



THOMAS FORMAN & SONS LTD

1848 - 2000

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1848 - Thomas Forman acquires a printing works on Long Row, Nottingham from a printer named Oliver.
- 1861 - First issue of the 'Daily Guardian'.
- 1870 - The firm moves from Long Row to Sherwood Street.
- 1872 - Thomas Forman's sons, John and Arthur become partners, followed later by Jesse Robert and James Forman.
- 1878 - First Issue of 'The Evening Post'.
- 1882 - The Calendar Department is established.
- 1902 - Tom Bailey Forman, son of John Forman becomes a partner in the firm.
- 1919 - The partnership is dissolved, the newspaper publishing side is separated from the general printing. The general printing is headed by James Forman and his son Dudley Perry Forman.
- 1926 - The general printing moves to new premises on Hucknall Road. H. E. Barrow and G. W. Knightall become partners.
- 1930 - The tragic death of Dudley Perry Forman, who was killed in a riding accident.
- 1931 - The death of James Forman. The firm continues under family ownership with Col. W.A. Potter as its Chairman.
- 1947 - Ralph A. Jackson becomes the firm's first Managing Director.
- 1948 - The firm celebrates its Centenary.
- 1950 - Col. W. A. Potter retires during the early 1950's and is succeeded by his son Thomas Forman Potter as Chairman.
- 1959 - The firm acquired 'Chapman & Warwick Ltd', a small printing business in Vancouver, Canada.
- 1960 - The firm is sold to Mardon, Son & Hall, then jointly owned by the Imperial Tobacco Group and British American Tobacco Company.
(*Mardons later changed their name to 'Mardon Packaging International'.*)
In the early 1960's the Cheque department is established.
'The Horticultural Advertiser' produced by Formans for 76 years ceases publication.

- 1961 - A separate company named 'Goodwill Gifts Ltd' is registered, later re-named 'Ad Specialties'.
 'Chapman & Warwick' is merged with other Mardon companies namely 'Lawson and Jones', who also had a plant in Vancouver Canada.
- 1963 - The No. 2 Factory is built on part of the playing fields to accommodate the Carton Department, Despatch & Warehouse, and later the Cheque Department.
- 1970 - In the early 1970's the Stationery & Seals Division is closed.
- 1977 - The Label Division is created.
- 1980 - The business becomes owned solely by the British American Tobacco Company.
- 1981 - The Carton Division is transferred to Romford, Essex and re-named 'Forman Marshall'.
 The Cheque department based in No. 2 Factory expands and is re-named 'Security Print Division'
- 1984 - The business is sold to Robert Maxwell's 'British Printing & Communications Corporation plc'
- 1987 - The name is changed to 'Maxwell Communication Corporation plc'.
- 1989 - The business is sold to a London based group of managers.
 The Security Print Division, 'BPCC Waterlow-Petty' is re-named 'Polestar Digital'.
 The Label Division is re-named 'BPCC Thos. Forman Ltd' and later that year re-named again to 'British Printing Company'.
- 1990 - The Calendar Division is re-named 'BPCC Forman Promotions' and moves from Hucknall Road to Glaisdale Parkway.
- 1992 - BPCC Forman Promotions' is sold to Lockwoods, a division of 'Kenrick & Jefferson' in West Bromwich.
- 1998 - The Label Division 'British Printing Company' is transferred to 'Broadleys' in Accrington and the main factory at Hucknall Road is closed.
- 2000 - In September 2000 'Polestar Digital' moves to Kodak at Annesley and No.2 factory is closed.