



dean stuart ali

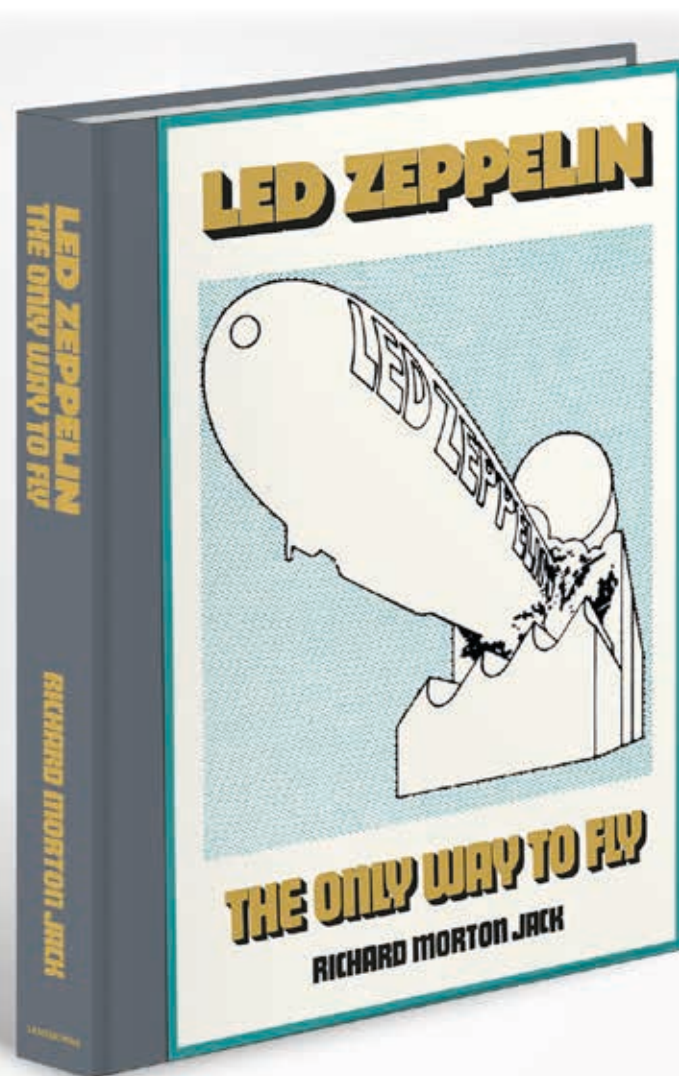
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LANDSDOWNE BOOKS
www.lansdownebooks.com

Publication date: September 2025

Led Zeppelin: The Only Way To Fly

Author: Richard Morton Jack

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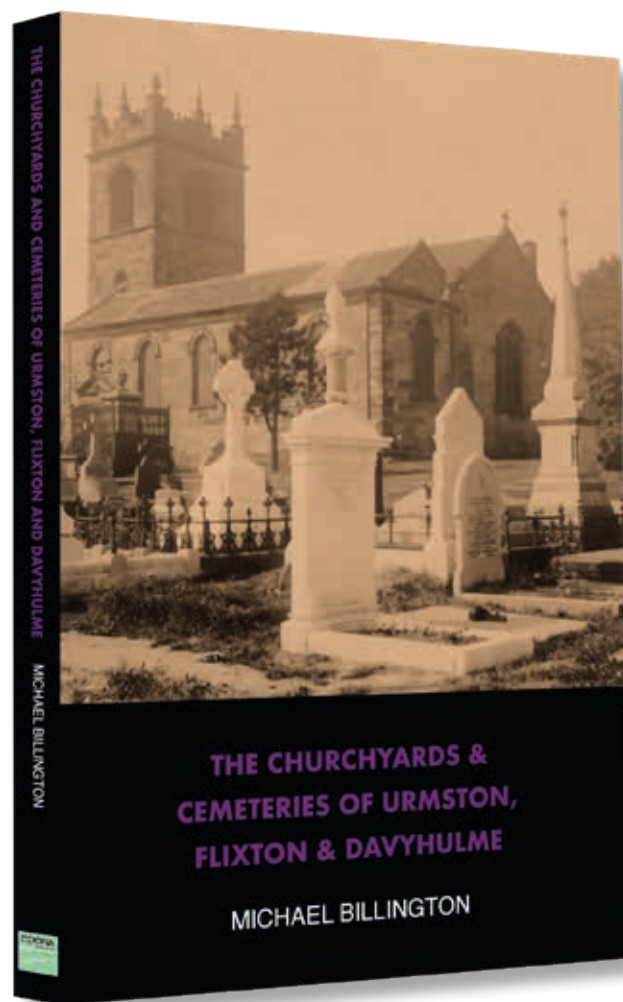
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Epona publishing

