



THOMAS FORMAN & SONS LTD

1848 – 2000

DEPARTMENTS OF THE FACTORY

The Design Studio

The Studio prepared designs and finished artwork for most of the printing processes.

The Composing Department

The department consisted of hand setting, together with two Ludlow machines and one Intertype machine. There were also two Monotype keyboards and casters. The Stereo Foundry produced duplicate letterpress blocks and plates.

The Reproduction Department

This department undertook reproduction and proofing. It employed some 20 retouching artists and camera operators. In 1959 electronic scanning machines were introduced improving quality and production output.

The Letterpress Department

During the early years the Letterpress department had many old presses but by the 1960's modernization of the plant had commenced with faster running presses, two of which were of the 'cylinder' style made in Germany. By the late 1970's the main Letterpress department was closed and became solely an Imprint department using a range of smaller presses, mainly for overprinting calendar work.

The Litho Department

This department consisted of 2-colour and 4-colour Roland sheet-fed presses and two Koenig & Bauer machines, all manufactured in Germany. There was also a 4-colour Sovereign and several 2-colour Monarch presses, all manufactured by Crabtree's in Leeds. Later a 6-colour Roland 800 was installed.

The Gravure Department

In the late 1950's the Gravure department consisted of a 5-colour reel-fed Thrissell press. Later two sheet-fed German Palatia presses together with Italian Prima and Multi Prima presses were installed.

The General Finishing Department

The Finishing department had a battery of automatic guillotines and machines to perform varnishing, mounting, gathering, folding, stitching, trimming and punching.

The Carton Department

This department had several machines to perform cutting and creasing and in the early 1960's a Thrissell Post gluing machine was installed. The department also had several straight line gluing machines, window patching and 'Black Magic' box and band machines.

The Engineering Department

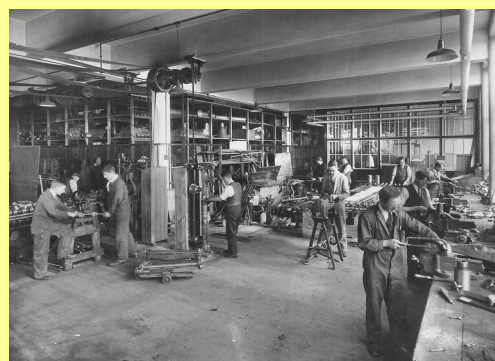
The Engineering department was made up of engineers, electricians, joiners and decorators. It included a garage which looked after the company's fleet of vehicles.



The Litho Department



The Battery of Guillotines



The Engineering Shop