

SPEN VALLEY, CLECKHEATON, HECKMONDWIKE, LIVERSEDGE AND GOMERSAL pdf

1: Spen Valley (UK Parliament constituency) - Wikipedia

Environmental and Heritage. You might also like these groups in Spen Valley (Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge & Gomersal).

Historically part of the West Riding of Yorkshire , it is situated south of Bradford ,[1] east of Brighouse , west of Batley and south-west of Leeds. It is at the centre of the Spen Valley and was the major town in the former borough of Spenborough. Cleckheaton has a history as a mill town, although this industry has now all but vanished. Evidence of human habitation in Mesolithic and Neolithic times has been found in the area. Roman remains have been found in the valley and it is thought that roads from York to Chester , and from settlements in Halifax and Wakefield , passed through Cleckheaton and the junction gave rise to a staging post. Cleckheaton was in the ancient parish of Birstall. A chapel-of-ease, known as the White Chapel later Whitechapel was established. They also demonstrate the lack of administration as only the richest four of the families living in the Spen Valley were made to pay more than the 4d approx. These tax returns also show the recent deviation from the traditional sources of wealth in the area i. These were centred on textiles and included dyeing, weaving and fulling common names in the area nowadays still recall these early trades: Lister- dyer, Webster- weaver, Walker- fuller. The spread of these trades was also a result of the absence of regulation of the area. Due to the lack of manorial control, land was divided between all the sons in a family rather than just passing to the eldest. As the farmland owned by a family got smaller they became unable to support the family and so people turned to production of woollens to gain extra income. Old pub named after Kirklees Priory After the Reformation , Kirklees Priory was largely destroyed, many families were driven from the area and new non-aristocratic lords of the manor who were sympathetic to Protestantism were introduced by Elizabeth I , as was a puritan clergyman who was installed at Birstall Church. By , at the time of the Rising of the Northern Earls , the last of the old Norman noble families had been swept away. Sir John Neville went into exile and forfeited his estate and Thomas Hussey heir to the de Tilly family of Oakwell Hall was imprisoned in the Tower of London for some time before being pardoned. By the 17th century land-owning farmers were finding it increasingly difficult as were their landlords and some payments were still in kind as farmers had no money to pay their debts. Meanwhile, the textile workers were becoming more and more prosperous and paid less and less attention to their hard up and increasingly impotent landlords. During the English Civil War the clothiers were on one side and the landlords on the other. Lords of the area were made Royalist officers and made some progress such as at the Battle of Adwalton Moor about a mile east of Birkenshaw and the siege of Bradford , before the Parliamentarians took control of the area. Royalist families were forced, after the war, to pay large fines to keep their lands and avoid imprisonment. All the time clothiers were growing wealthier and by the end of the 17th century more than half of the wills in the parish of Birstall came from men whose wealth came from textiles. However, many people had found puritan teachings more to their taste and it took many years to re-install an Anglican vicar to Whitechapel. Despite the draconian nonconformist laws, there was a large number of non-Anglican meeting houses and nonconformity flourished; a fifth of the population of the Birstall Parish was estimated to be nonconformist. Quakers were widespread and even now a number of 17th and 18th century Quaker burial grounds remain in the area. In the 18th century Presbyterianism was widespread but then lost a large minority of its flock to Unitarianism and to the Baptist church. Methodism also flourished from the s after visits from John Wesley and Charles Wesley , as did the Moravian Church. Indeed, John Wesley lived in Birstall for some time as it was near to many large towns in the West Riding. In spite of the religious strength in the valley, the inhabitants were somewhat unconventional and still went to astrologers, quack doctors and prophets. Furthermore, to increase the isolation, the area had no canals and had few roads, apart from a few turnpike roads, including the major ones from Leeds to Huddersfield and Bradford to Halifax. After the discovery of good quality coal in the north of the valley industry spread quickly. In the Reverend Hammond Roberson, annoyed that the administration of Liversedge

