

The Book List

B00: "St Lawrence Parish Church, Biddulph - Parish Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1813-1836" was originally transcribed by the Society and published in 2003. It has been reworked and printed with a full list of baptisms, marriages and burials including a page missed in the original publication. The book has 116 A4 pages and costs £4.00.

B01: "St. Lawrence Monumental Inscriptions No.1" a survey of every gravestone around Biddulph's Parish Church Of December 2002 was transcribed and compiled by Gordon and Pam Lomas. [658 graves closest to the Church] The book has has 116 A4 pages and costs £6.00 (of which £2 will go to a charity of the author's choice).

B02: "St. Lawrence Monumental Inscriptions No.2" of July 2005 a survey of the more gravestones around Biddulph's Parish Church. [Graves in the plot along the roadside to the North of the Church] The book has 150 A4 pages and costs £6.00

B03: "The Biddulph Inner By-Pass" is the 'Story of the Creation of Meadows Way' written and edited by Nigel R. Yates in 2003 and published in March 2007 with colour photographs taken by Brian Nightingale, Michael J. Turnock and Nigel R. Yates. It is a record of the long debate to have 'Meadows Way' built and the construction of the By-Pass. The book has 75 A4 pages and costs £5.00

B04: "Goowin dine th' grain" a 'History of Biddulph High Street' compiled by Elaine Heathcote, Revised by Elaine Heathcote March 2019. Over 200 pages of information about the families who have lived on Bradley Green High Street; with a detailed history of the buildings and photographs of many of the businesses. The book has 214 A4 pages and costs £12.99.

B05: "Old Gillow" The story of the community at Gillow Heath by Elaine Heathcote of September 2010. 154 pages of anecdotes and history of the village next door to Bradley Green (Biddulph). The book has 154 A4 pages and costs £12.

B06: "Always Doing His Duty" - The Story of John Harold Rhodes - A Packmoor Hero by Michael Turnock of October 2017. This is the life story of Lance Sergeant John Harold Rhodes V.C., D.C.M. of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards who was awarded a V.C. for his bravery on the 9th October 1917. The book 24 colour pages and costs £3.00.

B07: "A History of Biddulph" by Richard Biddulph of January 2012. Published as an A5 book in 1997 and updated as a PDF document. The history of Biddulph from 1600 including the English Civil War and Siege of Biddulph Old Hall. The book 60 pages and costs £2.50.

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B08: "The Surveys of Biddulph" of February 2019 combines the "Survey of the Population of Biddulph in 1779" and the "Survey of the Population of Biddulph in 1801." Both of the census documents collated by Derek Wheelhouse are now printed in one document. The book 20 A4 pages and costs £3.00.

B09: "A Collection of Trade Directories for the Biddulph District from 1818 to 1940" of March 2018 the collated records for Biddulph in one book for use in family history research. The book 88 A4 pages and costs £5.00.

B10: "The Topography and Antiquities of Biddulph in the County of Stafford" – also known as the 'Writings of the Reverend Hadfield' of May 2012. Written in 1837 and converted from a handwritten manuscript by members of the Society. It gives detailed family history of Local families, Church Registers, Payment of Tithes and other interesting information. The book 79 A4 pages and costs £5.00.

B11: "Biddulph Born & Bred" by Elaine Heathcote and Kath Walton of September 2102 a guide to tracing your ancestors in the parish of Biddulph, Staffordshire. This is a short 40 x A4 page guide to family history research and provides details of resources held locally and at Staffordshire and Cheshire Record Offices with special relevance to tracing Biddulph ancestors. Sources discussed include directories, local newspapers, civil registration, the census, parish registers, monumental inscriptions, wills, parish accounts, maps and plans, rental lists and tax records. The book 42 A4 pages and costs £3.00. (Hard copy £3.50).

B12: "The Robert Heath Sale Document" also known as the 'Outlying Portion of the Biddulph Estate: For Sale by Auction Document of September 1919' was reproduced in March 2015. The document gives details of many of the properties and land on the east side of the Biddulph Valley. The book 40 A4 pages, the maps are reproduced in colour and costs £5.00.