www.eponarecords.com

Publication date: August 2025

The Churchyards & Cemeteries of Urmston, Flixton & Davyhulme

Author: Michael Billington

Roles and Responsibilities:

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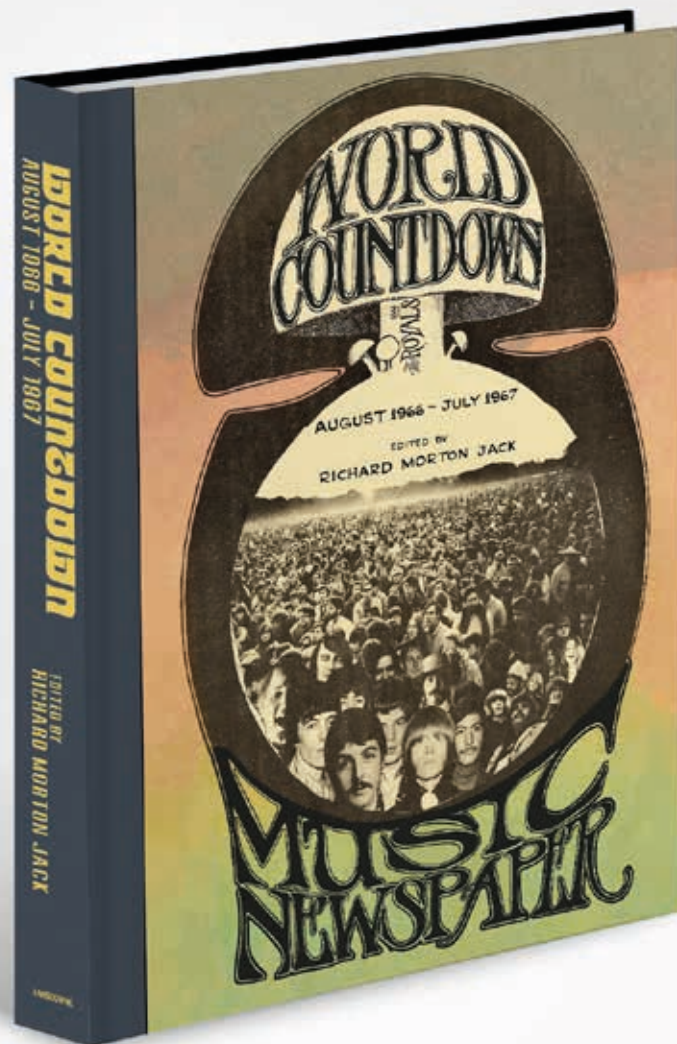
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LANSDOWNE BOOKS
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Publication date: March 2025

