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On the edge of stunning Pennine landscapes, yet only a short tram journey from Manchester city centre, Oldham is a fantastic place to live, work and enjoy. Ours is a borough of contrasts. Almost a quarter of Oldham lies within the spectacular Peak District National Park, with picturesque Saddleworth villages offering the best of rural life. Meanwhile our town centre is undergoing a huge transformation, with plans for a new shopping centre, market and food hall, park and cultural attractions now well underway. The Industrial bases in the country, and that strong manufacturing heritage continues to this day - though industries such as engineering and food production have taken over where the country, with around 150 different languages spoken by our community. Our growing Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities make up more than a fifth of our residents, while our fastest-growing demographic is in the 'white other' category, a group primarily made up of those of Polish and Romanian heritage. This is a place where people from all cultures play, learn and work together. We know our borough is not without its challenges, but we're working hard to overcome them. Unemployment levels are high, and deprivation and inequality has increased over the past 18 months, due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. But we are ambitious for our people and our place. We have a vision, we have a plan, and now we need the right leadership and expertise to deliver. Together, we will continue to shape Oldham into a fairer and more equitable place for all our people. And we'd love you to join us. Living and working in Oldham offers a mixture of urban and rural life unlike almost anywhere else in the UK. Perfectly positioned on the edge of Manchester, with easy access to Manchester city centre and surrounding attractions, we're also just a short journey from fantastic walking, climbing and biking opportunities in the Peak District national park, as well as popular tourist hotspots on both sides of the Pennines. Our borough is teeming with affordable properties, excellent schools (almost 80% are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted) and super-connected transport links. Direct road links from the M60 and M62 make driving to work an easy option for many. However, public transport links are also fast and easy; with a direct Metrolink line into Manchester city centre, and bus routes across Greater Manchester and beyond. Meanwhile, Manchester city centre, and bus routes across Greater Manchester and beyond. Meanwhile, Manchester city centre, and bus routes across Greater Manchester and beyond. Meanwhile, Manchester city centre, and bus routes across Greater Manchester and beyond. regeneration plans are turning our vision of Creating a Better Place into a reality with a new shopping, leisure and entertainment complex. Spindles redeveloped to create modern, vibrant workspaces and Civic offices, as well as bringing our historic Tommyfield Market into the building in a new purpose-built area. This redevelopment will transform the town centre and complement the recent developments in Parliament Square which is home to the Odeon Cinema and several popular places to eat and drink. Enjoying our borough Oldham is the North West's prime destination for walking, cycling and horse-riding. Our beauty spots of Dove Stone reservoir, Tandle Hill Country Park and Saddleworth attract visitors from across the North; and with the creation of Northern Roots project Just 10 minutes from the town centre the UK's largest 160-acre urban farm and eco-park is being created through the Oldham Council-initiated charity, Northern Roots. From growing edible crops at scale, bee-keeping and agriculture, to mountain biking, outdoor events, and enjoy the site. A short distance from the Town Centre is Alexandra Park; one of Oldham's many beautiful parks and has been awarded a prestigious Green Flag. In this Victorian town park, you can enjoy the boating lake from the Boathouse Café and take in the magnificent scenery from the Lion's Den on the promenade. With tennis courts, a bowling green, children's play areas and 57 acres of land, there's plenty to see and do. Future plans for the park include a new eco-centre to replace the current depot, and will boost our ambitions to become the greenest borough in the region. The self-sufficient and carbon-neutral centre will be an anchor development for our flagship Northern Roots Project. Page 2 It's an exciting time to join us here Oldham, as we build a fairer, more inclusive borough that works for everyone. We've got an ambitious strategy which will create new jobs, new homes, and top-quality new public spaces for all our communities to enjoy. At the centre of those proposals is our new-look town centre. We've recently purchased the Spindles shopping centre, where we're working with local businesses to create opportunities for economic growth and innovation, alongside plans for a new public park, a theatre, office space, shopping and leisure opportunities, housing, the UK's largest urban farm and country park - and much more. But while we've got big plans, we're dedicated to delivering the very best public services Oldhamers