B13: "A Guide to St Lawrence's Church, Biddulph" of September 2015. The new A5 guide to the Church includes a guided tour of the Church; an early history and information on the important local families and has 36 pages including 4 pages of colour photographs. The Guide is also available from the Church. The book 36 A5 pages and costs £2.50

B14: "Victorian Biddulph" produced by Mr. Richard Dean published in December 2015 is an Atlas of the Parish of Biddulph using the 1876 Ordnance Survey plans. The book includes the early history of the Ordnance Survey; the mapping of the United Kingdom; and, the 'Book of Reference to the Plans' which details the measurement system and the field use of the area. The book 61 A4 pages and costs £6.95

B15: "Brindley Ford" by Mr. Gordon Lomas has been re-published in January 2017 with additional photographs. Brindley Ford describes Gordon's childhood in the village and covers childhood memoirs, his family working at the iron foundry and coal mines, the development of Methodism and the changes to the village when it was re-developed. The book 68 A4 pages and costs £5.00

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B16: "Moor to War" written by Michael Turnock. It is the story of two friends from Biddulph Moor who went off together to fight in the Great War 1914 – 1918. The book 20 Colour A4 pages and costs £2.50

B17: "The Biddulph Grange and Knypersley Sale Document of 1871" compiled by David J. Outhwaite. When James Bateman decided to sell his Estate the sale document included seventeen pages of description of the House and Gardens; six pages of lithograph drawings by Kell Brothers of London including Biddulph Grange, the Billiard Room, the Italian Garden, China Garden, the ruins of Biddulph Old Hall and the Grounds; fifteen pages of details of the fields, field use and tenants; and eleven pages of Maps of the Estate drawn in 1791. It has been converted to an A4 publication with missing information added from copies at the Staffordshire Record Office (S.R.O.) and William Salt Library in Stafford. The book 56 A4 pages and costs £4.00.

B18: "A Biography of Peter Biddulph" This is the story of Peter Biddulph alias Fitton of Biddulph Old Hall (1602-1657) written by Phillip B. T. Wheeler. The Medici family is the subject of intense study, with real and imagined portrayals in books, novels and more. But what about those who served and lived in that household? Many whose names were well known at the time have faded into obscurity. One such member of the Medici household was an Englishman called Peter Biddulph, whose career took countless turns before he found his role there. The book has 40 A5 pages and cost £3.50.

B19: "Duke of York Square" written by Michael Turnock. A study of the three streets known locally as the "Square." They are located between High Street and Station Road in an area mentioned on the 1876 map of Bradley Green (the original name of present day Biddulph), and it was a mainly working class residential area in that period. The book 20 Colour A4 pages and costs £2.50

B20: "A History of Cowlshaw Walker" has been written by Gordon and Pam Lomas and adds a lot of new photographs and information to the original publication. It charts the rise and fall of a Biddulph company that was at the forefront of both coal cutting and steel pressing machinery and includes more information about the Cowlshaw family. The book 52 A4 pages and costs £5.00

B21: "Biddulph Grange Gardens" a book based on articles in the Gardeners' Chronicle from the years 1856 and 1862 describing the gardens in detail. They were written by Edward Kemp who was born in 1817 and served as a garden apprentice under Joseph Paxton during the 1830's. A short biography of Edward Kemp and some of the drawings from his book Landscape Gardening re-published in 1911, are included as well as a nine page colour picture glossary of the plants mentioned. The book has 52 A4 pages and costs £5.00

B22: "From Workhouse to Lord Mayor" From Workhouse to Lord Mayor is a reprint of George Herbert Barber's autobiography which was first published in 1937. It has a prologue written by Brian Barber who is one of George's great grandsons. Subjects covered include the setting up of Cinemas in the Potteries, working at the

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New Chemical Works, Stoke-On-Trent City Council with the "Lid Off," trips by air in the early day and to the Continent, To Palestine And Egypt, visits to Russia and Geneva, the Sunday Cinemas and experiences With Royalty. The book has 84 A4 pages and costs £7.50

B23: "The Flight Training Notes of Cadet J. E. Machin." The book has been created by converting 201 pages of hand written notes in exercise books written by Cadet Machin during the First World War. The training notes include chapters on the theory of flight; the theatre of War, observation and mapping; the instruments; the engines; and, on reconnaissance and armaments. The book includes an introduction and addendum written by Roland Machin whose father John (known as Jack) and his elder brother Harry had followed John Egbert into the Royal Flying Corps. The book has 84 A4 pages and costs £5.00

B24: "Cavalryman Voltelin Percy Heath" by Michael Turnock is the story of a Royal Horse Guard Soldier in the Great War 1914 – 1918 with a plaque in St. Lawrence's Church, Biddulph. The book has 24 A4 colour pages and costs £3.50.

