

COUNTY BOROUGH OF MIDDLESBROUGH,

CENTENARY OF THE CHARTER OF  
INCORPORATION.

2 Releases  
(Middlesbrough  
and Regent)

Middle  
Branch.

The Town Clerk of Middlesbrough presents his compliments, and trusts that the following information will be of interest to you. If any further details are required, he will be pleased to supply them immediately on request.

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The Charter of Incorporation was granted on 21st January, 1853, by Queen Victoria, and provided for the election of a Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors. At that time the population of the newly created Borough was 9,332 - at the present time it is approximately 147,000.

Although a Monastic Cell had existed at Middlesbrough from about A.D. 1100, only a very small farming and fishing hamlet existed at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The town as such really commenced with the purchase in 1829 of the Middlesbrough Estate by Joseph Peace, and others, for the purpose of setting up a small port for the shipment of coal, and in fact their intention was to call it Port Darlington. Many explanations have been given as to the meaning of the name Middlesbrough. One was that it was, in fact, a middle point or resting place between Whitby and Durham, but it does seem more probable that it is a derivation from a Scandinavian name Mydelburg, which may have been given to the area by early settlers from Scandinavia. There are, in fact, local place names approximating to Scandinavian names. Between 1830 and 1850, the town prospered because of the comparative ease with which coal could be shipped from the nearby Durham Coalfields, but the rapid expansion of the Railways caused a serious decline in that trade, because it became easier to make coal shipments from developing ports nearer to the Coalfield itself. By the time, however, that the Charter was granted, Middlesbrough had started on its second era, which was that of iron making. This was due to the discovery of iron stone in the neighbouring Cleveland Hills which resulted in the setting up of furnaces for the puddling of iron, and the making of rails and this, of course, meant that once again large quantities of coal were coming into the town for use in industry rather than as previously for export. The town became one of the largest iron making and exporting places in the country, but once again it suffered a set back on the introduction of steel, more particularly as at first the Cleveland Iron Stone was unsuitable for making steel. Processes for refining the iron stone to remove its phosphoric content were developed, and once again the town developed rapidly and soon became one of the greatest steel making areas in the world. From the fabrication of iron and steel has also developed the construction of bridges which have been erected in all parts of the world. The Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia is probably the best known, but there are many other examples such as the Tyne Bridge at Newcastle, bridges over the Thames, etc.

Coincident with the development of Middlesbrough and of Tees-side, has been the development of the River Tees. It was not always the broad easily navigable river it is now, and this has been entirely due to the foresight of the Tees Conservancy Commissioners who by building retaining walls, dredging, reclaiming land, and building breakwaters, combined several channels into a single well dredged channel.

The well known firm of Messrs. Dorman, Long and Co., Ltd., had its beginnings in Middlesbrough, and now controls a large part of the heavy  
\* of Darlington

/ industry

industry in the town, either directly or in association with other firms. Imperial Chemical Industries Limited have their huge Billingham Factory on the north side of the river, and are developing their Wilton Factory to the east of the town.

There are docks and wharves and steam ship routes connecting the town with all parts of the world.

Programme of Events to Celebrate the Centenary.

Tuesday, 20th January, 1953.

United Service of Thanksgiving in the Town Hall, commencing at 7.30 p.m., which will be addressed by the Archbishop of York. The Roman Catholic community are arranging a separate Service in their Cathedral for the same time.

Wednesday, 21st January, 1953.

Members of the Town Council and Officials, accompanied by representative schoolchildren, will leave the Municipal Buildings at 10 a.m. for a ceremony of "Beating the Bounds", although in fact this will not be an actual perambulation of the boundaries but means a visit to a number of the boundary stones where a short proclamation will be read at each of them, as follows:-

*No robes will be worn. Travel by bus + 1 1/2 hrs travelling time.*

" O Yez, O Yez, O Yez. I do in the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the County Borough of Middlesbrough hereby proclaim and declare this to be the undoubted boundary of the said County Borough. God save the Queen. "

*Mayor will read first. 3rd by Town Clerk*

In the afternoon there will be a special Meeting of the Town Council, again attended by schoolchildren, to pass a Resolution of loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen.

In the evening there is to be a Civic Dinner and Ball, at which all sections of the community will be represented.

Saturday, 24th January, 1953. *2.45pm from Albert Rk.*

There will be a Ceremonial March through the town by the Green Howards in the afternoon, when there will be contingents from the 1st and 2nd Battalions and all other Units of the Regiment. It is the first time in their history when all units of the Regiment have been in the Northern Command at the same time. There will be four sets of Colours on parade, two bands, and over 500 men taking part. The troops will march with bayonets fixed. Prior to the March there will be a Civic Lunch attended by representatives of the Regiment, and during the course of it the Lord Lieutenant of the North Riding of Yorkshire will present a copy of a portrait of Queen Alexandra when Princess of Wales, which hangs in the private breakfast room at Windsor Castle, to the Regiment on behalf of Middlesbrough, Scarborough, Beverley, Bridlington and Richmond, which are the five Local Authorities which have conferred the Freedom of the Borough on the Regiment.

In addition to the above programme, each school child is to be presented with a history of the Borough which has been specially written by Mr. W. Lillie, who was Borough Librarian from 1936 to 1951.

Two other features have been arranged, but will take place later in the year, viz:- A Pageant of Youth, organised by the local Youth Clubs, to take place in mid-April, and also a Civic and Industrial Exhibition at which the history of the industry of the town and district will be shown, which is to take place at the end of April.

X  
3.25pm at Town Hall  
B.M.N. interested?  
ok for car on opp. side of road?



**CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION**

NORGEBY HOUSE, 81-85 BAKER STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telephone WELbeck 4420

Telegrams Centroform, London

Ex. 746.

