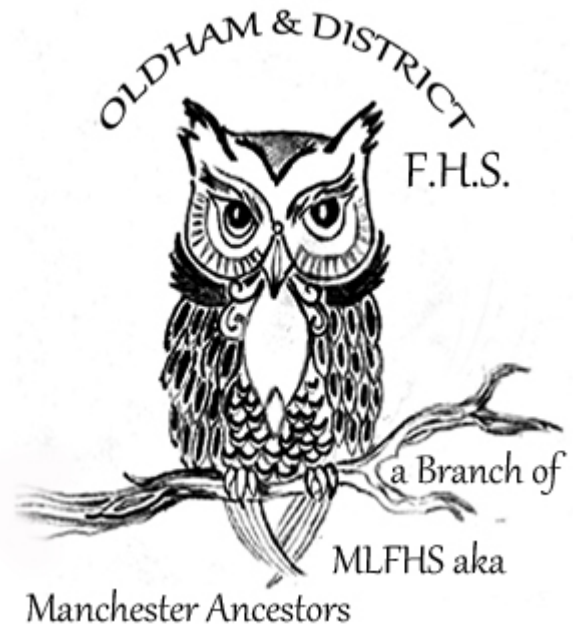


'e-Owls'



Contact us :

Branch Website: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham>

MLFHS homepage : <https://www.mlfhs.uk/>

Email Chairman : chairman-oldham@mlfhs.org.uk

Emails General : oldham@mlfhs.org.uk

Email Newsletter Ed : Oldham_newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk

MLFHS mailing address is: Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society,
3rd Floor, Manchester Central Library, St. Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 5PD, United Kingdom

Oldham & District Newsletter Archives : Read or download back copies [HERE](#)

September 2021

MLFHS - Oldham & District Branch Newsletter

Where to find things in the newsletter:

Oldham Branch News :	Page 2	1921 - year of the census :	Page 25
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MLFHS Updates :	Page 7	Peterloo Bi-Centenary :	Page 28
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From the e-Postbag :	Page 15	For the Gallery :	Page 31

Branch News :

Following March's Annual Meeting of the MLFHS Oldham Branch

Branch Officers for 2021 -2022 :

Committee Member : Chairman :	Linda Richardson
Committee Member : Treasurer :	Gill Melton
Committee Member : Secretary :	Joan Harrison
Committee Member : Newsletter :	Sheila Goodyear
Committee Member : Webmistress :	Sheila Goodyear



M/c Ship Canal, Weston Point

~~~~~

**Oldham Branch Meetings :**  
**all M&LFHS Meetings, Branch Meetings and other public activities**  
**are suspended indefinitely.**

**Please check with the website for updated information.**

**HOWEVER,**

The newsletter will be sent out as usual. Meetings are now in place using the zoom app. There will be further updates on the Society website Home Page and on the Branch pages. The Society Journal will go out to members as usual. It relies heavily on Branch reports and what the Society has been doing at events and fairs etc. However, this sort of news won't be

there for quite a long time! To fill the pages with interesting articles, it's hoped that more people will write up family stories and contribute them to the journal. Please refer to the page, '*Notes for Contributors*', in the Journal, for information on how to send articles, etc.

The Society Facebook page [HERE](#) and the Twitter page [HERE](#) will be updated frequently.

~~~~~

Chairman's remarks :

Hello Readers,

I hope you are all enjoying the last of the summer and that some of you have managed to get away on holiday. I have noticed that there aren't as many birds in the garden now. The starlings seem to be gathering ready for flight from our winter.

Those of you who have been looking after grandchildren during the school holidays – well done and keep up the good work.

Our Branch meetings are still going very well and we are still attracting new people. In fact a gentleman joined us from Israel for the August meeting and enjoyed the talk and the chat afterwards.

We have now sorted out all our speakers for next year and very interesting they are. In fact, a taster for you. In February Jenny Mallin will tell us about her ancestors in the British Army in India. Later in the year Douglas Jackson will tell us about the founder of the Tiffany Glass Company and the collection of Tiffany Glass in the Haworth Art Gallery in Accrington, Lancashire.

I have to report that Dorothy Clegg has resigned from the Oldham Branch Committee due to ill health, but I am please to advise that Joan Harrison has agreed to take on the position of Branch Secretary with immediate effect. My thanks go out to Dorothy and wish Joan good luck in her new position.

We are still looking to recruit new committee members.

Enjoy reading the rest of the Newsletter and thanks again to Sheila Goodyear for all the hard work she has put in to it, especially during the pandemic.

Best wishes

Linda Richardson

Chairman, Oldham Branch

email me at < chairman-oldham@mlfhs.org.uk >

~~~~~

### **Editor's remarks.**

Hi Everyone,

What a rollercoaster of weather we have had this last month! I don't think I'll dwell on that further!

With the call for 1921 contributions, for the journal, on the MLFHS forum, I started to think again about what was happening around that time. The MLFHS Project's timeline was full of interesting ideas and often little known-facts! However, there was nothing that I felt I could actually write about so I decided to stick to a subject I already knew a little about. But I'm not going to 'spill the beans' ... as I'm sure our Editor, Pat, wouldn't be too happy with me!!

I'm always on the lookout for old books from which I can transcribe a chunk (preferably with an illustration!) that I can add to the newsletters and/or an expanded version to the website. This month has been so good from that point of view that I'm now spoiled for choice for months! I already had some .pdf downloads of *Manchester Streets and Manchester Men* (pub 1907) but then I found another 3 volumes (making a full set) in an online second-hand bookstore (not amazon, ebay or Abe!) and bought them. Then of course, I had to get some maps that I could

spread out on my desk, to go with the books! For those of you who haven't found the Godfrey Maps ... please go to their website and look at them! There is a selection of local ones in the MLFHS shop but I wanted the earlier, 1848/49, maps with a scale of 25" to the mile. I already had some but I filled in the gaps where new ones had been brought out. Reading the books, with the maps in front of me, is still a treat 'in store' for me to look forward to.

Our programme of Branch Meetings, this year, on zoom, has proved popular and we have had some really good, enjoyable presentations. Linda has already mentioned them and, I have to confess, that the visitor from Israel was a first ... we're getting quite blasé now about visitors from parts of Europe, America and, occasionally, Australia! It will be interesting to see how our audiences, both on zoom or in person, will change when most people are back at work, back to old routines and activities, and able to move out and about more freely. Oldham & District Branch will remain on zoom until the New Year ... then we'll try and find a way to deliver our programme to everyone!

I hope you continue to enjoy reading the newsletter,  
Sheila

Although I am always more than happy to receive articles, pictures etc., for the newsletter, copyright is always a tricky issue so do please make sure that you have the right to use any text or illustrations that you send! It is also helpful if you include mention of your source material. You will retain copyright of any contributions that you send, whilst allowing MLFHS to re-use the material in an appropriate manner. Editor reserves the right to edit any contributions before publication.  
email me at : < Oldham\_newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk >

**Please note**, regarding using the links to website pages or .pdf documents : if clicking on a link when the newsletter is viewed on the internet, without first downloading it onto the computer, the new page opens in the same window so the 'back button' has to be used to return to the newsletter.

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Oldham & District Branch

Monthly Meetings

Please continue to try and support the Branch, with your online attendance, whilst we are unable to hold our meetings in Gallery Oldham. The zoom app is free to download and use. It would be of great help to us, for the smooth running of the talks (especially if your first!!), if you would look at the two help sheets that we have prepared, [HERE](#) and [HERE](#), one of which will also help you in downloading and using zoom if you are a new user of it. Please be aware that the zoom app on tablets and phones does not offer as many user-personalisation settings as found on a laptop or desktop computer.

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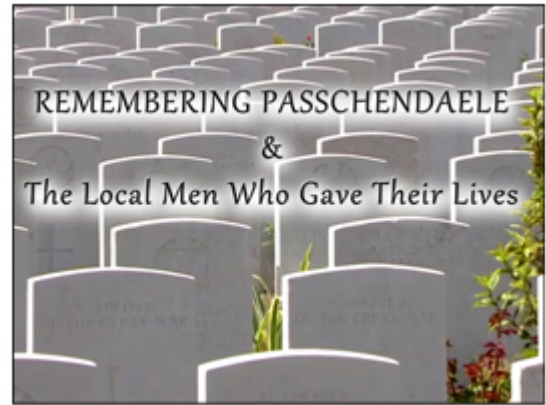
Details of the talks are on the 'Meetings' page of the Branch website [HERE](#) .  
**Booking for an online talk is essential** and bookings are on [Eventbrite](#) or by email to the newsletter or website editor.  
Note: Please make sure you enter your email address correctly in both the required boxes on Eventbrite. If you have registered for the talk, but you don't receive a meeting link on the Thursday before a talk, please email me at < Oldham\_newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk > and I will send one.

**The talks will be free to members and non-members alike.**  
**Wherever you live, Welcome!**

~~~~~



Saturday,
14th Aug.
at
2 pm



Passchendaele ... 1917

and some of the local men who lost their lives.

A free, Illustrated online talk given by Sheila Goodyear.

Our speaker who had been booked for August was unable to give his talk and, as it was August, and the anniversary of the start of the Battle of Passchendaele, I was more than happy to fill the gap. I had a particular interest in WW1 as a number of my family had been killed, and one institutionalised for the remainder of his life suffering from shellshock. My great-uncle Edward Garside Whitehead had been killed at Passchendaele and I had wanted to know more, combining it with looking at other local men who had been killed in the Battle.

The Battle of 3rd Ypres, was fought from the 31st of July to mid November, and included 8 distinct Battles : Pilckem Ridge (Boesinghe), Langemarck, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Poelcapelle, 1st Passchendaele, and finally 2nd Passchendaele. The Battle is also remembered for the horrific conditions the soldiers endured during those months of torrential rain, turning the landscape of shell holes into one deadly morass of mud and unburied bodies. The talk was illustrated by many of the photographs, from the Imperial War Museums Collection, which document the full horror they suffered.

The talk started with an introduction to my great-uncle and his family. Born in 1896, on a farm in Droylsden, he was one of 10 children (6 girls and 4 boys) all of whom survived to become adults. By the time war was declared, he was working for the Electricity Board in Manchester. In January 1915, when he was 18 years old, and 6 ft. in height(!) he enlisted in the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards, at Hollinwood. Later that year, he would be on the Western Front, with his Battalion, in the Guards Division. At some stage he trained as a machine gunner and by October 1916 was wearing the insignia of the Machine Gun Guards.