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was disorganised, promoted a system of reform "the select vestry" which quickly spread to Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike. In Parliament voted a million pounds for the building of new churches in the country and Roberson was able to secure funding to build Cleckheaton Church: St John the Evangelist in Church Street. In children were paid starvation wages for putting staples into leather for carding wool, but by there were eleven carding factories in Cleckheaton and by the town was recognised as the carding capital of the world. After a great deal of wrangling with the various railway companies in the s railways were finally built which enabled the textile mills, ironworks, chemical factories and collieries to compete with those around the country. More than this, improved local roads and transport brought together the people of the individual villages of the valley and quickly the villages grew until they merged. Pits began to close and trade waned. Slowly, central government took on responsibilities previously held by Spenborough such as water supply, gas production, public health and education. By this time the level of industry was in serious decline as the textile mills, foundries and other factories slowly closed. In the s and s many new houses were built in Cleckheaton, as the town attracted commuters to Leeds and Bradford. Ashtons built many houses around Cleckheaton and neighbouring Mirfield. Cleckheaton railway station Station Tavern. Station was to the left; sidings were straight ahead. In a singular case was heard at Wakefield Crown Court. A Dewsbury man was accused of, as counsel for the prosecution put it, effectively stealing Cleckheaton railway station. The railway station had closed to passenger traffic in and to goods four years later. British Rail had contracted for the clearing of the site, part of the deal being that the contractors would sell and retain the proceeds from disposal of the materials and scrap. On arrival, they discovered that the station and most of the material were already gone. It transpired that the man had been contracted by another firm to clear the site, had been advanced a sum for hire of plant, and had spent three weeks clearing the site. Subsequent efforts to trace the second firm failed, and the court found the man not guilty, deciding that he had been duped and left significantly out of pocket. It was rebuilt by Metro in April replacing the previous Arriva Yorkshire owned site. There are six stands at the bus station. The main operator at the bus station is Arriva. There were at this time attempts to involve all the local authorities in the valley in joint projects such as installation of sewers and water. In , the three urban districts of Cleckheaton, Liversedge and Gomersal were amalgamated to form Spenborough Urban District. In a county review order enlarged the urban district to include Birkenshaw, Hunsworth and Hartshead. The borough used the coat of arms which bore the motto "Industry Enriches" which it had been granted in The borough of Spenborough was abolished, and its area combined with that of ten other local authorities to form the Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees, one of five metropolitan boroughs of West Yorkshire. The population of this ward as taken at the Census was 16, In all three councillors were members of the Liberal Democrats. From to Cleckheaton was included in the borough constituency of Brighouse and Spenborough. For elections to the UK parliament , Cleckheaton is in the Batley and Spen borough constituency [15] created in Geography Cleckheaton is at the centre of a number of villages which together form the Spen Valley: Yorkshire Captain Andrew Gale is a member of Cleckheaton and occasionally plays, depending on his availability and commitments for Yorkshire. The family lived on Foundry Terrace. Danny Cadamarteri , Huddersfield Town footballer, was born in Cleckheaton in His mother, who was an amateur painter, died of puerperal fever soon after giving birth to Edward. His father was a worsted-spinning industrialist who owned the firm E. He was a major figure in British art in the first half of the twentieth century, involved in Vorticism. Although he moved away from Cleckheaton, the industrial scenes of his early source. Wilfred Barber, born Cleckheaton, Yorkshire and England cricketer. Fred Lord long distance runner , competed at the Olympics References Chisholm, Hugh, ed. A Topographical Dictionary of England. Retrieved 1 March Retrieved 29 January Office for National Statistics. Retrieved 25 February

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2: Gomersal | Revolvly

*Spenn Valley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Liversedge and Gomersal (Images of England) [Norman Ellis] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This book is part of the Images of England series, which uses old photographs and archived images to show the history of various local areas in England.*

