

NL16

**NEW MILLS
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**



Edition No. 16

Spring 1996

PROGRAMME. Spring 1996

12th. January	Val. Copestake	Embroidering New Mills
9th. February	Agnes Shirt	The Church of the Annunciation, St.Mary's, New Mills
8th. March	Anne Hearle	Marple's Upper Crust
12th. April	David George	Trafford Park 1896-1996
10th. May	Dr. J.H. Smith	Dr. Clegg's Diaries (and A.G.M.).

COMMITTEE 1995-96

Chairman	Olive Bowyer
Vice-Chairman	Barbara Matthews
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David Pitcher: Mary Edge: Richard Wood: Derek Brumhead:
Sheila Richardson: John Symonds.

The Howard Family. Dukes of Norfolk - Peggy Davies - 8th. Sept.

The first meeting in our autumn 1995 programme began in truly noble style with Peggy Davies's well-researched account of the long line of Norfolk dukes, the highest aristocrats in the land after the Royal Family. Despite their enormous wealth and power, the Howards' career has been a chequered one. Between the sixteenth and the nineteenth centuries successive dukes found it necessary to steer a prudent course between their loyalty to The Crown and their devotion to the Catholic faith. The building of Howard Town at Glossop in the early part of the last century proved particularly interesting to our audience and at question time Peggy Davies inspired much scope for reminiscence regarding particular buildings in the town.

Peggy Davies is to be congratulated on her meticulous knowledge of the history of the Norfolks and Glossop.

Crime in Victorian Society - Duncan Broady - 13th. Oct.

Duncan Broady gave an informative and often amusing account of policing in Victorian Manchester. A policeman's lot seemed to have, not often, been a happy one, pay was 17 shillings per week, he got five days holiday a year and only took off his uniform for bathing and sleeping! It was interesting to note that policemen could carry any kind of weapon, including firearms. Firearm restrictions did not come into force until the 1920's. Mr. Broady's detailed explanations of his excellent selection of slides was very useful.

A visit to the Police Museum in Manchester would be well worthwhile.

The early history of Hayfield Church. Roger Bryant. 10 November 1995.

The area which now includes New Mills and Hayfield was once part of a wide area called Bowden Middlecale, an administrative division for tax purposes which consisted of ten hamlets. All the hamlets, together with the hamlet of Mellor, were part of the ancient parish of Glossop, which like many other parishes in Derbyshire was extensive and widespread. The distances and terrain involved would certainly have made communications difficult and, resulting from this, chapelries at Hayfield and Mellor were established in addition to the mother church at Glossop.

Roger's interest in medieval history is already well known to Society members. He has spoken previously on the royal forest of Peak and, in evening classes, given us the benefit of his studies of thirteenth and fourteenth century documents, held in the Public Record Office, which he has translated from medieval Latin. He has revealed probably better than anyone previously the great significance of these centuries as the formative period for population and farming in Bowden Middlecale. It was, therefore, with considerable anticipation that we came to hear of his recent researches into the early history of Hayfield church. We expected some new discoveries and we were not disappointed.

The first part of the talk was devoted to a brief survey of the accepted history of the church including the various alterations and dates, accompanied by some slides taken specially for the purpose, including some of the rarely-seen 'crypt' with its ancient stone octagonal pillars and cruck-like timbers (perhaps part of the early church) holding up the present floor of the church. Roger dealt in some detail with the primary and secondary literature, outlining the information provided and pointing out some particular inconsistencies and doubts, which had not been previously addressed. The most important reference was an early nineteenth century transcription (in the Hayfield registers) of a document dated 1386 describing a dispute over an existing chapel in Kinder and the building of a new church at this date. This is the date which has been commonly accepted as the date of the foundation of the church; indeed, the people of Hayfield celebrated the sexcentenary in 1986.

It was Roger's opinion, however, that the style of writing and language of the document could not be 1386 and must be later. In addition, this document refers to twelve oaks used in the construction of the church and there is other primary evidence placing the date of the gift of these oaks (by Henry IV out of the royal forest) to 1405.

