# New Mills Local History Society

# Newsletter 31

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#### **Autumn Programme 2003**

All meetings are held in Sett Valley House, starting at 7.45 pm.

Friday "The FitzHerberts of Tissington Hall"

September 12 Mrs. Ruth Jordan

Friday "Melandra: a new perspective"

October 10 Michael Brown

Friday "Cotton Spinning Mills after 1850"

November 14 Roger Holden

Friday "Abduction: Local girl, national scandal"

December 12 Kate Atkinson

## **NEW MILLS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY COMMITTEE 2003-2004** (elected at the A.G.M.)

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## CRICHTON PORTEOUS, PROSE POET OF PEAKLAND 10th January 2003 - Robin Allan

Here was a talk, ably presented by Cheshire to photograph the build-Robin Allan, which was refreshingly different, not only for its subject matter (we have heard little in this Society so far of Derbyits approach. Robin kindly presented us with a handout comprising a brief biography of Crichton Porteous, together with a comprehensive list of his books. This is reproduced below. Unfortunately, none of this prolific writer's books has remained in print.

Robin gave us the benefit of his extensive research into the life and work of this local author. He visited the farms with which he was associated, cycling through the countryside of Derbyshire and Ron Weston

ings and interview the inhabitants and others who remembered him.

Robin read us extracts from some shire's literary figures) but also in of Porteous's works. He had invited some of the friends and relatives of the author to attend and some of these too contributed their reminiscences, whilst Porteous's nephew Brian read an extract from the novel "Chuckling Joe."

> This was a fascinating topic presented in a lively and informative way. We are grateful to Robin for giving us a night to remember.

#### Crichton Porteous Peakland Writer (1901-1991)

"...Derbyshire is the best county, a sort of jewel enclosed in the rest of England as in a casket...There is a spirit of place peculiar to Derbyshire" Crichton Porteous, Peakland (Robert Hale, 1954)

Leslie Crichton Porteous was born in Leeds on 22 May 1901. His father died when he was less than a year old and he was brought up by his mother in Manchester, where he was expected to join his uncles in the cotton trade. He found city life irksome and at the age of 17 he broke away from his family (and a fortune) to become a farm labourer. He loved writing and began publishing farming articles in local journals, eventually becoming a journalist and then northern editor of the Sunday Dispatch and chief sub-editor for the northern editions of the Daily Mail.

His first book. Farmer's Creed was published by Harrap in 1938. During the war Crichton Porteous served as agricultural labour officer for Lancashire County and then he became a free-lance writer, producing altogether over thirty books and many articles. He wrote autobiography, fiction, and biography as well as travel and guidebooks. Not one of his books is in print.

Crichton Porteous married Ruth Marchington (daughter of Joe and Alice Marchington of Chapel-en-le-Frith) in 1927. The couple lived in Combs before the war and near Preston during the war, after which they moved to Two Dales, near Matlock, where his wife predeceased him in 1983. Crichton Porteous died suddenly on 4th January 1991 at the age of 89. There were no children.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Farmer's Creed (Harrap, 1938), (1947 edn, illus. C.F.Tunnicliffe); Teamsman (Harrap, 1939, illus. Kingsley Cook); Land Truant (Harrap, 1940; The Cottage (Michael Joseph, 1941); The Farm by the Lake (Michael Joseph, 1942, The Snow (Michael Joseph, 1943); The Earth Remains (Michael Joseph, 1944); Sons of the Farm (Michael Joseph, 1948); Pioneers of Fertility (ICI, 1948, illus. Michael Ayrton); The Beauty and Mystery of Well-Dressing (Pilgrim Press for Come to Derbyshire Assocn., 1948); Caves and Caverns of Peakland (Come to Derbyshire Assocn., 1950); Changing Valley (Michael Joseph, 1950); Derbyshire (Robert Hale, 1950); Wild Acres (Michael Joseph, 1951); Call of the Soil (Robert Hale, 1953); Peakland (Robert Hale, 1954); Man of the Moors (Robert Hale, 54); Chuckling Joe (Phoenix Press, 1954, Country Book Club Edn. 1955); The Battle Mound (Robert Hale, 1955); The Death in the Fields (Robert Hale, 1956); Great Men of Derbyshire (Bodley Head, 1956); Broken River (Robert Hale 1956);