By late June 1917, The Guards were in position, on the 14/15 miles of the front, of the Ypres salient, from which the assault would begin. Edward's machine-gun position was at Boesinghe. We know from, '*The Grenadier Guards in the Great War of 1914-1918*' by their Lieutenant-Colonel, Sir Frederick Ponsonby, that on the first morning of the Battle, "*The section of the Machine-Gun Company ...which followed the 2nd battalion during this advance ...suffered very much from shell-fire.*

... one of the guns of this section ... with its entire team ...was knocked out by a shell". This was my great uncle's team. Two of the team, including Edward, were killed outright and their bodies never recovered. With no known grave they are remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial. The other two members of the team died of their wounds, shortly afterwards.

We then turned our attention to what was happening to our three Oldham Battalions of the Manchester Regiment : the 24th (Oldham Comrades), 1st/10th and 2nd/10th (Oldham Territorials), and also the local men serving in other regiments. We could learn, from various sources, that at least 350 local men could be identified as having been killed in those battles but there were also untold numbers who were injured, and died of wounds at a later date, or were injured and left disabled mentally and physically. The total cost in men killed or wounded,

on both sides is estimated to be around 500,000.

On that first day of the Battle, 49 local soldiers lost their lives, as well as my gt-uncle. It would have been impossible to name each man, who died each day, in the Battle, but where there were photos or information about them, most of their names were included in the presentation, against the images from the Imperial War Museum collection; for example, Sapper Charles Wilfred Smith, age 30, who left a widow and two children. His father was a florist with a business in Oldham's Victoria Market and he himself had a business as a fruiter and florist. Along with remembering some of the individuals we followed the pattern of the advance, the gains and losses, from August to November.

The 24th Manchester (Oldham Comrades) were in the salient from the 30th August to the 11th November. As a pioneer Battalion, they never 'went over the top' but were responsible for repairing the trenches damaged by shellfire, laying duckboards, digging latrines and any other heavy jobs that needed doing; and frequently working under enemy shellfire. In all, 25 men from the 24th Battalion died whilst they were in the salient.

The 1st/10th Manchesters were in the salient for less than 3 weeks, but we know quite a lot about them as their sergeant, Maurice Bradbury, wrote about their experiences, in the War, in the Oldham Standard, newspaper, in 1919. In those few days, in September, preparing for the October offensive, the battalion lost 10 men. Relieved to leave the salient, Bradbury wrote that they left with a feeling of 'flatness', continuing, " No relief was more welcome than that at Ypres. The battalion had been in many hotter places but it was the general atmosphere of 'Wipers' which was so depressing and the fact that the fighting was on exactly the same ground as it was in the early days of the war!"

The 2nd/10th Manchesters only arrived in France in March 1917, and were sent to the Front later in the month. By the time they were redeployed and arrived in the Salient, at the beginning of October, they had already lost 20 men. When they arrived it was raining, there was no hot food, and there was no shelter, just a wasteland of shell holes. They sat and shivered for the next 24 hours until they were set to work carrying stores and equipment. Heavily laden, with the rest of the Brigade, they were to march up to the front to support the Battalions who would lead the attack in that sector - the Battle of Poelcapelle. Beyond all endurance, they struggled on for 11 hours, across the waterlogged ground, as enemy shells fell around them and machine-guns targeted them. Over 50 men of the 2nd/10th

lost their lives, and over 200 were injured, before the Battalion was relieved. Fifteen men were awarded the Military Medal and 4 the Military Cross, for their 'bravery and tenacity' including Oldhamer Captain G. Fripp.

Although the Passchendaele ridge was taken, the greatest and saddest irony was that, only five months later, almost all of the ground gained was recaptured by the German Army during their Spring offensive in 1918.

If you missed the talk, but would like to read more, you can visit this page [HERE](#) or, to read more about Edward and the Grenadiers, this page [HERE](#)

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING ... on Zoom



Saturday,  
11th Sept.  
at  
2 pm



### ***A History of the Co-operative Movement; From the Rochdale Pioneers to the Present Day***

Using materials from the Co-operative Heritage Trust Archive, this talk will give an overview of the co-op movement from its beginnings to the present day. It will cover the Rochdale Pioneers and their influence on the global movement, the introduction of the 'divi', and the growth of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS). More than just a shop, this talk will explore how the co-op was an integral part of peoples' lives in many other ways.

A free, illustrated talk given by Sophie McCulloch, of the Co-op Archives,

Login is from 1:45, in order to greet friends and welcome new visitors to our monthly meetings and talks.

Free booking on [Eventbrite](#) or by email to the newsletter editor.

Please note, with whichever method you book, if you do not receive your meeting link on the Thursday before the Saturday meeting, email me and I will send the link.

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OCTOBER MEETING ... on zoom



Saturday,
9th Oct.
at
2 pm



The Amazing Mary Higgs

'Student, Pioneer, Wife and Mother; Undercover Tramp and Social Reformer.'

An illustrated talk given by Carol Talbot, author of the above book.

Mary Higgs arrived in Oldham in 1891 when her husband, the Reverend Thomas Higgs, took up the ministry at Greenacres Congregational Church. She remained living and working here for the rest of her life.

Saturday 9th October 2021, at 2pm

Booking is on Eventbrite [HERE](#)

You can learn a little more about Mary Higgs, [HERE](#) in Carole's introduction.

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**MLFHS Branches delivering their monthly meetings and talks on-line**

**Anglo - Scots ... September Meeting**

MLFHS,  
ANGLO-SCOTTISH  
BRANCH  
ONLINE MEETING

Saturday,  
18th  
September  
at  
2:00 pm

*'Scottish Marriage  
Customs Buckled  
for Life.'*  
given by  
Chris Paton

**Anglo-Scottish Website Pages** [HERE](#) for more information and booking details

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Bolton ... September Meeting

MLFHS
Bolton Branch
online
Meetings

Wednesday,
1st
September
at
7:30 pm

*'Researching
illegitimate
ancestors'*
A talk given by
Anna Watson

Bolton Website Pages [HERE](#) for more information and booking details.

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**MLFHS updates**

**The MLFHS Family History Help Desk ...**

**is closed under current restrictions**

**As situations change, almost by the hour, there is no certainty of anything!**

**For updated information, please check the website** [HERE](#)

**However, there is still a Virtual Help Desk** [HERE](#)

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MLFHS, Manchester Ancestors, on-line talks



MLFHS 1921 Census Centenary Project

'The Anglo Irish Treaty of 1921:

From the Irish War of Independence to Negotiations and Civil War'

An illustrated presentation given by Dr. Éamon Phoenix

As part of our 1921 Census project we are pleased to present the online presentation by Dr. Éamon Phoenix, a trustee of the Ulster Historical Foundation and retired University educator from Stranmillis University College. Dr. Phoenix is a specialist in early twentieth century Irish political history and has written a highly acclaimed book called Northern Nationalism: Nationalist Politics, Partition and the Catholic Minority in Northern Ireland, 1890-1940. Wednesday 8th September at 7pm

Booking on Eventbrite [HERE](#)

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MLFHS  
aka  
Manchester  
Ancestors

Saturday,  
25th  
September  
at  
2:00 pm

*'Horatio Bottomley  
Swindler  
of the Century?'*  
A talk given by  
Jef Page

Manchester Events Page [HERE](#)

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MLFHS Online Bookshop: Is OPEN for business again [HERE](#).

with CDs, Downloads, Maps, Registers, Local Interest Books, More General Publications, Miscellaneous Items with MLFHS Logo etc., and Offers.

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**MLFHS & Branch e-Newsletters**

MLFHS Manchester, and each of the MLFHS branches, publishes a monthly e-newsletter which provides useful news items and articles etc. The e-newsletters are free and available to both members and non-members of MLFHS Society. Members receive the MLFHS newsletter automatically; non-members can find them by following the links, below.

To sign-up, for a Branch newsletter, to be emailed each month, simply click the appropriate link below and complete the short form on the e-newsletter page, where you will also find copies of all past issues to browse.

[MLFHS](#)    [Bolton](#)    [Oldham](#)    [Anglo-Scottish](#)

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1921 ... From John Marsden on the Members' email forum :

MLFHS Updates to the Great Database (located in the Members' area of the Website)

Emails to the Members' forum, from John Marsden (webmaster), listing the updates.

* Anthony Steven has added a further 792 names to his index of those who died at Scutari Hospital during the Crimea campaign. These cover April/May 1855.

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\* Susan Mayall has transcribed a further 584 burials at St. Thomas' Church, Ardwick covering 1763-1786

~~~~~  
* Records of births in Turton Workhouse 1839-1853 (87 records), baptisms at Walmsley Chapel on 30 Dec 1847 of children born in the workhouse (17 records) and workhouse inmates transgressing against workhouse rules 1883-5 (118 records)

~~~~~  
\* Another batch of memorials already indexed in The Great Database have now had listings of the memorials added to their descriptive documents. These are:

Hyde, Broadbottom, St. Mary Magdalene  
Lumb-in-Rossendale, St. Michael  
Oldham, Royton, St. Paul  
Rochdale, Hope Baptist  
Rochdale, Town Meadows Burial Ground  
Rochdale, Union St.  
Rochdale, Baptist West St.  
Rossendale, St. John  
Silverdale Cemetery



St. Helens, St. Mary  
Stretford, Barton Road Independent  
Stretford, St. Matthew (Owen Manuscripts)  
Stretford, The Old Chapel Yard  
Todmorden, St. Mary  
Tonge, St. Michael  
Tyldesley Chapel  
Tylesley, St. George  
Urmston, St. Clement  
Warrington, St. Elphin  
Windleshaw Chantry

Thanks to Cheyenne Bower for compiling and bookmarking these listings.

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* added a further 1,600 burial register entries to The Great Database. These are for Christ Church, Bradford 1882-1891. Thanks to Mark Harrey for this contribution.

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\* added a further 1,600 burial register entries to The Great Database. These are for Christ Church, Bradford 1882-1891. Thanks to Mark Harrey for this contribution.

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* Leslie Turner has produced a podcast related to the 1921 census, with some songs of the time and an interview about oral history with David Govier, who manages the sound archive at Central Library. You can access via <https://anchor.fm/mlfhs>

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\* Another batch of MI listings have been added to the descriptive documents in the Memorial Index database as follows:

Chadderton, Mills Hill Baptists  
Warrington, Friends Burial Ground, Buttermarket St.  
Warrington, St. Alban, Bewsey St.  
Wigan, All Saints  
Wigan, St. Paul, Standishgate  
Thanks, as always, to Cheyenne Bower for these.