Spennborough Coat of Arms Spennborough was a local government district of the West Riding of Yorkshire from 1974 to 1996. It was created as an urban district in 1974 by the merger of Cleckheaton, Gomersal and Liversedge urban districts, in an attempt to resist plans by the County Borough of Bradford to annex the area. In 1974 the district was expanded by encompassing the abolished Hunsworth and Birkenshaw urban districts and by absorbing the Clifton and Hartshead areas of Halifax Rural District. Heckmondwike, also in the Spenn valley, was never part of Spennborough. Spennborough was abolished in 1996, becoming part of the new Metropolitan Borough of Kirkstall. Savoy Square This occupies the site of the Savoy Cinema, - on the corner of Bradford Road and Albion Street in Cleckheaton, the cornerstone from which remains on the site. When the indoor market was being renovated a few years later, the Society asked if the wall adjacent to the Square could be designed in Art Deco style. Then the Civic Society organised the creation of original film posters to decorate the wall. Men" series, but in the style of the film "Saturday Night Fever". They are the sequel to a set of artworks on a reel of film which were painted onto temporary hoardings, masking the fire damaged market hall. A model of an early movie camera completes the theme. The mill manufactured woollen flannel. A young lad named Orlando Holroyd who was working at the gas works opposite, witnessed the chimney swaying and breaking in two, the top part toppling forward at an angle and penetrating all four storeys of the building, resolving into a pile of broken rubble at its base. Mr Nixon, an engineer at the gas works immediately organised men and ladders to try and rescue the mill workers, mainly girls, trapped inside, some buried in the debris. Men ascended the ladders to reach the girls gathered at the windows, escorting them back to safety. Then the injured were rescued and brought out, followed by the dead. The operation continued into the night and bonfires were lit to light the scene for the rescuers who scrambled amongst broken bricks and under collapsed timbers to complete their mission. The bodies, some mangled beyond recognition, were taken to the workshops of Messrs Thornton nearby. The mill itself was in ruins. The walls were still standing except at one corner where the chimney had crashed down, but the roof and some of the floors had collapsed taking workers and looms with them, and some of the metal shafting had been twisted and turned into fantastic shapes. The rescuers, including the fire service by now, had put themselves into tremendous danger carrying out the rescue. Clearing up operations continued on the following day, attracting a crowd of spectators. The workforce seem to have been all too well aware of the poor condition of the chimney before the incident, recalling that the base was cracked all around. The owners, Messrs Thornton, said that they had recently called in building contractors Messrs Moulson of Bradford to inspect the chimney who gave it the all clear, but nevertheless Messrs Thornton had begun repairs, which were in progress when the collapse occurred. The lad was returning to the mill with an empty wheelbarrow when the chimney fell. Maitland and just served to identify the victims so their bodies could be released to their families. They were aged between 20 and 46 and all but one were women. Their funerals were for the most part held a few days after the accident, on Saturday 27th February, many being interred at Cleckheaton cemetery. A few weeks later at their meeting in the new Town Hall, the local board resolved to ask certain other mills in Cleckheaton to reduce the height or inspect their chimneys before something similar happened to endanger more lives. They also resolved to buy a fire escape to give to the local fire service as the ladders used at the Marsh Mill rescue had not been adequate. A relief fund for the victims and their families was also set up. Later Roger went into advertising, at first as a humble copy writer, but progressing to become artistic director of a London advertising company. This involved him living within commuting distance of London. Roger married Margaret Christine Heard, who came from Dorset, in 1911 and sons Adam and Giles were born in 1912 and followed by twin girls, Amelia and Sophia in 1913. One day in 1914, then aged 6, asked his father

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what a tickle looked like. Roger went away and drew what became "Mr Tickle" for him, the start of the "Mr Men" series of picture books. It was not easy finding a publisher at first, but when he did the series was enormously successful selling 1 million copies within 3 years. The "Little Miss" series followed in Roger eventually wrote and illustrated 66 "Mr Men" and 33 "Little Miss" books. He died in of a stroke, aged only 53, at Royal Tunbridge Wells, having lived in Guernsey for some years and then in Sussex. They appeal to children, of course, but also to adults who grew up with and loved the Doctor Who and Mr Men series. He is also producing more Mr Men and Little Miss adventures. He joined ITN in and oversaw the opening of its Washington news bureau in the late s, becoming resident Washington correspondent. However, the lion was not lost completely, just hidden in undergrowth, and once recovered was handed to Spen Valley Civic Society for safe keeping. Christopher moved into Pyenot Hall and the works grew and multiplied all around him, becoming a large industrial complex. Here he lived the life of a gentleman, employing servants and involving himself in local affairs including helping establish a cemetery at Cleckheaton, serving as a Poor Law Guardian and helping to fund a new chapel and Sunday School there. R and C Goldthorp. His youngest son, Robert Heward Goldthorp, a partner in the firm, died in April aged only 42, whilst in July his oldest son, Guy, mysteriously disappeared. He was traced to Liverpool where he wrote a letter home telling his family he was leaving the country for good before embarking on a vessel there. He and Harry Goldthorp had been managing the business. The Smith family came from Halifax and Enos was also in business with his brother. The business evolved into a wire drawing company and the works were again extended. Enos was still at Pynot Hall in , eventually retiring to Torquay where his death was reported in January The Hall may then have been let. The death of Jane Little, wife of Dr. In November the Hall was being advertised to let as a "desirable residence". He had died on active service with the R. Samuel Haley, a Cleckheaton cardmaker who had established works at High Street Mills, had been killed in a train crash in June whilst a passenger on an excursion train from Cleckheaton to Blackpool. The train crashed in Lancashire enroute. His successor was probably Mr Thomas Haley, again a steel wire manufacturer of Pyenot Hall works, but by he had retired to Morecambe and died there in June. As we know, the Bridon Wire Company eventually took over the manufactory. Several interesting incidents associated with the Hall occurred over the years. Worst of all, a "Huddersfield Sensation" occurred in October when Mrs Annie Robinson, 38, who had been employed by Mrs Smith as a servant at the Hall and went from there to her marriage to 66 year old Rowland Robinson of Huddersfield, was put on trial for his murder. See also Cleckheaton 2 below.

