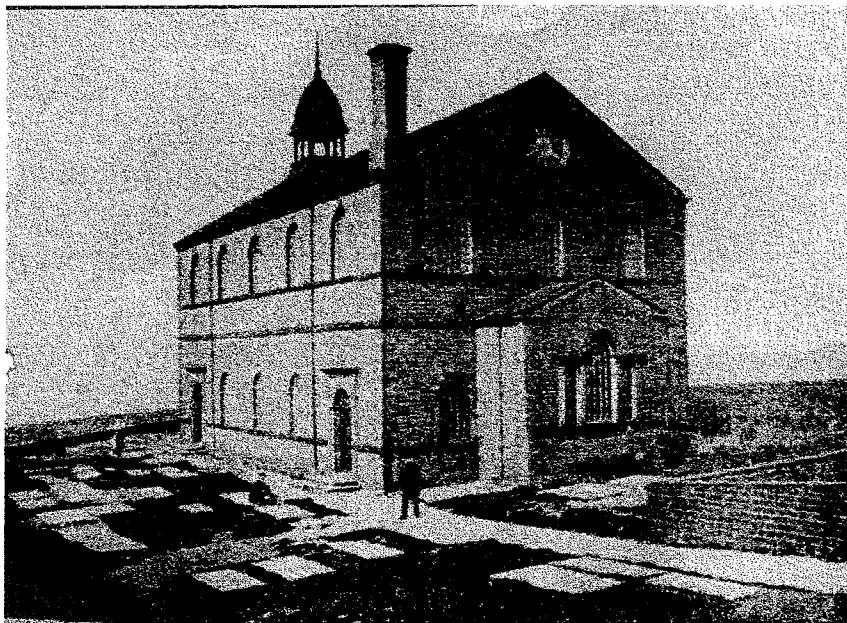


SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN



Volume 29

Number 4

Winter 1999

Bulletin of the Saddleworth Historical Society

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Cover illustration: St Anne's Lydgate before it lost its cupola in 1899. The photograph above shows the church without its cupola but before rebuilding commenced in 1908.

Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth Collection

Saddleworth Historical Society

Registered Charity No. 505074

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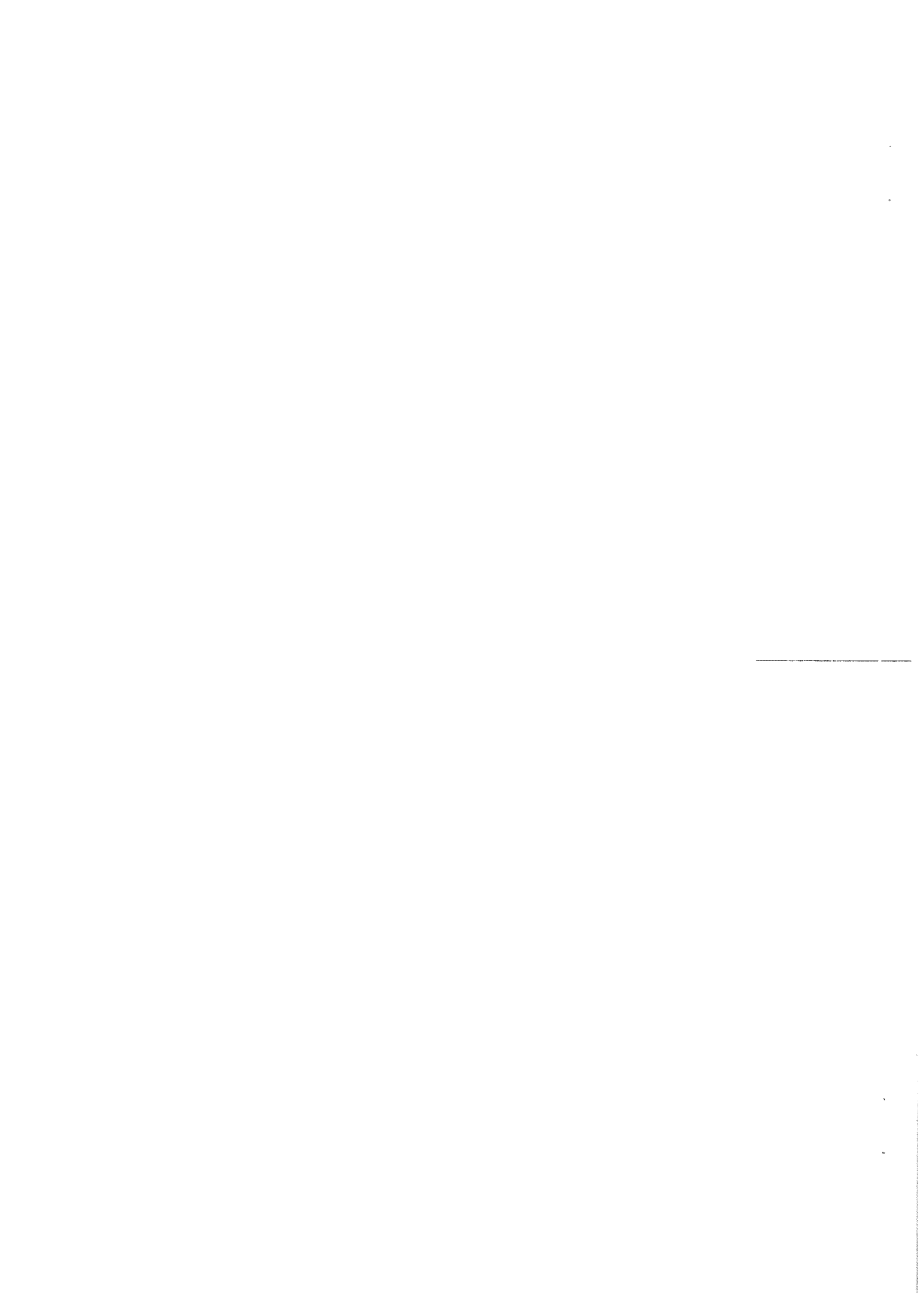
The Bulletin aims to reflect and encourage interest in all aspects of the history of Saddleworth. It relies on a regular supply of articles, letters, short reviews, etc. from members and others. Fresh material is required constantly, and should be sent to the Editor, who will be happy to discuss ideas 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.

Please send items of historical interest to the Bulletin Editor, John Farrow, and items of current interest (e.g. forthcoming events) to the Newsletter editor, Jack Hindle.

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. An index to Saddleworth place names, a reference map of Saddleworth, and a bibliography of Saddleworth publications are included, together with the Newsletter and the current issue of the Bulletin. There are links to other Saddleworth Web sites.



**The Chairman's Report at the Annual General Meeting
of the
Saddleworth Historical Society
on
Thursday 16th December 1999**

My tenth report as Chairman of the Society covers a very busy year for the whole of your Committee and it is my pleasure to itemise the many activities of the membership.

This has been Festival Year and following tradition we launched "Saddleworth from the Air" by Professor G.D.B. Jones in the Museum on Wednesday, 2nd June 1999, when Barrie gave an illustrated talk and signed books. There was, however, a shock to come when we heard of his sudden death while walking in his beloved Snowdonia on 16th July 1999. A memorial service was held on 6th October. He will be sadly missed -- his last letter to me was to suggest a symposium here in the Museum next September on the latest work on Hadrian's Wall.

Last year I commented on the preparation of two more Local Interest Trails, and on Saturday and Sunday, 11th and 12th September, the occasion of National Heritage Weekend saw the launch of the Castleshaw Trail written by Norman Redhead, Assistant County Archaeologist at the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit. About 50 people visited over the weekend.

During the Saddleworth Festival of the Arts Dorothy and David Latimer led a fascinating walk tracing the places linked with Ammon Wrigley in Saddleworth and produced a 'trail' to accompany the route.

During the year we also recorded that an altar frontal and lectern tabard had been dedicated at St Anne's Lydgate, to the memory of Canon C.C.W. Aime, our late archivist.

Stanley Broadbent, our Vice-Chairman continues reporting on our excellent lectures at the Museum for publication in the Oldham Chronicle and thus maintaining a profile of the Society's activities before the general public.

The 1999 Saddleworth Museum Festival of Beer and Brewing was shepherded by Stanley, the worthwhile efforts of Jack Hindle, Richard Hotchkiss, Bill Hartley and Clive Cheetham in obtaining the 10 beers for the Festival and producing the annual programme for this event raised £872.00 for the Friends of the Saddleworth Museum, helped by the kindness of the ladies of the Museum on refreshments and being advised by the Oldham, Rochdale and Bury Branch of CAMRA.

The Save our Square campaign seems to have borne fruit in that the Beer Garden Wall will be removed in the reinstatement scheme proposed for Uppermill Square, the work commencing in March 2000.

The Civic Trust can also report progress is being achieved in the Civic Hall modernisation plans which foretell of a bright and comfortable future for this centre piece of Uppermill life.

The Membership has continued to prosper with Elsie Broadbent and now stands at 485 including 30 new members who have joined this year from diverse parts of the country: Wiltshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Surrey, the Isle of Man. From Bessacar, Doncaster, come Mr and Mrs T.J. Betterton, Mrs Betterton is notable in that she is Ammon Wrigley's grand daughter and strengthens the family connection.