World Countdown: Music Newspaper August 1966 - July 1967

Edited by: Richard Morton Jack

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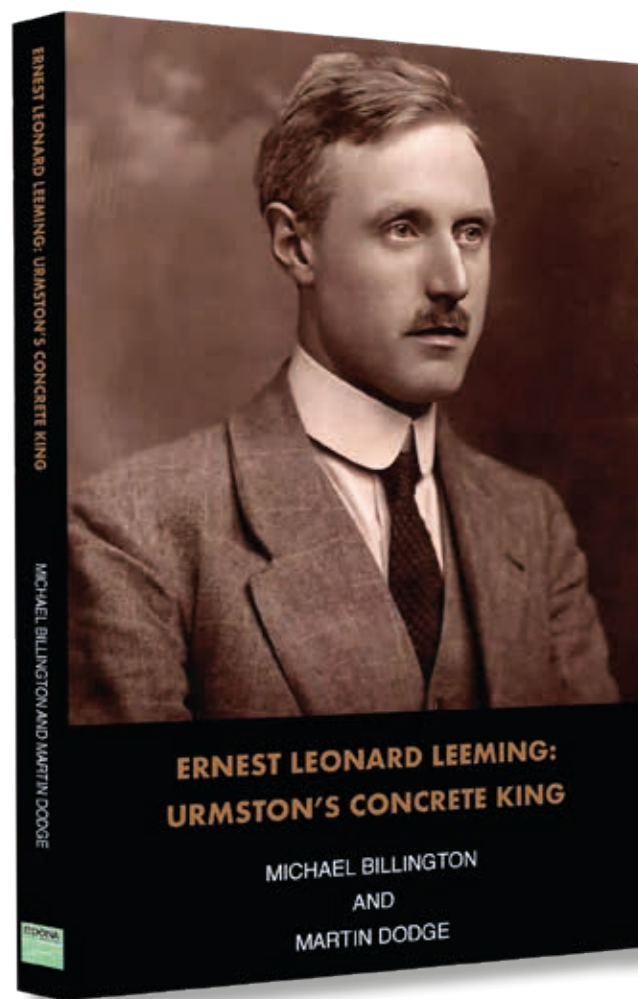
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Ernest Leonard Leeming: Urmston's Concrete King

Author(s): Michael Billington and Martin Dodge

Roles and Responsibilities:

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Epona publishing

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Publication date: January 2025



55 Newspaper clipping

Chapter 4

The Rhodesia Scheme

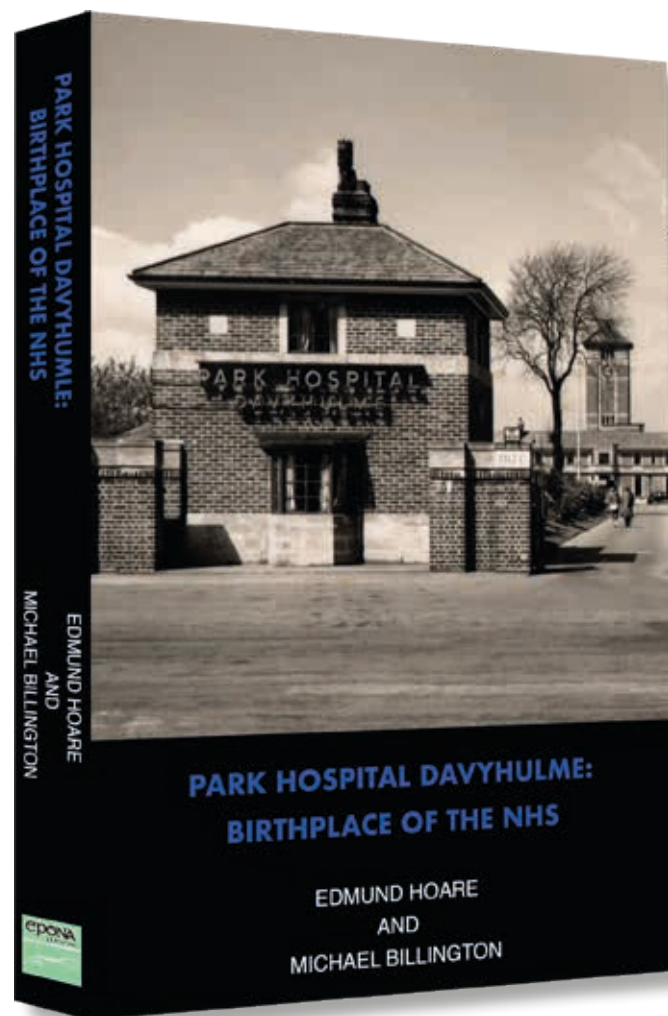
The Rhodesia scheme was a scheme for developing thirty-five overgrown towns in Southern Rhodesia to act as satellites for English towns. The scheme was to accommodate the excess populations in Britain's large cities, however the scheme never took off. Southern Rhodesia was a landlocked, self-governing British Crown colony established in 1923 consisting of territories lying south of the Zambezi River. Originally the region was known as South Zambezi until annexation by Britain. The colony was named after Cecil Rhodes of the British South Africa Company (BSAC) in 1895. Rhodes had acquired mineral rights in the area. The colony achieved full independence in April 1980 under its present name of Zimbabwe.