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* This time it is birth, marriage and death announcements from:

Manchester Courier - 1834 (approx 1778 entries)
Manchester Mercury - 1814 (approx 589 entries)
Thanks to Linda Bailey and Chris Hall for these.

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\* This time it is baptisms 1762-1801 for St. Thomas's Church, Ardwick (1,963 records).

Thanks to Susan Mayall for these

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* Another substantial addition to the Great Database. This time 1,046 burials for Christ Church, Bradford 1891-1943. This completes the burial registers for this church for all 6,588 burials from opening to closing, 1862-1943.

Thanks to Mark Harrey for these.

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\* Bolton Poll Books for 1832, 1835, 1837, 1847, 1852 and 1865  
There are 8,660 names in the Great Database and transcripts of the poll books in the Document Collection - Bolton - Poll Books etc.

Thanks to Bolton Branch for these.

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Meetings and Talks at other Societies &/or Venues
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**Please note ...**

**Please check society/group websites or organisers for updated information**

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Oldham Historical Research Group: ... Online Meetings on zoom



Wednesday
15th
September
at
7 pm



Part of the Oldham Histories Festival & Heritage Open Days Programme

Curry & Culture ... a Story of Curry, Heritage and Giving.

Muzahid Khan will take you from Oldham to Sylhet and back, on a journey.

an illustrated talk given by Muzahid Khan

Please note ... 2nd Wednesday

Everyone welcome ... booking on Eventbrite [HERE](#)

Your support for our talks would be appreciated and, if you would like to join us for our meeting on zoom, or need more information, please email me at < pixnet.sg@gmail.com >.

Website [HERE](#)

Download the 'Oldham Histories Festival & Heritage Open Days' programme [HERE](#)

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**Library Events & Gallery talks at Gallery Oldham; Curator talks** [HERE](#)  
on [Eventbrite](#) and [Instagram](#)

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Saddleworth Historical Society & Saddleworth Civic Trust

The **BERNARD BARNES MEMORIAL LECTURE** : ***"History of the Common Land."***

presented by Professor Angus Winchester

Saturday 25th September 2021 at 2pm

At the Saddleworth Museum Gallery, High Street, Uppermill.

Society members free and non members £3 charged at the door.

Refreshments will be available.

Please also note that masks should be worn, as security for those present, and that seating will be partly restricted. Should the Pandemic situation worsen again at that time, it is possible that the meeting could be cancelled.

Please check with the Museum or Society Officers nearer the date.

Website [HERE](#)

Saddleworth Civic Trust: There are no meetings or events planned in September 2021. But it is hoped to start up again shortly after September.

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**Family History Society of Cheshire : Tameside Group meeting.**

See their website [HERE](#)

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Tameside History Club :

Meetings on zoom.

Website and programme [HERE](#)

&

Tameside Local Studies and Archives - Regular Sessions and Events

Website and programme [HERE](#)

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## **Moorside & District Historical Society**

### **Part of the Oldham Histories Festival & Heritage Open Days**

Explore the history of Moorside church and community; photographs and historical folders; bring along any old photographs of the village you have. Includes 'The Moorside Railway', an animated presentation on a rolling loop of the Mellodews' plans for a railway to their Moorside Mills etc.

10.30am–2.30pm

St Thomas's Church, Glebe Lane, Oldham OL1 4SJ

Full programme for 'Oldham Histories Festival & Heritage Open Days', [HERE](#)

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Regional Heritage Centre :

Website [HERE](#)

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## **Manchester Central Library :**

**Library Live ...** in the Performance Space

29th September at 18:00 until 19:30

Cost : Free

### ***Were You There? The Story of Manchester Free Trade Hall.***

THE FREE TRADE HALL –

THE MOST IMPORTANT POPULAR MUSIC VENUE IN GREAT BRITAIN

BETWEEN 1951 AND 1996

Richard Lysons, author of '***Were You There? Popular Music At Manchester's Free Trade Hall 1951-1996***' will talk to veteran Manchester music writer, Mick Middles about his widely acclaimed book.

Library Live [HERE](#)

Eventbrite information and booking [HERE](#)

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'A Mixed Bag'

I think, by now, that any regular reader of the newsletter of user of the Oldham & District Branch pages on the website, will have realised that I have a passion for old images, be they photos or drawings, and the text that accompanys them. The next item is no exception! It's the first few pages of the following book :

OLD MANCHESTER - A Series of Views ...

Drawn by Ralston, James, and Others

Introduction by James Croston, Pub 1875

"FIFTY years have wrought a mighty change in the aspect of "*Old Manchester*,"— a change, greater perhaps than any other provincial town can show. In that period the hand of the improver has been busily employed, and comparatively little now remains to show how the commercial city of the present is linked with the small trading town of the past. Fifty years ago, though the place had increased in size as well as in wealth from the time when, a century previously, Dr. Stukeley, in his "*Itinerarium Curiosum*," described it as "the largest, most rich, populous and busy village in England," it still retained its ancient features, comparatively unimpaired. In the district immediately surrounding the Collegiate Church—the present

Cathedral,—which then constituted the centre of the town, the streets were dingy, intricate, and ill-paved, and in many places so confined as to be perilous to the safety of the wayfarer. The houses bore the impress of antiquity, and scarcely a modern erection broke in upon the irregular line of buildings that had served as the dwelling-places of the Manchestrans for long generations previously. Quaint and picturesque were these memorials of former days; built, like so many of the houses in Lancashire and Cheshire, of wood and plaster, wrought in curious diaper-like patterns of black and white, with mullioned and latticed windows, overhanging roofs and gables, and grotesquely-carved hip-knobs, cornices, and pendants, presenting a marked contrast to the more stately, though not more ornate, erections with which the present generation is familiar.

Of these memorials of old Manchester scarcely a remnant has been preserved, the improvements that have been effected during the last half-century having swept away almost every trace. Though the veritable buildings have disappeared, the artist's skill has happily perpetuated the outlines, and made us

p.2

familiar with their general characteristics. About the year 1822 was published Jackson's "*Views of Manchester Streets*," comprising twelve illustrations from drawings by J. Ralston; this work was succeeded in 1825 by a series of thirtysix lithographic views by James ...

It is just a century since the first attempt to improve and widen the thoroughfares of Manchester was made. On the 2nd March, 1775, a meeting was held at that antiquated hostelry the Bull's Head, in the Market-place, at which a subscription was commenced for purchasing the buildings necessary for widening the old Mill-gate, St. Mary's-gate, and the passage leading from the Exchange to St. Ann's-square. Ten thousand pounds was the estimated sum required, and by the 25th July in the same year the secretary of the fund was able to announce that £10,771. 3s. 6d. had been contributed by sundry publicspirited individuals connected with the town. Some idea may be formed of the condition of these streets when it is remembered that Market-street, or Marketsted-lane * as it was then called, a narrow, tortuous thoroughfare, as the illustrations show, was thought to be a spacious street, and pronounced to be too wide to require any alteration.

* Sted or stead is here used in the old Anglo-Saxon sense of "place," as it is still retained in our words "home-stead," "farm-stead," &c.; the meaning being obviously Market-place lane, or the lane leading from the Market-place. The name is of frequent occurrence in the Court Leet records of the sixteenth century, where it is variously written Market-sted and Market-stid lane: it was subsequently corrupted into the anomalous appellation of Market-street-lane.

p3.

The building that gave name to Exchange-street, a view of which appears on the map of Manchester in 1772, was a somewhat heavy-looking structure of classic design, built in 1729 at the cost of Sir Oswald Mosley, then lord of the manor. It occupied the site of the old "Booths," on the opposite side of Market-street to the present Exchange, and served the threefold purpose of an Exchange, a butchers' market, and sessions and manorcourt-house; it was also used for theatrical performances before the old theatre was built on the site of the present Olivo's-buildings, at the corner of Brownstreet and Marsden-street.

Before the opening of Exchange-street in 1776, the only approach to St. Ann's square, then the fashionable quarter, was, for pedestrians, by a narrow gloomy passage called Acre's court, but more popularly known by the name of Dark Entry, that led beneath the Eagle and Child coffee-house, and across an open court in which stood a pump.

This coffee-house, with the picturesque group of gabled buildings adjoining it, is represented in No. 37 of James's views, and has been referred to by John Taylor, the Water-Poet, in his "*Pennyless Pilgrimage*."

I lodged at the Eagle and the Child,
Whereat my hostess (a good ancient woman)

Did entertain me with respect not common.
So Mistress Saracole*, hostess kind,
And Manchester with thanks I left behind.



The approach to the Square for vehicles was by a covered gateway, shown in the same view, at the further end of which was a cobbler's stall, with a staircase leading to the coffee-house ; and here also were the entrances to two other taverns, the Dog and the Goose.

* In the register of burials at the Collegiate Church the following entry occurs, under date 1628:— "April 29. — Robarte Soracould, of Manchester, innkeeper," the husband, probably, of "Mistress Saracole"

p.4

After the completion of the improvements projected in 1775 no further alterations were attempted for several years, though complaints were frequently made of the narrowness of the streets, and the inconvenience caused by the crowding of them with carts and waggons, which were allowed to remain on market-days, few of the inns having yards attached to them; indeed, little effort seems to have been made to prevent encroachment or obstruction, for, if we may judge from the illustrations, the principal thoroughfare was made the general packing-place of the town.

Eventually, the doom of Market-sted-lane was pronounced. This street had long been inadequate to the convenient carrying on of the vast traffic with which it was continually crowded. To remedy the increasing evil, plans were prepared, and in 1821 an Act of Parliament was obtained to improve and widen it to the extent of twenty-one yards; and at the same time certain other approaches, avenues, and communications opening thereto, namely, the bottom of King-street, Hunter's-lane (the lower end of Cannon-street), Nicholas-croft, Toad-lane (Todd-street), and Toll-lane (the Deansgate end of St. Ann's street), were also widened ; the cost of the improvements being about, £200,000. The preamble to the Act sets forth that Market-street, "which is the principal thoroughfare of the town, is very narrow and inconvenient, and is in its present state dangerous for the persons and carriages passing through the same, and the trade and commerce of the said town have been much obstructed and injured, and various serious accidents have occurred, and many lives have been lost in consequence thereof."