Three new overseas members spread our contact to the West Indies, Ontario and Western Australia; a reflection of Saddleworth in the global market.

One of the occasions of the year, which gained new members Mr and Mrs David Wareing of Grasscroft, was the visit of Fritz Heinz, a German ex-prisoner of war, who returned in search of the Glen Mill and received help and directions in a chance meeting with David who took him under his wing. This resulted in a successful reunion at Lees Library with Mrs Joan Kivlin, one of our members, who with her sister Margaret and family had entertained Fritz to tea at the end of the war.

One of our new members this year, Mrs Jean Sanders of Greenfield, has been researching the Radcliffe and Whitehead families of Shaw Hall. She has been assisted in this by a Canadian friend, Mrs Irene Brocklesby Moffat. On a recent visit to Saddleworth Irene kindly agreed to help produce a master index of the 29 Volumes of the Bulletin. This involves the laborious task of retyping the individual indexes of each volume. Mike Buckley is co-ordinating this project and plans ultimately to put this material on the Society website.

We can once again inform you of a very generous contribution of \$400 to the Society's funds from our very good friend Mrs Esther Shaw Lawn of San Luis Obispo, California. This sunshine gift is greatly appreciated and will assist us in proceeding with the historical research of Saddleworth.

This year we are saddened to record the loss of several valued members of the Society: -

Mr Norman McLintock
Mrs Adeline Broadbent
Mrs Irene Dennett
Mr D Cottam

Our condolences in the sad bereavements were sent to all the families.

Michael Buckley tells us the Society's website has gone from strength to strength during the last year. Material on the site has been expanded to include a section Saddleworth Place Names; a Reference Map of Saddleworth based on the 1:25000 OS Map, a bibliography of Saddleworth publications and the current Bulletin. The Society lecture programme and newsletter continues as a regular feature. One of our members Ian Douthwaite from New Zealand has taken responsibility for producing an index of the past editions of the Bulletin. The number of e-mail enquiries have been increasing steadily and Michael Buckley has been in correspondence with many interested parties both within the UK and overseas. Several new members have joined the Society as a result of discovering the Society's website. At the present time we have had over 2000 visitors to the website.

One again, the time which our Honorary Archivist Wilf Theakstone has been able to spend in the archive this year has been severely limited by his other commitments, and he is extremely grateful to Maurice Dennett and David Latimer for the work that they have done there.

The Society's Web Pages have been the source of many requests for information, mainly about family history, from overseas, as well as from users of the Internet in the United Kingdom.

The long term problem of suitable facilities for the permanent storage of the valuable and irreplaceable material contained in the Society's archive remains to be solved.

During the year David Latimer has added to our archive of milestones, merestones, inscribed stones and Saddleworth Monuments at the request of Manchester University, Bournemouth University and our own Parish Council. We still await the painting of the cast-iron milestones which are the responsibility of O.M.B.C.

Alan Platt of Greenfield has generously donated material to the Society connected with the Royal George Mills and Christ Church, Friezland. Mr Geoff Ainsworth of Wiggett Construction has kindly agreed to let me see their extensive and ancient archive on the Royal George Mills in January 2000. Christ Church, Friezland, celebrates its 150 Anniversary on 29th June 2000.

Neil Barrow, our Honorary Secretary, has again provided us with an intriguing list of topics and the variety has been appreciated by our audiences for lectures on Stonebreaks, Oldham Coliseum, Saddleworth in Yorkshire?, Canals to Castlefield, our woodland landscape and Cotton Mills in Yorkshire —this year's Bernard Baines offering. Neil also works hard providing agenda and minutes for our meetings and has even found time to help produce an old map of East Oldham.

Following suggestions by Gordon Parry a basic P.A. system has been purchased for use in the Gallery, but Gordon still provides his own system. Not all lecturers are willing to use a microphone or even stand at the lectern.

Dorothy Latimer has her own report to make on the Society's finances, a copy of which will be published in the next Bulletin along with my own report. However, I must congratulate her on the year's work and report that the Honorary Auditors are also happy with her statement of accounts. They also include Elsie Broadbent for her membership work. We have had a problem with unsold books and have therefore reduced the price of two titles with the consequent loss on stock valuation. Here is a chance to do some Christmas shopping!

Bryan Jackson, our Publications Officer, has continued his work spreading our sales and keeping close control of stock which is stored in the homes of Committee members and others. He identifies needs and brought to our attention that our Countryside Guides, North and South, are running out. Enquiries about reprints provided costs to be exorbitant and so a "Historical Map of Saddleworth" is now being planned as a replacement and hopefully an improvement. A Saddleworth Church lower graveyard plan has been added to our portfolio.

In March, Michael Fox, tendered his resignation after eleven years of sterling devotion as Bulletin Editor and your committee presented him with a copy of "Stalingrad" by Antony Beever and a cheque. The membership, no doubt, have appreciated his work over the years, the variety of the topics he presented and the excellent production.

By May, John Farrow had taken over as Editor and continued in seamless fashion the high grade achievements of his predecessors. He is always willing to accept articles for publication and always likes to have material in reserve. You will have noticed that we advertise the activities of Museum, W.E.A. and Civic Trust and Jack Hindle's Newsletter lets us know what

is on invariably starting with an appropriate quotation from poetry. We express our appreciation of all those who organise and distribute Bulletins.

Wendy Murray's organisation of our Summer Trip was again impeccable: on Saturday 10th July, on a beautifully hot day, we enjoyed Ripley Castle for coffee, Castle Bolton for Mary Queen of Scots, Wensleydale and Hawes for cheese and Sedbergh for a scenic route home. Our thanks go to Wendy for her hard work and attention to detail.

Many different subjects have been reported to your Committee and discussions about the refurbishment of the Uppermill Civic Hall, the work on the Huddersfield Narrow Canal, the Greenfield Junction signal box, Conservation issues, the Villages, Forum and Residents Associations have been included.

We acknowledge our debt to the Museum, to Matthew Richardson, Curator, to John Cordingley for his hard work in setting out the Gallery for our lectures. We also appreciate the ladies (with some men) who assist in making tea for refreshments, those who extend votes of thanks to our speakers and to all those members who attend lectures and support our activities in other ways.

Next year they claim begins the third Millennium (see my piece in Volume 29 No. 1 Spring 1999) but whatever your calculations I am sure we are all looking forward to a new and, I hope, an exciting progress. I wish all members a prosperous New Year.

Jim Carr (Chairman)

Election of Officers

Chairman	Jim Carr
Vice-Chairman	Stanley Broadbent
Hon. Secretary	Neil Barrow
Hon. Treasurer	Dorothy Latimer
Hon. Editor	John Farrow
Hon. Archivist	Wilf Theakstone
Hon. Membership Secretary	Elsie Broadbent
Industrial Archaeology	John Buckley
Newsletter Editor	Jack Hindle
Publications Officer	Bryan Jackson
Internet Site Manager	Michael Buckley

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT Y/E 31.10.99

Receipts		Payments	
Membership fees	3210	Lecture Programme / fees	284
Bulletin Sales	165	Bulletin costs	1504
Publication Sales	4033	Publication costs	4875
Donations	232	Web site cost	23
Refreshments	26	Refreshments	26
Social Trip	540	Social Trip	460
Bank Interest	1159	Affiliation fee -- Museum	700
		" fees - other	130
		Books for archives	63
		General postage	72
		Stationery	60
		Photocopying	85
		Training	15
		Microphone / speakers	100
		Sub total	8397
		Cash gain in year	968
	9365		9365
	9365		9365

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT Y/E 31.10.99 after adjustments for debtors, creditors, transfers to stock and assets

Income		Expenditure	
Publication Sales	4385	Opening Stock	14776
		Publication purchases	4875
		less closing stock	(17174)
		cost price of publication sales	2477
Membership fees	3288	Lecture programmes & fees	284
Donations	232	Bulletin costs net of sales	1295
Social trip	80	Affiliation fees	830
		Archive books	63
		Web site	23
		Post, stationery, photocopying	205
		Depreciation of assets	351
		Stock write-off	3071
Bank interest after tfr. to B.Barnes' a/c	1109	Surplus for year	495
	9094		9094
	9094		9094

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31-10-99

Accumulated Fund		Assets	
Balance b/f 1.11.98	37420	Equipment b/f	1888
Surplus for year	<u>495</u>	Purchased this year	<u>100</u> 1988
Balance c/f	37915	Depreciation b/f	1637
		„ this year	<u>351</u> (1988)
		Net assets	nil
Creditors	23	Debtors	684
<u>Bernard Bames Fund</u>		Stock of publications	17174
Balance b/f 1.11.98	1073	Stock write off	(3071)
Notional interest	50 1123		
		Bank - Current a/c	1359
		Premium Plus a/c	22915 24274
	<u>39061</u>		<u>39061</u>

