft.
Delph.
Delph.
Australia.
Morley, Derbyshire.
Greenfield.
Greenfield
Bridgend, S. Wales.

Saddleworth Surveyed

Selected maps of the township 1625-1851 Published by the Society.

Requests are being received for copies of the above book. If any member possesses a spare copy of this publication would they please contact Mrs. E. Broadbent on 0145 787 2870

OBITUARIES

We are very sorry to report the loss of Norman McLintock of The White House, Rochdale Road, Denshaw, who farmed Ralphs Farm with his brother Harold and was a well known personage throughout the district.

The death of an old member and much loved schoolteacher Adeline Broadbent has also to be recorded.

The sad departure of Irene Dennett was commemorated at St. Anne's Church, Lydgate, Irene was the wife of Maurice Dennett, the Society and Museum Archivist and was known in Oldham for her Social Service works.

Another passing was that of Mr. D.Cottam of Thornley Park, Grotton, the husband of Gerda and a long standing member of the Society.

Our thoughts and sympathy must go to all the families in their bereavement.

CURRENT SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Books

SADDLEWORTH FROM THE AIR. By Professor Barri Jones. £12.75

SADDLEWORTH 1914 -1919. The experience of a Pennine community during the Great War. By K. W. Mitchinson. Soft backed £5.00 Hard backed £10.00

CHERRY VALLEY CHRONICLES: Letters from Thomas Buckley and family - immigrants to Cherry Valley and Milbury, Massachusetts, USA, to his son Ralph Buckley and family, of Dobcross and Delph, Saddleworth. Transcribed by Maurice Dennett. £5.00

PASSAGE THROUGH TIME: A history of Saddleworth roads and track-ways. By Bernard Barnes. £5.95

WITH AMMON WRIGLEY IN SADDLEWORTH. By Sam Seville, Son-in-law and companion of the Saddleworth writer and poet. £2.95

THE SADDLEWORTH STORY: A collection of historical essays. (WEA Publication.) £2.00

HUDDERSFIELD NARROW CANAL: A compendium of articles from the Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin on the construction of the Canal. £3.60

Local Interest Trails.

Walks around Saddleworth: Illustrated with notes on local history and landscapes. 90p each (except No. 11)

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. DELPH, HEIGHTS AND GRANGE | 7. DELPH |
| 2. UPPERMILL | 8. LYDGATE AND GROTON |
| 3. GREENFIELD | 9. DOBCROSS |
| 4. HUDDERSFIELD NARROW CANAL | 11. CASTLESHAW (New: £1.30) |

Maps

STREET GUIDE TO SADDLEWORTH: An A2 comprehensive Street Map of the area. £1.20

COUNTRYSIDE GUIDES: A series of scale maps of the district showing public footpaths, amenities and features of special interest. Also a booklet on the local and natural history of Saddleworth. South £2.40

CHURCHYARD PLANS: A series of plans of the churchyards of the district. Church. £1.80

LOWER GRAVEY

Pamphlets

ADDRESS TO THE
necessity of sup
Manufactory: Describing

SADDLEWORTH: Shewing the
rise of Labour in the Woollen
1795. By Daniel Nield. £0.75

Items are available at the Saddleworth Museum and at local bookshops, or by post from the Society's Publications Officer, Mr B.E. Jackson, 7 Slackcote, Delph, Oldham OL3 5TW (Tel: 01457 874530). Please make cheques payable to Saddleworth Historical Society and add 20% postage and packing for delivery outside Saddleworth.