It is difficult at the present day to realize what the appearance of this part of the town was

before the alterations were made. Market-street was then only a narrow, tortuous lane, with tall, grimy buildings on each side, and so confined in places as hardly to allow space for two carts to pass, or a vehicle to turn round.



The first view in Ralston's series is taken from the lower end of Market street, and represents the Market-place as it appeared before the alterations; ... and a view from the same point is given in **No. 32** of James's work. In this plate a busy yet homely scene meets the eye, the short contracted area with its confined approaches being crowded with stalls, on which are displayed almost every conceivable commodity, whilst carts, carriages, and wheelbarrows contend for space with a motley throng of hucksters and housewives, who seem entangled in inextricable confusion. The first building in the Market-place of which any record has been preserved was the "Booths," a timber structure, in which the town's Portmotes or Boroughreeve's Court and the Courts Leet and Baron of the feudal lords were held, and to which were subsequently added the Petty and Quarter Sessions. For centuries this was the only erection, and it was not unfrequently adorned with the heads of rebels and other criminals.

p. 5

To the "Booths" was added the old Exchange, which, as already stated, was taken down in 1792, the site being subsequently known by the name of Pennyless-hill, from the number of unemployed people who usually assembled there for hire; close by was the Cross, which, from the position marked on the plan of Manchester in 1650, occupied a portion of the site of the present fish-market, and contiguous were the pillory and the stocks, which were removed in 1812. Stalls and standings were no doubt erected from time to time, but the "Booths" appears to have been the only building in the Market-place until about the year 1475, when a shop was erected by one of the Traffords. "In the rentall of Thomas West, Lord de la Warr," says Hollingworth, "mencion is made of John Trafford, Knight, houlding one parcel of wast lying in Manchester, neere to the Booths, upon which onely one shop was then lately builded."

The building with the projecting staircase and railed terrace shown in our view was for many years the printing-office of Mr, Whitworth, and here an early local periodical, Whitworth's Manchester Gazette, had its birth December 22, 1730. The name was soon after changed to the Manchester Magazine, which continued to be published weekly for nearly

twenty years. Mr. Whitworth was succeeded in his business by his son-in-law, Mr. Joseph Harrop, who established the Mercury March 3, 1752, a journal that outlived many competitors, and continued its weekly circulation until a short time before the building in which it originated was pulled down, when it became merged in the Manchester Guardian, the first number of which appeared Saturday, May 5, 1821.



Mr. Harrop filled the office of Postmaster, and for a long series of years the postal business of the town was conducted on his premises. These, with the gabled building adjoining, occupied by Mr. Fawcett, silversmith, were taken down in order to widen the street, which at this point, as will be seen by the vista opening into Market street, was extremely narrow. Of the Market-street of yore there are several illustrations : Ralston supplies six different lithographic views, in addition to the original sketches, and there are four plates in James's work. The first view **No. 3** is taken from a point near the entrance to Cross-street, looking towards St. Mary's-gate. On the right is a group of half-timbered buildings, comprising four shops, with the signboard of Mr. Styan, a gun-maker, of some note in his day, placed conspicuously over the door of one.

On the other side, in sharp perspective, we have the shop of Mr. Newall, a name that became famous in after-years, Newall's buildings, which he erected on the site, having been the home of the Anti- Cornlaw League.

Map of Manchester circa 1772 [HERE](#)

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### From the e-Postbag

The following account of a family's history came from David Johnson, a member of Calderdale FHS. It was first published in their, journal, *The Scrivener*, and it is republished here with their kind permission.

#### Thrice Married Elisabeth Rose and The Will

This summer I decided to tackle a long-standing gap in my paternal tree - who were the parents of 3x great grandfather Edwin Cheetham (1809-1841). In a few weeks of intensive research I quickly went from nothing to knowing more about his parents lives than any of my other early 19th century ancestors. A fascinating story rich in social history unfolded.

Edwin was married in Leeds in 1830 to Hannah Johnson but appears to have lived and worked as a woolstapler (wool merchant) in Huddersfield for the rest of his short life before dying in December 1841 at the age of 32. They had four daughters, their names proved to be significant: Emma Sophia *Waller* Cheetham, Hannah Maria, *Elizabeth Rose* and finally my 2x great grandmother Mary Johnson Cheetham.

As Edwin died before the 1851 census there were no geographical clues as to where to start looking for his birth other than that he was born outside Yorkshire. Fortunately Edwin Cheetham is a scarce name combination. A broad search brought up only two likely baptisms, both around

Oldham, one obviously too young. So, could I link this remaining baptism to my Edwin? The date of 1809 was perfect based on his age at death, but the Church register and Bishops Transcripts gave different names for the mother, Mary or Elizabeth. The other clue was the occupation of father James, an Innkeeper.

Searching for an Oldham Innkeeper James Cheetham turned up trade directory entries for the White Hart in Hollinwood, Oldham from the 1820's to 40's. From this I found census records from 1841 which showed that James and his sister Maria and her family, the Wolfenden's, ran the White Hart from before 1841 through to at least 1871. However, no sign of a wife and family for James. Baptism and burial records for James and Maria were soon traced, all in Hollinwood. However, no marriage which would fit, and James would have been age 21 when Edwin was baptised - surely a bit young to be an Innkeeper. At this stage I was working on the assumption that Mary, from the earlier Church register, would be the correct mothers name, the Bishops Transcripts being a copy. Such assumptions are dangerous...

This just didn't feel right, so having left it for a while, when I came back to it I decided to look for a marriage of James Cheetham to Elizabeth in Oldham around 1809 and struck gold immediately. James Cheetham married Elisabeth *Waller* at Prestwich St Mary 18th March 1808, both of Oldham. Remember the name of Edwin's eldest daughter? At last an answer the mystery from where Emma Sophia Waller Cheetham acquired the name Waller. I was also offered a hint to a newspaper entry about the marriage:

**Manchester Mercury 28th September 1808, Marriage Notices<sup>1</sup>:**

"Lately, Mr Cheetham, hat manufacturer, of Oldham to Mrs Waller, of the George and Dragon Inn, in that town."

So Elisabeth was a widow and she originally was the Innkeeper. After this I was hooked, a rapid trail of jumps from record to record through relatively unusual names quickly took me back to the start of the story of Elisabeth Rose and to Calderdale.

Elisabeth Rose Martin was born around 1766, possibly in Northowram, a baptism record has yet to be found. We first encounter her in the records at her first marriage to Elkanah Hoyle, Yeoman at Halifax St John's 30 July 1792. She and Elkanah have a daughter Carolina baptised 27 September 1796 at Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge at which time they were living in Warley. Elkanah wrote a Will just before his death, he was buried at St John's on the 28th April 1799 and he was then an Innkeeper.

The Last Will and Testament of Elkanah Hoyle<sup>2</sup> gives many clues to the life of a man of considerable property and connections in London.

His children are the main beneficiaries of the Will, they are named as Carolina plus Elizabeth, John, Mary and Luke. Elisabeth Rose is also mentioned as his wife and an executrix of the Will. John and Luke are still clearly young as Elkanah arranges for their schooling and learning trades - are they also children of Elisabeth Rose? I have found no baptism records which could link to them as yet.

"... I leave to my wife Elizabeth Rose Hoyle her ?thirds? out of that house in Bow Street Covent Garden no. 36..."

According to the Survey of London vol. 36 Covent Garden (1970)<sup>3</sup> a small section of the east side of Bow Street to the corner of Russell Street retains its original numbering. The site of nos. 35-36 Bow Street is now the Wildwood Pizzeria and is just across the street from the goods entrance to the Royal Opera House, the famous theatre portico being just up the street to the north. This is the same Bow Street where the Bow Steen Runners were based and the location of the Bow Street Magistrates Court.

"There are 3 pints 1 tankard 1 Gill 10 tea spoons 1 pair of tongs 3 table spoons and a pair of buckles all silver I desire my (son) Luke Hoyle may have my silver watch when capable of taking care of it..."

"I do desire my executors will pay the sum of Ten Guineas to my daughter Elizabeth Herring



who married Mr Herring and lives in Tothill Street Westminster that receives the money from the houses that the executors are to receive the money of..."

This suggests that perhaps daughter Elizabeth and her husband are managing houses he owned in London and collecting rents for him.

The marriage of Elizabeth Hoyle to Richard Herring took place at St Martins-in-the-field, Westminster on 21st October 1784, Elkanah Hoyle signed as a witness. A Richard Herring was baptised in Westminster in 1756. This all indicates that Elkanah's marriage to Elisabeth Rose is probably a late second marriage to a significantly younger woman.

Elkanah appears rather distrustful of Elisabeth Rose:

"If she keeps unmarried and does well to the children she is to receive the money that may be received out of the estate but if they find that she is embezzling the money the executors are to provide a place for the children to be taken care of..."

"...as long as she does not marry or offer to sell the goods she is to have them if she keeps the public house but if she leaves the public house then to be sold..."

This distrust was perhaps well justified. Probate was granted to Elisabeth Rose and Thomas Lister on 20th May 1799. Just one week later at Halifax St Johns Elisabeth Rose Hoyle, widow, married John Waller, Office of Excise both of Warley.

At this time many inns and public houses would still be brewing their own ale and beer. Excise Officers covered rides, a district in which they would regularly visit licensed premises to check on the brewing process and ensure that the correct duties were being declared and paid. If John Waller was the Excise Officer covering the Halifax ride he would likely have been a frequent visitor to the Hoyle's public house...

This Calderdale part of the story seems plausible from the available records, but not entirely certain and the next step is the least certain of all, but from there on the cross connections which bind the story together make me certain that these are indeed the parents of Edwin Cheetham.

We move to Oldham, just across the Pennines from Halifax at the other end of a coaching route being forged between the fast developing towns. Our next source, the Diaries of William Rowbottom, hand-loom weaver<sup>4</sup>, were serialized in the *Oldham Standard* in the 1880's and have been transcribed and published online by the *Oldham Historical Research Group*.

The Diaries gives a graphic and detailed insight into the life and society of Oldham at the turn of the 19th century. This is a turbulent time. News of the Napoleonic Wars is frequently reported. The winters are hard with much snow and wind, and often the summers wet, with poor harvests and high prices for food. This is the tail end of a period of disturbed climate throughout the world following from the massive Laki and Grimsvötn volcanic eruptions in Iceland in 1783-85. It is also the period when mechanization is beginning to have an impact on the cotton trade. Work was often scarce and wage poor for the hand-loom weavers like William Rowbottom. Political radicalism was taking hold around Manchester, including Oldham, in the lead up to the Peterloo Massacre in 1819.