need and deserve. That means getting the basics right - cleaning the streets, collecting waste and looking after our environment - while also ensuring that people get all the help and support they need, particularly the most vulnerable. By working in partnership with our communities, listening to what they have to say, and taking action, we will keep improving our services to be the very best they can be. We're committed to reducing inequalities, tackling poverty, and ensuring everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential - whichever of our wards they're born in. We also know we won't succeed in isolation. We work closely with the other nine local authorities in Greater Manchester as part of the Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), driving forward joint ambitions for health, wellbeing, work and jobs, housing, transport, skills, training and economic growth for almost three million residents across our region. Our priorities The Corporate plan shows how we'll build a future where Oldham is recognized for its ambition, inclusiveness, and strength by focusing on three key goals: Healthier, Happier Lives A Great Place to Live Green and Growing By fostering innovation, investing in people, and supporting our communities, we'll ensure Oldham remains a place where everyone can thrive. With strong leadership, commitment to our values, and ongoing improvement, we're ready to adapt to the changes in local government. We have four main focus areas, or "pillars," that will guide this plan and help us achieve our goals: Efficiency and value for money - We're committed to making the best use of our resources throughout the organization. Capacity building - We will build strong infrastructure to meet our needs now and in the future Digital - We will use digital tools to improve services and make our organization more efficient. Prevention and early support. These pillars will be essential in making our plan a reality, helping Oldham lead the way in local government despite financial challenges. Values and behaviours In an ever-changing environment, where strategies must remain flexible and responsive, our cooperative ambition drives us forward, guided by a core set of values and behaviours. These principles form the foundation of Oldham Council's approach, ensuring that we stay true to our core purpose and direction. Our values - Proud, Ambitious, Together - define who we are and how we operate. They shape our culture, inform our decisions, and inspire us to deliver on our commitments to the people of Oldham. They are the standards we hold ourselves to, day in and day out. Alongside these values, a set of key behaviours guides how we work, ensuring consistency and focus across all areas of the council. Working together to achieve the best for our people and place, we'll live by five key behaviours: Working with a resident focus Supporting local leaders Committed to the borough - we're very proud to work for Oldham and we want you to be too Taking ownership and driving change - we need to anticipate the needs of residents, look for improvements in the way we support them and think about how we could do so more effectively. Delivering high performance - we set clear targets and look to be efficient in everything we do. We want team members to challenge, look to improve existing ways of working and take responsibility for their personal development. Our staff Our staff Our staff play a vital role in making sure we're delivering the best quality and value for money services. Together, we champion Oldham and make sure we deliver on our collective ambitions. We strive to be an organisation where employees feel valued, inspired and empowered to provide the best possible services. Workforce Strategy 2020-23 is particularly crucial as we seek to recover and rebuild from the pandemic. This strategy outlines how we're working which will support us over the next three years. As a Living Wage Employer since 2015, we are committed to adopting this across the borough. Further information Statement of Accounts 2023-24 (.pdf) Corporate Plan The Oldham Plan Lying to the northeast of Manchester, the borough of Oldham is a great combination of spectacular and unrivalled countryside, quaint villages and market towns, award winning food and drink establishments, excellent shopping opportunities and heritage sites. Almost 25% of the borough lies within the Peak District National Park, so walkers, cyclists and horse riders have lots to enjoy, the Oldham Way, Pennine Way and Pennine Bridleway being just three of the amazing routes through this diverse and beautiful landscape, whether you want a leisurely stroll or a ten mile hike. Oldham has lots to offer for a great day out or extended stay. The dramatic moorland landscape of the South Pennines provides the perfect backdrop for Saddleworth Museum is situated in a converted 19th Century mill, and tells the story of those who helped shape Saddleworth's landscape and character. A great place for outdoor activities, there's walking and sailing at Dovestone Reservoir, canoeing at Castleshaw and much more. Wonderful woodlands, waterways and wildflower meadows can be found at our country parks at Daisy Nook, Alexandra Park and Tandle Hill. You can even find mining