Leeming argued that to lay down such a large number of towns in Britain's agricultural counties could destroy an important industry. By establishing satellite towns in the colonies, he argued, Britain's agriculture would be maintained and the beauty of the countryside preserved. Leeming's view was that "Southern Rhodesia had much to offer the Englishman."

His plan was for twenty-five towns of 10,000 people with light industries and ten towns for the heavier industries. Electric power, it was suggested, could be harnessed from the Zambezi River by constructing a dam at the Kariba Gorge. The scheme seemed, at first, to be one that would succeed as the Minister of Towns and Country Planning, Mr Hugh Dalton, was reported to give full support. The Minister's only stipulation was that the Rhodesian Government should request the scheme.

For Godfrey Higgins, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, had appealed a committee to enquire into the scheme. Consequently Mr Leeming said that "There is enthusiasm in Southern Rhodesia for this method of obtaining immigrants." He went on to explain that cities such as Manchester would sponsor the building of these overgrown towns. On the outskirts of the towns, it was proposed, would be model settlements for the native population who would be the main labour force. The Minister commented that the capital might be named through the Colonial Development Corporation or the International Monetary Fund. The satellite towns, it was further proposed, would take the names of their British parent cities.

Although this scheme seems somewhat pitting to a 21st century readership it has not put into the context of the time. The native population would be given employment in



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Publication date: December 2024

Park Hospital Davyhulme: Birthplace Of The NHS

Author(s): Edmund Hoare and Michael Billington

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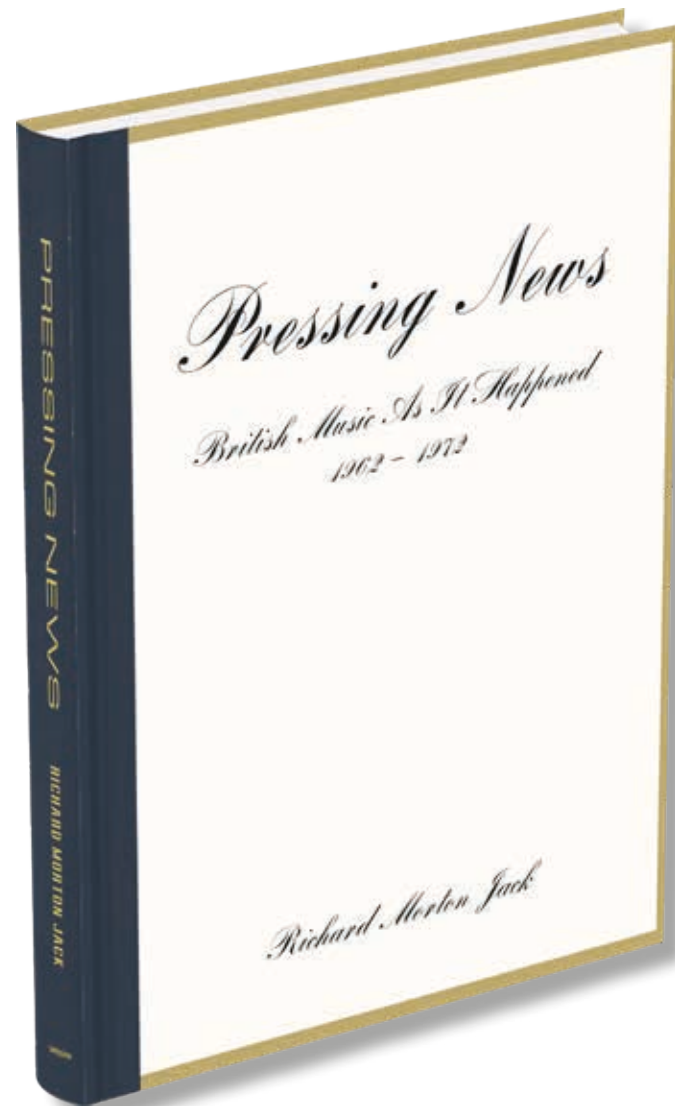
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Publication date: November 2024

