

Interview preparation: Sheffield context prompts 2011

Reading Sheffield 1945-60: Context 1951

Use of these notes: It would help guide your interview if you were to look at the A to Z of the area where your interviewee lived during this period and identified the local sources of books. I hope these will help guide your follow-up questions. The information is based on Kelly's Directory 1951.

Libraries

- **Central Library, 12 branch libraries, 17 centres and 8 children's libraries**
- **Branch Libraries:** Central; Highfield; Burngreave; Attercliffe; Upperthorpe; Park; Walkley; Hillsborough; Tinsley; Firth Park; Woodhouse; Totley
- **170 school libraries**
- **Specialist libraries:** The Law Library and The Science and Technology Library 'a research library of high repute' run by Council and others.
- **Circulating Libraries:** Chas B Allison (Frecheville S12); Big Tree Library (Chesterfield Rd S8); Bookroom Library (Firth Park Rd S5); Mrs Amy Cooper (Chapelton); Ernest Hinchcliffe and Pauline Joyce (Ecclesall Rd S10); Mrs Ellen Turner (Abbeydale Rd S7)
- **Other:** It is possible some of these refer to the libraries in newsagents that there is so little information about. F G Cutts (Attercliffe Common S9); Mrs Norah Drabble (Ecclesall Rd S11); Ecclesfield Reading Rooms (Church St Ecclesfield); H and J Edmands (Attercliffe Rd S9); Herbert Ellis (lending, Middlewood Rd S6); Roy Goacher (Holme La S6); Handy and Red Circle Lib. (Rotherham branch and Greenland Rd S9); Hazel Library (Mrs E Cook, Abbeydale Rd S7); Leisure Hour Library (Fulwood Rd S10); Red Circle (The Moor S1 and Snig Hill S3 – see link with Handy Lib); Reginald Saynor (Grimesthorpe Rd S4); Peter Scott (Crookes S10); Frederick Smith (Blair Athol Rd S11); Jack Taylor (Crookes S10); Harry Thornton (Abbeydale Rd S7); Ernest Thorpe (Prince of Wales Rd S2); Triumph Libraries (Attercliffe Common S9); Geoffrey Wade (Sharrow Vale Rd S11)

Booksellers

- **New (probably):** Jacob Applebaum (Division St S1); Cadman (West St S1); City Book Shop (West St S1); Dennis Collins (Carlisle Rd S4); Frank Crookes (Broomhall St S3); James Dickinson (Infirmary Rd S6); James E. Dickinson (Devonshire St S3); Egginton and Son (Norfolk Market Hall S1); Mrs Nora Hodge (Fulwood Rd S10); Mrs Annie Hopkinson (Norfolk Market Hall S1); Methodist Bookshop (Chapel Walk S1); Nu Books (South St S2 and Attercliffe Common S9); Lancelot Richardson (Wincobank S9); Hartley Seed (Technical, Church St S1); Rowland Shaw (Spital Hill S4); W H Smith (Exchange St S2, Sheaf St Railway Stn S2, Does Railway Stn S, Victoria Stn S4; SPCK (Church St S1); Walter Stocker (Ecclesall Rd S11); H Turner and Sons (West Bar S3 and Bank St S1); Waller's (Fuller's at Fulwood Rd and Canterbury Ave S10); Alan Ward (Chapel Walk S11 and Leavygreave S3); Weston and Sons (Bridge St S3 and Change Alley S1); Williams Roberts (Wholesale Blonk St S1 and Wicker S3); Mrs Dorothy Worrall (Norfolk Market Hall S1)

- **Secondhand (definitely):** Frederick Pagdin (Langsett Rd S6); Israel Patnick (London Rd S2); Frank Woore (Norfolk Market Hall S1)

Education

Grammar Schools: Abbeydale, City, Firth Park, High Storrs (boys), High Storrs (girls), Hurlfield, King Edward VII (boys), Nether Edge

Selective Secondary Schools: Carfield, Greystones, Marlcliffe, Owler Lane

Central Technical School (boys)

Open-Air Schools: Whitely Wood, Springvale House (Park Lane) and Bents Green

Private: Sheffield High School for Girls (GPDST) had scholarships for grammar school entry girls

Religious: De la Salle College for Boys (Direct Grant Grammar); Convent of Notre Dame ('for young ladies of the higher classes' in Cavendish St); Sacred Heart (RC, Walkley); St Patrick's RC School (Burngreave?)

Further and Higher Education:

- Further Education: The following institutions offered some full-time courses but chiefly day-release and part-time: Sheffield College of Commerce and Technology; Dept of Catering and Domestic Science; Dept of Commerce and Management; Dept of Engineering (Pond St); Dept of Science; College of Arts and Crafts (Psalter Lane)
- Teacher Training Colleges: City, Thornbridge Hall (Infant and primary); Totley Hall ('Housecraft')
- Adult Education: People's Settlement; WEA

Theatres etc

- Lyceum, Sheffield Playhouse (Townhead St)
- The Coliseum Picture House (Spital Hill)
- The Empire Theatre (Charles St)
- The Hippodrome (Cambridge St)
- The Little Theatre (Shipton St, in connection with the Sheffield Educational Settlement managed by Arnold Freeman earlier on in the century)
- The Library Theatre

Clubs and Societies: Numerous – it is difficult to tell whether there were libraries attached – maybe we will find out. Possibles include: British Council (Church Ho, St James St S1); YMCA (Fargate S1); YWCA (Division St 1).

Newsagent Libraries: It is possible that there were many of these, too informal to be noted in Kelly's. It would be interesting to see if any of the interviewees can recall themselves or their parents using them. Judging from an interview with a Leeds resident (Beeston), it is possible that in the 1920s some of these newsagents were not particularly literate and had their stock rotated by a central company - not sure which.

Questions that could be explored

- What kind of stock was held by the circulating libraries?

- Were books chosen for the interviewee? Did they choose books for anyone else?