

# How did the Industrial Revolution change Kearsley?

## Vocabulary

**Industry** = The process of making products by using machines and factories.

**Revolution** = change

**Era** = a clear period in time

**Colliery** – a coal mine

**Cotton Mill** – a building where cotton is spun and weaved into yarn or fabric

**Paper Mill** – a building where paper is made

**Manufacture** – to make or build something

## Important People

**Queen Victoria** = Queen of Great Britain from 1837 to 1901 and Empress of India from 1876 to 1901.

**James Holt** = he was an Underlooker at the Unity Brook Colliery

**Joseph Dickenson** = Majesty's Inspector of Mines for the local area

**Dr. Barnado** = 1845-1905 Irish born founder of homes for poor and deprived children

**Lord Shaftsbury** = 1801-1885 campaigned to improve working conditions for children. He believed in the importance of education

## Key Questions

1. What was the Industrial Revolution?
2. How do I know that Kearsley was involved?
3. Why was Kearsley involved in the Industrial Revolution?
4. How might my ancestors been involved in the Industrial Revolution?
5. What happened at the Unity Brook?
6. Was the Industrial Revolution a good thing for Kearsley?



## The Unity Brook disaster

March 12<sup>th</sup> 1872

43 men and boys died in the disaster.

## Golden Threads

Empire	
Trade	
Monarchy	
Industry	



natural cotton



Kearsley Mill in Prestolee



By examining old maps, I will make comparisons and learn about:

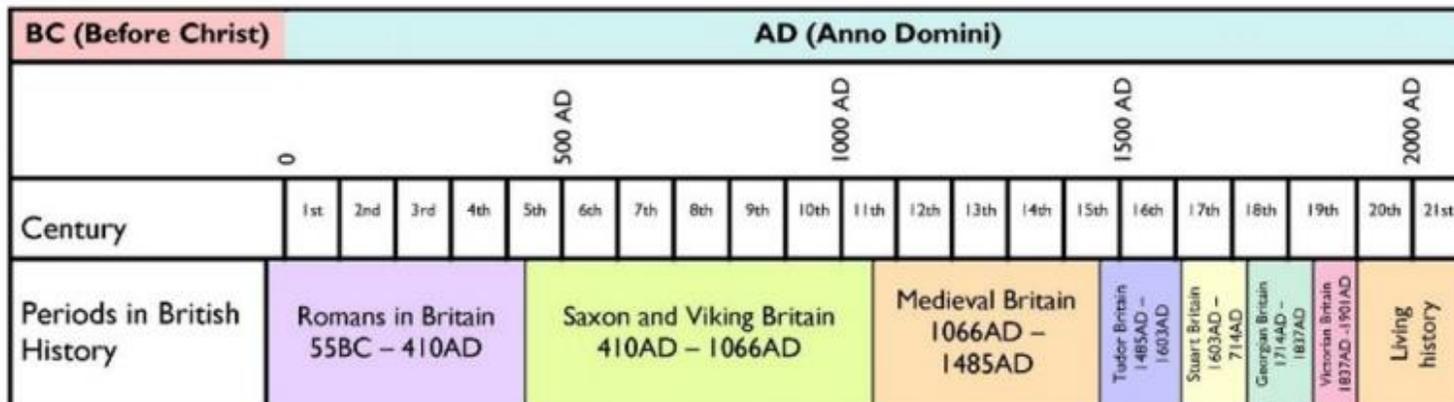
The Unicorn Inn

The Mineral Railway

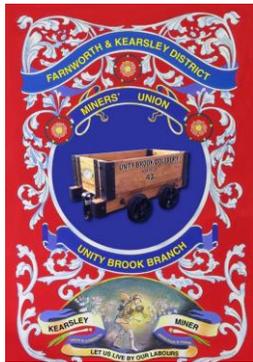
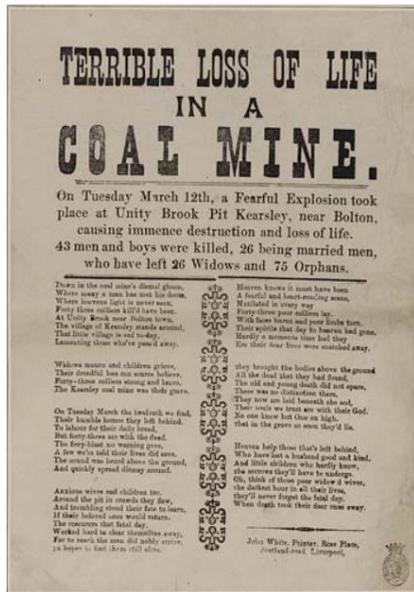
The Tramway

Collieries and mills

The Wet Earth Colliery in Clifton



The Industrial Revolution  
1760 - 1820



### The Unity Brook disaster

The disaster happened just after 1pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1872.

James Holt inspected the mine early that morning and discovered a small roof collapse.

Later that morning, his assistant, William Mayoh called him back to the mine and he saw that the collapse has increased.

He saw that there was ventilation so he asked for the roof to be propped up. He then left the mine and the men and boys continued to mine using lit candles to see.

The Cannel Mine was filled with firedamp (methane gas) which burst into flames as it is flammable.

People heard the explosion and ran to help.

The residents of Manchester Road closed their curtains as a sign of respect.

During the inquest, Joseph Dickenson stated that thought that the roof collapse released the firedamp.

### Davy Lamp

Davy lamps were invented in 1815 by Humphrey Davy.

They enabled miners to work safely. If the flame began to glow brightly, they knew that there was a presence of flammable gas and they could evacuate. Unfortunately, they were expensive and not all miners could afford one.



The Unicorn Inn

This is where the dead and injured were taken following the explosion at The Unity Brook.



19 of the 43 men and boys who were killed in the disaster are buried in St. Stephen's Church. Many were members of the same family.

Every year, we take part in a memorial service close to the site of the colliery.