

## Chapter 2 The North West - a history full of change

### Activity Guidance

#### Chapter aims and learning intentions

- To understand that some changes are linear
- To recognise that historical events that have happened in our region have brought about many environmental and cultural changes
- To recognise that the industrial revolution resulted in many changes in the North West region
- To recognise what the triggers for change were in the North West region

The aim of this chapter is to investigate the changes that have occurred in the North West region during the past 500 years. The triggers that led to some of the major changes will be explored, as will the link between the industrial revolution and the increases in carbon dioxide emissions over time.

### Activity Guidance

The activities in this chapter are based around an ancient oak tree that has lived for 500 years and how and why the area around it has changed during its lifetime and what have been the triggers for those changes.

There are many ancient trees around the North West, you can find your own example by using the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree database site <http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/discoveries> Use the interactive map to find the oldest tree near you.

The tree this chapter will focus on is a 500 year old oak in Eastham Country Park, Eastham, Wirral. (Ancient tree 3163) However, all of the activities can be based around any ancient tree in the North West, so you could approach the activities from a local perspective.

### Starter Activity – Find an ancient tree

#### Resources list

- Access to the internet – an interactive whiteboard would be great
- White boards and dry wipe pens

In pairs ask children to jot down things that they think are old. (Be prepared to be on the list!) When they have made a list, as a class put the contributions into a timeline, the children may not have included trees in their lists. During the timeline exercise, introduce the idea that there may be trees in their local area that are hundreds of years old.

Use the Woodland Trust website <http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/discoveries> to locate their nearest ancient tree, (this could be done as part of an ICT lesson or by the teacher with the interactive white board) or look at the tree in Eastham, Merseyside. (Ancient tree 3163)

## Main Activity – What might the tree have seen?

### Resources list

- Copies of **What might the tree have seen?** photo sheet
- 1 large copy of North West timeline to display
- Timeline chunks for each group
- Library books for research
- Pencils
- Art materials

Provide children with copies of the **What might the tree have seen?** photo sheet. Children can look at the sheet and think about the age of the tree they are working on and consider what events and developments the tree may have witnessed during different historical periods.

Split the children into smaller groups and give them a 100 year chunk of the timeline to concentrate on. Children can read through the timeline and highlight important parts they could research more using books or the Internet. Tell the children that they are going to need images to help them produce pictures to illustrate the timeline.

Children to use the images provided, images they have found through research and their chunk of the North West timeline to produce a view from the tree imagining they are recording images from their 100 year window on the past. This could be done as individual pictures of mills, barges, railways, canals, airports, motorways etc which could be then made into a timeline mural for a classroom display.

### Plenary activity

Look at the transport changes photo sheets. Children need to think about why the first transport technology on the sheet was replaced by the second one.

Consider what triggered the changes:

- Speed of journey
- Type of goods/ cargo to be transported
- Distance needed to be travelled
- Technology and invention
- Type of fuel available

### Extension Activity

Children to consider planting an acorn now – look forward into the future... What will your new tree see in 50 years, 100 years, 200 years? What new developments will have occurred in response to the challenges created by climate change and living in a more sustainable way. This could be developed into a creative writing, drama or art activity.

The activities in this chapter could also be linked to the large poster that accompanies the pack - The North West is World Changing. Children could include some of the images they have produced or researched.

## **Chapter 2 - The North West - a history full of change**

### **Teacher notes and background information**

- **Aims**
- **Background information and Timeline**
- **Curriculum links**
- **Web links**

The aim of this chapter is to investigate the changes that have occurred in the North West region during the past 500 years. The triggers that led to some of the major changes will be explored, as will the link between the industrial revolution and the increases in carbon dioxide emissions over time.

### **Learning intentions**

- To understand that some changes are linear
- To recognise that historical events that have happened in our region have brought about many environmental and cultural changes
- To recognise that the industrial revolution resulted in many changes in the North West region
- To recognise what the triggers for change were in the North West region

You may wish to consider that the changes over time have led to huge improvements in the quality of life. Children could explore some of the positive benefits of change, such as housing and health care, the working age of children in the north west. Children could choose which time period they would most like to be growing up.