# SEVENTEENTH CENTURY ENCLOSURES OF THE COMMONS AND WASTES OF BOWDEN MIDDLECALE 14th February 2003 - Derek Brumhead and Ron Weston

By the middle of the seventeenth century, large areas of the Forest of Peak remained as commons and wastes, that is, unenclosed into fields and consequently unimproved for the benefit of agriculture. The end of forest law (disafforestation) came about in 1640 when Charles I, through his officials of the Duchy of Lancaster, entered into an agreement with the tenants and freeholders within the boundaries of the royal forest to share the wastes and commons, half going to the king, half to the tenants and freeholders. The Duchy engaged two surveyors, Hibbart and Barton, to make the divisions. Their survey produced the first accurate maps of our area and the talk, illustrated by slides, was largely devoted to showing how Hibbart and Barton were major influences on our landscape, defining property boundaries and determining the patterns of drystone walls.

Derek devoted his part of the talk to explaining how the survey was enacted on the ground and the long-drawn-out and bitter disputes between Thomas Eyre of Rowtor Hall, who had the lease of the king's part of the commons, and the tenants and freeholders, who in the generation that had passed during the civil war and the Commonwealth, were disposed, after the Restoration, to ignore or contend with the original agreement. Ron, in the final part of the talk, dealt with the landscape of enclosure in more detail by looking at the influence of the Hibbart and Barton survey on the hamlet of Thornsett.

A detailed account is now available locally as a Derbyshire Archaeological Journal offprint entitled "Seventeenth Century Enclosures of the Commons and Wastes of Bowden Middlecale in the Royal Forest of Peak" by Derek Brumhead and Ron Weston (D.A.J.vol121 2001).

#### continued from previous page

Pillboxes and Bandages (Robinson of Chesterfield, 1958); Lucky Columbell (Robert Hale, 1959); The Well-Dressing Guide (Come to Derbyshire Assocn., 1959); Toad Hole (Robert Hale, 1960); Two plays - Bachelor's Love and Dickie's Skull (Derbyshire Rural Community Council, 1960); Derbyshire Customs (Come to Derbyshire Assocn, 1960); Strike (Robert Hale, 1962); Portrait of Peakland (Robert Hale, 1963); with Samuel J. Looker Richard Tefferies, Man of the Fields (Phoenix Press, 1965); Pictorial Derbyshire (Derbyshire Countryside, 1970)

#### EARLY TEXTILES IN THE MANCHESTER REGION, 1570-1650 14th March 2003 - Diana Winterbottom

Using the evidence of probate docu- this time and the production and ments of the Manchester region, Diane Winterbottom painted a vivid and detailed picture of the evolution of the textile industry, showing how the production of linen on a domestic scale paved the way for the manufacture of cotton cloth in the centuries that followed.

Linen production became increasingly important in the Manchester area in the late sixteenth century, all the linen processing trades were present and flax was also grown locally, as it had been from the Middle Ages. By 1700, however, the industry had grown so rapidly that most of the flax used was imported from Ireland. Even in the seventeenth century, spindle whorls were still in use as well as spinning wheels. Domestic looms for the weaving of linen were geared differently from been studied mainly from the evithose set up for the production of dence of probate documents. woolen cloth.