11 Aug 1799: "Died Thomas Rowland, master of the George Inn, Oldham, disorder consumption."

From Oldham St Peter's records: Buried 17 Aug 1799 Thomas Rowland of Mill End, age 27.

Looking at a map of Oldham<sup>5</sup> from the period, also on the website of the *Oldham Historical Research Group*, Mill End is the area adjacent to the corner of High Street and Clegg Street, the location of the George Inn.

14 Nov 1802: "A short time since died, Mr. Waller, master of the George and Dragon Inn, Oldham."

From Oldham St Peter's records: Buried 24 Oct 1802 John Waller, Innkeeper.

The book *Inns and Alehouses of Oldham*<sup>6</sup> tells us that the Inn at 36 High Street in Oldham was

variously known as the George Inn or the George and Dragon Inn and that a John Waller held the license from 1798 to 1802 when his widow Elizabeth took over as licensee until 1808 when James Cheetham arrived staying until 1814. Rowbottoms Diaries suggests that Mr Waller didn't take over until August 1799 at the earliest which is just after John Waller married Elisabeth Rose Hoyle in Halifax. Waller is another relatively uncommon name and marriages of a John Waller to an Elisabeth in the years before 1800 are few. Geographically, the nearest is the Halifax marriage, there being none in and around Oldham. The timing fits and there is also the continuing connection with the licensed trade, so it is a strong candidate. Also, John and Elisabeth Waller do not seem to appear in extant burial records around Halifax.

We learn more of life at the George Inn from the Rowbottom Diaries:

**12 Apr 1803:** "One Bradey, an Irish taylor, stole a silver cup from the house of Mrs. Whalley, the George Inn, Oldham, for wich offence he was committed to the New Bailey prison to take his tryal."

(A costs account for trial of a James Bradley is available on Ancestry from the Lancashire Quarter Session Records)

**8 Dec 1807:** "Comedy of the "Birthday" performed at the Theatre, George Inn, Oldham, for the benefit of Mrs. Holbrook."

(Oldham Local Studies Centre hold a copy of handbill for this event)

The George Inn appears to have been a substantial property and business which later develops as a coaching inn serving routes from Manchester to Leeds via Huddersfield or Halifax.

**23 Apr 1814:** "A short time since G. Statham entered as tenant George Inn, in Oldham, late Mrs. Waller, afterwards Cheetham."

Another event also took place in this period, before Elisabeth Waller marries James Cheetham: Oldham St Peter's 11 Nov 1804 James Blackburn son of Elizabeth Waller, Innkeeper was baptised.

Edwin had an elder half-brother, one could guess that the father was a Mr Blackburn. As previously told, Elisabeth Waller, widow, of the George and Dragon Inn then married James Cheetham in 1808 and they had their son Edwin in 1809.

After James and Elisabeth leave the George Inn they disappear from the records and nothing is known until Edwin and his family appear in Huddersfield from 1830 on. From the 1841 census, now we know of his half-brother, it is apparent that Edwin is living next door to James Waller, his wife Fanny and family. Following the Wallers into later census records, in 1861 we find that Emma Sophia Waller Cheetham, Edwin's eldest daughter, is living with them as Governess to the children. The youngest child is also Edwin. His full name from his baptism on 3 June 1855 at Ramsden Street Chapel, Huddersfield, is Edwin Cheetham Waller completing the web of family cross-naming.

The final record found offers to tie the whole story back to Halifax. A record for Huddersfield Holy Trinity, the church where Edwin Cheetham was later buried, for 14 Jan 1830: buried Eliz. Rose Cheetham age 64. Not forgetting that Edwin's third daughter was also an Elizabeth Rose.

**Questions remain, can anyone help answer them?**

Is Carolina Hoyle daughter of Elkanah Hoyle of Warley baptised 1796 the same person then known as Caroline who marries James Wells in Halifax in November 1815? Is she half-sister to Edwin Cheetham and James Waller of Huddersfield?

Did Elisabeth Rose Hoyle and John Waller move from Halifax to Oldham in 1799?

What happened to the other children of Elkanah Hoyle of Warley, and when were then born? Was Elisabeth Rose the mother of John, Luke or Mary?

Where and when did James Cheetham die?

I would love to hear from anyone who is a direct descendant of Caroline Hoyle/Wells, James

Blakeburn Waller or Edwin Cheetham especially if they have taken genealogy DNA tests. It would be interesting to see if there is DNA evidence to support them all being children of Elisabeth Rose.

Note: I have chosen to spell Elisabeth's name with an 's' throughout except when quoting direct from sources as this is how her name is transcribed in earlier records. The signature of Elisabeth is different in each of the marriage register entries, not unexpected for someone who would probably not have to sign frequently, but in each case looks more like an 's' than the conventional 'z in Elisabeth'.

### Sources:

1. Manchester Mercury, 28 Sept 1808, Marriage Notices. British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>
2. Will of Elkanah Hoyle of Warley, Yorkshire, The National Archives, Kew:PROB 11/1324/267 (also at [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk))
3. 'Bow Street and Russell Street Area: Bow Street', in Survey of London: Volume 36, Covent Garden, ed. F H W Sheppard (London, 1970), pp. 185-192. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol36/pp185-192>
4. The Annals of Oldham – The Diaries William Rowbottom from 1787-1830. Oldham Historical Research Group.  
<http://www.pixnet.co.uk/Oldham-hrg/archives/rowbottom/pages/001-intro.html>
5. Map of Oldham 1817. Oldham Historical Research Group. <http://www.pixnet.co.uk/Oldham-hrg/archives/maps/pages/map-1817.html>
6. Inns and Alehouses of Oldham, by Rob Magee. 1992 Neil Richards.
7. BMD & Census Records: [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk), [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)

### Transcription of the 1799 Last Will and Testament of Elkanah Hoyle of Warley, Innkeeper

In the Name of God Amen the sixteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine I Elkanah Hoyle living in Warley in the County of York so make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say I order that all my just debts funeral expenses and probate of this my last Will and Testament be first paid off and discharged by my executors and executrix hereafter named

I appoint Thomas Lister of Salterhebble in the parish of Skircoat John Lees in the said parish Executors and my wife Executrix of this my last Will and Testament

I give to my son John Hoyle Twenty pounds a year to be paid by my said executors to his Mother If she keeps unmarried and does well to the children she is to receive the money that may be received out of the estate but if they find that she is embezzling the money the executors are to provide a place for the children to be taken care of in the best manner they can and pay them out of the money they receive out of the estate

I give to Mary Luke and Carolina Hoyle all that alike to be divided equally alike what may arise from the estate and furniture when sold if she marry to be sold and the money to be divided for the children the goods to be valued by two appraisers and the executors to have one and my wife the other and as long as she does not marry or offer to sell the goods she is to have them if she keeps the public house but if she leaves the public house then to be sold and I leave to my wife Elizabeth Rose Hoyle her thirds out of that house in Bow Street Covent Garden no. 36

I do desire my executors will pay the sum of Ten Guineas to my daughter Elizabeth Herring who married Mr Herring and lives in Tothill Street Westminster that receives the money from the houses that the executors are to receive the money of he is my son in law and will receive it and send it back? There are 3 pints 1 tankard 1 Gill 10 tea spoons 1 pair of tongs 3 table spoons and a pair of buckles all silver

I desire my Luke Hoyle may have my silver watch when capable of taking care of it And I

desire my executors will put him to a trade as soon as he is fit for it as good a ? as they can meet with and send him to school to learn to read and write.

John if he ? to his lessons and gets fit for a trade I would be glad if he was put out to ? what they think best for him I trust my executors with my children as friends and hope they will behave as fathers to them.

Elkanah Hoyle Sealed signed published and declared by the said testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request have signed our names as Witnesses

Robert ?urworth

Richard Hollar

Joseph Wadsworth

This Will was proved at London the twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine before the Worshipful John Sewel doctor of Laws and surrogate of the Right Honourable Sir William Wyatt Knight also doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully ? by the oaths of Thomas Lister and Elizabeth Rose Hoyle widow the relict of the deceased and two of the executors named in the said Will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and ? of the said deceased having been first sworn duly to administer power reserved of making the like grant to John Lees the other executor named in the said Will when he shall apply for the same.

Original Image:

Reference: PROB 11/1324/267

Description: Will of Elkanah Hoyle of Warley , Yorkshire

Date: 30 May 1799

Held by: The National Archives, Kew

Legal status: Public Record(s)

Closure status: Open Document, Open Description

This article was written for and first published in *The Scrivener*, journal of the *Calderdale Family History Society* in June 2021

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It has also been added to the Oldham & District Branch website pages, with the kind permission of Calderdale FHS.. Link in the Pictorial Index [HERE](#)

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An email from Margaret Duffus, a reader in Australia :

I have compiled this life story on James Whitworth, my gt gt gt grandfather who resided in Oldham until being convicted for attempted forgery in 1840. He lived out the rest of his life in Tasmania, Australia.

He left behind a wife, Ann (possibly Ann Spink Mitchell) & seven children. Tracking this line of the family has been difficult. Connecting with any of the descendent of this branch of the family is a longed for moment.

3 times x great grandfather - how he became a convict.

James WHITWORTH (1801 - 1889)

Transported to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) for forgery

James was the son of James WHITWORTH & Mary SHACKELTON, born abt 1801, HighBarn & baptised on 3 Feb 1801, St Bartholomew in Whitworth, Lancashire.

James married Ann (surname unknown) abt 1821. Known children of the marriage are:

i. James - born abt 1823

ii. Thomas - born abt 1825

iii. William - born abt 1826. Died June 1847, Croft Bank, Oldham aged 21 years. Occupation: weaver. Buried 27 June 1847, registered in St Peter burial register.

iv. John - born abt 1828. Died May 1850, Croft St, Oldham. aged 22 years. Buried 14 May 1850, registered in St Peter burial register.

v. Mary - born abt 1834. Baptised 1 June 1834 St Peter, Oldham.

vi. Richard - born abt 1836. Baptised 29 September 1836 St Peter, Oldham.

vii. Joseph - born abt 1839. Baptised 25 August 1839 St Peter, Oldham. Died November 1848 aged 10 years.

Buried 26 November 1848, registered in St Peter burial register.

Prior to 1834, the family's residential, & children's baptism, details are unknown.

June 1834, James was listed as a book-keeper & the family were residing in Regent St (daughter Mary's baptism).