At the Lichfield Record Office are Bishops Registers commencing from the thirteenth century and in translating some of this material Roger has discovered that a licence for celebrating mass in their newly-constructed chapel was granted to the people of Hayfield in 1405, the same year as the document recording the gift of the twelve oaks. So, it would appear that the date of the foundation of Hayfield church was this year and not 1386.

The talk ended in a discussion on the possible location of the pre-1405 chapel near the confluence of the rivers Sett and Kinder; the names Chapel Bank, Chapel Gate, and Kirksteads were noted in this respect. The excellent attendance at this meeting was, not surprisingly, swollen in part by a contingent of Hayfield people who must have gone home possibly wondering if they should start preparing another celebration for 2005 !

Derek Brumhead

The Captive Queen - Ron Weston - 8th. Dec.

Ron began with a warning; we should forget the romanticised versions of Mary's character and career portrayed in novels, paintings and operas. However, his version, based on the known facts, was equally enthralling, especially as it incorporated a realistic assessment of her character.

He emphasised the importance of Mary as a major political figure in Europe as well as in "Britain" at a time when politics and religion were inextricably interwoven. Crowned Queen of Scotland in 1542, when only three months old, her childhood was essentially French, as her mother and Regent, Mary of Guise, sent her in 1548 to live for twelve years as an honoured guest at the French court. Her marriage to the Dauphin would, had he lived longer, cemented the "Auld Alliance" of France and Scotland. Some would say she was a pawn in the hands of her mentors, but on her return to Scotland in 1560 after the death of her husband and her mother she showed she was no pawn, but an ambitious woman, governed, however, by her passionate nature and resort to intrigue instead of diplomacy. Her marriage to Darnley increased her hopes of succeeding to the English throne, but her dalliance with Rizzio, her possible but unproven implication in the murder of Darnley, followed by her speedy marriage to Bothwell, his suspected assassin, tarnished her reputation. However, she remained, as Ron said, essentially naive: escaping to England from imprisonment by the infuriated Scottish nobles, she genuinely expected the help of her "sister Queen" in securing revenge. Her guile was no match for Elizabeth's political shrewdness: hence the nineteen years of captivity, in and around Derbyshire.

Ron guided us through those long years. He explained how Mary's initial friendship with the equally ambitious Bess of Hardwick was soured by accusations of an affair with the Earl of Shrewsbury, Bess's husband and Mary's custodian. Ron's slides encouraged us to re-visit the stately homes where Mary stayed, and to seek out lesser homes associated with the equally naive Catholics who again and again plotted to rescue her, depose Elizabeth and enthrone Mary as Queen. They were inefficient and careless, no match for Walsingham's spy system, and met the fate of traitors. Without definite proof of Mary's complicity, Elizabeth's reluctance to sign the death warrant enabled Mary to live on using frequent, conveniently timed, illnesses as protective cover. But in the Babington Plot, the blatant indiscretion of the conspirators provided the spies with proof of Mary's involvement and Elizabeth signed the warrant for Mary's execution at Fotheringhay.

Our thanks to Ron. and also to those members who generously prepared pre-Christmas drinks and goodies, which complemented our enjoyment of a very informative and entertaining evening.

Eileen Miller.

NEW MILLS BRIDGE

Before the high level bridges were built over the Torrs, the only crossing point other than low level foot bridges, was the ancient bridge at the 'New Mill' at the foot of High Street. Even well into the industrial period, despite its importance, this bridge was no more than a pack horse bridge and often in a poor state of repair, neglect which arose from the responsibility for roads and bridges being placed with the hamlets and, through quarter sessions ultimately with the county, far removed on the other side of Derbyshire at Derby.

In 1820, the county was prosecuted by the crown for the neglect of this bridge and the prosecution's statement provided information about the town and its communications at that time.