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3: Scout Groups - Spen Valley Scouts

Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Liversedge and Gomersal, plus a number of villages, make up an area known as the Spen Valley. This book, with over illustrations, mostly from the author's collection of postcards, covers part of the region's history.

History Gomersal was known in Anglian times as Guthmers Hahl, "hahl" means a nook or corner of land. This land became an Anglo-Saxon burial ground and most likely was the location of a Celtic temple site before the Roman Conquest. The brook formed the ancient boundary between Gomersal and Birstall. Gomersal was the hometown of her friend Mary Taylor who lived at the Red House which she renamed Briarmains in the novel. Spen Hall has been divided into several houses but retains a 16th-century mullioned window, a tennis lawn and a water spring which, according to myth, is a tunnel now flooded leading to the Old Saw public house cellar nearby. The cellar was apparently used to hide priests fleeing persecution. Clay pipes were found in the earlier Old Saw premises in the walls and chimneys but, once exhumed, disintegrated. A glazed drinking cup found in the foundations survives after being carefully reassembled and preserved by Harry King, the former owner of the cottage. The cup still requires dating. A hand-made brick-lined pit 2 feet 0. Its uses are disputed, with suggestions that it was a cockfighting pit or meat storage vessel. Gomersal also has many fine and historic houses which climb the hill of Spen Lane and along Oxford Road towards Birkenshaw. The Roundhill Mill site in the Cliffe lane area of Gomersal is known for the sighting of the *scratje* pronounced *Skrayty* , a legendary Norse spirit supposedly observed by a son before the death of his father and characterised by a cold and apparently sourceless light which moves erratically. The old name for Cliffe Lane was *Scrat Lane*. This was likely due to the semi-underground control bunker for the anti-aircraft guns in the West Riding, protecting Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield and Halifax. This was active throughout the war and manned day and night. In the s on the same site a nuclear-blast-proof underground bunker was constructed as a monitoring post, one of over 1, constructed in the UK, for use in measuring direction, strength of blast and fallout in the event of the UK coming under nuclear attack. The ROC stood down during the late s with the reduced threat of the Cold War and the bunkers were abandoned and sold or given back to the land owners. The line was constructed between and and opened fully to passengers in The railway closed to passengers in and goods in , having had all the buildings and structures repainted and new track in Sir Winston Churchill , then Prime Minister, slept at Cleckheaton Spen sidings overnight in a special train with a heavy security cordon in during election campaigning. Most of these are still in use today. John Wesley Harding preached in Gomersal, one of his closest lay assistants John Nelson was involved with lay preacher Edward Brooke who initiated the construction in of the Wesleyan Chapel in Latham lane with an unusual bow front, which became known as the "pork pie chapel". Gomersal was once home to Burnleys Textile Mill, which was a landmark in the Spenborough area. However, this has been demolished to make way for a new housing development of up to homes. Appearances in media Gomersal was the filming location for a number of scenes in the popular period drama *Heartbeat*. It is also the birthplace of novelist John Barlow , who has set several works of fiction in the village. Location grid References Ekwall, Eilert The concise Oxford dictionary of English place-names 4 ed.

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4: Spen Valley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Liversedge and Gomersal - Google Books

You might also like these groups in Spen Valley (Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge & Gomersal).