Pressing News

British Music As It Happened 1962-1972

Author: Richard Morton Jack

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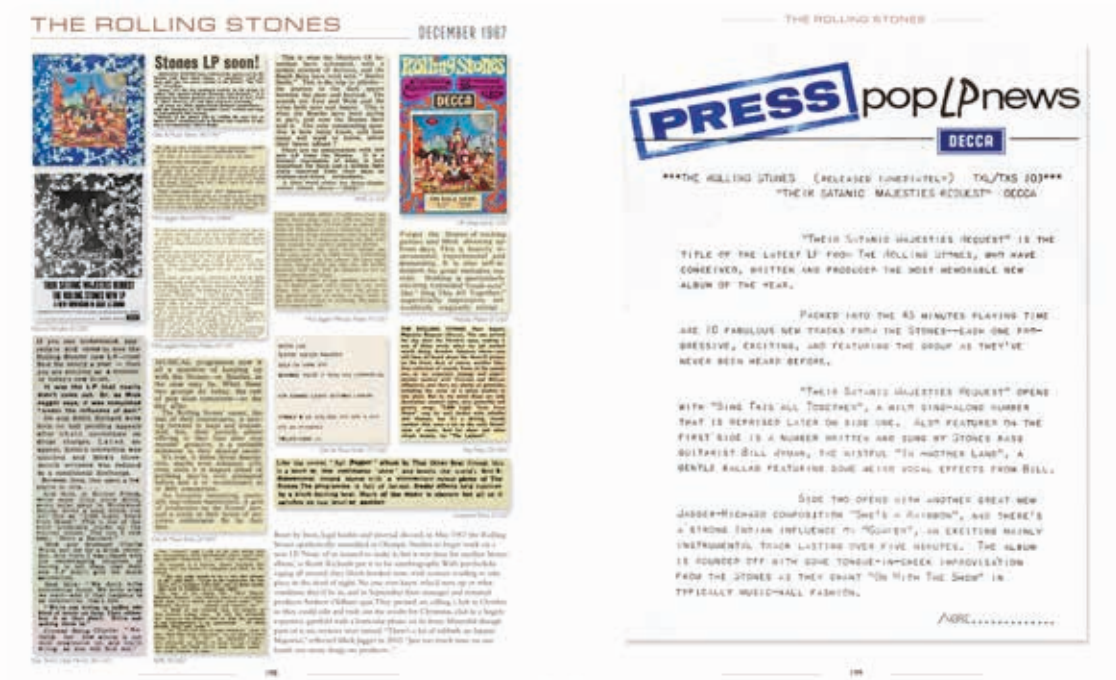
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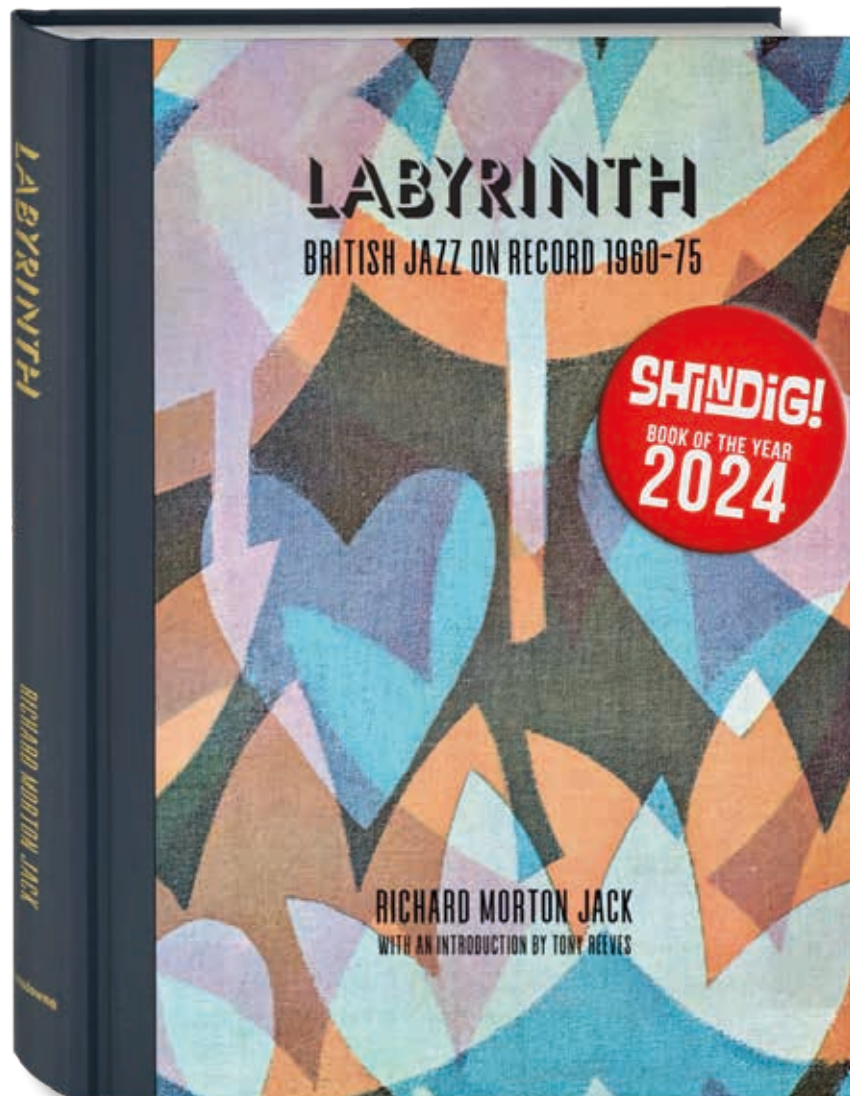
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Publication date: January 2024