LYDGATE CHURCH AND VILLAGE

Canon C.C.W. Airne

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

2. The growth of Lydgate into a village

The growth of Lydgate into a village began with the making of the turnpike road from Ashton to Delph, which began in 1759 and cut through the Whitehead and Buckley property to join up with the old Quickedge Road just beyond Moston Cottage and the Millhouses. This improved communications and made development possible. The first development, however, was neither commercial nor domestic but educational. A group of local worthies got together and decided to found a school. They were: James Farrar of Barmborough Grange, Richard Buckley of Nottingham, Timothy Whitehead of Lidyate, William Kenworthy of Wood, John Kenworthy of Quick, Henry Buckley of Grasscroft, Edmund Buckley of Lidyate and Daniel Whitehead of Quickedge, who bought from Philip Buckley of Grasscroft 3 roods of lands at Lidyate, with a building "lately erected and built by the said James Farrar & C. ... to be used ... as a school house." The trustees to "nominate and appoint a discreet learned and sober person to be master of the School capable of teaching the Latin and English Language and also of teaching writing and arithmetic". The Master to be paid quarterly, 1/6 for each scholar learning English only, 2/- each for those learning English, writing and arithmetic, and 2/6 each for those learning Latin, writing and arithmetic. The first schoolmaster was John Ford. All we know of him that he was married twice and died in 1784 aged 55 years, being buried at St. George's Mossley, where his tombstone is still to be seen standing against the wall in the south east corner of the graveyard. There are no records of the school from its founding to 1830 except for deeds appointing trustees. An advertisement appeared in the *Manchester Chronicle* in 1792 announcing an appointment of a Master to be made on the 4th January 1793, which states that the School had "flourished greatly under the direction of the late master. There is a good school house, rooms for the Master, and a small endowment." The small endowment probably referred to Walkers Charity. John Walker, a Yorkshire manufacturer, made his will on 7th July 1755, in which he left £600 to four trustees "for the benefit of poor children residing in Ashton-under-Lyne, Oldham and Saddleworth ... using the interest for buying books and causing poor children to be taught to read and say the Catechism of the Church of England." By the mid 19th Century the principal had risen to £951.0.10, yielding an income of £26.0.10. The schools at Lydgate, Delph and Hollinwood received £4 each, Oldham £7 and Ashton £8. Lydgate received the charity until it became a Controlled school in 1957, when presumably it was paid to the local education authority.

In 1829 the school was in a very dilapidated condition. The newly appointed Incumbent, the Reverend J.S.R. Evans, called together the Chapel seatholders and the remaining trustees and organised a subscription. He was appointed Treasurer. Joseph Buckley, the Master, was dismissed as "an unfit and improper person", the repairs were carried out and a new Master, James Gorton, appointed. He remained until 1840 and returned again in 1846, when the school was again in bad repair. After James Gorton's first departure in 1840, the trustees had difficulty in obtaining a suitable successor. Finally they selected John Lacey of Port Street, Manchester,

who may have been the Master who in Archdeacon Rushton's Visitation Returns is described as "once imprisoned for seditious language." Between John Lacey leaving and James Gorton returning in 1846 a Benjamin Fielding of Lane was Master. There is no record of his appointment nor of Lacey's departure, so perhaps Fielding was the culprit.

In 1847 £10 was donated from the Factories Penalty Fund for the purchase of books, maps and other material for teaching in the school.

Meetings of the trustees took place in the school and it was invariably the custom to adjourn to the White Hart for supper. On one occasion in 1846, the supper was mentioned in despatches. The Secretary, Joseph Harrop, made a note at the end of the meeting, which reads "At this meeting the Committee dined amongst other good things, upon a Bilberry Pudding, made from ripe Bilberrys, gathered upon Wharmton that morning." You can still enjoy a good pie at the White Hart.

On the 18th December 1845 Edmund Buckley of Ardwick was appointed a trustee of what was probably his old school, and served as Chairman until his death in 1867. On the 11th April 1859 Mr Edmund Peck, Edmund Buckley's son, later Sir Edmund Buckley, Bart., was elected a trustee. At the same meeting Francis Frederick Whitehead of Beech Hill was also elected. Ralph Radcliffe Whitehead was appointed in 1877 in the place of the Reverend J.S.R. Evans, who had died in 1861. No minutes were recorded between 1859 and 1877, in which year Robert Southerton, the Master, was requested to resign, no reason being given.

In 1867 the school was again in a very poor condition and Edmund Buckley undertook to replace it. Unfortunately he died soon afterwards but his son, Sir Edmund, honoured his promise. The old school was demolished and the children met for lessons on the top floor of the White Hart. On the 16th December 1868, Lady Buckley laid the foundation stone of the new school. The architect of this "noble gothic structure", to quote the *Oldham Standard*, was Mr Nicholson; the builders Messrs Adams and Marshall; and the contractors Messrs Kendall, all of Manchester.

The next new building was an inn. There may already have been at least two inns in the village, Edmund Buckley's, probably at the Moston Cottage, but perhaps on one of his Ashton properties, and Edmund Whitehead's, probably at what is now Ford Cottage. On the 27th April 1778 William Newton, yeoman, leased for 999 years from Philip Buckley of Grasscroft, a plot of land 15 yards by 10 yards, in the Further Highfield, together with two cottages on the north side. On this site he built a dwelling house adjoining the two cottages on its north side and with a stable adjoining its south side. The house was double fronted and became an inn under the sign of the Ram. He was also in business as a carrier. The Ram survived as an inn until 1933, when it was divided into two houses, numbers 67 and 67A Stockport Road. The two cottages numbered 63 and 65 were converted into one house in 1973, and the stable became a house number 69 about the 1870's.

William Newton got into financial difficulties and in 1782 had to sell the Ram to John Brook a bookseller and stationer in Huddersfield for £260. John Brook died in 1783 and his son Joseph inherited. Joseph was not content to remain a bookseller and went into banking. In 1810 he went bankrupt and his estate was sold by public auction in 1811. Richard Wilson of Thornlee bought the Ram and also the Cote Field, the Thorpe opposite and the Well Meadow at Crown Point. The inn, therefore, also became a farm. Richard Wilson built a house next to the Ram stable, now no. 71, and in 1823 sold this, along with his farm lands, to Queen Anne's Bounty, for the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent of Royton. From then until its sale in 1901 it was known as Lydgate Church Farm. It had no connection with Lydgate Church but

was rather a Church Farm at Lydgate. Richard Wilson, and after his death in 1852 his son-in-law Thomas Robinson, continued as tenant farmers. Richard eventually went to live at no. 71 leaving Thomas and Selina to run the Ram. Another daughter, Edna, married Abraham Wood of the White Hart. Financial difficulties finally forced Thomas Robinson and his son John to sell the Ram to Benjamin Gartside of Gartside's brewery at Ashton. This happened in 1873 but Thomas remained on as tenant. In 1881 it was sold to the brewery. Thomas Robinson died in 1877.

Two more cottages appeared in 1786 when John Gould, clothier, who probably lived at Lydgate Farm, which in those days would house one or more looms on its top floor, purchased that part of the Further Highfield remaining between the farm and the Ram and including a stable he had built next to the Ram stable. The stable was sold in 1823 to Queen Anne's Bounty for Lydgate Church Farm and Richard Wilson built no. 71 on the site. He built two dwellings on this site which are now the three numbered 73, 75 and 77.

In 1787 John Gould sold them to Thomas Whitehead of Woodbrook and later of Load Hill. He mortgaged them and in 1832 the mortgagee foreclosed and they were sold to provide an income for the purchaser's three illegitimate children and their mother, who lived in Manchester. Solomon Cooper of Shelderslow, the mortgagee, had converted the two houses into six cottages. There had, I think, been a loom room making a second storey to the houses. The marks left by a higher roof on no. 71 support this theory. However, in spite of this, six cottages was a bit much and they have been very overcrowded. In 1860 they were purchased by Thomas Wrigley, and he, generous man that he was, probably appalled by the overcrowded conditions, converted them into three cottages and was probably responsible for removing the stop storey.

The next building was the Chapel. Lydgate was, like the rest of Saddleworth, in the ancient parish of Rochdale, but since 1215 it formed part of the Chapelry of Saddleworth within that parish. Thus for worship, for baptisms, marriages and burials, the inhabitants had to travel to St. Chad's Chapel, at least until more convenient chapels were built at Hey in 1743 and Mossley in 1757, which could be used for worship, baptisms and burials, but not for marriages which still had to be solemnised at Saddleworth or at Rochdale Parish Church. Lydgate had played its part in the history of Saddleworth Chapelry, Timothy Whitehead having built a gallery there and also John Buckley of Grottonhead, and it had also provided churchwardens. How good the inhabitants were at attending worship we do not know but no doubt Timothy Whitehead would be diligent in seeing that his tenants kept his gallery in good use.

With the growth of the village certain of the leading men of the neighbourhood felt it necessary to provide a more convenient place of worship to serve Quickmere. These were

James Harrop of Grasscroft, Clothier
 James Kenworthy of Quick, Gentleman
 Robert Kenworthy of Grasscroft, Dyer
 Henry Buckley of Grasscroft, Clothier
 Joseph Brooks of Huddersfield, Stationer
 James Hollingworth of Quick, Clothier
 Neddy Radcliffe of Saddleworth, Cotton manufacturer; and
 Edmund Whitehead of Lidyate, Swailer.