### **Background information**

#### **The Industrial Revolution and its legacy**

From 1770 the North West saw a change in culture from a region of mostly cottage industries and agriculture to one of ever expanding cities powered by coal and steam. The triggers for this change were innovation and invention of more efficient and mechanised manufacturing methods. In 1764 James Hargreaves, from Stanhill near Blackburn, invented the spinning jenny, a multi spool spinning machine, which along with Richard Arkwright's spinning frame, provided the catalyst for a period of development and change which saw the North West of England at the heart of the industrial revolution in Europe. Mass production of cotton in the hundreds of mills, the transport of goods via canal barge and steam railway and many other industrial manufacturing developments were changes that brought wealth and prosperity to the region and had impacts around the world which continue to this day.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century the introduction of cheap oil as another source of fuel was the trigger that led to developments such as the opening of motorway transport networks to allow the ever increasing number of private car users to travel around the country more easily. The development of aircraft fuel from oil allowed mass air travel to become a reality. Ringway Airport (now Manchester International Airport) and Speke airport (now John Lennon International Airport – Liverpool) opened in the 1930's and have continued to increase in size. Manchester International Airport now welcomes 18 million travellers annually.

As the chimneys of the industrial revolution are pulled down and the docks and mills of the region are redeveloped into apartment blocks and trendy entertainment venues, the atmospheric pollution produced by the North West is much less visible, in comparison to the previous age of smoke and soot. However the congested motorways, increasing demands for

air travel and homes that consume vast amounts of electricity to power our modern day gadgets and appliances, amongst many other things indicate that we live in a region that is producing ever increasing amounts of carbon dioxide and other gases which are directly linked to the causes of global climate change.

After 250 years of Industrialisation and the many benefits that it has brought with it, the population of the North West must change again to meet the challenges that climate change presents. The region's history is full of innovators and inventors whose creations led the way in driving the pace and direction of change, the future for the region must surely be in the hands of the innovators of today rising to the challenge.

## **Electricity production and use**

Traditionally electrical energy has been produced in power stations using fossil fuels such as coal, gas and oil or nuclear fuels.

Electrical energy is necessary for all industrialized societies to function, it is central to the maintenance of their standards of living, and it is essential to developing countries if they are to escape from poverty. The burning of coal, oil, and gas produces carbon dioxide and other gases that are harmful to the environment. The accumulation of carbon dioxide over the last few decades is responsible for increasing the Earth's surface temperature. There is scientific evidence that this global warming is resulting in climate change.

## **Curriculum Links**

### **KS2 History**

**Unit 12:** How did life change in our locality in Victorian times?

**Unit 13:** How has life in Britain changed since 1948?

**Unit 18:** What was it like to live here in the past?

### **Web links**

The Woodland Trust Ancient Tree database site <http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/discoveries>

Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.co.uk](http://www.wikipedia.co.uk) has a great search tool which will allow you to briefly research the history of your nearest large town.

[www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) has archive information about the Eastham area

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/transport\\_1750\\_to\\_1900.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/transport_1750_to_1900.htm)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/bseh/transport/>

[www.canalarchive.org.uk](http://www.canalarchive.org.uk)

<http://www.ship-wrecks.co.uk/ManchesterShipCanal.htm>

Albert Dock Liverpool <http://www.albertdock.com>

Trafford Centre <http://www.traffordcentre.co.uk/information/pack/history>

## **Industrial revolution in the North West Region – a timeline**

The Woodland Trust is currently building up a database of Ancient trees in Britain. The North West has many ancient trees, these trees will have witnessed massive changes happening all around them. Eastham, Merseyside is where the Manchester Ship Canal starts on its route from the river Mersey to the heart of Manchester and beyond. In Eastham Country Park there is a 500 year old Oak tree that would have been witness to the changes occurring across the River Mersey in Liverpool.

The timeline below documents some of the things that have happened in the region and some specifically in the Mersey area.