September 1836, James was listed as a book-keeper & the family were residing at GreenBank (son Richard's baptism).

August 1839, James was listed as a bookkeeper & the family were residing at GreenBank (son Joseph's baptism).

1841 census, the family are at Croft Bank, Oldham above Town

WHITWORTH, Ann 35

Thomas 15 Cotton L

William 15 Cotton L

John 12

Mary 7

Richard 4

Joseph 1

James is in custody awaiting transportation & eldest son James is now working in Whitworth* (*According to convict record details, however cannot be located on locality).

It seems that after James was transported, Ann took up employment at a local cotton mill & also took in boarders. Sadly within a period of 3 years (1847 to 1850), 3 of the children had died.

1851 census, the family are at Croft Street, Oldham above Town

WHITWORTH, Ann 47 power loom weaver

Richard 15 piecer of cotton

McCAY Caroline 30 widow, lodger, power loom weaver

Caroline 8mths lodger's daughter

FORGERY INCIDENT

On Saturday June 27th 1840, James presented himself at the Manchester & Salford Bank attempting to cash a cheque to the value of 200 pounds, purported to be signed by Mr Leo Schuster. The bank clerk suspected the cheque was a forgery & James was consequently arrested.

On Monday June 29th 1840, James was brought before the Borough Court where the circumstances of the case were outlined.

James was a book-keeper for Mr James Lees & had regular dealings with Mr Schuster's business. Mr James Lowe, employed as a clerk for Mr Schuster, outlined the circumstances of the forgery. James was detained in custody.

On Tuesday June 30th 1840, James was again brought before the Court when Mr Schuster appeared & confirmed the forged signature. James continued to be detained in custody & was

committed to Kirkdale to await trial.

Extract from Manchester Courier & Lancaster Advertiser, Saturday July 4, 1840. Page 5

Extract from Manchester Courier & Lancaster Advertiser, Saturday August 29, 1840. Page 2

On 27 August, 1840 James was sentenced to be transported for ten years. He would have remained in custody at Liverpool & was then transferred to the '*Justitia*' Hulk, moored on the River Thames, London, on 8 December 1840.

He was held there to await embarking on the '*Layton*' along with 249 other male convicts in April 1841.

The gaolers report for James reads "Connexs respectable. Quiet disposition. Orderly" The column furthest to the right is titled HOW DISPOSED OF - For James it reads VDL (Van Diemens Land)

24.3.1841

CONVICT SHIP *Layton* (4)

Fourth voyage

Male convicts on board

Departure Port: London / Sheerness **Departure Date:** 09 Apr 1841

Arrival Port: Hobart **Arrival Date:** 01 Sep 1841

Convicts landed: 245 (five died on the journey)

Surgeon's general remarks throughout the journey to VDL.

The surgeon joined the *Layton* at Deptford on 9 March 1841 and the guard contingent embarked on 19 March - consisting of 2 officers, 42 soldiers, 8 women and 14 children, all of the 96th Regiment.

They left Deptford on 22 March and on 24 March received 130 convicts from the *Justitia* hulk at Woolwich.

On 30 March another 120 were received at Sheerness from the *Fortitude* hulk at Chatham. Making in total 250 convicts.

They sailed for Hobart from Sheerness on 9 April with 359 persons on board.

While sailing down the Channel and across the Bay of Biscay between 20 and 30 convicts had their irons removed daily and a considerable number complained of cough and catarrh. The tendency to catarrh among convicts at the start of voyages in springtime is greatly increased by taking away the thick Guernsey frocks they have worn through the winter, before they leave the hulks. They are sent aboard with insufficient warm clothing into a ship which has generally been uninhabited for the preceding months and is consequently damp. Only one flannel [shirt] being allowed to each prisoner, it would be unwise for the surgeon to issue it early in the voyage because it would be missed in the high southern latitudes.

On 22 April they made Madeira and on 24 April anchored at Tenerife to complete water to prevent the necessity of calling at the Cape.

Fresh beef was also obtained and they left on 27 April, entering the tropics on 3 May.

They crossed the equator on the 29 May and left the tropics on 12 June. From 12 June to 8 July they were between the Southern Tropic and the Cape of Good Hope, the winds were westerly and south westerly with occasional gales and rain.

The cases of scurvy were treated variously according to the surgeon's correspondence stating, he has given his opinion of the merits of lime juice, crystallized citric acid, nitrate of potash and chlorate of potash. The surgeon requested the master of the ship to call at the Cape of Good Hope because of the 5 deaths and general debilitation among the prisoners. They arrived at the Cape on 8 July where they got fresh beef and vegetables and departed on 18 July.

They arrived at Hobart Town on 1 September 1841 with no further casualties, and on 6 September the remaining prisoners were disembarked in a clean, healthy state to the satisfaction of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

During the journey, there were 110 cases on the sick list, of which 103 were discharged cured, 1 sent to the Colonial hospital (rheumatismus), 5 prisoners (bronchitis x3, purpura, enteritis) and 1 soldier died (phthisis) one child fell overboard & drowned).

James Whitworth becomes convict #2453 in VDL - VAN DIEMEN'S LAND (later Tasmania).

James had to now serve out his 10 year sentence. He was firstly set a fifteen month probation period to complete. This he did and in December 1842 he was classified to Probation Pass Holder which allowed him to leave the Prison Barracks to work.

In August 1844 James became a Constable - supervising other convicts. James undertook this role for 2 years, in the Bothwell District, until he attained his Ticket of Leave on 13 September 1846.

Interestingly, during James' time as a Constable, some indiscretions were reported: on one occasion he was discharged from his role for misconduct & fighting; on another occasion he was again charged for misconduct because he left his District without reporting himself; on a further occasion he was punished with 24 hours solitary confinement for not having reported information he had received respecting a runaway convict. His final recorded misconduct was having allowed a prisoner to escape.

Having attained his Ticket of Leave, James remained in the Bothwell District. Some nine months later, he applied for permission to marry - this was granted on 11 June, 1847.

On June 28, 1847 he married Mary DAVEY (she was convicted at Exeter, Devon in 1844, for stealing shawls & bonnets). Mary soon found herself pregnant & was due to receive her Ticket of Leave on 15 February 1848 ... wasn't to be!!!!

Just three days prior, on 12 February 1848, both James & Mary were found guilty of larceny under £5. Both had their original terms of transportation extended by eighteen (18) months. James's status as a Ticket of Leave holder was revoked & he found himself back in the Prison Barracks. During this additional 18 months sentence, he did acquire a few stints of paid employment.

James successfully attained his Ticket of Leave, for the 2nd time, on 11 September 1849.

Meantime, Mary found herself in the Cascade Female Factory to serve her punishment time, which included 9 months Probation. Mary gave birth to her first child, a boy, recorded as Sevirious Davey on 9 May 1848 in Cascade ... my gt gt grandfather. He was later known as James Sylvanus Whitworth - an accomplished singer & violin player.

Mary attained her Ticket of Leave on 17 July 1849 ... once again she was pregnant. She delivered a baby girl in Dec 1849.

On 12 August 1851 James attained his Conditional Freedom & Mary attained hers on 2 January 1852. James & Mary thereafter, operated a drapery shop on Liverpool Street, Hobart. Neither reoffended - moving on from their convict servitude, to live wholesome lives, as upstanding citizens in their community.

In 1887 they resided at 131 Liverpool Street, Hobart & James is listed as a draper.

On 19 June 1889, James died at his Liverpool St residence & on 24 July 1899 Mary died at her Liverpool Street residence. They are both buried at Cornelian Bay cemetery, together with many of their children.

James & Mary had a family of 12 children:

James Sylvanus (1848 - 1925)

M1: Nora Maria Yates (nee Nash) M2: Mary (Ellen) Johnson

Jane (1849 - 1912)

William (1851 - 1867)

Mary Ann (1853 - 1853)

Rebecca (1854 - 1928) M: Edwin BURROWS

Louisa May (1856 -1913) M: Henry William Irwin WEBB

Samuel (1858 -1942) M: Ethel Maria Yates (Nora's daughter)

Annie (1862 -1862)

Honor (1862 - 1862)

Arthur (1864 - 1933)

Amy Emma (1865 - 1948)

Catherine Ann (1868 - 1868)

Many thanks to Margaret for sending us this story ... if you can add anything to it, for her, then email me and I'll forward it to her.

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**From Melanie Aspey, courtesy and © the The Rothschild Archive, London ...**

First page from the **1885 Prospectus for the proposed Manchester Ship Canal and the Map**

The map was part of the prospectus and helps explain the benefits of the project to create the canal. What is have fascinating is the lists of directors, and we can see many recognisable local names including Samuel Radcliffe Platt of Werneth Park, Oldham and the MP Jacob Bright.



Prospectus Cover



Map

[Larger images in the Gallery](#)

We can read that :

The Company has been incorporated for the following, amongst other purposes :