bees and fossilised mussels at Glodwick Lows Local Nature Reserve and get involved with Northern Roots, an urban farm set in the heart of Oldham. Oldham has a lot to offer, including the Odeon cinema complex in Parliament Square in the converted Grade 2 Listed Old Town Hall, the popular Summit Up climbing centre, bustling markets, a Gallery featuring regular exhibitions and much more. With a wide range of vibrant events and unique traditions like the Whit Friday Brass Bands contests, Saddleworth Rush Cart Festival, Festival Oldham, Illuminate Festival, the Halloween Half Marathon, Diggle Blues Festival and a packed Christmas events programme, visitors will find a varied events to suit everyone. Oldham Town Centre is a shoppers' haven, with an array of shops, a shopping mall and a traditional market, as well as a free town centre play area for your little ones to enjoy, and numerous cafes, restaurants and bars. The town centre line has three stops - Oldham Mumps, Oldham Central and Oldham King Street - meaning the many shops, attractions, events and leisure offer is all within a short distance. Journeys from Manchester to Oldham only take around half an hour. Oldham is looking to the future, with many regeneration projects currently underway, including the restoration of the Old Library Building, a new market and events space, and a new theatre for the future generations to enjoy. Discover more at www.visitoldham.com Features charming gardens and a beautifully renovated ballroom (the Garforth Suite) available to... Crompton Moor rises above the town of Shaw, and is a unique and popular recreation site in Oldham... Daisy Nook is a country park with woodland, canals, river, picnic sites, bird watching, orienteering... Situated on the edge of Oldham and the Peak District National Park, Dove Stone Reservoir is a... Jubilee colliery was founded in 1845 to gain access to the Mountain Mine coal seam 325... Leesbrook Nature Park is at the heart of the Medlock Valley and is a haven for wildlife. The... Mahdlo is a registered charity and state-of-the-art Youth Zone in the heart of Oldham for 8-19 year... Millgate Arts Centre is home to a thriving local arts community, providing a base for theatre, film... Open daily 10am-5pm Sunday 12pm-4pm. Closed Monday Only 5 miles from the centre of Oldham this is a... Oldham Town Centre now has a new high-quality public space - Parliament Square. Six new restaurant... Formed in 1895, Oldham Athletic are celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2020, playing at Boundary... The current base at 84 Union Street is currently closed to the public. A new temporary home for the... Located in the heart of the stunning Saddleworth countryside in the centre of Uppermill, the Civic... Saddleworth Museum is a small community museum located in the heart of Oldham. Strinesdale has reservoirs, woodlands and meadows surrounded by farmland. A 20 hectare (50 acre)... Innovative and inspirational, Talking Point Conference and Exhibition Centre provides a unique... Tandle Hill is a mixture of magnificent beech woodland and open grassland with a wide panorama of... The Frenches Wharf development is almost complete. The former Knoll Mill site now includes a pub... Five productions are produced each year and take place in the lower ground of... The Millgate Arts Centre is home to a thriving local arts community, providing a base for... Cockfields Farm is an amazing day out for the whole family. Spend your day feeding, handling... Gallery Oldham provides a wide range of exhibitions and activities targeted at different audiences... Oldham Coliseum is a building-based producing theatre. The company produces eight shows a year on... Find out what's happening at Oldham Library - and all Oldham's local libraries... Summit Up Climbing is Oldham's premier climbing centre for all ages and all abilities. Summit... 21 Jul 2025 - 26 Jul 2025 - 18 Oct 2025 This group exhibition from members of 1853 Studios, explores the evolution of painting from the 16th... 13 Sep 2025 - Award-winning clarinettist Arun Ghosh comes to The Vale for a night of feelgood music from across... 29 Nov 2025 - 24 Dec 2025 All Aboard for the Most Magical Christmas Experience! Cockfields Farm team has been working... 24 May 2026 - Experience Whit Friday in Saddleworth & Oldham on is a delightful Indian Restaurant set in the picturesque village of Delph... Beautifully appointed hotel overlooking parkland with easy access to motorways. Delightfully... Large Contemporary Indian Restaurant, Bar and Lounge. All food businesses are inspected... The Café Riverside, as the name implies, is situated right alongside the river and our sunny... Caffè Grande Abaco, located on the main High Street in Uppermill, resides within a beautiful... Chadderton Bar & Grill at Oldham is an authentic Restaurant with warm friendly hospitality... Welcome to Chapter One. Serving quality beers, wines and delicious tapas in our family run bar... Enjoy good food and fine views from high up on the moors down the valley. A real favourite with... Desi Lounge is a favourite Indian restaurant for many in Manchester and Oldham. Renowned chef Mr... Located in the village of Uppermill, Saddleworth. Named after a local landmark linked to Druids in... Fika Café/Tea