In the year 1759 the village or hamlet of New Mills comprised no more than from 15 to 20 houses which contained about 100 persons. The present bridge was then standing over the river Kinder and used by the neighbouring hamlets with pack horses in conveying corn and other articles to the adjoining markets of Stockport and Macclesfield.

In the year 1811 New Mills was made a market town and the inhabitants computed to 1900 and have since considerably increased and the bridge still remains in the state it was in the year 1759 to the greatest peril and loss of lives of the persons and cattle passing over it in consequence of its narrow and defective state. The townships of Ollersett and Beard on the south side of the said bridge have no means of communication with the neighbouring market towns of New Mills, Macclesfield and Stockport but over that bridge. On the east side New Mills has no communications with Chapel-en-le-Frith and Tideswell except by means of the said bridge.

The bridge is only four feet five inches in breadth and is 62 feet in length and supported by two arches. The river is frequently by the swell of water impassable and accidents often happen from the ruinous state of the battlements and narrowness of the bridge.

Considering its importance in the communication network of the growing industrial town, it is surprising to learn that New Mills bridge remained a pack horse bridge and had not been improved even by the 1850s. One would have thought that the increase in the amount of traffic, trade and population, and the construction of a new turnpike road over the bridge would have demanded a more modern crossing point. Yet, it was reported by the magistrates at Quarter Sessions in January 1857 that

Captain White presented a Memorial praying that this Bridge (New Mills Pack Saddle Bridge] hitherto only used as a Horse Bridge may be rebuilt by the County as a Carriage Bridge but the Court declined to make such an order.

So when was it enlarged ? Watch this space !

Derek Brumhead

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT NEW MILLS.

There can be few families, in England today, who do not have some Irish ancestry. My own is no exception.

I don't know the precise date of their arrival on these shores, what I do know is that in 1861 the first members of the Giblin family were living on Bankside, close to the mills which employed Mary, then aged forty-two, and her twenty year old daughter Bridget who was to become my great, great, grandmother. Also sharing this accommodation was one Thomas Giblin aged thirty one. Having escaped the horror of fever, poverty and starvation in their own land, their prosperity here was to be short-lived.

The American Civil War brought another famine. The cotton famine was to hit this area, so dependent on the textile trades, very hard indeed. Mary survived for only two more years, dying in 1863

at the age of forty four. She was buried at St. Mary's. If the details given on the census are correct she was born in Sligo c1819. Bridget was born there in October 1841. What became of her father, Patrick Giblin, is something I shall probably never learn. He may have died during the famine years, Bridget would have been four years old when the potato blight first appeared. He may have perished en-route and there may have been other siblings who did not survive. Amongst so many un-marked graves it would be difficult, if not impossible, to discover.

The only story passed down within the family tells of Bridget being a very beautiful young woman with an abundance of auburn hair. So striking was she to look at that an artist had wished to paint her portrait after meeting her on the journey here. During my various researches into family history I have discovered that these tales often have an element of truth. That she had auburn hair is probably correct for her son, my great grandfather, also had this colouring. He and his daughters also had quite fine bone structure.

What happened to this young woman once she arrived here is such more certain. The census tells us only part of the story .

In 1871 Bridget was still living on Bankside, but she was not alone. Head of her household was an un-married man named James Giblin, her position stated to be that of servant/housekeeper. She was, however, mother to three of this man's children:- James, my great grand-father born 1865, Mary Ann born 1868 and Catherine born 1870. The birth certificate of James gives a more exact location for this family. It was "Spout Gutter", Bankside, New Mills, Derbyshire. Today, all that remains of Bankside is a cobbled pathway leading from High Street to Spring Bank, high above. The houses which once clothed this hillside, swept away as part of a slum clearance scheme some forty years ago. They were built in tiers, into the hillside and "Spout Gutter" was one of these quaint, steeply rising streets.

