The
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society

Book List
BOOK LIST

This Digest is an annotated list of books about the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, or containing significant information about the company, its predecessors and successors. It has been compiled by L&YR Society members.

The list is arranged in alphabetical order of authors. For books issued in more than one edition, efforts have been made to include details of the latest edition together with brief information on earlier editions. Many of the books are, of course, out of print and only available through libraries. A brief comment on the content of each book is also included. Except where stated, details given in the list are taken from items seen by L&YR Society members. Books published by the railway itself are not included in the list, apart from a couple which have been produced as facsimile reprints in recent years. Some items of “grey” literature not in the list are included in “Ottley” (Ottley, G. A bibliography of British railway history, 2nd ed. 1983, 1st supplement 1988, 2nd supplement 1998). Magazine and journal articles, etc concerning the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway may be the subject of a separate Society list in the future.

This list is certainly not complete. An effort is made to keep it updated. Information on errors, omissions, new editions and new publications should be sent to the Information Officer, Chris Leach (information.officer@lyrs.org.uk).

Items for review should be sent to the Magazine Editor, Roger Mellor (magazine.editor@lyrs.org.uk).

Details of the L&YR Society’s own publications are given on a separate page on this website.


Anon. [?1883]. *The ‘Languisher and Yawner Railed-at Company’; or, The Railroad to ruin. By a Wide-awake Cuss*, 12 pp. (Not seen, copy said to be in the London School of Economics library.)


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Barnett, A.L. 1992. The light railway king of the north, 112 pp. The Railway and Canal Historical Society, Mold. ISBN 0 901461 15 6 (Life of Sebastian William Meyer and the railways with which he was involved, including Axholme Joint Railway and Dearne Valley Railway.)


Bolger, P. 1992. The dockers umbrella, 80 pp. The Bluecoat Press, Liverpool. ISBN 1 872568 05 X (Pictorial history of Liverpool Overhead Railway including its connections with L&Y, but with only a few directly relevant illustrations. Similar comments apply to the other books on the LOR by Bolger, Box, Gahan and Jarvis.)


Booth, A.J. 1990. A railway history of Denaby and Cadeby collieries, 130 pp. Industrial Railway Society, Bridlington. ISBN 0 901097 59 8 (Two important collieries connected to Dearne Valley Railway.)


Butterworth, E. 1839. *An historical sketch of the Manchester & Leeds Railway as far as completed; with descriptive notes on the most remarkable objects near the line*, 28 pp. Rochdale. (Very much like the treatment in Tait & Butterworth, 1845.)


Clarke, S. 1900. *Clitheroe in its railway days*, 310 pp. Clitheroe. [Reprinted 1929 as second part of Clitheroe in its old coaching and railway days] (not seen)


Coates, N. & Waters, M. 1971. *Lancashire & Yorkshire album*, 128 pp. Ian Allan, Shepperton. SBN 7110 0244 4 (Excellent selection, mainly pre-Grouping, but printing not up to the standard we now expect.)


Copley, G.F. 1848. *An historical and descriptive guide to the Wakefield, Pontefract and Goole Railway*, 83 pp. Pontefract. (not seen)


Cox, E.S. 1967. *Chronicles of steam*, 182 pp. Ian Allan, London. (The first two chapters (pp. 1-24) deal with Cox’s early career, starting at Horwich in October 1918.)


Dow, G. 1965. Great Central. Vol. 3. Fay sets the pace, 1900-1922, 440 pp. Ian Allan, Shepperton. ISBN [of 1985 reprint] 0 7110 0263 0 (Part of three volume definitive history of the GCR. All volumes have references to the L&Y, but volume 3 includes a section, pp. 205-210 on the South Yorkshire Joint Railway.)


Earnshaw, A. 1992. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway then & now, 128 pp. Ian Allan, Shepperton. ISBN 0 7110 2058 2 (General survey.)

Earnshaw, A. 1993. Pennine branch lines, 112 pp. Ian Allan, Shepperton. ISBN 0 7110 2171 6 (Brief general surveys, including L&Y branches from Holcombe Brook in Lancashire to Clayton West in Yorkshire.)


Ellis, N. 1989. West Yorkshire railway stations, 54 pp. Bond Publications, Doncaster. ISBN 1 872062 00 8 (Photo album, with extended captions)

Ellis, N. 2000 The Lancashire & Yorkshire railway on old picture postcards, 40 pp (incl. covers). Reflections of a Bygone Age, Keyworth, Nottingham. ISBN 1 900138 55 7 (Photo album)

Ellis, N. 2001 West Yorkshire railway stations on old picture postcards, 40 pp (incl. covers). Reflections of a Bygone Age, Keyworth, Nottingham. ISBN 1 900138 46 8 (Photo album. Sixteen illustrations are of L&Y or joint stations)


Fairline, J. & Cookson, P. 1984. Railways around Wakefield and Pontefract, 72 pp. Wyvern Publications (Chapter 1 is concerned with the L&Y lines.)


Greig, T. 1843. *The Manchester & Leeds, and Manchester & Birmingham Railway companies: an elucidation of the conduct of the directors of these companies in the matter of the Hunt’s Bank junction, with copies of their letters*, 22 pp. Manchester. (not seen)


Hughes, G. 1894. *The construction of the modern locomotive*, 261 pp. Spon, London. (Step by step account of construction of (and technical background to) Aspinall 0-6-0 goods engine. Much of the work was originally published in *The Engineer*)


Jenkinson, D. & Lane, B.C. 1996. *British railcars*, 80 pp. Atlantic, Penryn. ISBN 0 906899 64 8 (Includes the L&Y railcars (pp. 21-26).)