Room/Coffee Shop is located in the centre of Uppermill High Street... Fresca skilfully combines all the celebrated traditions of Italian cuisine with a chic, contemporary... The Garden Cafe at Dobcross is a popular meeting area for the local Saddleworth community. They... Opened in Occtober 1993, Millon is the only purpose built Indian restaurant in Oldham borough... Grandpa Greene has been making ice cream for his family for over eighty years beginning with a churn... Opened in 2009 and now seating over 250 diners, Indish offers the very best of Indian Cuisine. We... ISTANBLUE'S dishes reflect true Turkish and Mediterranean food, while adding... La Rustica is a cosy, rustic restaurant offering homecooked traditional Italian cuisine with a... Indulge yourself in contemporary stylish surroundings, Lees Spice Lounge was designed and built for... Mazzo is a newly established authentic Italian restaurant in Royton. For those with pure food... Welcome to Muse Bar & Restaurant! We are located in the beautiful setting of Uppermill... Set in 9 acres of farm land, 17th-century Grains Bar Hotel offers a warm friendly atmosphere and... Mrs Featherstone's Bed and Breakfast - 839 Huddersfield Road, Austerlands, Oldham Large... 247hotel.com is perfect for business or pleasure. Hotel 247.com is situated within easy reach of the... Berry Cottage is a beautiful holiday cottage located in the idyllic village of Greenfield in... The Rooms at the Boat & Horses pub and... Castleshaw offers hostel-style accommodation for groups of up to 38 people in 9 bedrooms in a... Beautiful Cottage with enclosed garden at the foot of the pennines Chew Cottage is a traditional... Welcome to Cloggers Cottage in the centre of Uppermill and Saddleworth Holiday Cottage for 2 people... Situated in Saddleworth, nestled in the foothills of the Pennines above Diggle, Craven Cottage... This simply stunning end terraced cottage can be found opposite Crime Lake on the outskirts of... Dairy Cottage, Delph Stay in total comfort and luxury in the heart of Saddleworth. Experience... Diggle House Farm is located in a lovely rural location approximately one mile from Diggle village... This idyllic location bordering on the beautiful Peak District National Park is the perfect setting... Edge Gate Farm is located in New Hey and very close to the Saddleworth and an ideal base for... End cottage dates back to 1740 and is set within 20 acres of rollling farmland. The cottage has... Set in 9 acres of farm land, 17th-century Grains Bar Hotel offers a warm friendly atmosphere and... Hawkyard's Cottage This Grade II cottage is in the heart of Dobcross, one of Saddleworth's... Self-contained log cabin holiday let in stunning Saddleworth's... Self-contained log cabin holiday let in stunning Saddleworth A home from home set in a beautiful... Middle cottage of a beautiful converted stable/barn located on a farm in a semirural location. Located in a fabulously secluded spot in the Tame Valley between Denshaw and Delph, Millstone... Moorland Caravan and Camping For visitors, it is the perfect location for the North of England... Welcome to Oak House B&B! Elegantly decorated rooms and pristine en-suite bathrooms which the... Guide 1 minute read Summer's here - and so is a packed calendar of events across Greater Manchester's ten boroughs. From food festivals and free family fun to live gigs and cultural celebrations, there's something going on in every corner of the city-region. Whether you're planning a weekend visit, a day out with the... Read More Seasonal guide 4 minute read Revitalize your senses in Greater Manchester with Visit Manchester with Manchester will... Read More Seasonal guide 2 minute read Looking for May half term activities that are fun for the whole family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family? Thankfully, Greater Manchester is buzzing this time of year with the best family. busy or... Read More Guide 5 minute read Gabriella Wieland is a freelance writer and editor. Residing in Manchester, she spends much of her time liaising with scientists to find a geographical cure for eternally-grey skies and finding adventures of the 'free' variety. You can find her online, and on Instagram. With lockdown measures... Read More Guide 9 minute read Galleries, theatres and museums are a big reason to visit Manchester. Permanent collections, temporary exhibitions, famous names, well-loved plays and local or global artefacts offer a window? Even Da Vinci needed... Read More Things to do What's On Accommodation Shopping Food & Drink For the latest updates, advice and help relating to coronavirus update and advice - oldham. Welcome to the jungle... Prepare to be bowled over... See more Oldham AccommodationSee more Oldham ActivitiesSee more Oldham ActivitiesSee more of Event HighlightsWelcome to the Itinerary basket. The toponymy of Oldham seems to imply "old village or place" from Eald (Saxon) signifying oldness or antiquity, and Ham (Saxon) a house, farm or hamlet. Oldham is however known to be a derivative of Aldehulme, undoubtedly an Old Norse hame. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old English ald combined with the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. It is believed by some to be derived from the Old Norse name. 