Conspicuous by his absence was Edmund Buckley of Lydgate.

By a conveyance dated 27th May 1788, these gentlemen acquired a piece of land which was part of a close called the Highfield and belonged to Crawshawbent, which was part of the

Grottonhead Estate. The Chapel having been built, the Bishop of Chester was petitioned to consecrate it "That for the ease and convenience of the Inhabitants of Lidyate, who are very distant and remote from the Chapel of Saddleworth, and who are destitute of Seats or sitting places in any place of worship. This Chapel or Edifice intended for a Chapel, hath been lately erected and built by voluntary Subscriptions of several pious and well disposed persons ... to the intent that a Chapel for the services of Almighty God according to the Rites and usage of the Church of England might be thereon erected and when erected that the same might be consecrated in due form of Law and that the plott, piece or parcel of Land or ground surrounding the same might be consecrated and sett apart as a Cemetery or place of Christian Burial for the dead." The first person to be buried in this plot was Mary, daughter of one of the petitioners, James Hollingworth of Quick, who died of consumption.

The Bishop of Chester, Dr. William Cleaver, consecrated the Chapel on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 15th August 1788, which for nearly a century afterwards was the time for Lydgate Wakes. Having built the Chapel the petitioners seem to have thought they had done all that was necessary. Little thought was given to its maintenance except for the rate charged to seat holders, and no provision besides seat rents was made towards a Minister's stipend. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners and Queen Anne's Bounty had to see to that. In 1794 Hill Barn, consisting of a dwelling house, barn and shippon with 14 acres of land was purchased. This was near Running Hill and has now been demolished. In 1802 were purchased Bent Meadow in Friezland Lane, 1 acre 1 rood 32 perches, and Manns Farm near Friezland Church containing a farmhouse, barn, shippon, stable and 24 acres of land. These have long since been sold and the capital invested by Queen Anne's Bounty and the Commissioners.

For a description of the Church we are dependent upon two accounts written in 1871, but apart from the erection of the clock and the installation of the organ it had altered little by that date. The first major alterations were not carried out until 1879. In *Saddleworth sketches* Joseph Bradbury writes, "The building is of the usual 18th Century style of country Church, plain in every respect, with round headed windows, and the roof surmounted by a cupola containing a bell. At the eastern end of the Church is a handsome clock, which has been placed there within the last few years." There was a photograph of the Church as it was about 1860 but the original is missing. It was however reproduced in the Bazaar Souvenir of 1910 and on some crockery of the same period.

John Higson in his article *Lydgate*, describes the architecture as being "Churchwardens Doric, then current in the country. Between the upper and lower windows run a couple of string courses, at some distance from each other, and imparting an appearance of the structure having stretched itself, or unduly thriven about the waist. Entering the sacred edifice we found signs of improvement. First the pipes by which the Church was heated are not of the ordinary factory type as displayed by many more pretentious architectural structures, but have quite an ecclesiastical appearance. The pulpit, a "three decker" pile is a formidable looking work of carpentry, evidently designed to economise space, seeing the Vestry is within it on the basement storey, and also to give prominence to the preacher. There is a modern oak chair, and there are also tablets in which the decalogue is written, all of pleasing design in the tiny chancel, but the 'altar' decorations are poor both in tone and execution." There were three galleries, north, south and west, the choir being housed in the west gallery. Dobcross Church, built a year earlier, but for its tower, is very similar to what Lydgate was.

After the building of the Chapel we acquired another inn. Edmund Buckley of Lydiat was already an innkeeper when he bought the Kiln Intack from Henry Buckley of Grasscroft in 1787. This land squared off the family's holding of Pikelow and was probably bought with the

purpose of building a new inn. However, Edmund died in 1789 leaving the property to his son John. On the 2nd November 1789, John, described as Innkeeper, and others, arranged a mortgage for £300 to be secured by Pikelow and Kiln Intack, "where building in progress by John Buckley". On 23rd July 1790, Henry Buckley of Grasscroft conveyed a further part of Kiln Intack to John Buckley "who has erected dwelling house he now occupies on the original plot." This building was the White Hart which John Buckley kept as an inn, where he and his family lived and where on the top floor he carried on his woollen manufacturing business, employing a large number of hand loom weavers. His conservatism made him refuse to consider the advantages of steam power, and as a result he was outclassed by the new mills and fell into bankruptcy. He was forced to sell all the family estates, and to support his family he became agent for the Huddersfield Canal Co. He died in 1808 and was buried at Lydgate. His son Edmund, born on Christmas Day 1780, set out for Manchester and made a new fortune. His story is so well known that I will forbear telling, except to say that he set himself the ambition of buying back the family estates at Lydgate, and not only succeeded in this but also bought the Grotton Hall Estate from the main branch of the family from which his forefathers had sprung. Unfortunately through the extravagance of his son and grandson, the two baronets, the estates were lost once again, being sold by auction in 1912. Edmund Buckley was a great benefactor to Lydgate and died in 1867.

I am indebted to Mr Richard Perroni and Mr Julian Hunt for the details of deeds relating to Pikelow and the building of the White Hart. Queen Anne's Bounty bought the second portion of the Kiln Intack, which is behind the White Hart, to augment the living of Staleybridge. In 1866 Edmund Buckley bought it back. In 1920 the White Hart was purchased by Gartside's Brookside Brewery and then came into the possession of Bass Charrington to whose Company Secretary I am indebted for this information.

The tenants of the White Hart from 1820 or earlier to 1861 were William Wood and later his son Abraham Wood. Ab, as he was known locally, served as a Chapel Warden from 1840 - 42. He died at Nook Green in 1871 in his 73rd year. His widow Edna returned to Lydgate and kept a grocer's shop until her death in 1882.

In 1877 the White Hart had an Assembly Room in which entertainments were given.

The most famous story connected with the inn is that of James Bardsley, a ne'er do well and vagrant, who in 1839 murdered his father with a shoemaker's knife. Tradition says that he was secured to an iron in the chimney jamb of one of the bedrooms. John Stansfield the Constable of Austerlands spent the night with him.

On the 24th August 1789, Nathan Lee, a chapman of Oldham, bought another piece of the Further Highfield from Henry Buckley of Grasscroft. This was the piece between the old road to Grasscroft, beside the School and the Ram, now numbered 57, 59 and 61. They were sold off to individual owners in 1956.

Before the construction of the present Oldham Road, the ancient highway to Oldham followed the track which leaves Platting by Grotton Hall and goes down to Woodbrook. It crossed the Earnshaw Brook at Woodbrook by a wooden bridge. It continued up to Shelderslow and then into Lees and through Abbey Hills to Oldham. The Turnpike Act of 1792 provided for the building of a new road which was completed in 1796 and put Lydgate even more on the map, being at the crossing of two important turnpikes. Toll gates were erected by the Swan Inn, Lees, and at Shaw Hall. In 1863 the Lees gate was moved to County End. The last tolls were collected in 1884. Thomas Robinson of the Ram, Lydgate, was the collector of tolls for some

years. Among the trustees appointed by the 1792 Act were the Reverend Thomas Seddon, the first Incumbent of Lydgate, and John Bostock, the Lydgate grocer.

An interesting document belonging to Saddleworth Museum is a contract made between James Lees of Quick and John Radcliffe of Stonebreaks, with a labourer from Barnard Castle, County Durham, called Francis Robinson, for the making of that part of the road from Lydgate to Joseph Taylor's Ring Fence, which I am told, was at the bottom of Radcliffe Street. The breadth of the road was to be "9 yards within the fences, to be covered with stones broke into pieces of one pound each in weight for the second or upper cover to cover the said part of the road with stones broken as aforesaid for the breadth of six yards, the said first or bottom cover of stone to be ten inches thick at the Centre or Middle thereof and gradually decline in thickness to the sides of the said Road to five inches thick and the second or upper cover to be six inches thick at the centre ... and gradually decline in thickness to the sides of the said Road to three inches thick." The fences to be made of stone 18 inches thick at the bottom and four feet six inches high." Francis Robinson was to be paid "two pounds and fifteen shillings for every Rod ... each Rod consisting of seven yards in length."

This is the second and concluding part of a lecture that was found among Canon Airne's papers, and was clearly intended to be published. Mrs Airne has kindly consented to its publication. The first part, The early settlement, appeared in the previous issue of the Bulletin (vol. 29 no.3).



The original School at Lydgate.

Peter Fox: Old Saddleworth Collection

Dobcross 1924

Frank Akroyd

This is the third of four instalments of Frank Akroyd's memoir of Dobcross during (and occasionally after) the 1920s - though this section of the memoir ranges more widely geographically, and deals largely with historical events. 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. The National Grid references appearing on pages 40-46 of the manuscript are Frank Akroyd's own.

[page 31]

Documentary evidence begins with the Doomesday Book.