Labyrinth

British Jazz On Record 1960 - 75

Author: Richard Morton Jack

Roles and Responsibilities:

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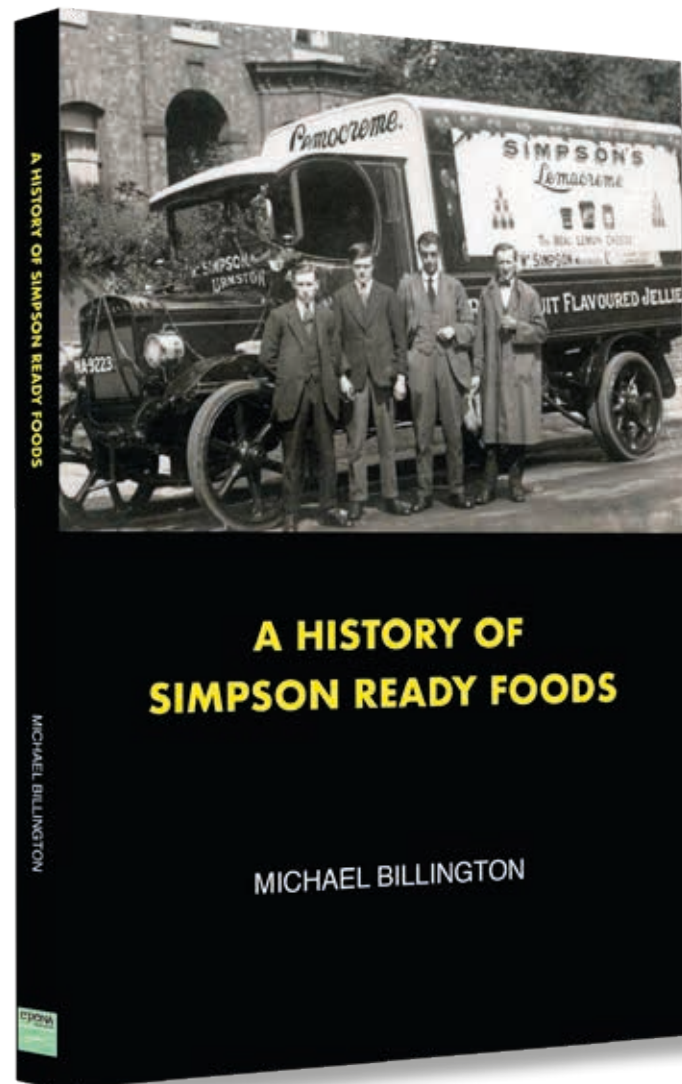
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A History Of Simpson Ready Foods Author: Michael Billington

