

- 1 Made in Swindon 8
Describes in detail how 34 year old Swindon-born Craig Tiley's successful career was inspired by the elegance of the GWR locomotives. Youngest ever member of the Guild of Railway Artists he later turned his attention to painting Spitfires and Hercules aircraft. His proudest achievement was having a portrait exhibited at the National Gallery.
- 2 Roy's right royal rail connections
Roy Nash, who shares his birthday with the famous Swindon-built locomotive King George V in 1927, remarkably captures iconic moments of Swindon's Works railway history. This sought after photographer's life-long interest was sparked in 1934 and he gained a reputation for taking exceptional photographs.
- 3 Time to wake up to our Potential
Swindon's heritage takes many forms besides the Great Western Railway. For example the building of the Spitfire and the provision of a blueprint for the NHS. The town is also the gateway to the landscape of Avebury, Stonehenge and within easy distance of Bath, Bristol, Oxford and the Ridgeway.
- 4 How the sewers washed up a map to treasure.
A detailed scale map showing the development of New Swindon, probably between 1865 – 1878 was given to Local Studies in the Central Library.
- 5 Time for some lateral thinking
A set of Hooper postcards taken from the roof of Swindon Station show another aspect of the town.
- 6 The guinea pigs of germ warfare
Did Britain's post-war biological weapons trial at Porton Down include Swindon?
- 7 For whom the bells will toll
A peal was rung at Christchurch, Swindon, to mark the centenary of John Odey's death in May 1917. John was a talented artist, upholsterer and bell-ringer and died on active service in France. His father, also a keen bell-ringer and benefactor of the Bell-ringers Guild at Christchurch, Swindon, donated a largish sum in 1923 to the re-casting of Bell no 2 in

memory of his son. John's letters home give profound insight into life in the trenches.

8 Not forgetting Swindon's many other heritages

The key feature of Swindon's heritage lies in attracting people here for over 175 years. Read Nigerian Oladapo Ibitoye's account of his arrival and life in Swindon.

9 Concrete heaven on Penhill Drive

The stark modern architecture of St Peter's Penhill, consecrated in 1956, reflects the hope of austerity Britain and growing optimism of Swindon. It has a strong connection with Bristol.

10 Lost souls of Eysey

The ghost village of Eysey, near Cricklade, has a church built in 1844. This replaced a much earlier one of which there is a record dated 1195. The OS map from the 1890s shows the scattered community and the isolated position of the church.

11 Searching for lost Highworth farms

Until the railways came Highworth was much larger than Swindon. A brief history of Highworth together with an extract from the OS map of 1886 makes it easy to read the information about the 22 farms that were in the area around Highworth then.

12 The House of Horrors

Research into Swindon's workhouse, demolished in 1972, shows a complex story.

13 Carnivals change but they are never over

Carnivals yesterday and today in Swindon. Carnival Queens include Amber Bezer and Katherine Thomas.

14 Little chapel's colourful history unlocked

15 See pictures of South Marston's very tiny chapel and read an account of it by Alfred Williams whose house "Raniket" is at present empty.

15 Rural Life? They have it covered

Entry is free to the Museum of English Rural Life, part of Reading University at Redlands Road. This National Collection has 20 large carts and wagons and depicts rural life in all its forms.

16 Double tragedy at Kingsdown

The sad death of 5 year old Katie Reeves was followed by another tragedy 2 years later.

17 Accidents and a poignant discovery waiting to happen

The Dixon-Attwell Collection given to the Local Studies at Swindon Central Library, represents typical Swindonian life in the early 20th century.

18 Rake Daddy Rake

How the Moonrakers tricked the Excisemen

19 The vinyl frontier

Local musicians sign up for independent labels in the 1960s

20 Anyone care for a case of wine?

History of the Old Town Wine Merchants, Brown and Plummer