Human habitation began thousands of years ago and Mesolithic and Neolithic remains have been found in various places. Roman remains have been found in the valley and it is thought that the roads from York to Chester, and from settlements in Halifax and Wakefield, ran through Cleckheaton and the junction gave rise to a staging post. Cleckheaton was included in the ancient parish of Birstall. A chapel-of-ease, known as the White Chapel later Whitechapel was established in the area. They also demonstrate the lack of administration as only the richest four of the families living in the Spen Valley were made to pay more than the 4d minimum tax. These tax returns also show the recent deviation from the traditional sources of wealth in the area i. These were centred around textiles and included dyeing, weaving and fulling common names in the area nowadays still recall these early trades: Lister- dyer, Webster- weaver, Walker- fuller. The spread of these trades was also a result of the absence of regulation of the area. Due to the lack of manorial control, land was divided between all the sons in a family rather than just passing to the eldest. As the farmland owned by a family got smaller they became unable to support the family and so people turned to production of woollens to gain extra income. Old pub named after Kirklees Priory After the Reformation, Kirklees Priory was largely destroyed, many families were driven from the area and new non-aristocratic lords of the manor who were sympathetic to Protestantism were introduced by Elizabeth I, as was a puritan clergyman who was installed at Birstall Church. By, at the time of the Rising of the Northern Earls, the last of the old Norman noble families had been swept away. Sir John Neville went into exile and forfeited his estate and Thomas Hussey heir to the de Tilly family of Oakwell Hall was imprisoned in the Tower of London for some time before being pardoned. By the 17th century land-owning farmers were finding it increasingly difficult as were their landlords and some payments were still in kind as farmers had no money to pay their debts. Meanwhile the textile workers were becoming more and more prosperous and paid less and less attention to their hard up and increasingly impotent landlords. During the English Civil War the clothiers were on one side and the landlords on the other. Lords of the area were made Royalist officers and made some progress such as at the battle of Adwalton Moor about a mile east of Birkenshaw and the siege of Bradford, before the Parliamentarians took control of the area. Royalist families were forced, after the war, to pay large fines to keep their lands and avoid imprisonment. All the time clothiers were growing wealthier and by the end of the 17th century more than half of the wills in the parish of Birstall came from men whose wealth came from textiles. However many people had found puritan teachings more to their taste and it took many years to re-install an Anglican vicar to Whitechapel. Despite the draconian nonconformist laws, there was a large number of non-Anglican meeting houses and nonconformity flourished; a fifth of the population of the Birstall Parish was estimated to be nonconformist. Quakers were widespread and even now a number of 17th and 18th century Quaker burial grounds remain in the area. In the 18th century Presbyterianism was widespread but then lost a large minority of its flock to Unitarianism and to the Baptist church. Methodism also flourished from the s after visits from John Wesley and Charles Wesley, as did the Moravian Church. Indeed John Wesley lived in Birstall for some time as it was near to many large towns in the West Riding. In spite of the religious strength in the Valley, the inhabitants were somewhat unconventional and still went to astrologers, quack doctors and prophets. Furthermore, to increase the isolation, the area had no canals and had few roads, apart from a few turnpike roads, including the major ones from Leeds to Huddersfield and Bradford to Halifax. After the discovery of good quality coal in the north of the valley industry spread quickly. In the Reverend Hammond Roberson, annoyed that the administration of Liversedge was disorganised, promoted a system of reform - the select vestry - which quickly spread to Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike. In children were paid starvation wages for putting staples into leather for carding wool, but by there were eleven carding factories in Cleckheaton and by the town was recognised as the carding capital of the world. The mill owners built turnpike roads between the

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villages to enable their employees to get to work and lobbied to get railways built to get their products to reach customers. After a great deal of wrangling with the various railway companies in the s railways were finally built which enabled the textile mills, ironworks, chemical factories and collieries to compete with those around the country. More than this, the railways brought together the people of the individual villages of the valley and quickly the villages grew until they merged together. Pits began to close and trade waned. Slowly, central government took on responsibilities previously held by Spenborough such as water supply, gas production, public health and education. By this time the level of industry was in serious decline as the textile mills, foundries and other factories slowly closed. In the s and s many new houses were built in Cleckheaton, as the town attracted commuters to Leeds and Bradford. Ashtons built many houses around Cleckheaton and neighbouring Mirfield. Cleckheaton station "stolen" Main article: Cleckheaton railway station In a singular case was heard at Wakefield Crown Court. A Dewsbury man was accused of, as counsel for the prosecution put it, effectively stealing Cleckheaton railway station. The station had closed to passenger traffic in and to freight four years later. British Rail had contracted for the clearing of the site, part of the deal being that the contractors would sell and retain the proceeds from disposal of the materials and scrap. On arrival, they discovered that the station and most of the material were already gone. It transpired that the man had been contracted by another firm to clear the site, had been advanced a sum for hire of plant, and had spent three weeks clearing the site. Subsequent efforts to trace the second firm failed, and the court found the man not guilty, deciding that he had been duped and left significantly out of pocket. As of all three councillors were members of the Liberal Democrats. In Cleckheaton and the three neighbouring townships of Gomersal, Heckmondwike and Liversedge were grouped to form the Parliamentary constituency of Spen Valley. There were at this time attempts to involve all the local authorities in the valley in joint projects such as installation of sewers and water. In , the three urban districts of Cleckheaton, Liversedge and Gomersal were amalgamated to form Spenborough Urban District. In a county review order enlarged the urban district to include Birkenshaw, Hunsworth and Hartshead. The borough continued to use the coat of arms which bore the motto "Industry Enriches" which it had been granted in The borough of Spenborough was abolished, and its area combined with that of ten other local authorities to form the Metropolitan Borough of Kirkstall, one of five metropolitan boroughs of West Yorkshire. Parliamentary history From to the town formed part of the Spen Valley county constituency. From to Cleckheaton was included in the borough constituency of Brighouse and Spenborough. Geography Cleckheaton Bus station Cleckheaton is at the centre of a number of villages which together form the Spen Valley: They play at Clayborn, 1 km from Cleckheaton town centre. They have an associated junior club Gomersal and Cleckheaton F. A Topographical Dictionary of England. Retrieved 1 March