Johnson, E.M. 1989. *Scenes from the past No. 8: Railways in and around the Manchester suburbs*, 128 pp. Foxline Publishing, Stockport. ISBN 1 870119 07 X (paperback) [Hardback 1 870119 08 8] (Pictorial, historical review with about one third of the illustrations devoted to L&Y lines.)


Littleworth, C. 2002. Signal boxes on Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway lines. North-east Lancashire, 170 pp. Signalling Record Society, Droitwich Spa. ISBN 1 873228 21 X (Signalling diagrams, mostly from BR period, for every box in the area together with the history of the boxes. Also a brief summary of the development of mechanical signalling on the LYR.)


Marshall, J. 1969. The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway. Vol. 1, 288 pp. David & Charles, Newton Abbot. SBN 7153 4352 1 (This and the following two books comprise what is regarded as the standard, definitive history of the company.)

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Mason, E. [1953]. Railways before the grouping - 3. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, 32 pp. Ian Allan, London. (Mainly photo album of locos, but with a brief history.)


Maund, T.B. 2001. Merseyrail electrics. The inside story, 96 pp. NBC Books, Sheffield. ISBN 0 9531896 1 3 (Mainly concerned with development of the Merseyrail system since the 1960’s.)


Normington, T. 1898. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, 375 pp. John Heywood, Manchester. (Subtitled “being a full account of the rise and progress of this railway, together with numerous reminiscences and incidents on the line”. Very readable, but cannot be relied upon to be completely accurate.) [Available in facsimile on CD-rom from the L&YR Society]


“Observer” 1833. Thoughts on railways and projected railways, 15 pp. Liverpool (On the Manchester, Bolton & Bury Railway.) (not seen)


Rawson, W. 1848. *An address to the shareholders of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., on the present crisis in their affairs, with a view to demonstrate the irreparable injury their property will sustain by any further expenditure on the useless lines already begun or to be hereafter executed; with a map of the objectionable lines*, 34 pp. London (not seen)


Reed, B. 1969. *Crewe to Carlisle*, 234 pp. Ian Allan, Shepperton. SBN 7110 0057 3 (A good history which includes coverage of the North Union, Bolton & Preston and Preston & Wyre Railways.)


Rush, R.W. 1984. *Lancashire & Yorkshire passenger stock*, 96 pp. Oakwood Press. ISBN 0 85361 306 0 (Brief history and listing. The diagrams are generally accepted as not being fully accurate / to scale, but are a good general guide)


of the L&Y because it “displayed a greater variety of contractors’ box types than any other railway company”.


[Smith, A.] 1847. Railways as they really are: or, Facts for the serious consideration of railway proprietors: no. 7, Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway, 40 pp. London. Second ed. (not seen)

Smith, M.D. 1996. Horwich locomotive works, 208 pp. Wyre Publishing, St Michael’s on Wyre. ISBN 0 9526187 2 9 (Profusely illustrated coverage of the works and other L&Y activities in Horwich from selection of the site up to the final decline in the 1980s.)

Steel, W.L. 1914. The history of the London & North Western Railway, 502 pp. The Railway and Travel Monthly, London. (Relatively little on the L&Y, but it gives the LNW view on their joint activities and relationships.)


Sutcliffe, T.T. 1982. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway traffic control maps 1922. Vol. 2. Lines west of Todmorden, 52 pp. T.T. Sutcliffe, Sowerby Bridge. ISBN 0 9508322 0 0 (Details of signal boxes, including location maps, tables and photographs.)


Sutcliffe, T.T. 1984. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway traffic control maps 1895 Vol. 3. Lines east of Todmorden, 32 pp. T.T. Sutcliffe, Sowerby Bridge. ISBN 0 9508322 1 9 (Details of signal boxes, including location maps, tables and photographs.)


Swinburn, T. 1882. Biography of Thomas Swinburn, 30 pp. John Heywood, Manchester. (Swinburn, 1813-1881, was a District Engineer on the L&Y.) (not seen)

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Taylor, S. 1999. Scenes from the past No. 26, Part 4: Blackburn’s railways in the 1950s and 60s. Featuring the men of Lower Darwen MPD and the main line via Darwen, Bolton, Salford and Manchester Victoria, 160 pp. Foxline Publishing, Stockport. ISBN 1 870119 84 3 (Detailed pictorial history, from a personal perspective, of the 1950’s and 60’s.)

Taylor, S. 2003. Scenes from the past No. 46, Part 1: Journeys by excursion train home to east Lancashire. Part Four. Return from Blackpool (Central) via the coast line, 144 pp. Foxline Publishing, Stockport. ISBN 1 870119 51 7 (Detailed pictorial history, from a personal perspective, of the 1950’s and 60’s.)


Townley, C.H.A., Smith, F.D. & Peden, J.A. 1991. The industrial railways of the Wigan coalfield. Part 1. South and west of Wigan, 271 pp. Runpast Publishing, Cheltenham. ISBN 1 870754 18 2 (Inevitably this and the following three books deal mainly with colliery lines. They are mines (!) of information on the industrial companies, their lines, connections with the main line railways, traffic and locomotives.)


Whitaker, A. & Myland, B. 1993. Railway memories No. 4. Bradford, 96 pp. Bellcode Books, Todmorden. ISBN 1 871233 03 8 (Pictorial history, concentrating on the 1950’s and 60’s, covering Midland and GN lines as well as the L&Y.)
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