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Placenames of Celtic origin are still to be found in Oldham: Werneth derives from a Celtic personal name identical to the Gaulish vernetum, "alder swamp",[13] and Glodwick may be related to the modern Welsh cadeir, itself deriving from the Latin cathedra meaning "chair". Although Anglo-Saxons occupied territory around the area centuries earlier, Oldham as a permanent, named place of dwelling is believed to date from 865, when Danish invaders established a settlement called Aldehulme. From its founding in the 9th century until the Industrial Revolution, Oldham is believed to have been little more than a scattering of small and insignificant settlements spread across the moorland and dirt tracks that linked Manchester to York. Although not mentioned in the Domesday Book, Oldham does appear in legal documents from the Middle Ages, invariably recorded as a territory under the control of minor ruling families and barons. In the 13th century, Oldham was documented as a manor held from the Crown by a family surnamed Oldham, whose seat was at Werneth Hall. Richard de Oldham was recorded as lord of the manor of Werneth/Oldham (1354). His daughter and heiress, Margery (d.1384), from whom descended the Cudworths of Werneth Hall who were successive lords of the manor. A Member of this family was James I's Chaplain, Ralph Cudworth (father of the early skyline and industrial family was James Howe Carse (1831), depicts the early skyline and industrial activities of Oldham. All the green space has since been urbanised. Much of Oldham's history is concerned with textile manufacture during the Industrial Revolution; it has been said that "if ever the Industrial Revolution placed a town firmly and squarely on the map of the world, that town is Oldham." [6] Oldham's soils were too thin and poor to sustain crop growing, and so for decades prior to industrialisation the area was used for grazing sheep, which provided the raw material for a local woollen weaving trade. By 1756, Oldham had emerged as centre of the hatting industry in England. The rough felt used in the production process is the origin of the term "Owdham Roughyed" a nickname for people from Oldham. It was not until the last quarter of the 18th century that Oldham changed from being a cottage industry township producing woollen garments via domestic manual labour, to a sprawling industrial metropolis of textile factories. The climate, geology, and topography of Oldham were unrelenting constraints upon the social and economic activities of the human inhabitants. At 700 feet (200 m) above sea level and with no major river or visible natural resources, Oldham played no part in the initial period of the Industrial Revolution,[3] although it did later become seen as obvious territory to industrialise because of its convenient position between the labour forces of Manchester and southwest Yorkshire. Cotton spinning and milling were introduced to Oldham when its first mill, Lees Hall, was built by William Clegg in about 1778, the beginning of a spiralling process of urbanisation and socioeconomic transformation.[3] Within a year, 11 other mills had been constructed, and by 1818 there were 19 - not a large number in comparison with other local settlements. Oldham's small local population increase from just over 12,000 in 1801 to 137,000 in 1901. The speed of this urban growth meant that Oldham, with little pre-industrial history to speak of, was effectively born as a factory town. Royd mill, built in 1907,[3] and seen here in 1983, was one of the more than 360 textile mills that operated night and day during Oldham's peak. Oldham became the world's manufacturing centre for cotton spinning in the second half of the 19th century. In 1851, over 30% of Oldham's population was employed within the textile sector, compared to 5% across Great Britain. It overtook the major urban centres of Manchester and Bolton as the result of a mill building boom in the 1860s and 1870s, a period during which Oldham became the most productive cotton-spinning town in the world. In 1871, Oldham had more spindles than any country in the world except the United States, and in 1909, was spinning more cotton than France and Germany combined.[5] By 1911 there were 16.4 million in the World; innoted than France and Germany country in the world; innoted than France and Germany country in the world except the United States, and in 1909, was spinning more cotton than France and Germany country in the world; innoted than France and Germany country in the world except the United States, and in 1909, was spinning more cotton than France and Germany country in the world except the United States, and in 1909, was spinning more cotton than France and Germany country in the world. 