Possible uses for the timeline:

- In Activity 1 for reference and to provide background for children's research
- As a template for producing a timeline for your local area, if researching an ancient tree near your school
- The bold words in the timeline can be used to simplify the timeline to produce key word / ideas sheets for each century
- Identify the different transport networks used in the different centuries and identify when changes occurred

## North West Timeline - Liverpool / Manchester focus

1509 Henry VIII becomes king of England



1515 Liverpool's first town hall is built

1540 Manchester established as an important centre for manufacture of woollens and linen

1590 Liverpool's population  is recorded at about 1000 people

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1604 The ancient deer park of Toxteth is deforested by Sir Richard Molyneux and replaced with 20 small farms

1648 First recorded American cargo arrives in Liverpool

1660 A Customs House is built in Liverpool

1668 Liverpool's first sugar refinery is opened

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1700 Liverpool's population  is about 5000 people

1747 Liverpool is Britain's busiest slave trading port - tall ships transport slaves to America 

1761 The Bridgewater canal opens - barges carry coal from Wolsey to Manchester

1770 Completion of the Grand Trunk Canal linking the River Trent and the River Mersey (including the Leeds -Liverpool canal)

1770 Manchester's population  is 20,000

1772 The Bridgewater canal is extended to the Mersey thus connecting Liverpool with expanding Manchester

1780 Richard Arkwright builds Manchester's first cotton mill

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1801 Manchester's population  is **84,000** – mainly due to the continually expanding cotton industry

1801 Thousands of **ships** passing through the port of Liverpool – 40% of world trade



1825 Manchester has 104 **cotton mills** and 110 coal powered steam engines in the town

1830 560 **cotton mills** throughout Lancashire employing 110,000 workers



1830 Liverpool and Manchester **railway** opened

1845 Albert Dock in Liverpool opened

1855 Southport is developed as the first **seaside resort** in Lancashire



1861 Liverpool's first **tramway** is created

1872 Henry Tate builds a new sugar refinery in Liverpool

1894 The **Manchester Ship canal** links Eastham docks on the River Mersey to Central Manchester

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1901 Liverpool's population  is over **700,000**

1901 Manchester's population  is over **540,000**

1911 The **Royal Liver Building** is completed

1933 The terminal of **Speke airport** (John Lennon airport) is opened



1938 **Ringway Airport** opened (now Manchester Airport)

1934 The **Queensway Mersey Road Tunnel** is opened



1958 First part of the **M6 motorway** opened - 'The Preston by-pass'



1971 **M62 / M52 motorway** opened linking Liverpool directly with Manchester and the M6

1979 The **Arndale Centre** opens in Manchester - one of Britain's first indoor **shopping centres**

1988 Official opening of redeveloped **Albert Dock** and Tate Liverpool

1996 An IRA **bomb** badly damages **Manchester city centre**

1998 The **Trafford Centre** opens

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2001 Liverpool's population  is over **800,000**

2001 Greater Manchester's population  is over **2 million**

2001 A second runway opens at **Manchester airport**



2002 Manchester hosts the Commonwealth games - **City of Manchester Stadium** is opened

2008 Liverpool is European Capital of Culture

## Acknowledgements

Photographs used from [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)

### Transport Changes photo sheet

Horse and cart	by Parksy1964
Canal barge	by Paul Woolrich
Steam train	by Bay photographic
Virgin Train	by Euan
Tall ship 1	by dkdigital
Liver Building	by harrymoon
Manchester Ship Canal	by Guy Hatton
Aeroplane	by Stuart R Brown
Tall ship 2	by armcurl
Mill	by nogger
Trafford Centre	by Sleepless in Somerset
City of Manchester Stadium	by samdiablo666

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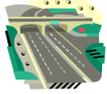


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# Transporting goods around the country

Horse and Cart



Canal Barge



What triggered the change?

Transporting coal and goods from mills

Canal Barge



Steam Train



What triggered the change?

Transporting people and goods around the country

Steam Train



Electric Train



What triggered the change?

# Transporting around the world

Tall Ship



Aeroplane



What triggered the change?

## Chapter 2 The North West – a history full of change

What the tree might have seen... 250 years ago



Barges travelling along canals



Ships transporting slaves to and from Liverpool

What the tree might have seen... 150 years ago

Steam trains



Cotton mills



Tall ships



What the tree might have seen... 100 years ago

Opening of the Liver Building  
Liverpool



Manchester Ship Canal



What the tree might have seen... 50 years ago

Planes



M6 motorway



What the tree might have seen in the past 10 years

Trafford Centre



City of Manchester Stadium



Tate Gallery  
Liverpool

