

## **The Chorley Branch of the Guild of Calico Printers, Bleachers, Dyers, Finishers, Foremen**

Yet another example of searching for one thing and turning up something else: I have recently been searching through books at the Working Class Movement Library in Salford, looking for further information about the Block Printers Co-operative that operated in Birkacre in 1831/2.

The staff at the WCML are very helpful and suggested that I should look at an annual handbook produced by the Guild of Calico Printers, Bleachers, Dyers and Finishers, Foremen in 1923. It certainly proved useful, but more of that on another occasion. What it gave me as a bonus was information about the Chorley Branch of the Guild in 1923.

There was a list of the committee membership

## Chorley Branch.

Meet at Railway Street Methodist School, on the Second Friday in the Month at 7-30 p.m.

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### *Committee—*

Mr. P. Hargreaves (Chairman)

Mr. James Boyle.

Mr. F. Haynes.

Mr. Thomas Heaton.

Mr. James Lord.

Mr. John Rigby.

Mr. R. Nowell.

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### *Secretary—*

MR. WILLIAM H. LOWE,

22, Geoffrey Street,

Chorley.

So we have information about the Branch Secretary, the rest of the committee, where and how frequently they met. Even better than this, there was a photograph of the committee

CHORLEY BRANCH COMMITTEE.



*Photo by A. V. Tootell, Chorley.*

*Standing—Mr. J. Boyle, Mr. J. Lord, Mr. J. Rigby, Mr. J. F. Haynes.*

*Sitting—Mr. W. H. Lowe (Secretary), Mr. P. Hargreaves (Chairman), Mr. R. Nowell.*

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And we even have the name of the Chorley photographer!

In addition, details are provided of the members who had retired during the last year

## RETIREMENTS.

MANCHESTER ...	...	MR. THOMAS BROGAN	...	Agecroft
"	...	" W. HAWORTH	...	Belfield
ACCRINGTON ...	...	" JOSEPH HOLDING	...	Broad Oak
NEW MILLS ...	...	" ISRAEL SHAW	...	Strines
"	...	(66 years at Strines Print Works).		
"	...	" JOS. WILLIAMSON	...	Whaley Bridge
"	...	" FRANK TRICKETT	...	"
GLASGOW ...	...	" J. H. DAWSON	...	
"	...	" JOHN MCPHERSON	..	
VALE OF LEVEN	...	" WM. MILLER	...	
RADCLIFFE ...	...	" GEORGE COLLINS	...	Roach Vale
"	...	" J. HARDMAN	*...	A. C. Bealey & S
		(56 years service).		
CHORLEY ...	...	" A. F. ASHWORTH	...	Brimscall
"	...	" R. IRONFIELD	...	"

Unfortunate typo with Brinscall! I presume that Messrs Ashworth and Ironfield may have worked at the Brinscall print works.

The handbook also records deaths of members

## In Memoriam.

Branch.	Members.	Died 1923.	Age.
BOLTON ...	MR. C. SOUTHERN ...	9th Feb.	61
"	" GEORGE E. TAYLOR ...	4th Sep.	40
ACCRINGTON ...	" W. JAMES NILE ...	3rd Jan.	66
"	" GEORGE NOLAN ...	11th Mar.	53
"	" JAMES WALKER ...	11th Apl.	52
NEW MILLS ...	" GEORGE BEARD ...	2nd Sep.	34
GLASGOW ...	" ROBERT GORDON ...	14th July	49
VALE OF LEVEN	" A. MACFARLANE ...	18th Apl.	59
GLOSSOP ...	" J. H. HEATON ...	24th Feb.	59
RADCLIFFE ...	" J. WESTHEAD ...	31st Jan.	33
"	" A. E. HAZLITT ...	30th June	52
"	" J. WORSLEY ...	3rd July	60
"	" W. DAWSON ...	21st May	63
"	" E. JONES ...	June	—
CHORLEY ...	" G. E. ROSCOE ...	14th Feb.	63

As can be seen the handbook records similar information for branches across the country.

John Harrison

September 2015