Saddleworth was known as Quick.

Roger de Poictou, follower of William the Conqueror is the first recorded owner of the Manor of Quick.

Robert de Lacy subinfeuded it to Stapleton about 1150.

Stapleton gave the Manor of Heldebrightope (Friarmere) to Roche Abbey, near Rotherham in 1293.

Henry VIII seized the property during the dissolution of the monasteries, and in 1544 sold it to Arthur Assheton of Rochdale for £361-7-4. The land was divided into eight sections – Old Tame, Denshaw, Castleshaw, Grange, Swayncroft (now Linfitts) Knott Hill, Delph & the Stone Quarry called Blackstone Delfe.

Henry Whitehead was the tenant of Delph and in 1617 he bought Delph from the Asshetones for £200.

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1200 the Stapleton family built a Chapel in Saddleworth.

1272 Church completed.

1831 New church built.

Friarmere	St Thomas	1768
Dobcross	Holy Trinity	1787
Lydgate	St Ann	1877
Friezland	Christchurch	1850
Denshaw	”	1863
Greenfield	St Mary	1875
Delph	St Hilda	1884
Scouthhead	St Paul	1889

Methodism started in Delph about 1770.

1780 John Wesley preached in Delph.

First Chapel built in Delph 1781 on the site of the present Co-operative Society.

Uppermill October 10th 1813

Greenfield 1843 on the site where St Marys school now stands.

Roads.

- 1735 Manchester to Oldham Turnpike road finished at the Yorkshire boundary at Austerlands.
- 1759 Wakefield to Austerlands via Thorpe Lane, Thurstons Clough through Delph, along Delph Lane, past Stanedge Foot, & past John Carter's house over Thieves Bridge past Gilberts on to Marsden.
- 1777 Road replaced by new road via Scouthead, Wall Hill New Delph, & joined the previous road at the end of Delph Lane.
- 1792 Mumps Bridge to Stanedge, branches of this road went from Wool Road through Dobcross to Wall Hill from Shaw Hall to Hollins in Greenfield.
- 1820 North side of Pule Hill road made A62.
- 1800 New Delph to Millgate "The sound in honour of the Battle of Copenhagen Sound"
- [page 33]
- 1806 New Hey through Denshaw to Huddersfield.
- 1812 Mumps to Ripponden Road, Grains Bar to Delph.
- 1863 Brownhill to New Delph (Dobcross New Road).
Austerlands to Wakefield (Delph New Road).

Canal tunnel opened 1811 3 miles 171 yds long cost £123,803, 17 years to complete the men worked by candle light "Lively" was the first boat through.

- 1846 Nov 1st work began on the first railway tunnel the canal tunnel is 8 ft below level of railway tunnel Cost £201,608 157,798 lb of candles used at a cost of £3,618. made by Mr T Nicholson 3 miles 60 yds long 1,953 men employed on job 9 fatal accidents took 4 years to build.
- 1870 Second railway tunnel finished £121,500
- 1894 Third " " "
- 1851 Greenfield to Delph line opened
closed in 1955.
- 1856 Greenfield to Oldham
- 1883 Stalybridge to Diggle (New Line)



An Oldham-bound train is propelled out of Delph Station, ca. 1950.

[page 34]

- 1794 Lucian Castle at Grange rented for £18 for a workhouse
- 1789 Superseded by the one at Knarr Lane

1816	Running Hill started		
1853	First Saddleworth Board of Guardians elected		
1894	Saddleworth under control of the Rural District Council		
1900	Saddleworth Urban District Council formed		
1920	St Chads House bought by council		
1937	Springhead fused with Saddleworth council		
1839	Factory Inspector's Report		
	Woollen Mills	57	Steam 13
			Steam & water 2
			Water 42
	Cotton Mills	39	Steam 31
			Water 8
	1,288 adults & 148 children worked in woollen mills		
	2,201 „ & 137 „ „ „ cotton „		
1825-26	Lancashire and Yorkshire textile areas hit by a slump		
1826	Feb 6 th John Harrop's bank closed		
1828	Saddleworth Weavers Union came into existence		
1829	„	„	„ disbanded
1870	„	„	„ awoke again
1894	The present Union created		

[page 35]

My way is a way that is little trod,
 I am bound to no sect or creed
 I say my prayers to nature's God,
 On the hills where the Lap-wings breed.
 The wind is my preacher sincere and strong,
 My text is the infinite free,
 And ne'er a sermon from human tongue,
 Is half so divine to me.

A.W.

[page 36]

THE COMMON PEOPLE 1746 – 1946

G.D.H. COLE & RAYMOND POSTGATE

DAILY WAGES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Craftsman's Wages	1700	1710	1720	1730	1740	1750	1760	1770	1780	1790	1800
London	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.4	
Home Counties	-	-	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.6	3.0
West of England	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.10	2.0	2.0	2.4	
North of England	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.0	
<u>Labourer's Wages</u>											
London	1.8	1.10	1.10	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	
Home Counties		1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.7	
West of England	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	
North of England	9	9 ½	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.8	

Typical Labourer's Budget		PER WEEK	PER YEAR
			£ s d
Cereals	9 - 0		23 - 8 - 0
Potatoes	9		1-19 - 0
Cheese	3		13 - 0
Meat	1 - 0		2 -12 - 0
Sugar Tea & Butter	1 - 0		2 -12 - 0
Milk	3		13 - 0
Beer	3		13 - 0
Thread	3		13 - 0
Cloths & Boots			2 - 0
Fuel			2 -10
Rent			1- 10
Sickness & contingencies			1 - 0
			£41-12 - 0

The parish had to eke out their meagre earnings.

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Example of a labourer at Streatly with wife & 4 children at home. Two of the children aged fourteen & twelve, were out working on farms the other two, aged seven and five were not working. Three other children were living away, in service. The man earned 8/- a week in winter and 12/- in summer. His wife earned 1/6 a week. The total family income was £46 the family being thus a long way above the ordinary level of labouring households.

This family bought weekly

8 half peck loaves	@ 1/9 each
2lb of cheese	@ 7d per lb.
2lb of butter	@ 9d per lb.
2lbs of sugar	@ 9d per lb.
2oz of tea	@ 3/- per lb.
½ lb of oatmeal	@ 3d per lb.
2d worth of milk.	

Their annual charges were

Soap, candles etc.	£2 - 7 - 4
Fuel	£1 - 0 - 0 (most being gathered free in the woods)
Shoes	£1 -10 - 0
Other clothing	£4 -12 - 0

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- 1746 Battle of Culloden (final defeat of Jacobites)
- 1749 Huntsman's crucible steel process
- 1758 Bridgewater canal
- 1760 George III Carron Iron Works
- 1764 Hargreave's Spinning Jenny (patented 1767) Wilks expelled from the House of Commons.
- 1768 Wilks re-elected, and repeatedly expelled.
- 1769 Watt's first steam engine. Arkwrights water frame.
- 1774 Wilkes Lord Mayor & M.P.
- 1776 Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations". American Declaration of Independence.
- 1779 Cromptons Mule

- 1780 Gordon Riots
- 1784 Cort's puddling process. Watts improved steam engine.
- 1785 Cartwright's first power loom
- 1789 French revolution
- 1792 France a republic
- 1793 War with France
- 1797 Mutiny at the Nore
- 1798 Irish rebellion. Income Tax.
- 1799 Acts suppressing Corresponding Societies & freedom of the press.
- 1800 Owen takes over New Lanark.
- 1801 First Census. General Enclosure Act.

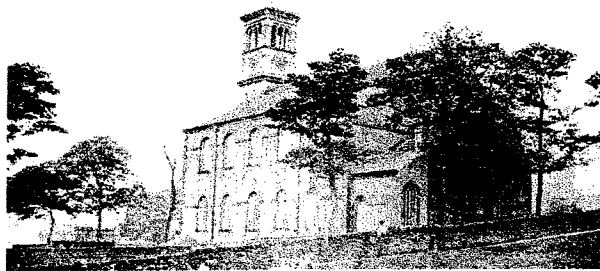
[page 39]

Churches

Christ Church Denshaw, erected by Henry Gartside of Warmton Towers in 1860.

St Thomas' Church Heights ^{1,060 ft} money raised by public subscription, land donated by, Musgrove Briscoe 1745 date stone on church 1765. closed down in 1962.

Holy Trinity Church Dobcross. land for building was a gift money for the building raised by public subscription cost £1,119 consecration 1787 registers date from 1780. Clock tower added 1843 cost £250.



Holy Trinity, Dobcross

St Chad's Church Saddleworth Fold present building 1831 is on the site of former churches going back as far as the 12th century.

St Anne's Church Grasscroft originally built 1788 re-built 1888 and 1910, struck by lightning 1851. 1899 bell tower struck by a gale.

Delph Independant Chapel built 1746.