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Publication date: October 2023

A talk given to Urnston and District Local History Society by Miss F.M. Pickles
6th September 1984

In 1910 William Simpson, with already a wide and extensive experience in the food manufacturing industry, took possession along with his wife Gertrude, of the property known as Latic House, subsequently renamed "The Garden Factory". It was a good description, being surrounded by fields, green lawns, an orchard and a row of poplar trees screening the house and the nucleus of a factory from what was then little more than a country lane, with no bus service. Today the scene is different, road widening having removed the first row of poplar trees.

Development during the first World War was limited by control and lack of resources, but even then extensions were needed and army loans were obtained to provide for the requirements of the business. Due to the continued growth and development of the Company's activities all the land had been taken up by extensions, so the name "Garden Factory" was withdrawn as being no longer relevant. With William's entrepreneurial flair and Gertrude's administrative ability together they laid the foundation of what is now a multi-million pound food manufacturing company.

In the early days production consisted mostly of Table Jellies (see plate 6.6), Corned Powder and Cane Mince, Baked Fruits and Chutneys, Orangeade Wine, Mincewines, Christmas Puddings, in some only some of them. A range of products for the bakery trade was also made, which included three grades of Lemon Cheese, sold under the registered trade names of Lemocream, Lemon Card and Lemochessie. They were also sold to the retail trade. A speciality sold as Lemocreme de Luxe, made from lemons, eggs, sugar and butter only, was also sold retail. An outstanding feature of the range of Lemon Cheese for the bakery trade was that they would not "boil out" of the tins during the baking process. This feature was demonstrated at various Exhibitions which were some of the means of publicity during the early days.

A letter heading (see plate 6.7 below) dated 1920 bears a coloured illustration of a very wide range of products currently being manufactured. Also recorded is the award of a Gold Medal at the Exposition Internationale del Lavoro held in Milan in 1925. Other awards were "Diploma of Honour" and the "Grand Prix". The "Gold Medal" and "Silver Cup" were awarded in this form for its specialities at the "Milan International Food Exhibition 1919". Also the "Grand Prix", "The Diploma of Honour" and "Gold Medals", Paris 1919.