Cotton fibre first appeared in the Manchester area in 1601. It was used in combination with linen thread to make fustian cloth. Fustian soon became popular, being cheap to proand also hard-wearing. Manchester was growing rapidly at marketing of linen and fustian were closely bound up with this expansion. Many itinerant merchants, known as chapmen, were based in Manchester. One aspect of the production of linen and fustian in Manchester the so-called was "putting-out" system, an early stage in the development of manufacturing. Manufacturers would supply varn to the weavers who wove the cloth in their own homes, returning the finished product to their suppliers who would add further to the value of the cloth by "finishing" it, by fulling and bleaching.

Diana Winterbottom's talk was received with great interest, not least because of the parallels and contrasts that emerged with the early textile industry of our area, which has also

Diana Winterbottom brought along some copies of a very attractive book for sale entitled "A History of Linen in the North West", edited by Elizabeth Roberts. It is strongly recommended.

Ron Weston

## VICTORIAN BUXTON 11 April 2003 - Dr Mike Langham

nineteenth century history of Bux- for those who did not, a route map ton, its buildings and architects, and with the buildings located would he is also well known for giving talks have been of assistance. Apart from and conducting walks. In this case, this quibble, Mike demonstrated his

however, he adopted the unusual approach of combining both, which he called 'an indoor walk', and most interesting it turned out to be. Each member of the audience was provided with a duplicated booklet containing 40 illustrations Buxton's buildstarting ings, with John Carr's Crescent and Stables of 1780-

## VICTORIAN BUXTON

AN INDOOR WALK



Compiled by Dr Mike Langham

C) Mike Langham, Buxton 2002

treasure, the 1903 Opera House. Mike took us through them in turn, indicating the route as he went along.

Most members of the audience, of Derek Brumhead

Mike Langham is an authority on the course, knew Buxton very well, but

detailed knowledge of the history and significance of variety great buildings and their architects, and the style and humour of his address held everyone's interest. We are indeed fortunate to have on our doorstep a town with such a distinguished architectural history and a historian to describe it. He is the author of a future book on the Devonshire hospital (now the University of

88 and ending with Buxton's national Derby!), and that is something to look forward to.

## THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURY MANOR HOUSE 9th May 2003 - Dr. Mike Nevell

Dr. Novell's talk was based on an dle ages with either a cruck or boxextensive research project conducted at Manchester University in which the manor houses of Lancashire and Cheshire were subjected to detailed architectural and archaeological study. The purpose of the project was to achieve a more complete understanding of the place of the manor house in the social history of north-west England. It became clear that after the Middle Ages profound social changes affected the local gentry, changes reflected in their domestic arrangements and the buildings they occupied. As life became less turbulent, the preoccupation with defence faded and more emphasis was put on leisure and comfort in the home. Specialist rooms - chambers, parlours and solars, for example replaced the medieval hall.

Most manor houses of the period have long since been demolished. Of more than 1150 manor and freehold houses in existence in the mid-seventeenth century, only about 280 have survived.

As for the houses themselves, the timber-framed structures of the midframed construction, or perhaps a combination of the two, have survived to a remarkable degree in many houses. The excavation of Denton Hall, for example, showed how a medieval house became modified in the sixteenth century by the use of box-framed structures and the addition of two-storied wings to the old medieval hall.

The use of brick became common in the north-west in the early seventeenth century, while the finest houses were constructed in local stone, where available.

In our area there are very few houses that could be termed manor houses, but members of the audience could well appreciate that the more modest yeoman houses of the period underwent a similar transformation, albeit on a less-grandiose scale.

This was an interesting and informative talk, which was more relevant to the New Mills area than might first appear.

Ron Weston

#### SUMMER TRIP TO BELPER 15 June 2003

mill feature is the Belper North mill. Mill, built by William, son of Jedediah Strutt, as a 'fire-proof mill' and opened in 1804. On a warm Sunday, which was to prove a harbinger of the hot summer to come, a group of Society members set off on the Summer Outing to explore the site at Belper.