- 1855 Delph Mechanic's Institute formed
- 1859 Delph Industrial Co-operative Society established
- 1870 Delph Friarmere National School built by the Buckley's family of Linfitts (Hillend School)

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"HOLLY GROVE HOUSE" 1852 Mr Mahlon Chillion Broadbent had a manufacturing business at the above address. "He was a manufacturer of superfine Broad Cloths, Cassimeres and Doeskins." He died in Lee Street Uppermill July 1929 aged 84 years. Mr Broadbent was a relation of Mrs A. Pogson school teacher Uppermill.

"SMITHY DOBCROSS"

Woods Lane, Thomas Whitehead owned the smithy in 1844 he was commonly called, "Tom Jagger".

I can only remember it used as a tinsmith's works run by Dyson Barrowclough & his sons. He made all the milking utensils for the local farmers also cake tins etc. for household use.

A.W

WHARMTON SCHOOL, MOUNT LANE, DOBCROSS 987 -- 063
Ralph Hawkyard of Tamewater left £200 to build a school at Wharmton 1729.
1811 the school had 300 scholars.

STANEDGE CANAL TUNNEL DIGGLE 007 -- 081
3 miles 171 yds long, opened 1811 at a cost of £123,803.

STANEDGE RAILWAY TUNNELL
1846 NOV 1st COMPLETED 1848 Cost £201,608, cases of sickness 634, 150,798 lbs. of candles used costing £3,618.

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JOHN PLATT M.P. FOR OLDHAM

Born Bridge House Dobcross Sept 16th 1817

994 -- 065

"NICKUS"

John Platt was a machine maker & occupied the large chamber over the block of buildings, which is called, "Higher Nickus", later occupied by the, Congregationalists as a Sunday school.

Henry, the son left his father and set up business for himself in Uppermill, He built the "Waggon Inn", later he moved to Mumps Oldham and formed Platts Textile Machines.

TENTER POSTS, WALLHILL DOBCROSS 979 -- 065
Erected 1840 height 6' weight about 1 ton each. Probably used by, "Greaves and Cooper", flannel manufacturers, Wallhill. Wood nails fitted across the posts and the pieces of woven material was hung on the rails for drying and bleaching.

DIGGLE MILL 017 -- 081
The mill was built 1845 and a water wheel installed 1847 64'-82 in diameter 7' wide, 140 H.P. 32 segments measuring 6'-2³/₄, 192 buckets 6' x 1¹/₂ deep, one revolution occupied 45 seconds. Dismantled 1920s by R.S. Morton and Son. I walked to the mill one Sunday to look at the dismantling. In the grounds of the mill stands a statue with arm uplifted. No one knows the origin of this statue.

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Dakota Plane Crash Greenfield "Noon Sun" Aug 20 1949.
 Diggle train crash July 5th 1923
 Diggle Flood May 1964
 Stock Saddleworth Church 1898
 Delph Donkey opened Sept 1851
 Delph Donkey closed May 2 1955
 Corination Bon Fire on Delph Hill 1937

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LOOM WORKS DOBCROSS
 1861 - 1969

002 - 072

James Hollingworth machine maker started the firm with Mr Hutchinson as a partner.

1889 Jan 4th Dobcross loom work's tea party held at Uppermill. 700 sat down to tea. At the meeting it was said that 5,050 looms had been exported between 1884 - 1888.

Loom works closed down 1969.
 Taken over by Shaws pallet makers.

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DR. RAMSDEN MONUMENT
 THE SQUARE DOBCROSS

992 - 067

Dr W.H.F. Ramsden 1833 - 1901, a well loved local physician of Dobcross. The memorial was built in the year of his death by public subscription.

DOBCROSS CHURCH
 WOODS LANE DOBCROSS

993 - 065

Built 1787 at a cost of £1,619. The Rev. Richard Hind vicar of Rochdale, preached the consecration sermon.

LADCASTLE HALL DOBCROSS

99 - 062

Home of the Hirst family, Woollen Manufacturers. Pulled down about 1969 dry rot.

WRIGLEY MILL WESLEYAN CHURCH
 HUDDERSFIELD ROAD DIGGLE

002 - 072

Wrigley Mill Sunday School started in the top floor of a cottage on "Wrigley Mill, yard, Wrigley Mill, at this time was a woollen mill owned by Mr John Sykes and managed by Mr M. Bailey later the mill was pulled down and Dobcross Loom Works erected on the site. Mr Mathew Bailey conducted to services in the old cottage.

The present church was opened Aug 1869 cost £1184.

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WORKHOUSE, RUNNING HILL DIGGLE

007 - 069

Started 1815.
 Horse races held at Running Hill 1715 hence the name

.DUCKWORTH'S CORNER

988 - 063

DELPH NEW ROAD DOBCROSS.

Duckworths the grocers, used to have a shop on this corner. When double decker buses and other large vehicles came on the roads this corner became a traffic hazard so it had to go.

DOBCROSS BANK

992 - 067

THE SQUARE, DOBCROSS

This must have been in existence in the 1820s as a cheque for £1 dated June 11th 1825 is in the, Uppermill Museum. Saddleworth Banking Co. was formed Feb 23rd 1833.

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AMMON WRIGLEY MEMORIAL PLAQUE

012 - 106

This plaque is set in a rock overlooking Castleshaw valley, the valley he loved, the dinner stone stands near by. His ashes were scattered on the moor Sept 14th 1946.

“Winds of the Pennines fresh and free
 You were ever good friends to me
 Out on the moors from morn “till eve
 Happy with you and loth to leave”



Dobcross from Ladcastle. The newness of the 'Woolpack' indicates a date of 1926 or soon after.
 Peter Fox. Old Saddleworth collection

Letters

71, Stockport Road, Lydgate

Mrs Eva Turner, Blencathra Cottage, 71 Stockport Road, Lydgate OLA 4JJ

After reading the article on Lydgate in the Autumn Bulletin, I thought that you may be interested in the deeds of our house (no. 71, Stockport Road.)

As you see the house was built in 1786 and it is interesting in that it is built in a different way to the adjoining houses. I believe that the Weavers' cottages - nos 73-77 (originally 3 stories high) were built round about 1730. The house next door to us on the other side (no. 69a) was a barn, which was attached to the Ram - a pub covering nos 67 and 69. There was a gap between the barn and no. 73 for quite some time, and there is a doorway and a very worn step leading from our house to no. 69a, showing how much it was used over the years.

Then for some reason a tenant farmer was needed to farm the fields across Stockport Road and our house was then built to accommodate him. The house was built between 69a and 73, using the exterior wall of the barn as one of ours. The outhouse at the rear of the property was obviously used as a dairy and the pantry still has the original meat hooks. The loft has magnificent hand made beams, which are, I believe, quite unique in the area.

In June 1823 - using its name - Lydgate Church Farm - it was conveyed to the curates of the Curacy of Royton. It remained in their hands until 1901. I am not sure what the reason was for this transaction, although, as you see, many people were involved in it.

The adjoining fields remained as part of the property until 1924 when they were sold to the occupier of Lower Lydgate Farm

8th July 1786	Indenture of lease
28th March 1789	Indenture of underlease
3rd August 1804	Indenture: Solomon Cooper
9th January 1812	Indenture to John Buckley. Rent paid to Solomon Cooper
11th January 1822	£780 sale by Richard Wilson
3rd June 1823	To Curates of Curacy of Royton (see below)
16th July 1901	Conveyance of Lydgate Church Farm from Rev. J.H. Humphrey, vicar of Royton) to William Hibbert £400
24th December 1903	Mortgage: William Hibbert, Edwin Gartside, butcher (Lees Road). Rent £200
19th February 1924	Reconveyance from: Mary Ann Gartside (widow), Annie Gartside (spinster), May Guy (widow), Tom Edwin Gartside (Rhyl), to W.Hibbert (retired farmer)
20th February 1924	Fields (3 closes) from W. Hibbert to Fred Yates
31st May 1927	By probate to Ann Hibbert (widow)
15th October 1931	By probate to Hannah Maria Kershaw (spinster sister)
15th August 1934	By probate to Mary Hannah Dunkerley (niece - Lees)
5th July 1948	By deed of gift to John Mayall Dunkerley (Blackpool)
31st May 1960	Conveyance to Gordon Riley (Painter/Decorator, Middleton)
14th April 1965	Conveyance to M.A. Prosser and J.D. Prosser (Altrincham)

30th March 1967
24th July 1979

Conveyance to Fred Yates (Lower Lydgate Farm)
Conveyance to J.E. Turner

Notes re House occupants - from Mr. Norcliff Smith (No. 73):

Mrs Enid Hartle - made suits and dresses
Mrs Hibbert - made cakes in the kitchen and sold them from the front room.
Mrs Prosser - pianist, singer - "reet good turn"!

20th February 1924 - Continuation of the Abstract of Title.