B25: "All in a Day" by Michael Turnock (compiled by Madelaine Lovatt and Michael Turnock) is the story of Mr. George Gerard Booth DFM who was a Handley Page Halifax rear gunner with 51 Squadron during the Second World War. The book has 36 A4 colour pages and cost £5.00.

Transactions or Occasional papers published by the Society.

T01: "Transaction 1" of June 1968 (13 Pages) includes amongst other articles: The Excavation at Lee Forge, Biddulph 1967 by J.L. Bestwick and Place Names in Biddulph by John Sherratt.

T02: "Transaction 2" of June 1970 (24 Pages) includes amongst other articles: Part 1 of Coal Mining in the Biddulph Area up to the end of the C19th by Derek Wheelhouse; and The Passenger Services of the North Staffordshire Railway on the Biddulph Valley Branch Line by John Hancock; and, Old Buildings of Biddulph – The White House by Sylvia Tansley.

T03: "Transaction 3" of June 1972 (37 Pages) includes amongst other articles: Part 2 of Coal Mining in the Biddulph Area up to the end of the C19th by Derek Wheelhouse; Tramways and railways in the Biddulph Valley 1800 – 1854 by John Hancock; Biddulph Surnames 1200 – 1600 by John Sherratt; and, A Day at Knypersley Hall from the Staffordshire Advertiser 1853.

Cost of Transactions: Transactions T01 – T03 cost £2.00 each

T04: "Transaction 4" of December 1973 (35 Pages) includes amongst other articles: The Biddulph Valley Railway 1854 – 1864 by John Hancock; The Development of

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Motor Bus Services in the Biddulph and surrounding area by Adrian Lawton; and, Biddulph Hall from the Staffordshire Advertiser 1854.

T05: "Transaction 5" of June 2011 (47 Pages) includes amongst other articles: The History of Lea Forge Colour Works by C E Ellerton; Hedge dating in Gillow Heath by Elaine Heathcote; and, Early rail transport in the Biddulph Valley by Derek Wheelhouse.

T06: "Transaction 6" of February 2012 (56 Pages) includes amongst other articles: The History of Astbury Hydraulic Limestone Works by Derek Wheelhouse; Exploring the Astbury Hydraulic Limestone Works by Len Kirkham; and, A Walk around Mow Cop to Astbury Limestone Works

T07: "Transaction 7" of December 2012: "From Bradley Green to Massachusetts" by Mr. Enoch Whalley (74 Pages). The memories of Mr. Enoch Whalley of Gillow Heath first serialised in the based on the fifteen chapters published in the "Biddulph Chronicle" between the 31st December 1937 and the 14th of April 1938. In 1997 a reprint was published in twenty one parts between the 21st of February 1997 and the 11th of July. 1997. This is the first time all the document has been published in a single book.

T08: "Transaction 8" of February 2015 (39 Pages) includes amongst other articles: A look at Religion in the Staffordshire Moorlands – including three chapters from The Centenary of Primitive Methodism and notes on the Quakers. It also includes short articles on Local Policing, a local memory, a marriage bond and a walk around Bursley.

T09: "Transaction 9" of April 2015 the writings of Mr. Harry Page (53 Pages). A tribute to a founder member of the Biddulph History Society who died on the 6th of January 2015 including notes on trips organised by Mr Harry Page as 'Excursion Secretary' of the Biddulph History Society; Extracts from "Biddulph by the Diggings" and, Extracts from "The Biddulph Players 1950 -2000".

T10: "Transaction 10" of April 2015 an 'Early History of Chatterley Whitfield Colliery' written by Mr. James Jack in 1935 (35 Pages). Converted from Mr. Jack's hand written notes, this is a personal view of the development of one of the largest local collieries.

T11: "Transaction 11" of June 2015 'Early Rail Transport in the Biddulph Valley' written by Mr. Paul Blurton and based on research by Mr. Derek Wheelhouse (31 Pages). The information has been updated and extended with all photographs in colour.

T12: "Transactions 12" of December 2017 'Ada - Love At Jerusalem' research by Christine Jesson into the book written by Henry Francis Gordon and published in 1895

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with references to Biddulph And Knypersley (40 pages). The original book was found in the collection of the late Mr. Harry Page.