- (a) To construct a Ship Canal from the river Mersey at Eastham, near Liverpool, past Ellesmere Port, Weston Point, and Runcorn, to Warrington, Salford and Manchester, available for the largest class of Ocean Steamers, with Docks at Manchester, Salford and Warrington, and other Incidental Works.
- (b) To purchase the entire undertaking of the existing Bridgewater Navigation Company, Limited, including the Bridgewater Canals, the Runcorn and Weston Canal, the Mersey and Irwell Navigation, the Runcorn Docks, The Duke's Dock in Liverpool, and all the Company's Warehouses, Wharves, Buildings, Lands, Rents, Rights and Privileges, as a going concern.

~~~~~

The object of the canal is to afford the cheapest means for the transit of Merchandise and Minerals of all kinds between English and Foreign Ports, and the Manufacturing Towns and Coalfields of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire, and the

adjacent Industrial Districts. The Canal will constitute the nearest Port capable of accommodating Steamers of 1,000 tons and upwards to, and will conveniently serve, a district covering an area of of 7,500 square miles, and containing a population of 7,000,000, including nearly all the Lancashire Cotton Trade, the main portions of the Lancashire and South Yorkshire Coalfields, the Cheshire Salt Trade, the Staffordshire Pottery and Iron Trades, and a great portion of the Lancashire Chemical Trade.

The canal will enable Ships of the largest - as well as of smaller - tonnage, to trade between Manchester, Warrington, and Runcorn, and all Ports across the seas or coastwise, and Merchandise will be conveyed to and from those towns without the cost and delay of transshipment or breaking bulk at intermediate Ports and Railway Stations, and this alone will effect a saving greater than any possible reduction in the Liverpool Dock Dues, or in Railway Charges.

Many thanks for sending these, Melanie.

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## 1921 ... a Census Centenary

As all we family history enthusiasts are well aware, the 1921 census should have been released this year ... however, for obvious reasons, it won't be! Hopefully, we can look forward to its release in 2022.

On the Members' forum, was a notification that Manchester MLFHS would be using this period of time to do just that ... follow the links to the short video [HERE](#) and blog articles [HERE](#) on the website (they're on the public access pages).

A dedicated 1921 page, bringing it alltogether, is [HERE](#). and a 1921 World Timeline is [HERE](#).

The final Journal (*Manchester Genealogist*) of the year, will be a special **1921 Centenary** edition.

And, for our newsletter, amongst our own Family History collections, most of us have 'snippets', anecdotes and little stories, personal ephemera such as birthday, Christmas or memorial cards, postcards, holiday photos, event programmes, marriage invitations, letters etc., etc., from 1919 to 1924, which we could include. Many war memorials were erected; there were organised visits for families to vist the battlefiels; there will be local newspaper clippings; photos and so much more, that we could share.

Please, get in touch with me, through the newsletter email address, either to ask questions or contribute scans of ephemera, photos or narratives (long or short!).

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From the *Manchester Guardian*, 23rd September 1921

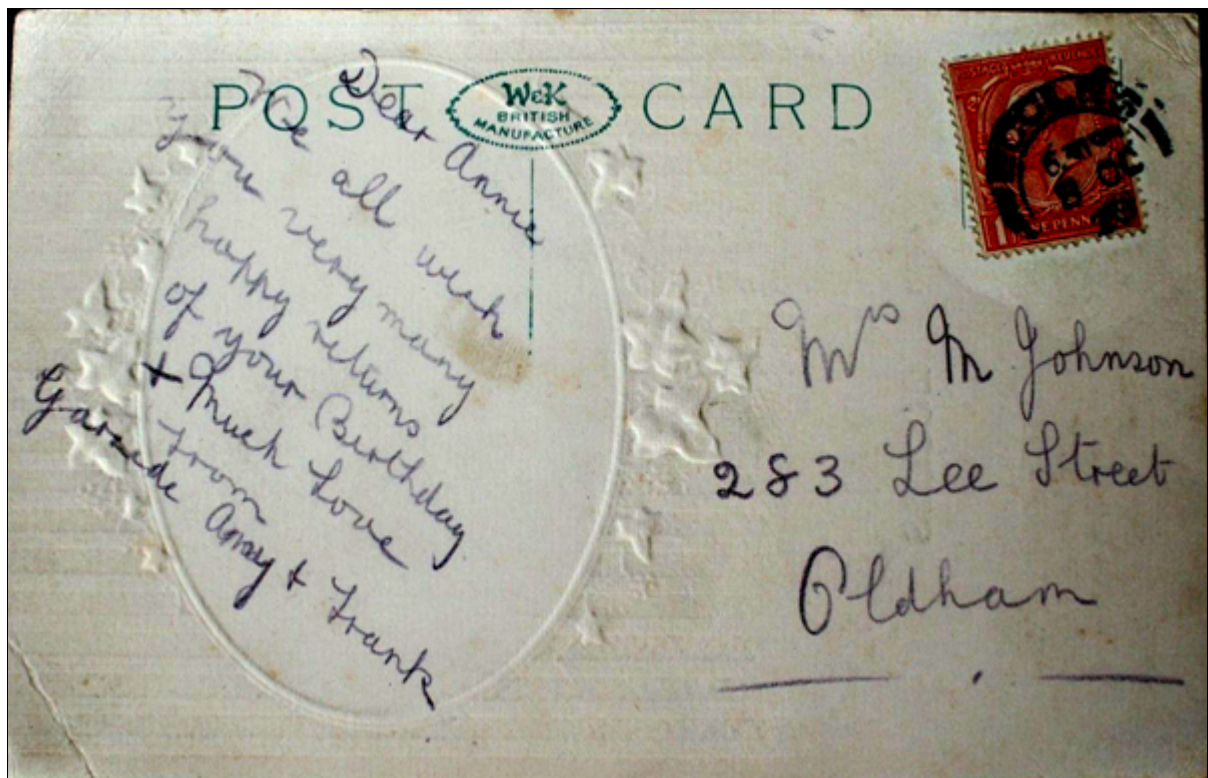
FATAL ACCIDENT AT A FAILSWORTH MILL

A verdict of accidental death was returned by the Manchester Coroner (Mr. C.W.W. Surridge) yesterday at an inquest held on Fred Wedall (41) a stripper and grinder, of 16, Heywood Street, Failsworth, who was employed at the Ridgefield Spinning Company's mill at Failsworth.

John Horrocks, an under carder at the mill, said that on September 7 Wedall told him that a bearing on his machine was hot, and placed his arm through a driving belt to indicate which it was. Witness had only just moved away from the machine when he was suddenly knocked off his feet, and on picking himself up found the deceased lying on the floor with his head badly injured. Nobody saw the accident, and he could only guess at what had happened. He thought Wedall must have been feeling the bearing a second time when his arm was caught by the belt and taken round the pulley.

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**Posted October 1920, Postcard from Garside, Amy & Frank,  
to Annie Johnson, living at 283 Lee Street, Oldham,  
wishing her a Happy Biththday**



From the *Manchester Guardian*, 15th September 1921

### **COTTON STRIKE AVERTED THE OLDHAM NOTICES WITHDRAWN**

The possibility of a stoppage with which the whole of the cotton trade has been confronted since Friday last has happily been averted. Though they declined to accept a request to post-date the strike notices which had caused the trouble, the Committee of the Master Spinners' Federation assured the secretary of of the Cardroom Amalgamation of their goodwill, and

suggested that the wiser course would be to withdraw the notices altogether. The Executive of the Amalgamation accepted this, formally withdrew the notices, and the trouble is, at any rate for the present, at an end.

It will be recalled that the cardroom hands at the mill of the Anchor Spinning Co., Ltd., Oldham, on Thursday last served their employers with notice that they would cease work at the end of the week if they were not paid at full current rates for time lost during adaptation of the machinery from coarse to fine spinning work. On this being communicated to the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation, a special meeting of the Executive Committee was called and decided that, in the event of the operatives striking, a meeting of the Federation should be called and be advised to bring about a general stoppage of the whole of the mills. This course was stated to be the outcome of the employers' conviction that the action of the Oldham men could only be acquiesced in at the cost of permanently recognising the claim that employers should be responsible for pay whenever a casual stoppage of machinery was necessary for any passing alteration. The men's representatives claimed that the demand was reasonable and according to a precedent which they claimed had never been abused. It is fair to add that some of them contend that, as a matter of ultimate equity, the masters ought to shoulder the liability.

Mr. John Pogson, secretary of the Master Spinners' Federation, in announcing the settlement yesterday afternoon, said that letters which explained the situation had been written within the past two days. On the 12th Mr. Thomasson, secretary to the Cardroom Amalgamation, wrote: -

Owing to the staff of the Executive Council being deputed to attend the International Textile Conference to be held in Paris next week, I am instructed to see you and make a request that the notices of the cardroom operatives at the mill of the Anchor Spinning Company, Ltd., Oldham, be post-dated.

To this the Federaton Committee replied, on the 13th inst., as under: -

Re Anchor Spinning Company, Ltd., Oldham. - Your letter of the 12th inst., suggesting that the notices of the cardroom operatives at the above mill should be post-dated, has been placed before the special committee of the Federation this morning. In reply I am instructed to say that the Federation has no desire to enter upon a struggle if it can possibly be avoided, particularly in view of the extremely precarious position of the cotton industry at the present time. My committee believes you are actuated by the same motives. If this is so, there seems to be no reason why, instead of the post-dating of the notices, they should not be withdrawn, and suggests that this course be adopted. We are anxious as you that the question of casual stoppages of cardroom machinery, which at times it is impossible to eliminate, should be kept down to the lowest possible minimum, and we have previously instructed our members to that effect.

The post-dating of notices to a later period does not avert the possibility of a stoppage at this mill. I am instructed to say that, failing a withdrawal of the notices, my committee on the instructions given to it, has no option but to proceed with its arrangements for dealing with the situation in the event of an immediate strike, or one at a subsequent date, at the Anchor Spinning Company, Ltd.

Yesterday morning Mr. Pogson received the following from Mr. Thomasson: -

Re Anchhor Spinning Co., Ltd., Oldham - I am instructed to inform you that the notices of the cardroom workers employed at the above firm will be withdrawn, as suggested in your letter of yesterday.

Interviewed later in the day, Mr. Thomasson said he had nothing to add to the published correspondence.

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A short selection of entries from the MLFHS FACEBOOK PAGE [HERE](#) ...
since the last newsletter :

* Free to view online newspapers

We are delighted to be announcing a major development for newspapers digitised from the British Library's collection. From today, one million pages on the British Newspaper Archive site have become free to view, so not requiring any subscription payment.

[HERE](#)

* 16 August 1819 a meeting of between 60,000 & 80,000 people calling for parliamentary reform was held at St Peter's Field in Manchester. Between 15-20 were killed & hundreds were injured. The event became known as the Peterloo Massacre.

53 images on flickr

[HERE](#)

* What was VJ Day? When did it take place? And how did people celebrate?

Kevin Telfer looks back at the end of the Second World War

[HERE](#)

* Simon Wills reveals how family historians can find their ancestors' Royal Navy service records – from the Napoleonic Wars to the First and Second World Wars

[HERE](#)

* Convict Transportation Registers Database

[HERE](#)

* **All Things Georgian**

Writing about anything and everything to do with the Georgian Era.

[HERE](#)

* The rise of the Great British 'bobby': a brief history of Britain's police service

[HERE](#)

* Trespassing Incidents on the railway

[HERE](#)

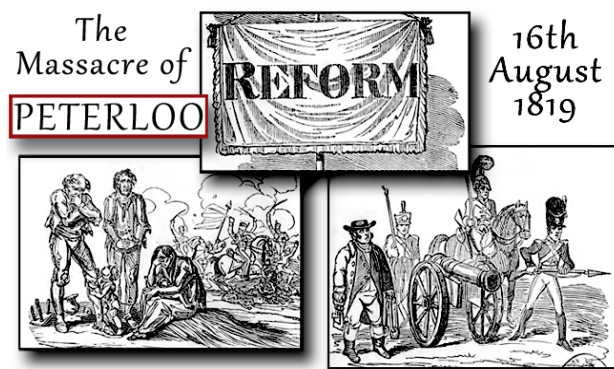
* National Trust curator Catherine Troiano reveals some of her tips on how to date Victorian and Edwardian photographs.

[HERE](#)

* For much more, visit the MLFHS Facebook Page : [HERE](#)

And [HERE](#) is the link to the MLFHS Twitter page.

PETERLOO : the Bi-Centenary



Visit the website for **The Peterloo Project** with particular reference to Oldham, people, accounts, life at the time and more ... at [Peterloo-Manchester](#)