James Leech, a journalist for the "Reporter", described looking over the wall on Spring Bank and down into "Spout Gutter", wondering how people could live in such housing. The explanation of how, and why, they were built so was given by a local man. " The mills were built close to the river bank, the hours were very long. It was a case of out of bed, into the mill. Out of the mill and into bed. They just quarried the stone from this hillside, broke it into small pieces and put these back calling it a house". Once he came to know the area and the people, better, he remarked how spotlessly clean some of these houses were. With flag floors so well scrubbed you could eat a meal from them, many having no covering of any kind. Not even a rag rug. These were the houses of the very poor, many of whom were Irish, or Scottish immigrants. James and Bridget Giblin fitted well into this category. He worked as an agricultural labourer and the pair had a total of six children, four of whom survived. These were James, Mary Ann, Ellen and John. Little Catherine died at the tender age of six and their last child, Margaret, lived for only seven days. She had been baptised in the house by a lay person soon after her birth. By the time the next census reveals the family once more, in 1881, Bridget is shown as head of the house. Her husband and eldest son are missing. It is quite possible that this was one of those occasions when the pair travelled back to Sligo, meeting family there. Great grandfather James having told his grandson (my father) that he and his father made such a journey, or journeys. The year following this, in January 1882, James at last married Bridget. She was forty-one years old. None of the above detail describes the kind of life they lived here on Bankside. It takes the report of her death some ten years later, July 1892, to provide a greater insight. That they were poor is, I think, beyond doubt. Just how poor is not quite so certain. My great grandfather's own change of faith and his explanation of the reason behind this, to his own children, goes some way towards providing the answer. He said, no matter how hard times were, the money for the church was always waiting when the priest made his weekly call on the family. That he was so determined this should not happen to his own family is proof to me, if proof indeed were needed, that he and his brother's and sister's often went hungry to provide this cash. It made him bitter enough to change a faith which had been so strong amongst his ancestors. Apart from this one fact, he rarely spoke of his family to his children, Ellen and Margaret. Nor would he answer questions put to him in later years by his grandchildren. Perhaps what is revealed in the July issue of "Reporter" in 1892 goes some way towards explaining his reticence.

The article is headed MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT NEW MILLS. Arrest and Discharge of the Husband.

On Saturday, July 17th, 1892, Ellen Giblin, then aged seventeen, went to Newtown Wakes, arriving home just after midnight. Finding the door locked she called out to her father to let her in. He was

very drunk and took some time un-locking the door. When she did gain admittance she found her mother lying on the floor behind the door in a dying condition. There was blood coming from her

nose and mouth, there were scratches and blood on her father's face. After trying to revive her mother, without success, Ellen ran for a neighbour named

Ann Beard. Her youngest brother, John, was raised from his bed but there was nothing anyone could do. Bridget was dead. The Inspector of Police, Thomas Spencer was sent for and he in turn sent for Doctor Anderton who examined the body.

Although there were no marks of violence on her body it was obvious that a violent struggle had taken place. Especially as James Giblin had scratches on his face and there was blood beneath the

fingernails of Bridget's left hand (was she left handed?). In view of these circumstances, James was arrested on suspicion of causing her death. The coroner was informed and a post mortem examination was arranged.

On Wednesday, July 21st an inquest was held at the Bull's Head on High Street. Amongst the members of the jury were the previously mentioned James Leech, and Seth Evans. James Giblin was also present along with his keeper Constable Shepard.

Giving evidence at the inquest, Ellen Giblin stated that she found her mother lying on her back on the floor. Her father told her that he thought her mother was dead. Ellen also told the inquest that her mother and father were not on very friendly terms. However, to her knowledge, her father had not struck her mother for a long time past.

John Giblin, then aged sixteen, stated that he arrived home that evening about eleven thirty, at which time his mother was alone in the house. She had given him his supper, and helped to put him to bed which poses the question, was he also worse for drink? He only vaguely recalled hearing his father arrive home then nothing more until he was raised from his bed by Ellen.

The neighbour, Ann Beard, stated in her evidence that she knew nothing of the terms on which the couple lived. However, she lived four doors away and had been called six weeks previously to Bridget who was ill. She thought the illness was caused by a slight stroke. This being so, she was either a good friend of the family, or had some nursing experience.

