



Using Newspapers for Research

Local newspapers can be a useful source of otherwise elusive information such as:

- biographies/obituaries of local people
- histories of buildings especially articles on the opening, centenary, renovation or demolition
- local initiatives, controversies, official local or region plans
- events, scandals, crime, sport, fashion etc.

With all newspapers though, consider that even the best may contain incorrect information as a result of any of the following:

- political bias
- the necessity to create a 'scoop' as a means of selling more copies
- inaccurate reporting
- typographical errors e.g. the spelling of names, mis-quotation of dates

Microfilm

Held at Eccleston Library (ecclestonlibrary@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 677575)

Title	Dates (some runs may be incomplete)
St Helens Newspaper	1863 - 1976
St Helens Standard	1865 - 1975
St Helens Reporter	1891 - 2012
St Helens Newspaper & Advertiser	1928 - 1931
St Helens Star	1995 - 2012
St Helens Newspaper & South Lancs Newspaper	1949 - 1980
St Helens Intelligencer	1855 - 1859
St Helens Leader	1877 - 1878
St Helens Lantern	1887 - 1893
Wigan Gazette	1836 - 1842
Prescot Reporter	1859 - 1887

Held at Newton Library (newtonlewillowslibrary@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 677885)

Title	Dates (some runs may be incomplete)
Newton & Earlestown Guardian (including Ashton editions 1910, 1920)	1890-1897, 1899-1910, 1913-1926, 1930, 1940-1947, 1953-1968
Earlestown Guardian (including Makerfield Advertiser 1890)	1889-1890, 1911, 1912
Newton, Earlestown and Golborne Guardian	1923, 1931-1939

Newton, Earlestown and Ashton Guardian	1948-1952
Earlestown and Newton News	1953-1961
Newton and Golborne News	1961-1989
Newton Reporter and Guardian	1969-1979
Newton and Golborne Guardian	1990-2001

Newspaper cuttings

Held at St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

TITLE	DATES	VOLS	FORMAT
News cuttings relating to St Helens	1866 - 1919	28	Boxed
Political history of St Helens	1885 - 1895 1900 - 1910 1950 - 1974		Boxed
St Helens Corporation	1872 - 1910 1912 - 1927 1919 - 1920 1921 - 1923 1932 - 1933	39	Boxed
St Helens newspaper cuttings	1867 - 1889	4	Boxed
St Helens Town Council meetings	1868 - 1870	1	Boxed
St Helens Biographies	Most c.1974		Bound A51
St Helens Industry	c.1960s – 1980s		Bound A30.3
St Helens Industry & Commerce	c.1980s – 1990		Bound A30.3
St Helens General Elections	1885 – 1987		Bound A46.2
St Helens Municipal Elections	1924 – 1986		Bound
St Helens Labour Party	1976 – 1984		Bound A46.1
St Helens Liberal Party	1884 – 1990		Bound A46.1
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Newspaper photography

Held at St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

Title	Details	Dates	Reference
Gentry Collection	South Lancashire Newspapers Ltd (St Helens Reporter). Film negatives, glass negatives, microfilm, printed images, photographer diaries (collection partly digitised).	c.1897-1989 (majority of images are 1965-1989)	GE
Photographic Collection	Printed photographs deposited by St Helens Reporter	c.1950s-1993	PH/16

Bound newspapers

Held at St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

Title	Dates
St Helens Lantern	1855 – 1857 1857 – 1859 September – December 1888- 1892 1893 January - May
St Helens Standard	July 1865 – September 1866, September 1866 – May 1867, January 2 nd 1869, January – July 1870, 1871 – 1872, 1874 – 1875, 1876 – 1877
St Helens Star	1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1996, 1997
St Helens Scene	1974-1979 (incomplete)
St Helens Leader	1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991
Newton and Earlestown Guardian	1896-1917, 1919-1933, 1937-1946, 1949-1969
Earlestown and Newton News	1953-1961
Newton and Golborne News	1962-1979, July 1980-Dec 1981, 1983-Dec 1987, 1989 (incomplete), Jan-Sept 1990
Newton Reporter and Guardian	1970-1978
Newton and Golborne Guardian	Sept-Nov 1990, Jan-June 1991 (incomplete), July-Dec 1991, Jan-June 1992, July-Dec 1992

Newspaper issues

Held at St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

Title	Details	Dates	Reference
Action	Issue 34, the official newspaper of the British Union of Fascists distributed from Liverpool	10 October 1936	MER/29/1
Liverpool Weekly Post	Issue containing the report of the murder trial of Frederick Deeming of Rainhill	30 Apr 1892	MER/29/2
St.Helens and District Gazette	Bundle contains weekly issues for 11 Jan - 24 Dec 1952 and 25 Jun 1954	1952-1954	MER/29/3

St.Helens Chronicle and South West Lancashire Advertiser	Bundle contains issues for 27 Jul 1888 and 25 Oct 1889 only	1888-1889	MER/29/4
St.Helens Examiner and Prescott Weekly News	Bundle contains issues for 4 Apr 1885, 25 Sept 1888 and 26 Oct 1889 only	1885-1889	MER/29/5
St.Helens Labour Guardian and Advertiser		1936-1939	MER/29/6

Newspaper Excerpts and Articles

Search the catalogue online at www.sthelens.gov.uk/history and arrange to view in person with St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

Digital newspaper PDFs

Can be accessed online via the St Helens Star website or alternatively at St Helens Archive Service (Gamble Building, archives@sthelens.gov.uk, 01744 671748)

Title	Dates
St Helens Star	2009 - present

British Library (www.bl.uk/collection-guides/newspapers)

The British Library aim to acquire all newspapers published in the United Kingdom and in the Republic of Ireland, they can be viewed online via British Newspaper Archive or in the British Library Reading Rooms.

Internet Archive (www.archive.org)

Previous versions of websites can be accessed via the Internet Archive. These include St Helens Star (from 4 Feb 2005), St Helens Reporter (from 5 Mar 2002).