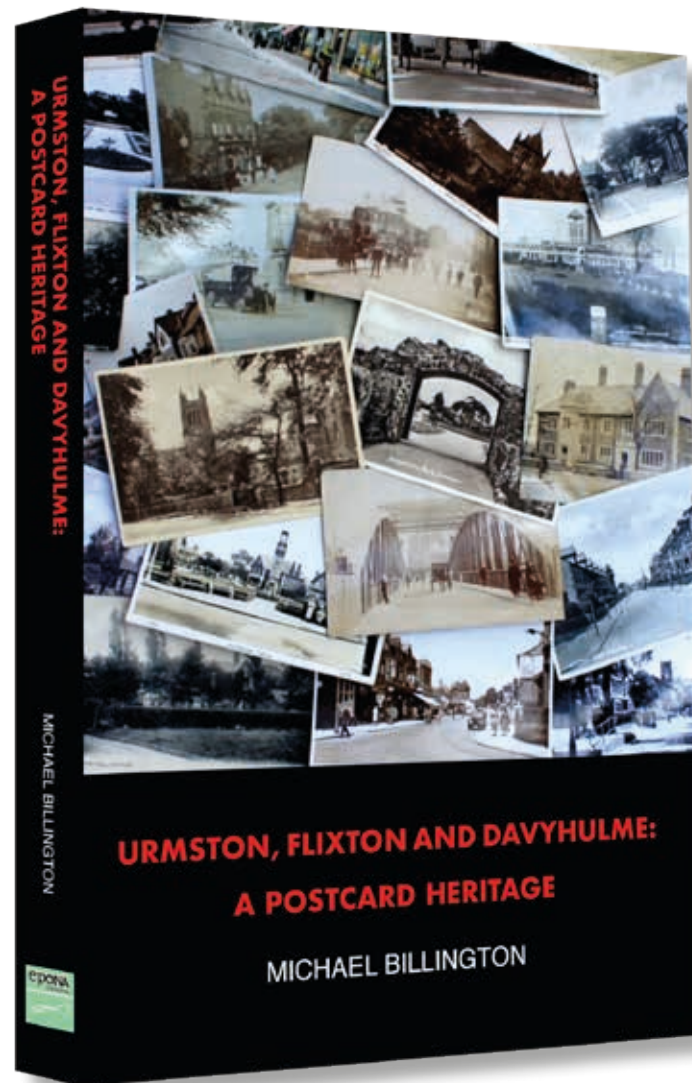
112



6.6 The jelly room



6.7 Letter Heading



Urmston, Flixton and Davyhulme: A Postcard Heritage

Author: Michael Billington

Roles and Responsibilities:

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Publication date: December 2022

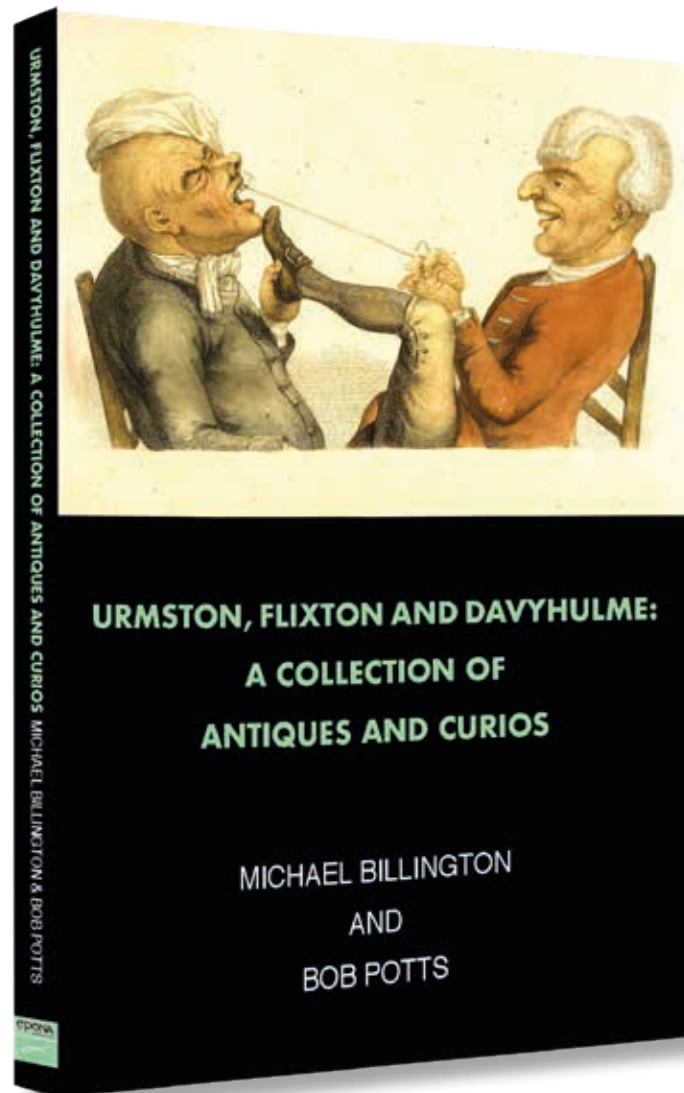


This postcard, published by Valentine Series, shows the Bridgewater Canal fully connected with the aqueduct allowing barges to resume their journey. The colour photograph shows both Manchester Ship Canal and the Bridgewater Canal that crosses it.



This postcard, beautifully colourised, was posted on 12th July 1905 and pinned in Saxony, many postcards were posted in Germany prior to the outbreak of WW1. It shows a ship being guided through the canal by a tug. Notice the stone masonry on the left, a legacy of the old stone aqueduct which was demolished as the locks were too low to allow the larger ships to pass under. In the photo below the Aqueduct can be seen passing through from right to left. Both images show the road bridge also.





Epona publishing
www.eponarecords.com

Publication date: May 2021

Urmston, Flixton and Davyhulme: A Collection Of Antiques And Curios Author: Michael Billington

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image reproduction/restoration/editing

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