4th June 1823 Indenture of Release Assignment and Grant:
Richard Wilson (Clothier/ Innkeeper), Lydgate
John Winpenny (Clothier), Holmfirth
James Buckley (Esquire), Greenfield
Harry Kelsall (Yeoman) , Hollingworth
, James Whitehead (Gentleman), Dobcross
Edward Baines (Printer), Leeds
John Sutcliffe (Woolstapler), Huddersfield
John Priest (Spirit Merchant), Huddersfield
Solomon Cooper (Stone Mason), Shelderslow
Henry Whitehead (Gentleman), Dobcross
Joseph Harrop (Drysalter), Tamewater

Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty for the Augmentation of the Maintenance
of the Poor Clergy

Rev. Joseph Thompson Kirkbank, (Clerk/Curate St. Pauls Royton)
William Courtenay (Esquire), Lincolns Inn, Middlesex

Reciting agreement by the Governors to augment the curacy of Royton and agreement to lay out
certain monies for the purchase of lands for the augmentation of the curacy.

Land: the Thorpe, the Cotefield, the Great or Well Meadow (9 acres) - for the curacy of Royton.
[These fields are shown on the Deeds].

Dobcross 1924

Mr Allan Bradbury, 8 Lee Street, Uppermill OL3 6AB

I write to correct minor inaccuracies in the Autumn *Bulletin*.

Page 20 records Albert Bradbury as one of the fitters. He was my father, who began as office
boy in 1890, became Cashier, Secretary and finally Director before his death in 1977.

The entry should refer to my uncle Hamlet Bradbury, who was an outfitter and was working in
Galashiels when his daughter was born in 1919.

Dobcross Loom Works

Dannie Wright, Middleton:

I started work at Dobcross Loom Works in January 1950. 18 men that were working there then had been there when Mr Ackroyd started work in 1926. My list as far as I can remember was:

IN THE FITTING ROOM:

Harry Hirst (bookies runner)	Owen Broadbent	Frank Bolton (Foreman)
------------------------------	----------------	------------------------

ON THE LADS BENCH:

Reggie Asquith	Me (Dannie Wright)
----------------	--------------------

Mr Herbert Redman (he was a proper gentleman and a Director at H.H. Co)

Eric Hill	Harry Buckley (Landlord Cross Keys, Saddleworth Church)	
Arthur Kay	Clifford Erving (went to Australia)	
Charlie Tucker (Union Rep)	Paradise Jack (nickname, lived at Delph)	
Harry Hill	Billy Wood (he was a Director at H.H. Co.)	
John Broadbent	Leonard Smedley	Bill Reed
Harry Summersgale	Bob Wood	Fred Buckley
Perin Rhodes	Harold Kenworthy	George Marland
Wilfred Rawlings	Jack Windle	? Green
Harold Willie Wood	Noel Haigh	Joe Pilling
Wilf Wrigley (prop)	Fred Heeling	Eric Winterbottom
Lesley Wood)	Jimmy Binns)	
Johnnie Bottomley)	Bob Cartwright)	Foremen over this Group

OUT FITTERS

Alan Hawkyard	Jack Taylor	George Woodcock
Frank Bradbury	Joe Bradbury	Harold Heap (foreman) Bo-Peep

PAINTERS

Albert Williams (foreman)	Cyril Broadbent	Billy Percival
Harry Wright	Ken Hunt	Ken Schofield

LOADERS AND PACKERS

Leslie Milward	Harold ?	? Fred
Norman Waterhouse (foreman)	Jack Kenworthy	

LABOURERS

Harry Kinster	Alf Brown	Alf Marland
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STORE KEEPER

Arnold Brooks

LOOM MOVERS AND DISMANTLERS

Jim Hawkins	Tommy Christopher
-------------	-------------------

I apologise if I have left anybody out but it was a long time ago and my memory is not as good as it was.

Frederick Bailey

Mr Humphrey Stead, Box 105, 8049 Vye Road, Crofton, BC, Canada V0R 1R0 Telephone: (250) 246-2816 Email: hgstead@seaside.net

I am writing to you in the hope that you, or one of the other members of the Saddleworth Historical Society, can help me. I am trying to learn about my 2x great-grandfather, Frederick Bailey.

In his autobiography, *Fifty-five Years at Oxford*, the grandson of Frederick Bailey, G. B. Grundy wrote:

... house at Greenfield, on the line from Manchester to Huddersfield. ... He was the younger son of a Lancashire squire [My grandfather never mentioned his father, who was a Lancashire squire who lived in a house called Clitheroe Castle] who was put into cotton spinning.... He owned two cotton mills, one about a mile from his house, the other about four miles away. ... My grandmother at Greenfield was really my mother's stepmother. Her own mother had died when she was quite a little girl. [perhaps confusing his grandmother with his great grandmother] ... my uncle, Edward Bailey. He was only eleven years older than I [i.e. born c. 1850]. When about thirty [i.e., c. 1880], Uncle Edward threw up cotton spinning and took to mining engineering. ... The next thirty-five years of his life he spent in the most notoriously unhealthy parts of the world. ...

Grundy believed that Edward Bailey found gold in Kalgoorlie goldfield, Western Australia and married a Japanese woman.

G.B. Grundy may very well be mistaken about the origins of Frederick Bailey. For a respected historian he made a surprising number of mistakes in the little he wrote about his own family. Clitheroe Castle, supposed home of Frederick Bailey's father, was apparently the property of the Right Hon. Henry James Montague, Lord of the Honor of Clitheroe. However, he writes that he actually visited and played in the mills, with memories of greasy clothes and workers' dialects, so Frederick Bailey the mill-owner is probably correct.

The only references that I have been able to find are to his [being] married to Edwina Chadwick Norris in Manchester Cathedral in 1830 and to the marriage of his daughter, Edwina Charlotte to the Rev. George Frederick Grundy in the Parish Church of Friezland in April 1857. The address of the Frederick Bailey is given as "The Thorns". There was an old house of this name in the district, owned by the Platts(?) at one time.

I have searched various censuses for Rochdale-Saddleworth, the P.O. directory for Yorkshire in 1857, Manchester trade directories, all issues of the journal of the SHS and other relevant material in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. I have written to several people in the Middleton-Saddleworth area. All inquiries have been unsuccessful. Can you help?

A small contribution to the Society is enclosed.

The Likely Lads: Uppermill Methodists Football Team Photographs

See: Bulletin 29 (3) Autumn 1999, p. 25-6

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

The Likely Lads III: Uppermill Wesleyans, c. 1905.

Location: Main Entrance of old chapel.

Positive Identification:

Front: 3: Byram; 5: George William Broadbent, my Father.

Second: 1: John William Holden, my uncle; 2: Oliver Dent; 3: James Herbert Baily.

Third: Rev. ? ; 2: Simpson 3: Arthur Farrand; 4, in cap: Oliver Schofield.

Fourth: Player Harry Thornton; 4, just above Simpson's head: Jabez Baily, twin brother of James Herbert.



The Likely Lads IV.

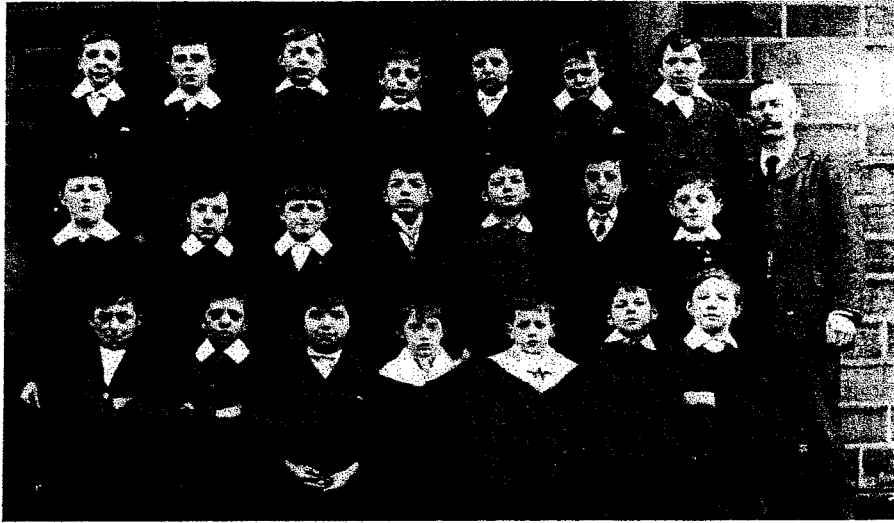
It must be Uppermill Wesleyans circa 1900. The location I cannot identify but the high wall behind does not indicate that it is near to the school in School Street in Uppermill north which is where it was. Now Church Road of course.

Positive identification:

Back 1: Albert Holden; and Front 3 is John Thornton. That is all.



Young Wesleyan school boys, circa 1900. Location: Entrance to old school, School Street, Uppermill North*



Positive Identification.

Back: 1. Noel Pearson: 2. Albert Wood: 3. George Albert Holden.

Middle: 2. John Thornton and Mr Gooch.

Front: 2. Julius Wood.

Noel Pearson: son of Harry (Pump) Pearson, Lessee of Saddleworth Picture Palace.

Albert Wood: the future Dr. A. Wood, mentioned in *Bulletin 29/3* Autumn 1999, p.25.

George Albert Holden: Old Manor House, future newsagent, my uncle.

John Thornton: brother I think to Mrs Mary Hodge.