1928, with the construction of the UK's largest textile factory Oldham reached its manufacturing zenith. At its peak, there were more than 360 mills, operating night and day;[22][23] Oldham's townscape was dominated by distinctive rectangular brick-built mills. Oldham was hit hard by the Lancashire Cotton Famine of 1861-1865, when supplies of raw cotton from the United States were cut off. Wholly reliant upon the textile industry, the cotton famine created chronic unemployment in the town. By 1863 a committee had been formed, and with aid from central government, land was purchased with the intention of employing local cotton workers to construct Alexandra Park, which opened on 28 August 1865. Said to have over-relied upon the textile sector, [6] as the importation of cheaper foreign yarns grew during the 20th century, Oldham's economy declined into a depression, although it was not until 1964 that Oldham ceased to be the largest centre of cotton spinning. [6] In spite of efforts to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of its production, the last cotton spun in the town was in 1998. Facilitated by its flourishing textile industry, Oldham developed extensive structural and mechanical engineering sectors during the 18th and 19th century, when it became a leading centre in the field of engineering. The Platt Brothers, originated in nearby Dobcross village, but moved to Oldham. They were pioneers of cotton-spinning machinery, developing innovative products that enabled the mass-production of cotton yarn. Platt Brothers became the largest textile machine makers in the world, employing over 15,000 people in the 1890s,[27] twice the number of their nearest rivals Dobson & Barlow in Bolton and Asa Lees on Greenacres Moor.[23] They were keen investors in the local area and at one time, were supporting 42% of the population.[27] They were keen investors in the local area and at one time, were supporting 42% of the population. railways on a site overlooking Manchester. The railway station which served this site later formed the basis of Oldham Werneth railway station. The main building exists to this day. Platts gained prestigious awards from around the world, and were heavily involved with local politics and civic pride in Oldham.[27] John and James Platt were the largest subscribers for promoting Oldham from a township to a Borough, pledging £100 (more than double the next largest sum) in advance towards any expenses which may have been incurred by the Royal Charter. In 1854 John Platt was elected in 1865 to become a Member of Parliament (MP) for Oldham, and was re-elected in 1868; he remained in office until his death in 1872. A bronze statue of Platt existed in the town centre for years, though was moved to Alexandra Park. There have been recommendations for it to be returned to the town centre.[7] Abraham Henthorn Stott, the son of a stonemason, was born in nearby Shaw & Crompton in 1822.[3] He served a seven-year apprenticeship with Sir Charles Barry, before starting a structural engineering practice in Oldham in 1847 that went on to become the pre-eminent mill architect firm in Lancashire.[3] Philip Sydney Stott, third son of Abraham and later titled as Sir Philip Stott, 1st Baronet, was the most prominent and famous of the Stott mill architects.[3] He established his own practice in 1883 and designed over a hundred mills, accounted for a 40% increase in Oldham's spindles between 1887 and 1914.[3] Although textile-related engineering declined with the processing industry, leading to the demise of both Stotts and Platts, other engineering firms existed, notably electrical and later electronic engineers Ferranti in 1896.[23] Ferranti went into receivership in 1993, but some of its former works continue in other hands. Part of the original Hollinwood site was operated by Siemens Metering and Semiconductor divisions.[23] The remainder of the site is occupied by Mirror Colour Print Ltd; the printing division of Reach, which prints and distributes thirty-six major newspapers, and employs five hundred staff.[29][30] On the back of the Industrial Revolution, Oldham developed an extensive coal mining sector, correlated to supporting the local cotton industry and the town's inhabitants, though there is evidence of small scale coal mining in the area as early as the 16th century. [page needed] The Oldham, included the towns of Middleton and Chadderton to the west. The Oldham Coalfield was the site of over 150 collieries during its recorded history. Although some contemporary sources attribute the commercial expansion of coal mining with the arrival in the town of two Welsh labourers, John Evans and William Jones, around 1770. Foreseeing the growth in demand for coal as a source of steam power, they acquired colliery rights for Oldham, which by 1771 had 14 colliers. The mines were largely to the southwest of the town around Hollinwood and Werneth and provided enough coal to accelerate Oldham's rapid development at the centre of the cotton boom. At its height in the mid-19th century, when it was dominated by the Lees and Jones families, Oldham coal was mainly sourced from many small collieries survived to nationalisation. In 1851, collieries employed more than 2,000 men in Oldham, although the amount of coal in the town was somewhat overestimated however, and production began to decline even before that of the local spinning industry. Today, the only visible remnants of the mines are disused shafts and boreholes. Workmen leaving Platt's Works, Oldham, 1900 Oldham's social history, like that of other former unenfranchised towns, is marked by politicised civil disturbances, as well as events related to the Luddite, Suffragette and other Labour movements from the working classes. [27] There