Sheet No. 2

Watford’s Printing Past:- The Early Twentieth Century

In 1903 Bemrose Dalziel were in business in Milton Street and Shakespeare Street, North Watford, producing four-colour printing including colour plates for books on Rembrandt & Caravaggio, and colour caricatures for Vanity Fair magazine. The four colours used were yellow, magenta, cyan and black, which enabled the production of the other colours and tones.

[*Illustrate four colours*.]

David Greenhill worked for Bemrose Dalziel, and in 1909 moved to Andre & Sleigh in Bushey where he helped to develop their printing facilities.

[*Picture of David Greenhill*.]

Geo. W. Jones Ltd (proprietor George W Jones) moved to Watford in 1906. This company was a subsidiary of department store Debenham & Freebody and they built a new factory in Whippendell Road. In 1908 the company was acquired by Australian artist, Mortimer Menpes, and was renamed Menpes Printing and Engraving Company – it went on to employ over 300 people in photo-engraving and letterpress printing.

[*Picture of Geo. W Jones (later Menpes) factory*.]

[*Picture of Menpes staff in Folding Room*]

In 1918 Menpes Printing and Engraving Company was bought by Andre, Sleigh & Anglo and the company reformed as Sun Engraving.