Inspector Spencer told the jury that when he arrived at the house James Giblin was upstairs. He was undressing as if preparing to go to bed. He was very

drunk but denied that he had killed Bridget, his wife. The following day he would say only that he was in the room when she died.

James Edwin Anderton, surgeon of New Mills, stated that he had been called to Bridget some six weeks prior to her death. He had then sent her to hospital and not seen her since. His post-mortem examination revealed nothing more than the fact that she died from natural causes. The jury had no option but to record her death as such. However, during the inquiry, a large number of people had gathered outside and as James Giblin was led away to the Police Station he was hooted. Especially by the female members of this gathering. He was released from custody the following day.

On the day of her funeral, again a large crowd gathered expecting him to follow her remains to the grave. The church was filled and the Revd. Father McKenna took the opportunity to remind the congregation that an inquest had been held, and that a verdict had been recorded in accordance with medical evidence. He therefore suggested they let the matter rest.

Having seen the scenes outside the courts in recent years one can imagine the strength of feeling against this man. There must have been a great deal of ill-feeling towards him and in those days there would be no blanket to cover his head. Even if he had not actually caused his wife's death, he was thought capable of this act, even by his own family, it would seem. Given the advances made in forensic science, would the same verdict have been reached today?

My great grandfather, James junior, was living at home when the 1891 census was recorded. He, Ellen and John, all working as cotton spinners. By the time of his mother's death twelve months later, he was himself married. Mary Ann, the eldest daughter was also missing from this census, presumably also married.

High Street, during the period the Giblin family lived there was nothing like we see it today. There were, for instance, more than thirty shops or businesses on this one street, and enough public houses to supply the needs of a hundred such as James Giblin with ale.

There were four grocers, four confectioners, three butchers, five drapers, a chemist, a herbalist, a hat dealer, toy dealer, stationer, tobacconist and hairdresser. Last, but I am sure, by no means least, there was a pawnbroker named Joseph Johnson.

What happened to Ellen I have not yet discovered, my research is on-going. John emigrated to Canada, keeping in touch with his brother James, their descendants likewise.

James Giblin senior was living on Dyehouse Lane at the time of his own death in 1908. He was buried at St. Mary's beside his wife. The top two-thirds of the head-stone are taken up with details of her name, life and death. There is also a request for 'prayers for her soul'. James, on the other hand is relegated to the

very bottom of this stone, with little detail. Certainly no such request for his soul! His obituary in the "Reporter" states that he was over 80, (not correct) and that he was well known in the area, having worked on many farms in the district. There is certainly no hint of his former notoriety.

All I can say to our readers is: Beware! your sins shall find you out, for Mrs. Marjorie Jones is about. It was she who found this fascinating news item and passed it on to me. Knowing it to concern my family's obviously murky past. So, who knows what, or who, she will turn up next?

Rowena Clarke October 1995

The Future and the Past

Local history is alive and kicking in one primary school at least in New Mills. A class at St. George's school have been studying the Victorians. and. by using the Society's publication "New Mills - A Look Back". have been trying to re-create the town in that era.

I joined them on a walk around the town. where we compared the modern-day places with the photographs in the book. The children's favourite picture was the butcher's shop at the bottom of High Street with its meat carcasses unhealthily displayed outside.

We found many changes. but Higginbottom's shop was still there and Livesley's the chemist still in business. As we looked at the beehive emblem on the old co-op building in Market Street. a sign of these modern times was shown in the repossession notices in the window. The new sign of the Crown Hotel was being installed and the Beez Kneez consigned to history. as we compared the front cover of the book with today's Market Street.

After a visit to the Heritage Centre and an explanation of the model by Derek. we went to the Torrs in search of Torr Mill. The children decided they were not keen to swap school life for a job in the mill. After looking at the bricked-up tunnel that used to carry the railway under the town, the children returned to school. whilst I went for a quiet sit-down. thankful that our younger generation can still show enthusiasm for local history.