We received a warm welcome from Mary Smedley, the Manager, at the Visitor Centre in Belper North Mill. After coffee we were taken on conducted tours of the ground floor and basement of the mill. The ground floor has an excellent display of cotton spinning and frame knitting machines. Our guides provided an amusing and on the bandstand. knowledgeable commentary ina cottage industry. The basement, housing the support system for John Humphreys.

Earlier this year the Derwent Val- the mill structure, provided a view ley mills were awarded World of the water wheel and its pit, Heritage Site status. The central which supplied the power for the

> After a splendid, optional, buffet lunch provided by the mills' volunteer support group we set off on a tour of the estate built by the Strutts for their workers. Wending our way up the cobbled road of 'Long Row', with a hot sun now blazing down, we saw the well built and now 'desirable' cottages, nail-makers workshops and the Unitarian Chapel built by Jedediah in 1788. Our guides were mines of information which made for a most enjoyable visit. Then it was back to the Riverside Park for welcome ice-creams and entertainment by a brass band playing

cluding an interesting account of This was a most enjoyable and the process of 'chevening', a form informative visit, which whet the of embroidered decoration of appetite for further exploration of stockings, which was carried on as the Derwent Valley Heritage Way.

#### MY FIRST DAY AT NEW MILLS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, JANUARY 1940

I had been working for about six weeks at Birch Vale Print Works, but I did not like the job at all. There was not enough to do, so when I saw a job advertised in "The Reporter" for an apprentice baker with New Mills Co-op I applied for it. That week I had to go before the committee of management for an interview and after a rigorous interview I was told to report to the office the following day. On doing this, I was told I had not got the job in the bakehouse but I could have a job in the Furnishing Department which I gratefully accepted.

At 8.30 am the next Monday I went to the shop on Market Street and was sent downstairs through the carpet, linoleum and hardware departments where I was given a warehouse coat and taken into the cellar and shown a large "Robin Hood" coke boiler and told to clean it out, riddle all re-usable cinders (thrift being a key word at the Co-op), light it, and keep it going since it heated all the building. This took me until 10.30 when I was told to have a cup of tea in the little office under the stairs.

After tea, I was taken into the back shop and shown how to couple up accumulators for recharging, as most people relied on these for their radios having no electricity in their houses at that time. I must have done about forty of these and got them on charge, when I was told it was 12.30 and dinnertime. We were allowed 1½ hours for dinner so I was able to go home.

On reporting back to work, I was put to work helping to load our delivery van, which was a red Bedford with green side curtains, and it was a very nippy van for those days. We loaded all the goods sold on the previous Saturday, also branch orders for all the grocery shops on route, and when loaded we set off. It was my job to deliver to the customers, the driver only helping if it was something too big or heavy for me to manage. We started off up Church Road, Jubilee Street, New Street, Low Leighton, Birch Vale to Hayfield, then returning by Thornsett, Mellor Road, Spring Bank, and so back to the shop. Here, we loaded the van for a second round which took us up along High Lea, Hague Bar, Strines, and then back by Disley, Buxton Road, Furness Vale, and down Newtown to the shop.

By this time it was 5.30 and I was allowed half an hour for tea. I bought some chips from Platt's chip shop on the comer of High Street and Cross Street. After this, I did some work in the shop folding up brown paper and wrapping string up to be re-used (thrift again). Then I was told to fill the boiler up for the night as it was 7.00 pm and time for home. I had never known a day pass so quickly and I had enjoyed it all so much. Little did I know that I would be there for over thirty years.

Bill Barton, January 2003

#### EDUCATION IN NEW MILLS AS I REMEMBER IT

I arrived in New Mills on 9 August 1943, a newly trained teacher ready to begin her probationary year. It was the beginning of the Autumn Term. As it was wartime, the school holidays were spaced to suit those times. There had to be a fortnight in October for potato picking, the rest of the holidays coincided with the Christian festivals more or less as today. New Mills seemed quite an impoverished town, quite the opposite to Matlock, my home town. I remember, High Street was cobbled and the three and four storey buildings facing on to High Street, Torr Top and Meal Street were overcrowded with families belonging to New Mills and others, who had fled the Manchester bombings. There was also the lodging house on Dye House Lane and the drunkard's reform opposite. Bridge Street housed several big families, children of whom I was to meet in the classroom. I was found lodgings first at Allens, who had the taxi firm and then at Craigmore, Mellor Road, where I was very happy.