has been a significant presence of "friendly societies". [34] It has been put that the people of Oldham became radical in politics in the early part of the 19th century, and movements suspected of sedition found patronage in the town. Oldham was frequently disturbed by bread and labour riots, facilitated by periods of scarcity and the disturbance of employment following the introduction of cotton-spinning machinery. On 20 April 1812, a "large crowd of riotous individuals" compelled local retailers to sell foods at a loss, whilst on the same day Luddites numbering in their thousands, many of whom were from Oldham, attacked a cotton mill in nearby Middleton. On 16 August 1819, Oldham sent a contingent estimated at well above 10,000 to hear speakers in St Peter's Fields at Manchester discuss political reform; it was the largest contingent sent to Manchester. John Lees, a cotton operative and exsoldier who had fought at Waterloo, was one of the fifteen victims of the Peterloo Massacre which followed. The 'Oldham inquest' which proceeded the massacre was anxiously watched; the Court of King's Bench, however, decided that the proceedings were irregular, and the jury were discharged without giving a verdict. Annie Kenney, born in nearby Springhead, and who worked in Oldham's cotton mills, was a notable member of the Suffragette movement credited with sparking off suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militancy when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill, and later (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette militance when she heckled Winston Churchill (with Emmeline Pankhurst) the first Suffragette when she had the she will be suffagette when she will be suffagette when she will be suffagette whe president and quickly joined the Manchester and District Federation of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. The Chartist and Co-operative movements had strong support in the town, whilst many Oldhamers protested in support of the emancipation of slaves. [27] The Riot Act was read in 1852 on election day following a mass public brawl over the Reform Act, [38] and irregularities with parliamentary candidate nominations. For three days in late May 2001, Oldham became the centre of national and international media attention. Following high-profile race-related conflicts, and long-term underlying racial tensions between local White British against British Pakistani and British Bangladeshi communities, major riots broke out in the Glodwick and Coldhurst areas of the town. Occurring with particular intensity in the Glodwick and Coldhurst areas of the town, the 2001 Oldham riots were the worst racially motivated riots in the United Kingdom for fifteen years prior, briefly eclipsing the sectarian violence in Northern Ireland in the media.[39] At least 20 people were injured in the riots, including 15 police officers, and 37 people were arrested. Similar riots took place in other towns in northern England over the following days and weeks. The 2001 riots prompted governmental and independent inguiries, which collectively agreed on community relations improvements and considerable regeneration schemes for the town. [39][40] There were further fears of riots after the death of Gavin Hopley in 2002. [41][42] Lying amongst the Pennines, Oldham is a large town in Greater Manchester, England. A boomtown of the Industrial Revolution, and one of the first ever industrial seven in the 19th century as an international centre of textile manufacture famed for cotton-spinning. Since the mid-20th century Oldham's manufacturing industries have given way to home shopping, publishing, healthcare and food processing sectors, and the town today is predominantly residential. However, it is still distinguished architecturally by its cotton mills and other surviving buildings from the cotton industry. Following extensive redevelopment, Oldham's town centre embraces a high concentration of retailing and cultural facilities. Its two shopping centres, with the latter (whose name refers to textile spindles) boasting one of the oldest stained glass roofs in Europe. Historically renowned for its theatrical culture, Oldham Theatre and the Oldham Theatre workshop and remains a centre for the performing arts and further education. Another major landmark is the neo-classical Old Town Hall, one of the last purpose built town halls in northwest England. It is from the steps of here that Sir Winston Churchill made his inaugural acceptance speech in 1900. Oldham also lays claim to the origin of several culinary and medical advances, including the first chip shop, the savoury dish Rag Pudding, the founding of Yates Wine Lodge and the invention and development of the tubular bandage. Leading Oldham sports teams include Oldham Athletic football club and Oldham Roughyeds rugby league club, both of whom have achieved league and cup successes, plus a number of cricket teams. Pick a category to filter your recs\$\$ - \$\$\$ • Italian, Pizza, MediterraneanThe White Hart Inn at Lydgate\$\$ - \$\$\$ • Bar, British, Pub\$\$ - \$\$\$ Steakhouse, Grill, Healthy\$\$ - \$\$\$ • Indian, Pakistani, Vegetarian friendly\$\$ - \$\$\$ • American, Barbecue, British

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