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5: Cleckheaton - Kirklees Curiosities

Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Liversedge and Gomersal, plus a number of villages, make up an area known as the Spen Valley. This book, with over illustrations, mostly from the author's collection of postcards, covers part of the region's history.

Taken from the station end of the road viaduct, looking towards Cleckheaton town centre. Looks shit from above, but spectacular from below. Road viaduct facing South David Webdale Not much daylight this time of year. Road viaduct - 2 Graeme Bickerdike From an engineering perspective, this was no mean feat. Road viaduct - 3 Graeme Bickerdike In a woman was badly injured after jumping 60 feet from the structure. She died later in hospital. The son of one of her friends had done the same thing the year before. Road viaduct - 4 Graeme Bickerdike The supporting girders are anchored onto brick pillars. Station round hill facing South David Webdale Taken from the top of Round Hill. Cleckheaton town centre is visible in the background. Looking down onto the goods yard area. There was a mill at the top of round hill, a footpath leads up to this area from the valley bottom under the railway. I found some derelict buildings, I should have taken some photos. Early Transpennine DMU It is seen here passing Cleckheaton Spen signal box No2, on the extreme right of the picture is St. Paul Holroyd Taken circa showing the underbridge between Cleckheaton Spen goods yard and the Cliffe Lane overbridge. The footpath leads from Mann Dam to Roundhill Mill. Cleckheaton Spen goods depot c Paul Holroyd Showing the gates of Cleckheaton Spen goods depot. The viaduct over Mann Dam is to the left behind the photographer. Cliffe lane road bridge Bernard Coomber English electric type 4 now class 40 approaches Cliffe Lane road bridge Cleckheaton with a Leeds bound express. Cliffe Lane road bridge Bernard Coomber collection Photo taken 01 April this view from Cliffe Lane road bridge looking towards Cleckheaton, the large building in the middle distance is Wilsons Steel Stockholders with Cleckheaton Spen signal box immediately in front of it. The 2 lines on the right of the picture are sidings regularly used to store empty carriage stock, this was known as the Leeds New Line. Cliffe lane road bridge: Bernard Coomber Peak class loco passes under Cliffe lane road bridge Cleckheaton heading for Leeds, circa Cliffe lane facing West David Webdale The railway passed under the road here. Only the bridge parapet on the right hand side remains. Cliffe lane facing North David Webdale View from the bridge, facing in Leeds direction. Just down in the bottom, hidden by trees is a stone bridge. The route follows the line of trees around to the right, towards Gomersal tunnel. Footpath facing East A new concrete slab spans the stone pillars, it looks like the old railway route has been used for vehicle access. Carrying on to the left The line curves around into Gomersal tunnel. Class 40 leaving Gomersal tunnel Bernard Coomber collection Photo taken 01 April this view taken from Cliffe Lane road bridge shows English Electric type 4 now class 40 no. The tunnel mouth can still be seen but it is now bricked up. Gomersal tunnel West end David Webdale Completed in A straight yards long, built of blue engineering brick throughout with stone portals. Differing theories regarding the brick pillar in the entrance: I also believe similar tests were carried out in in Savile Road Tunnel or was it Soothill one of those two anyway. I think the small room at the top of the brick-tower might well have housed filters or even chromatographs to monitor the air on whatever was being tested. I have asked many people about that structure and so far nobody seems to know. Mark Hoyle I disagree with the email Nigel Callaghan about diesel fume testing. I have been led to believe that the brick column in front of the portal was all that materialised of British rails plans to fill in and restore the landscape around the tunnel portal. In the centre recently a large section of it has collapsed, however it is still possible to pass through the tunnel. British rail acknowledge ownership of the structure, they have a website, which acknowledges ownership of all these properties: Graeme Bickerdike website - <http://> This is the view looking west. There does appear to be a mound of debris towards the other portal - perhaps this is the collapse which Mark refers to. Gomersal tunnel eastern portal Graeme Bickerdike This is the eastern portal and part of the huge retaining wall which extends for around yards on the north side of the former station site. Richard Bell East end of Gomersal tunnel. Gomersal