There were several schools in New Mills. The one on Spring Bank was a Junior and Senior and was fed by the Infant School situated on Meadow Street. The Head Teacher there was Miss Pugh who had two staff. One could hear a pin drop in her school. Newtown, Hague Bar and Thornsett were all through schools. Mr Loft, a kindly man, was head of Thornsett. On the other side of New Mills were the Church School and The Grammar School. The Grammar School had a

reputation under good the Mr.Taylor. It was known as far away as Matlock. Children, who won scholarships or free places, went to it. Entering for the scholarship was not obligatory as it became when the new Education Act was passed in 1944. All these schools are, of course, still here today. I was assigned by Derbyshire Education Committee to Spring Bank School, a Board School. As it was war time, newly qualified teachers were accepted by a county and placed where needed. My salary, as a qualified teacher, was about three pounds ten shillings (£3.50) per week. Out of this, my college loan had to be repaid. Uncertificated teachers were paid about thirty shillings (f.1.50) per week. Until my probationary year was over, I received only the uncertificated pay.

The headmaster was Mr Sloane and I was given Standard Four, 9-10 year olds. There were forty plus of all abilities in the class. As well as the New Mills children, there were the ex. Manchester children and the evacuees from the South. One little girl used to say, "I am Anne Mead from Gillingham, Kent." I expect her parents had instilled into her always to remember from where she came. It was a sad time for children. I proceeded to tackle my big class and spent hours in the evening preparing lessons, making charts and marking. Lessons were very formal. The children were taught as a class. Tables were chanted and poems recited. It was difficult to stretch the clever children and doubly difficult to help the backward. I

did introduce group reading, which I hoped might cope with the differing abilities of the pupils. I am very sceptical when people say children were better educated in those days. It was drilled into us at college that we had to bring out to the full the potential of every child, easier said than done in those large classes with limited supplies. The wooden desks stood in rows and columns, each with a lid, that made a clatter when it was accidentally on purpose dropped down, and an inkwell, that had to be filled by the ink monitor every Monday. Paper, pens, rubbers, blotting paper etc. were in short supply, as it was war time, and everything had to be accounted for. The wooden pens with nibs, the tips of which soon crossed or splayed out, had to be distributed each day. They, and the watery ink, weren't conducive to good, neat writing. Lesson notes were handed in every Monday morning, dinner money and bank savings had to be collected, all of which took time before half hour religious instruction began. The register was sacred, it had to be neat and without mistakes and had to balance every Friday before we teachers could leave for the weekend. It could be a nightmare.

I don't remember discipline being a problem, the children were intimidated by the cane, which seems barbaric today. Each teacher had a cane, which was used frequently by some. The headmaster paraded around the school with his cane. As I was a probationer, I think he listened in to some of my lessons for sometimes I could see a pair of shoes in the space under the door. Every so often the dreaded school inspectors would

come unannounced. There was Mr Towler and Sir Roger Curtis. Mr Towler was very formidable and Sir Roger a big, burly man. They questioned the children on all subjects. My classroom was next to the kitchen and so, at about 11.45 each morning it became the dining room. The meals were cooked by an Austrian lady. The same kitchen was also the domestic science domain, where the senior girls were taught cookery and sewing. The senior boys had woodwork lessons in the woodwork room across the playground.