Although the long-anticipated Bi-Centenary has come and gone, there are some Peterloo websites still active with history, news, photos and reports.

You can make searches on websites such as :

Manchester Histories - Peterloo 1819 ... Manchester Histories have created a website which publicises all that is happening, or has happened, around the region.

Visit their website [HERE](#)

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## Need Help!

### Coronavirus Pandemic

#### Oldham Local Studies and Archives is open again

#### Coronavirus Update and Statement July 2021 :

Oldham Local Studies and Archives is pleased to announce that it is now fully open to the public.

#### **Our opening hours are as follows:**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10am-5pm; Tuesday 10am-2pm; Saturday 10am-4pm.

Although it will not be essential to book your place as has been the case over the last few months, we encourage you to consider booking in advance as this enables us to get everything ready in time for your visit, particularly if you wish to view archives. To order please visit:

[https://www.oldham.gov.uk/forms/form/891/en/local\\_archives\\_document\\_order\\_form](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/forms/form/891/en/local_archives_document_order_form)

If you wish to use PCs to access family history websites or to use microfilm readers, we advise you to book a place by contacting us at:

[archives@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:archives@oldham.gov.uk) or telephone 0161 770 4654.

Although it is no longer mandatory, we are encouraging visitors to continue using masks where possible and to respect 2m social distancing with regard to staff and other users.

Hand sanitisers will also continue to be available.

#### **Local Studies and Archives at 84 Union Street, Oldham, [OL1 1DN](#),**

**In normal times** there are regular Family History Advice Sessions every Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2-4pm.

There's no need to book. Just turn up with all the information you have and the resident family history experts will be on hand to help.

Archives are unique, original documents created in the course of everyday activities. Oldham's date from 1597 and cover an enormous range of subjects and activities :

- Hospital records
- Poor Law Union records
- Coroners Court records
- Local Authority records including Chadderton, Crompton, Failsworth, Lees, Oldham, Royton and Saddleworth
- Schools and education records
- Records for statutory bodies like the police force
- Church and religious records
- Business records
- Solicitors and estate agents records
- Trade unions and associations records
- Co-operative Society records
- Sports, entertainment and leisure records
- Personal, family and property records



- Society and Association records
- Records of Oldham communities

There is no charge to look at archival records although you would need to bring proof of your name and address (e.g. your driving licence) to do so.

Most archives can be produced immediately, with no advance booking required. However, some archives are stored off-site, in which case at least 2 days' notice is required in order to see them.

**Other archives may be closed due to their fragile condition, or because they contain confidential information.**

[Oldham Council Heritage Collections](#)

There are regularly changing displays in the Local Studies Library.

[Opening hours](#) and contact details.

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Website Links

Other Society Websites

Catholic Family History Society – www.catholicfhs.co.uk

Cheshire Local History Association – www.cheshirehistory.org.uk

Chadderton Historical Society (archived website) – www.chadderton-historical-society.org.uk

Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society - <https://www.lfhhs.org.uk/home.php>

Lancashire Local History Federation – www.lancashirehistory.org

Liverpool and South West Lancashire FHS – www.lswlfhs.org.uk

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society – www.mrias.co.uk

Oldham Historical Research Group – www.pixnet.co.uk/Oldham-hrg

Peterloo - [Peterloo-Manchester](#)

Ranulf Higden Society (Latin transcription) - [Ranulf Higden Soc.](#)

Royton Local History Society – www.rlhs.co.uk

Saddleworth Historical Society – www.saddleworth-historical-society.org.uk

Tameside Local History Forum - www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk

Tameside Local & Family History - <http://tamesidefamilyhistory.co.uk/contents.htm>

The Victorian Society - [Manchester Regional Website](#)

Some Useful Sites

GENUKI - [Lancashire](#)

Free BMD - [Search](#)

[National Library of Scotland](#) - Free to view, historic, zoomable maps of UK :

1891 - Oldham and locality [HERE](#)

Online Parish Clerk Project : Lancashire - [HERE](#)

British Association for Local History - [HERE](#)

and for their back issue journal downloads - [HERE](#)

Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, website, [HERE](#)

and for their back issue journal downloads, website, [HERE](#)

Internet Archive ... The Internet Archive offers over **24,000,000** freely downloadable books and texts.

[HERE](#) There is also a collection of 1.3 million modern eBooks that may be borrowed by anyone with a free archive.org account.

Made in Greater Manchester (MIGM) [HERE](#) and Research guide [HERE](#)

Historical Maps of parish boundaries [HERE](#)

Regiments & Corps of the British Army (Wayback machine) [HERE](#)

Some Local Archives

Barnsley Museum & Discovery Centre – www.experience-barnsley.com

Birkenhead – [Local & Family History](#)

Bury – www.bury.gov.uk/archives

Chester - [Cheshire Archives & Local Studies](#) (linked from Discovery at the National Archives)

Derbyshire - [Local & Family History](#)

Leeds - [Leeds Local and Family History](#)

Liverpool Archives and Family History – <https://liverpool.gov.uk/archives>

Manchester - [Archives & Local History](#)

Oldham - [Local Studies & Archives](#)

Oldham - [Oldham Council Heritage Collections](#)

Preston – www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives

Stockport – www.stockport.gov.uk/heritage-library-archives

Tameside Local Studies and Archives - <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/archives>

York – www.york.ac.uk/borthwick

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### For the Gallery



***Weston Point, Manchester Ship Canal***

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See also, the 'e-Postbag email from Melanie Aspey

Below ... Prospectus (front cover) and Map for Proposed Manchester Ship Canal

MESSRS. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS are authorised to receive Subscriptions
for the Issue of 725,000 Shares of £10 each,

IN THE
MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL COMPANY

Incorporated by 48 and 49 Vic., Cap. 188. (Royal Assent, 6th August, 1885.)

AUTHORISED SHARE CAPITAL £8,000,000 IN 800,000 SHARES OF £10 EACH,
of which 75,000 have been allotted since the formation of the Company.

Price of Issue, Par, or £10 per Share.

Payable, 20s. per Share on Application.

„ 20s. „ „ Allotment.

And the remainder by instalments, at intervals of not less than Three Months and not exceeding £1 each or
£2 10s. 0d. in any Twelve Months.

The Company have entered into a Contract, with Messrs. LUCAS & AIRD for the execution of the whole of
the Works within Four Years from their commencement, for the sum of £5,750,000, being £561,137 less than
the Parliamentary Estimates.

Interest at the rate of £4 per cent. per annum will, in accordance with the "Manchester Ship Canal Act,
1886," be paid during the period of Four years required for construction of the works, upon all amounts called up
and paid on the Shares.

The liability of a Shareholder is absolutely limited to the amount remaining unpaid upon the Shares he holds.

Directors.

DANIEL ADAMSON, C.E., J.P., The Towers, Didsbury, near Manchester—Engineer (*Chairman*).

SIR JOSEPH COCKSEY LEE, J.P., 56, Mosley Street, Manchester—Merchant (*Deputy Chairman*).

ALDERMAN W. H. BAILEY, J.P., Salford—Engineer.

HENRY BODDINGTON, JUN., Manchester—Brewer.

JACOB BRIGHT, M.P., Alderley, Cheshire—Merchant.

WILLIAM FLETCHER, Eagle Foundry, Salford—Engineer.

CHARLES PATON HENDERSON, JUN., J.P., Pine Cliff, Torquay.

WILLIAM HENRY HOULDSWORTH, M.P., Norbury Rectory

Hall, Knutsford—Cotton Spinner.

ALDERMAN RICHARD HUSBAND, J.P., Seedley, Manchester.

RICHARD JAMES, The Grange, Urmston—Merchant.

JOSEPH LEIGH, J.P., Bank Hall, Heaton Mersey—Cotton
Spinner.

JAMES E. PLATT, Bruntwood, Cheadle—Engineer.

SAMUEL RADCLIFFE PLATT, D.L., J.P., Werneth Park,
Oldham—Engineer.

JOHN ROGERSON, J.P., A. Inst. C.E., Croxdale Hall, Durham.

JOHN RYLANDS, J.P., Longford Hall, Stretford—Merchant.

Bankers.

THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED, Mosley Street, Manchester.

Engineer.

E. LEADER WILLIAMS, M. Inst. C.E.

Consulting Engineer.

JAMES ABERNETHY, Past President Inst. C.E., F.R.S.E.

Solicitors.

GRUNDY, KERSHAW, SAXON, & SAMSON, Manchester.

Provisional Manager.

MARSHALL STEVENS.

Secretary.

ALFRED H. WHITWORTH.

PROSPECTUS.

The Company has been incorporated for the following, amongst other, purposes:—

- (a) To construct a Ship Canal from the River Mersey at Eastham, near Liverpool, past Ellesmere Port, Weston Point, and Runcorn, to Warrington, Salford, and Manchester, available for the largest class of Ocean Steamers, with Docks at Manchester, Salford, and Warrington, and other Incidental Works.
- (b) To purchase the entire undertakings of the existing Bridgewater Navigation Company, Limited, including the Bridgewater Canals, the Runcorn and Weston Canal, the Mersey and Irwell Navigation, the Runcorn Docks, the Duke's Dock in Liverpool, and all that Company's Warehouses, Wharves, Buildings, Lands, Rents, Rights and Privileges, as a going concern.

The object of the Canal is to afford the cheapest means for the transit of Merchandise and Minerals of all kinds between English and Foreign Ports, and the Manufacturing Towns and Coalfields of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire, and the adjacent Industrial Districts. The Canal will constitute the nearest Port capable of accommodating Steamers of 1,000 tons and upwards to, and will conveniently serve, a district covering an area of 7,500 square miles, and containing a population of over 7,000,000, including nearly all the Lancashire Cotton Trade, the main portions of the Lancashire and South Yorkshire Coalfields, the Cheshire Salt Trade, the Staffordshire Pottery and Iron Trades, and a great proportion of the Lancashire Chemical Trade.

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