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station map David Webdale Situated next to the Eastern entrance to Gomersal tunnel. The goods yard, situated south of the station, consisted of 4 sidings. The massive buildings in the yard were originally used as a textile willeying shed and were known locally as the Silk Mill. Nothing of the station or goods yard remains now. I believe this is inaccurate as old maps show the buildings to have been the now vanished Broadroyd Mills which was actually a woollen textile concern. I believe the confusion has arisen in that there was a smaller single-building Silk Mill almost opposite the former entrance to the railway station across Moor Lane, but which had no connection to the railway. This still stands but since has been used as a venue for various dance schools. A bit more research as revealed that Broadroyd Mill was concerned with woollens and silk processing, although my initial findings stand! Gomersal station facing east nd: Gareth Nolan Taken from near the signal box facing towards Leeds. Gomersal station facing east Taken from somewhere near where the signal box once stood, see photo above. Gareth Nolan There is an interesting looking house at the bottom of Moor Lane on the right. We were always told it was the Station Masters house but it recently came up for sale with Robert Watts and was described as a "lodge" [http: K Evans](http://K Evans) Taken from Bradford road. The station platforms were up on the right. The Station masters house was the toll gate house. The station masters house is still standing a bit further up Moor Lane. Gomersal bridge facing North David Webdale Taken from Dewsbury road, facing in the opposite direction as the above photo. The station platforms were just up to the left, on top of the embankment behind those houses. An iron deck bridge spanned the road. The warehouse was the biggest on the line. Gomersal bridge facing East David Webdale Closer view of the bus stop. From here the line enters the grounds of Oakwell Hall on an embankment. Gomersal bridge facing South David Webdale Remnants of Gomersal bridge. Oakwell Hall footbridge facing North David Webdale This may be Warren lane bridge see next photo, looks similar At Birstall the line had to deviate around the perimeter of Oakwell Hall grounds. The Train is on what is now the footpath around the Oakwell Hall Park. Oakwell Hall aqueduct facing North Looks like a couple of bits of old R. J to me, seems to work though. The cutting is deep here.

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6: Spen Valley Dog Walker, Liversedge

The River Spen rises near Bradford and flows south into the River Calder near Dewsbury: our Spen Valley is about 7 miles long, containing the small townships and hamlets of Gomersal, Drub, Hunsworth, Scholes, Roberttown, Hightown, Littletown, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge.

Evidence of human habitation in Mesolithic and Neolithic times has been found in the area. Roman remains have been found in the valley and it is thought that roads from York to Chester, and from settlements in Halifax and Wakefield, passed through Cleckheaton and the junction gave rise to a staging post. Cleckheaton was in the ancient parish of Birstall. A chapel-of-ease, known as the White Chapel later Whitechapel was established. They also demonstrate the lack of administration as only the richest four of the families living in the Spen Valley were made to pay more than the 4d approx. These tax returns also show the recent deviation from the traditional sources of wealth in the area i. These were centred on textiles and included dyeing, weaving and fulling common names in the area nowadays still recall these early trades: Lister- dyer, Webster- weaver, Walker- fuller. The spread of these trades was also a result of the absence of regulation of the area. Due to the lack of manorial control, land was divided between all the sons in a family rather than just passing to the eldest. As the farmland owned by a family got smaller they became unable to support the family and so people turned to production of woollens to gain extra income. By, at the time of the Rising of the Northern Earls, the last of the old Norman noble families had been swept away. Sir John Neville went into exile and forfeited his estate and Thomas Hussey heir to the de Tilly family of Oakwell Hall was imprisoned in the Tower of London for some time before being pardoned. Meanwhile, the textile workers were becoming more and more prosperous and paid less and less attention to their hard up and increasingly impotent landlords. During the English Civil War the clothiers were on one side and the landlords on the other. Lords of the area were made Royalist officers and made some progress such as at the Battle of Adwalton Moor about a mile east of Birkenshaw and the siege of Bradford, before the Parliamentarians took control of the area. Royalist families were forced, after the war, to pay large fines to keep their lands and avoid imprisonment. All the time clothiers were growing wealthier and by the end of the 17th century more than half of the wills in the parish of Birstall came from men whose wealth came from textiles. However, many people had found puritan teachings more to their taste and it took many years to re-install an Anglican vicar to Whitechapel. Despite the draconian nonconformist laws, there was a large number of non-Anglican meeting houses and nonconformity flourished; a fifth of the population of the Birstall Parish was estimated to be nonconformist. Quakers were widespread and even now a number of 17th and 18th century Quaker burial grounds remain in the area. In the 18th century Presbyterianism was widespread but then lost a large minority of its flock to Unitarianism and to the Baptist church. Methodism also flourished from the s after visits from John Wesley and Charles Wesley, as did the Moravian Church. Indeed, John Wesley lived in Birstall for some time as it was near to many large towns in the West Riding. Furthermore, to increase the isolation, the area had no canals and had few roads, apart from a few turnpike roads, including the major ones from Leeds to Huddersfield and Bradford to Halifax. After the discovery of good quality coal in the north of the valley industry spread quickly. In the Reverend Hammond Roberson, annoyed that the administration of Liversedge was disorganised, promoted a system of reform "the select vestry" which quickly spread to Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike. In Parliament voted a million pounds for the building of new churches in the country and Roberson was able to secure funding to build Cleckheaton Church: St John the Evangelist in Church Street. In children were paid starvation wages for putting staples into leather for carding wool, but by there were eleven carding factories in Cleckheaton and by the town was recognised as the carding capital of the world. After a great deal of wrangling with the various railway companies in the s railways were finally built which enabled the textile mills, ironworks, chemical factories and collieries to compete with those around the country. More than this, improved local roads and transport brought together the people of the individual villages of the valley and quickly the villages grew

