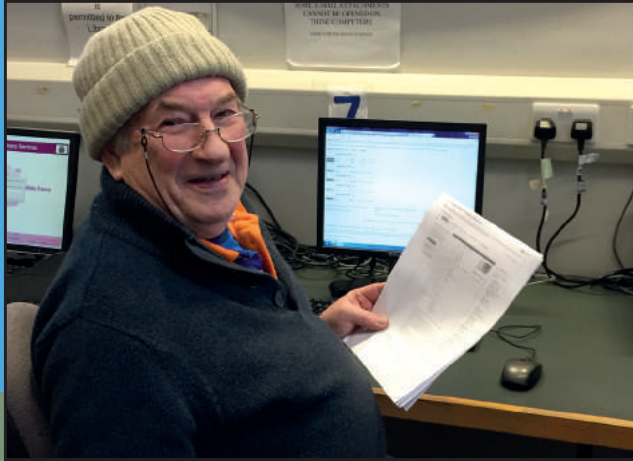


Visit your Local History Centre to:

- Trace your family tree and learn more about you and your family
- Reveal the history of your house and local buildings
- Discover the story of local people and communities
- Explore our collections of old photos
- Find information to help with your school topics or academic research



What We Can Offer:

- A welcoming environment with friendly staff to help you during your visit
- If you are unable to visit in person, we offer a paid enquiry service or reprographic service
- Free Admission
- Free Access to the internet, including to Ancestry Library



Visit Us

Contact Information

Local History: 01706 924915

Email: localhistory@link4life.org

Local History Centre, Touchstones Rochdale, The Esplanade Rochdale, OL 16 1AQ

Opening Times

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm

Where to Find Us



Travel Information

Touchstones Rochdale is located close to Rochdale town centre, approximately 5 to 10 minutes walk from Rochdale Transport Interchange, with bus and tram access and 10 minutes from the Rochdale Railway Station. We are 10 minutes drive from J20-M62. Cycle parking is available outside the Centre with Pay & Display car parking available close by.

Access

Touchstones Rochdale is fully accessible for people using wheelchairs. There are three designated parking bays for blue badge holders outside the centre.

Follow us on: Facebook (Rochdale Local History), Twitter (@Touchstones), Instagram (Touchstones_Rochdale) and Pinterest (Touchstones Rochdale).

Link4Life

Local History Centre at Touchstones Rochdale



Touchstones
Rochdale



Local History

www.link4life.org/touchstones

The Esplanade,
Rochdale, OL16 1AQ

01706 924492



Link4Life is the trading name of Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust. Registered Charity No: 1118610

ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING

YOU MIGHT WANT TO DISCOVER
ABOUT YOUR HERITAGE, COMMUNITY
AND ANCESTRY



Our Collections

The Local History Centre at Touchstones Rochdale holds the main Local History and Archives collections for Rochdale Borough.

This includes a wide range of material relating to the Rochdale area and includes Castleton, Littleborough, Milnrow, Norden and Wardle.

Local Studies material for the Heywood and Middleton areas is held at Heywood and Middleton Libraries.

For further information on Middleton and Heywood ring 0300 3038876 or email library.service@rochdale.gov.uk



Weekly Cattle Market on 'The Holme'



Shawmoss Farm, Milnrow c.1880



Weaving Shed c.1910



Town Centre before the river covering c.1902



Long Street, Middleton



Read all About It!

Newspapers

Each Local Studies Library holds microfilmed copies of local newspapers for their area. These include: The Rochdale Observer, Rochdale Times, Heywood Advertiser, Middleton Guardian as well as various other local newspapers.

Books

We also have a large collection of books, pamphlets and articles which covers all aspects of Rochdale's past.

Photographs

These range from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. Copies of photographs are available for purchase.

Trade Directories

An invaluable resource for researching local businesses and people.

Archives

Archives are original documents relating to many aspects of local life, including: business and industrial records, family and estate papers, Trades Unions and political records along with Methodist Archives.

(Access is usually by prior arrangement as most of the archives are stored elsewhere)

Maps

Our large collection of maps and plans includes O.S. maps, estate plans and railway maps.

Virtually Local: Local Studies at the click of a mouse

You can access Local History resources using the internet at www.link4life.org/discover. You can also search for photographs on our collections database.

Data Protection

Whilst we try and make as many of our archives available to the public as possible, some especially recent ones may have restricted access to protect personal details.

Not Forgetting:

Posters, postcards, audio-visual, special collections and much more.

Why don't you pay a visit and discover your local history?



Heywood Library c.1910