Barbara Matthews.

PRAISE FOR OUR SOCIETY

A snippet of praise for the work of New Mills Local History Society appears in East Midlands Newsplan. No. 2. Summer 1945, in which Ruth Gordon describes the level of commitment from local communities in Derbyshire to save their own newspapers and to make them available locally. She writes:

"members of the NEW MILLS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY have continually pressed for good local studies facilities in their own town and have put their money where their mouths are in no uncertain terms by purchasing a microfilm reader for public use in New Mills library. They have also bought a microfilmed file of the Glossop Record from the BLNL and have deposited it in the library: another title safeguarded and made available locally".

We all know. -of course. that. thanks to the efforts of the Society, there is far more on offer on microfilm in New Mills library than the Glossop Record.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT CASTLEFIELD AND ALONG THE ROCHDALE CANAL IN MANCHESTER

A day school to be held at the Museum of Science and Industry, Liverpool Road, Castlefield, Manchester on Saturday 20 April 1996.

Course Directors: Derek Brumhead and David George

This course will review the activities of the Central Manchester Development Corporation, which in association with government urban aid, English Heritage and private developers, and earlier work by the Manchester City Council and the former Greater Manchester Council, has transformed the Bridgewater Canal Basin at Castlefield and the length of Rochdale Canal from Castlefield to Dale Street, Piccadilly. New footbridges, restored warehouses and basins, renewed footpaths, and other features have transformed spectacularly the former rundown industrial heritage. There are now fine opportunities for walks of historical and architectural interest.

PROGRAMME

9.30 am Coffee and registration

10.00-12.45 pm Illustrated lectures:

The Bridgewater Canal Basin at Castlefield and its recent development (DDB).

The Rochdale Canal between Castlefield and Dale Street, Piccadilly (ADG).

12.45-1.45 pm Lunch - own arrangements.

1.45 pm Meet outside the Museum for a guided walk around the Castlefield Basin and along the Rochdale Canal.

4.30 pm approx Finish near Piccadilly Station.

The course fee is £10.50 per person. Please contact Derek Brumhead (Tel: 744663) for an application form. Please note that the closing date for applications is 29 February 1996 .

THE LOCAL HISTORIAN

The following have been placed in New Mills local history library. The main articles are:

Volume 25 No 2 (May 1995)

Michael Mason - 'Pamphlets, broadsheets and the Bristol 'riot' of 1793'.

Roger A Bellingham - 'Mr Powell's enclosure award and the computer' (Pocklington, Yorkshire)

John Titterton - 'The perambulation of Purley-on-Thames, Berkshire, 1786'.

Jack Williams - 'Cricket and christianity in Lancashire, 1900-1939'.

D Huw Owen - Conference report: 'History in the landscape'.

Book reviews:

'The culture of the English people. Iron Age to the industrial revolution' by Norman Pounds.

'Women in England, 1500-1760. A social history' by Anne Laurence

'Rural life. Guide to local records' by Peter Edwards,

OU texts: 'Studying family and community history: 19th and 20th centuries' (Four volumes). [These are the basic texts for the course DA301 (Studying family history and community history, a full credit at third level.

Volume 25 No 3 (August 1995)

Julian Pooley - 'The diary of Mary Nichols: its value as a source for local historians.' [1823-34]

Polly Bird - 'The origin of Victorian public baths, with special reference to Dulwich Baths'.

Peter Searby - 'Saffron Walden town library'. [This magnificent library seems to have most of its Victorian collections complete (includes 4000 novels !), and it has a Victorian study centre. It subscribes to over 80 periodicals and spends about £7,000 a year on rebinding the inherited volumes.

Mackie Library RIP !

Paul Carter - 'Poor relief strategies - women, children and enclosure in Hanwell, Middlesex, 1780 to 1816'.

Gerald Morgan - 'Welsh names in Welsh wills'.