Behind the woodwork room were the air raid shelters built into the hillside. Luckily, while I was there, they were not required. P.E. in the playground was quite formal, astride jump etc. rather like being on a parade ground. The whistle was an important piece of equipment. It was used in P.E. and to summon the children into lines ready to go back to lessons. Milk was provided at playtime, but I cannot remember whether all the pupils had to pay the required one halfpenny a day or whether some got it free. I hope the latter as some children came from dreadfully poor homes.] There was a lot of malnutrition and scabies was rife. The "Nit" nurse had a busy time controlling fleas and headlice and the district medical officer was well occupied. One pair of twins, I remember, were so malnourished they were too tiny to sit at a proper desk. I sat them on high stools at the teacher's table. Unlike today, there were no remedial classes. The teacher had to cope with any disturbed children in the class. I did all I could for one little girl with her china blue eyes and brown curly hair, but she was way out of control. I found out, years later, she had been put in a psychiatric home. I enjoyed my work and became fond of New Mills and the children. However, I needed to live near home and therefore was offered a post at the Secondary Modem School, Wirksworth, entirely different from Spring Bank, New Mills.

I returned to Spring Bank in 1961. It was now a secondary modern school. The Grammar School was still functioning and the other schools had become infant and junior schools. The old building was the same with its flights of stone stairs. The teachers now taught their specialist subjects. As I was only temporary, I took a variety of subjects mainly with 1C. The children were streamed according to ability and had a chance at thirteen to transfer to the Grammar School. All children now took the 11+ in their last year of junior school, so, as some were late developers, they had a second chance. The 11+ put a lot of strain on teachers as some parents pushed to get their children through, suitable or not. Back to Spring Bank. Instead of the teachers moving from form room to form room, the children moved every forty minutes or so, up and down those stone stairs. The poor teacher had to settle them down, hand out rulers, pens, pencils etc. before being able to start the lesson. At the end of the period all had to be collected and the class moved on. It seemed an awful waste of time. The school had a large hall for Assembly and at playtime the children lined up there for their bottles

of milk, now free. There was a prefab used as the canteen and teachers took turns on duty, both overseeing the dinners and the playground. The head, Mr Birkby, was a good disciplinarian, but most classrooms still contained a cane cupboard. The difference now being that a caning had to be registered in a punishment book with time, reason and name. There was a lot of rivalry between the grammar and the secondary modern pupils. Children had to criss cross the valley to get home after school, very daunting for the timid ones. I left Spring Bank after a term for family reasons. I had enjoyed teaching my 1C, but found taking 4C boys for religious instruction every Tuesday not very rewarding.

In 1961, I took a part time post at New Mills Infant School. I shared Middle Infants with Mrs Beard. It was ideal, as we both had children and needed time at home. I taught Maths and Activities in the mornings and my counterpart took English Activities in the afternoons. The Head was Mrs Smithurst, Under her I thoroughly enjoyed teaching. We had to work extremely hard as she was a workaholic. We made the children's work books, cards and apparatus and made the classrooms bright with charts etc. The children came willingly to school in the morning and went straight to a craft of their choice. All the classrooms were open for woodwork, painting, sewing, modelling etc. At quarter past ten all was cleared away and the children had milk, then playtime. The rest of the day was devoted to the three Rs. This was the beginning of welfare assistants schools. They were extremely helpful, but I still remember being handy with the mop and bucket when pupils were sick or spilt paint.

New ideas had been introduced since my last teaching post. Cuisenaire, colour blocks were the in thing for teaching maths, a way to understand the meaning of numbers. The blocks were coloured according to the number they represented and were used as an alternative to counters. Each set was in a wooden box and at the end of the session, time had to be be allowed to replace the blocks correctly. Then came Harold Fletcher Maths, classed as Modern Maths. The children enjoyed their "Harold Fletcher" and were introduced to "sets" etc. They could now build up any tables and did plenty of practical work. ITA [initial teaching alphabet] was the modern American method of teaching reading and writing and it was adopted by many of our schools. All the reading books etc. had to be changed. This new method was widely criticised, but the children loved it. They learned to read quickly and as all the spelling was in phonetics, their creative writing improved and they gained confidence. They didn't avoid long words as they could build them up. The criticism was that their spelling suffered later on when they changed to traditional reading and writing. I was one of a minority who favoured it. I loved to read the stories the five year olds could now compose. I didn't think the change over to traditional spelling caused too much difficulty. However, like all the changes in education, it was abandoned after a few years and all the money spent on the books etc. wasted.