T13: "Transactions 13" of December 2018 'A History of the Chatterley Whitfield Railway by William Jack III' and 'The Workings of the Locomotives and Trains of Private Firms over the North Staffordshire Railway' by Mr. J. R. Hollick edited by Mr Roland Machin. (72 pages).

Cost of Transactions: Transactions T04 – T13 cost £4.00

T14: "Transactions 14" of March 2020 a book by Adrian Lawson on the Buses and Coaches In and Around Biddulph over the First 100 Years

Part 1: The development, regulation and nationalisation of bus services.

Part 2: De-nationalisation and de-regulation of bus services covers the relatively uneventful years leading up to de-regulation together with the far more eventful period since then right up to spring 2020.

Part 3: Express coach services and local coach operators includes activities involving coaches which are not covered elsewhere.

T15: "Transactions 15" of December 2019 'is 'The Railways of Biddulph' by Mr. John Hancock. The book describes the history of the Biddulph Valley Line with John's own photographic archive and other contemporary images taken by Jack Winkle when working as a signaller on the line. Transactions No 15 has 96 A4 pages (including black and white & colour photographs) and will cost £5.

Cost of Transactions: Transactions T14 – T15 cost £5.00

Associated Publications sold by the Society

The following books are only available as hard copies but you can ask for copies and the cost of postage.

Biddulph Volume I: Archive photographs of Biddulph from the "Images of England" series collected and written by Derek Wheelhouse. Includes pictures of the Countryside, Biddulph Village, Biddulph Grange, Transport and Industry, Recreation and Leisure, Men in Service, Schools, Events, Societies and Church and Chapel. List price £12:50 but available from the Society for £8:00

Please Post me a copy No

Biddulph Volume II: Archive photographs of Biddulph from the "Images of England" series collected and written by Derek Wheelhouse. Includes more pictures of the Countryside, Town and Village, The Grange, Transport, Trade and Industry, Recreation and Leisure, Schools, Local Events, Societies and Church and Chapel. List price £12:50 but available from the Society for £8:00

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Books by Geraldine Outhwaite

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1. Stories from The Shop - A 1950s Childhood (Published in 2012)
2. Brownhills, The Beatles and Beyond-The 1960s Growing Up and Moving On (Published in 2014)
3. Marriage in The Biddulph District - The 1830's to the 1970's. Published in association with the BDGHS in 2015. Much of this information has been compiled by Elaine Heathcote and added to and edited into book form by Geraldine Outhwaite. Marriage in The Biddulph District has 124 A5 pages and costs £7.95.
4. "Women's Work in The 1940s and 1950s" (The jobs women were doing in the Staffordshire Moorlands and Stoke-on-Trent areas). This book is an exploration of women's working lives in the mid-C20th, namely the decades of the 1940s and 1950s. In the book, there are first-hand accounts of what jobs local women were employed in as well as historical facts to give background to working life at the time. The Women's stories document how the history, economy, industry and culture of the local area have dramatically altered. We notice that the types of jobs available then have disappeared (understandably) or at least seriously declined (lamentably.) Women's Work in The 1940s and 1950s has 122 A5 pages and costs £8.50.
5. "The Hospital Where Everyone Smiles." When Biddulph Grange was a Children's Orthopaedic Hospital 1922- 1991 (and the emergence of the N.H.S.). It was in 1921 that Robert Heath, the industrialist generously offered Biddulph Grange to the North Staffordshire Cripples' Society for conversion to a hospital. After a false start with them, it was taken over by Lancashire County Council and it operated as a dedicated children's hospital from 1924 until the 1960s.

This book recounts its history after Bateman's and Heath's time; its continued use as a hospital after the introduction of the N.H.S. and before the National Trust took it over to reclaim its splendid Victorian past. The Hospital Where Everyone Smiles has 165 A5 pages and costs £8.50.
6. "Remarkable Women" The stories of six local women - Sarah Wedgwood, Emma Darwin, Maria Bateman, Ellen Bourne, Marguerite Bennett, and Anne Brindley.

Often behind great men in the past there stood some equally remarkable women. That is the starting point for this book. Modern men and women may have the opinion that they were 'just wives' however as many of these women demonstrated, despite the restrictions of the age in which they were born and role they were expected to play - they made their mark on the times in which they were born. Remarkable Women has 100 A5 pages and costs £8.00.