Julius Wood: brother Fred, a well known presenter of local dialect verse and recitations especially by Ammon Wrigley. His brother Fred was the first local exponent of the banjo I can remember. There are several faces I imagine I can fit to grown ups and I would bet that Middle 6 is young Harry Cook.

* Uppermill had two School Streets, north and south of the River Tame. Post war, during reorganisation, North was changed, and Church Road now starts at High Street.

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
WINTER - 1999

"What is this life if, full of care.
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
W.H. Davies.

The November Bernard Barnes Memorial Lecture on the Yorkshire Cotton Industry 1780-1835 by Dr. George Ingle dealt with many interesting small mills and villages, including our own Saddleworth mills at Lydgate and Scouthead, where woollen and cotton industries coexisted alongside each other with manufacturers switching between the two as economic conditions favoured one or the other.

Another very well illustrated lecture occurred in November on 'Restoring the Huddersfield Narrow Canal, by Alan Stopher, a Huddersfield Canal Company Officer, which will soon bring the world and his wife cruising along the canals of Northern England to view Saddleworth and the Stanedge Tunnel experience.

The AGM and your Chairman's Report provided a convivial evening and later we were regaled with a flying visit from Michael Buckley and his pictorially impressive Historical Society website demonstrating our Pennine wares to a world wide internet audience. Michael has received an incredible 2400 visitors already to our historically correct website creation.

The Winter Lecture Programme continues with:-	7.30 p.m. at the Museum.
Writing about Saddleworth and its People.	Wednesday 16th February, 2000 Freda Millett.
Thomas Steele, VC.	Wednesday 19th April, 2000
The Collinges of Oldham. Nineteenth Century Cotton Kings.	Thursday 11th May, 2000 John Goodchild.

Thomas Steele, VC was Saddleworth's only VC in the 1st World War and lived at Walkers, Springhead. This lecture will be given by Matthew Richardson the Curator at the Museum. Previously Matthew was Curator for the Liddle Collection at Leeds University.

Freda Millett of Grasscroft, has produced many books on Oldham and Lees, her last publication being Saddleworth and its People, so an appealing lecture is promised. John Goodchild of Wakefield, gave us an important lecture on the Radcliffes of Stonebreaks so we welcome him back with enthusiasm.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM.

Coffee Morning & Boutique.
Donkey Derby.
The Spring Draw.

2nd Wednesday of the Month
Friday 31st March, 2000
Tickets

Changing Exhibitions.

The Millennium History Frieze.
"What's What.")
An Exhibition of Costume.)

Opening Saturday 26th February, 2000
Running until 19th March, 2000

Half Term Activities.

For Children.

28th and 29th February and 1st March.
Each day 12.30 - 4.30 p.m.

ART EXHIBITIONS.

Oldham Camera Club.
Manchester Aviation Artists.
Saddleworth Group of Artists.

Friday 11th February - Sunday 5th March.
Friday 10th March - Sunday 2nd April.
Saturday 20th May - Monday 12th June

COLLECTION 2000. A Millennium Exhibition.
Shop Window on Saddleworth.

15th April - until September, 2000

Volunteers will be needed on the following dates:-

28th February -distribution of leaflets.
19th - 26th March - collect items from shops.
Weeks 3rd and 10th April - to help with Display.

The aim is to commemorate this year by bringing together a collection of articles sold and made in the Saddleworth Villages in the year 2000.
Alongside this collection there will be a display of items thought to date from 1900.

CIVIC TRUST LECTURE

Conservation in the Peak District National Park by Peter Beamish.
Thursday 2nd March, 2000 7.30 p.m. at the Museum.

SADDLEWORTH W.E.A. COURSES SPRING/ SUMMER 2000

BIRDS FOR BEGINNERS

Tutor: ANNE PARRY

Tuesday afternoons for 6 weeks from February 22nd 2000; 1.00 to 3.00 p.m.
Satellite Centre, Wellington Road, Greenfield

Gain more from your garden and locality by being able to identify visiting birds from their appearance and song.

Some time will be spent in the classroom looking at videos and listening to birdsong; the rest of the time will be spent outside looking for and identifying birds.

Warm clothing and strong footwear should be worn. No dogs allowed.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY ---What all the world wants -- Power!!!

Tutor: RICHARD HILLS

Thursday evenings for 3 weeks and 2 weekend trips; 1 full day and 1 half day from May 4th 2000; 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. Equivalent to a 6 week course.

Thursday evenings at Saddleworth School, Uppermill.

There will be extra travel costs for the day trips.

Please turn over to next page for a detailed layout of this course

HIDDEN FRANCE

Tutor: ALISON STEVENS

Tuesday evenings for 6 weeks from May 2nd 2000, 7.15 to 9.15 p.m.
Saddleworth School, Uppermill

An exploration of some of the lesser known areas of France, looking at history, culture, towns and sites of interest, using a variety of source materials.

No knowledge of French needed!!!

Fees for 6 week courses:- Full £16.50; Concessions £12.90

There is a remission fee of £3 for persons receiving certain benefits; please enquire
Enrol at the first class.

For further details tele. D. Latimer 0161 633 3205

Industrial Archaeology. "What all the World wants; Power".

This would consist of three indoor sessions to explain the background to the topics followed by site visits.

Thursday May 4; The Power of Steam. This session would cover the background to the development of the Lancashire mill engine. Colour slides of the last steam engines in the cotton industry around Shaw and Oldham would be included.

Sunday May 7; Visit to Ellen Road Ring Mill, New Hey. While the mill has been demolished, the engine and boiler houses have been preserved. In part of the boiler house, the beam engine built by J. Petrie, Rochdale, c. 1850, has been re-erected. J. & W. McNaught, Rochdale, built the original engine for Ellen Road Mill in 1892 as a horizontal triple expansion engine which was rebuilt in 1921 after a fire as a tandem compound, developing 3,000 h.p. This worked until 1975. Both engines will be in steam.

Thursday May 11; The Power of Water. Water was the main source of power in the early Industrial Revolution and remained important well into the nineteenth century. Waterwheels were replaced by more efficient turbines. We will examine how rivers were developed to give the maximum number of mills and the maximum power.

Thursday May 18; The Power of Wind. Wind power was used mainly where waterpower was unavailable - hence in Britain this was in the East where windmills mostly ground corn. The availability of the wind and suitable sites will be discussed, as well as the development of the traditional windmill by the Dutch into a source of industrial power.

Saturday May 20; Full Day Excursion.

Stainsby Water Mill, Hardwick Estate, nr. Chesterfield. This is an early corn-grinding mill, rebuilt over the years, finally being modernised with a suspension wheel in 1849-50. It has been restored recently to full working order.

Cuckney Village, Nether Langwith. The present village school was the worsted spinning mill of Messrs. Toplis, circa 1790. It is situated beside the mill pond in the village where the worker's cottages may still be seen with their attics for weaving or machine knitting.

North Leverton Windmill, 5 miles East of Retford. This windmill, built as a "subscription" mill by local people in 1813, still grinds commercially, producing animal feed and wholemeal flour. The tower has been raised, probably to accommodate the present shuttered sails and fantail.

MEMBERSHIP SECTION.

Our new Millennium membership commences with the following members and we trust they enjoy the activities of the Society.

Mrs. K. Wilson.	Isle of Man
Mrs. K.E. Milne-Fowler.	Wiltshire.
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Benson.	Uppermill.
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Bottomley.	Denshaw.
Mrs. E.H. Wilson.	Delph.
Dr, Beth Pollard.	Springhead.
Mrs. M.P.M. Grainger.	Oldham.
Mr. J. Marshall.	Stowmarket, Suffolk.
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Holden.	Woking, Surrey
Mr. & Mrs. D.I. Slater.	Grotton.
Mr. & Mrs. K. Jackson.	Diggle.
Caroline Knight.	Uppermill.
June Tilley.	Uppermill.
Mr. & Mrs. R.B. Umbers.	Delph.
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Blair.	London.
Mrs. V.M. Brierley.	Lowestoft.
Mrs. Anne S. Howarth.	Lancaster.
Mr. James L. Bottomley.	Princeton Jct. New Jersey, U.S.A.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 2000.

You will be pleased to learn that Subscription Rates have not been increased this year, but now is the time for renewal and your personal attention would be appreciated.

Family Membership.....	£12.00
Single Membership	£10.00
Retired - Single & Family	£ 8.00
Sudent Membership	£ 8.00

A renewal form is enclosed for your attention and you are thanked most kindly for your continued support.

J. Hindle.

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 (<i>New: £1.30</i>) |

Maps

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

COUNTRYSIDE GUIDES: Large scale maps of the district showing public footpaths, amenities and features of special interest: with notes on the local and natural history of Saddleworth.
Saddleworth North £2.40. Saddleworth South £2.40

CHURCHYARD PLAN: A plan of the Old Graveyard at Saddleworth Church. £1.80

LOWER GRAVEYARD PLAN, Saddleworth Church. £3.00

Pamphlets

ADDRESS TO THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF MEN IN SADDLEWORTH: Shewing the necessity of supporting the Plan laid down for augmenting the Price of Labour in the Woollen Manufactory: Describing the Distressed Situation of the Parish in 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.