Mrs Smithurst introduced the keeping of record books, which followed the children through their infant and junior school lives. Each month, each child had to draw a person, do a page of maths, and write a story. I thought this a good, simple way to show how a child progressed. Children stayed at Spring Bank Infants until they were 8 years old, after which they went to one of the junior schools in the area. A few years later it was changed into an Infant and Junior School, which was much better for the children. After a few years at this school, first under Mrs. Smithurst, then under Mr Titterton, I moved to Thornsett School, which also had a progressive head, Mr. Beasley. That too was a happy school in which to work. I went to teach outside the New Mills area in 1972.

The grammar and secondary modern schools and the 11+ were still in existence until about 1970, when comprehensive education came into being. I have been out of education for twenty years. There have been lots of changes in teaching methods since I retired. However, the original schools still stand with their extensions to house the growing population of New Mills, the children hopefully being taught in smaller classes. Spring Bank now houses 'Learning Direct' a valuable asset to New Mills. I wonder how many more changes are yet to come?

Peggy Townsend, April 2003

#### Microfilms at New Mills Library

New Mills Local History Society, in association with New Mills Library, provides a microfilm reader in New Mills Library, and a series of microfilms and microfiches for the use of members of the public. A great deal of interest has been generated and it is now necessary to make a booking to use the microfilm reader (Tel: 01663 743603). The list of microfilms and microfiches now available is as follows:

Enumerators' Returns for Censuses 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891. Tithe map and Award 1841.

Ordnance Survey 25 inch sheets for the local area: 1st and 2nd editions. Plans and sections for New Mills railways. These include, the Manchester,

Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway (1857): Stockport, Disley and Whaley Bridge Railway (1857): Disley and Hayfield Railway (1860): Marple, New Mills and Hayfield Junction Railway (1860 and 1861): Midland Railway (1862,1891,1897 and 1900.

Coal mining account book 1711-1757

International Genealogical Index (IGI) for Great Britain, Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Derbyshire Directories: 1808-1977. (New Mills entries are also available separately.)

#### Newspapers:

High Peak Reporter 1887-1927, 1946-69 Glossop Record July 1859-April 1871 High Peak Advertiser October 1881-July 1937 (recent addition)

#### **Registers:**

New Mills Wesleyan Chapel; Baptisms 1794-1837

Glossop Wesleyan Chapel:Baptisms 1813-1837

New Mills Independent Chapel: Baptisms 1830-1837: Burials 1832-1837 Chapelry of Hayfield (Glossop Parish): Baptisms 1622-1880: Marriages 1622-1759:Banns 1837-1872: Burials 1622-1854

#### MAP OF DERBYSHIRE 200 YEARS AGO

A magnificent facsimile edition of Burdett's map of Derbyshire of 1767, revised 1791, is now on sale in New Mills Heritage Centre. Produced by Derbyshire Archaeological Society, it consists of 14 pages of A3 size bound in a folder with a laminate cover. Burdett was a friend of the famous Derby painter of industrial scenes, Joseph Wright (he appeared in one of his paintings). This map shows Derbyshire in the years immediately before the industrial period got under way. The pages showing our local region are of particular interest showing corn mills and cloth mills, but no cotton mills. The roads are what we would now recognise as tracks over the high ground, and there are no valley roads. Not even the Peak Forest Canal is shown, since it was not built until the end of the eighteenth century. New Mills is shown by its original name 'New Mill' being named after its corn mill, shown by a star. Hours of interest can be obtained from this map which is on sale in the Heritage Centre at £10.