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until they merged. Pits began to close and trade waned. Slowly, central government took on responsibilities previously held by Spenborough such as water supply, gas production, public health and education. By this time the level of industry was in serious decline as the textile mills, foundries and other factories slowly closed. In the s and s many new houses were built in Cleckheaton, as the town attracted commuters to Leeds and Bradford. Ashtons built many houses around Cleckheaton and neighbouring Mirfield. Cleckheaton railway station[edit] Main article: Cleckheaton railway station In a singular case was heard at Wakefield Crown Court. A Dewsbury man was accused of, as counsel for the prosecution put it, effectively stealing Cleckheaton railway station. The railway station had closed to passenger traffic in and to goods four years later. British Rail had contracted for the clearing of the site, part of the deal being that the contractors would sell and retain the proceeds from disposal of the materials and scrap. On arrival, they discovered that the station and most of the material were already gone. It transpired that the man had been contracted by another firm to clear the site, had been advanced a sum for hire of plant, and had spent three weeks clearing the site. Subsequent efforts to trace the second firm failed, and the court found the man not guilty, deciding that he had been duped and left significantly out of pocket. It was rebuilt by Metro in April replacing the previous Arriva Yorkshire owned site. There are six stands at the bus station. The main operator at the bus station is Arriva. There were at this time attempts to involve all the local authorities in the valley in joint projects such as installation of sewers and water. In , the three urban districts of Cleckheaton, Liversedge and Gomersal were amalgamated to form Spenborough Urban District. In a county review order enlarged the urban district to include Birkenshaw, Hunsworth and Hartshead. The borough used the coat of arms which bore the motto "Industry Enriches" which it had been granted in The borough of Spenborough was abolished, and its area combined with that of ten other local authorities to form the Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees, one of five metropolitan boroughs of West Yorkshire. The population of this ward as taken at the Census was 16, In all three councillors were members of the Liberal Democrats. From to Cleckheaton was included in the borough constituency of Brighouse and Spenborough. For elections to the UK parliament , Cleckheaton is in the Batley and Spen borough constituency [15] created in Geography[edit] Cleckheaton is at the centre of a number of villages which together form the Spen Valley: Yorkshire Captain Andrew Gale is a member of Cleckheaton and occasionally plays, depending on his availability and commitments for Yorkshire. The family lived on Foundry Terrace. Danny Cadamarteri , Huddersfield Town footballer, was born in Cleckheaton in Wendy Holden , novelist, attended Whitcliffe Mount School. His mother, who was an amateur painter, died of puerperal fever soon after giving birth to Edward. His father was a worsted-spinning industrialist who owned the firm E. He was a major figure in British art in the first half of the twentieth century, involved in Vorticism. Although he moved away from Cleckheaton, the industrial scenes of his early source. Wilfred Barber, born Cleckheaton, Yorkshire and England cricketer.

7: Liversedge - Wikipedia

Here at Spen Valley Dog walking at Liversedge we pride ourselves on being the finest Dog walking service. Here at Spen Valley we offer you Dog walking that cover from Cleckheaton, Hartshead, Liversedge, Gomersal, Heckmondwike, Mirfield & surrounding Areas.

8: Leeds New Line 4

In Cleckheaton and the three neighbouring townships, Gomersal, Heckmondwike and Liversedge were grouped to form the Parliamentary constituency of Spen Valley and was in that county constituency until

9: The index of "Spen Valley" by T.W. Thompson

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