Book reviews include:

'John Leland's itinerary. Travels in Tudor England', edited by John Chandler.

'Early churchwardens' accounts of Bishops Stortford, 1431-1558', edited by S G Doree.

'Church court records. An introduction for family and local historians' by Anne Tarver.

Derek Brumhead

Articles taken from the Chapel Whaley Bridge New Mills and Hayfield Advertiser held at New Mills library . These two articles are dated June 1877,

Nothing Changes !

Mischievous People.

There are maliciously disposed persons at New Mills who go about damaging property and breaking windows without any compunction whatever. Bills are issued offering rewards for anyone giving information of such. If one or two could be prosecuted it would perhaps stop this senseless game.

Accident

On Wednesday morning a serious accident occurred on Market Street, New Mills. It appears that Mark Male, the coachman of Mr. Sale government inspector was riding on horseback along Market street, the street was in disorder, owing to laying new waterpipes. The trench has been pulled up for the purpose of laying the new water pipes. The trench had been filled up in some parts but not paved. As the animal was walking along it set its foot on the soft earth in the trench, the result being that the animal's foot sunk in and stuck fast. The rider jumped off, when the horse in attempting to extricate itself fell down with Male underneath it. The animal, a fine one, has sustained injuries to its knees but Male was no worse. It is said that an action will be brought for damages.

New Mills History Notes (A5)

1. and 2. New Mills in the 1820s	O\P
3. Whittle Enclosure	60p
4. Mills of New Mills (see O.P.7)	O\P
5. New Mills 1830 - 35	60p
6. Railways of New Mills and District (see below*)	O\P
7. Turnpike Roads and Riots	£2-25p
8. The Lost Mills of Rowarth	60p
9. The New Mills Tithe Award (central area only, inc.map)	£2-95
10. Deeds of New Mills and District	60p
11. The Peak Forest Canal Upper Level: Towpath Guide	£3-25
12. A History of Providence Congregational Church New Mills	60p
13. Memories of Strines	£1-50
14. The Lost Chapel of Rowarth	60p
15. The Coal Mines of New Mills	O\P
16. Bowden Middlecale - occupants of the land 1778-1811	O\P
17. More Deeds of New Mills and District	60p
18. New Mills 1835-39	60p
19. Three Local History Walks	60p
20. New Mills Co-operative Society 1860-90	90p
21. The New Mill and some other Corn Mills of High Peak	£1-25
22. The New Mills Air Raid: Fri. 3rd. July 1942	75p
23. The Peak Forest Canal Lower Level: Towpath Guide	£3-25
24. The Living Past: New Mills People in late Tudor and early Stuart times	£2-25
25. The Downes Family, Husbandmen of the New Mylne, 1571-1679	£2-25

Occasional Publications (A4)

OP 1. Gravestone Inscriptions: St. George's Rd. Methodist Cemetery	O\P
OP 2. New Mills and District, a look back (old photos)	£3-75
OP 3. The Peak Forest Canal, its construction and later development	£3-25
OP 4. Church of the Annunciation St. Mary's Catholic Church New Mills; graveyard records	£1-00
OP 5. Ollersett in 1841: land and people	£2-95
OP 6. New Mills in 1851 and 1881 as seen through the census returns	O\P
OP 7. The Mills of New Mills (revised edn. of No.4 above)	£2-95
OP 8. The Enclosure of Thornsett	£2-95
OP 9. Thornsett in 1841: Land and People	£3-25
* Available as Railways of New Mills and District: their development and impact 1840-1902. Trans Lanc and Ches Ant Soc offprint.	

Probate Transcription Series

Wills and Inventories of New Mills People (general title)	
Book One 1540-1571	£3-25
Book Two 1571-1582	£3-25

Most publications are available at a discount if purchased at the Society's meetings.

For further details or orders please contact Ron Weston, Editor New Mills Local History Society, "The Thorns", Laneside Rd., New Mills, STOCKPORT. SK12 4LU. Tel. 0663 744838.