Our reference ..... **FM. 274.**

Your reference .....

16th Jan., 1953.

Dear Party,

I am not quite sure if I sent you a copy of some notes on the CENTENARY OF MIDDLESBROUGH but, in case I did not, perhaps something in them may interest you. You may, of course, have heard from other sources of this event.

Yours sincerely,

Yes

*Fred*

F. WATTS,  
Films Division.

F. J. Partington Esq.,  
British Paramount News,  
School Road,  
N. W. 10.

b. 205440

BOROUGH OF MIDDLESBROUGH



E.C. Parr, M.A., LL.B.  
Town Clerk.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE,

MIDDLESBROUGH.

YOUR REFERENCE
IN YOUR REPLY, PLEASE QUOTE
TC/AS

19th January, 1953.

Dear Sir,

Confirming telephone conversation this afternoon, there will be no objection to you arranging to take a film of the March Past of The Green Howards on Saturday next, 24th instant. As I informed you, the parade leaves the Albert Park at 2.45 p.m. and will pass the saluting base in Victoria Square near the Town Hall at 3.25 p.m. It is understood that you will desire to have a camera man in a car and one on foot near the saluting base, and I have so informed the Chief Constable.

Yours faithfully,

*W. S. Parr*

Town Clerk.

*Sad. camera silent. 1 hand*

*No c. or musical instruments.*

The News Editor,  
British Paramount News,  
School Road,  
LONDON, N.W.10.

*Football Mannion lives here!*  
*CHECK*

*Scenes of Middlesbrough*  
*Old views.*  
*Examples of architecture*

b-805440

# CAMERA

CAMERAMAN'S CAPTION SHEET

OLYMPIC KINEMATOGRAPH LABORATORIES, LTD.

BRITISH PARAMOUNT NEWS DEPT.

SCHOOL ROAD, LONDON, N.W.10

DATE MAILED

24th.  
Jan. 58.

709 025.  
NUMBER

CAMERAMAN Rennie Reed. SOUNDMAN .....

STORY COVERED: "Green Howards" welcomed at Centenary Celebrations TH EXPOSED: 400.

PLACE OF EVENT: Middlesbrough. HOW SHIPPED: .....

STOCK USED Ilford L.F.8. EMULSION NUMBER ..... PROD. No. ....

VERY IMPORTANT! Write Plainly—Spell Names Correctly—Use Typewriter if Possible

SCENE NUMBER

COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF SCENES

Long elevated shots of the Tees and Middlesbrough in the mist, taken from one of the Towers on the Elevated Bridge.  
 Two shots of the old Middlesbrough showing the squalor type houses.  
 Shots of the new Middlesbrough avee modern houses.  
 Shot of Wilf Mannion's House in Highbury Avenue, No.8.

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Angle shot on the Town Hall.  
 Interior shots of the Towns Plaque and the Green Howards Coat of Arms.  
 Presentation of the Picture of Queen Alexandra by the Lord Lieutenant of North Riding Col. Sir William Worsley Bart., to the Green Howards Major Gen. A.K. Robinson C.B.D.S.O.  
 Close ups on the Picture and the two concerned.  
 Close up of the Mayor of Middlesbrough Alderman L. Taylor J.P.  
 " " " his Wife.

**Roll 2. Exteriors only.**

.....

Long gen view of the start of the Procession from the Cenotaph.  
 Couple of travel shots on troops only.  
 Static shot turning a corner.  
 Shots of crowds.  
 Various shots en route of the Procession, crowds etc.  
 Shot of the Mayoral Party walking to the Saluting Base.  
 Couple of close ups at the Saluting Base to cut in with Mr. Farmers material. Shot of the crowd.  
 Close ups in this order. The Mayor of Middlesbrough. Lord Lieutenant.

.....

Newspapers and tops attached.

WHICH OTHER SOUND NEWS REELS COVERED STORY .....

.. .. SILENT .. .. .. .. Movietone.

6-805990

# CAMERA

CAMERAMAN'S CAPTION SHEET

OLYMPIC KINEMATOGRAPH LABORATORIES, LTD.

BRITISH PARAMOUNT NEWS DEPT.

SCHOOL ROAD, LONDON. N.W.10

DATE MAILED

Jan 24th  
1953.

FORM NO. 5.

NUMBER

CAMERAMAN..... **A Farmer** ..... SOUNDMAN..... **silent** .....

STORY COVERED:..... **Centenary Celebrations, The Green Howards** ..... LENGTH EXPOSED:..... **450ft** .....

PLACE OF EVENT:..... **Middlesboro'** ..... HOW SHIPPED:.....

STOCK USED..... **H.P. 3.** ..... EMULSION NUMBER..... PROD. No.....

VERY IMPORTANT! Write Plainly—Spell Names Correctly—Use Typewriter if Possible

SCENE NUMBER

COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF SCENES

A few gen views inside the town hall during the lunch etc  
 Shots of the standard bearers, a short view of one in the uniform of the Green Howards about the period of the Crimea War.

Short views and close ups of the Town's three V.C.s but not of the Green Howards  
 Left...Stanley Hollas, this last war in France  
 Centre.....Jim Smith, 14-18 war in France  
 Right.....Tom Dresser, 14-18 war in France.

Various shots of the march past, with the Mayor & V.I.P. taking the salute, with the Town Hall in the background.

Apparently this is about the only occasion when all units of the Green ~~XXXXX~~ Howards have been at home at the same time.  
 If the weather had not been so bad, the story might have been built up with some other material.

Attached find programme, the lunch programme and toasts & local paper describing the ceremony.

WHICH OTHER SOUND NEWS REELS COVERED STORY.....

.. .. SILENT .. .. .. Movietone silent.

b 805990

'GREEN HOWARDS' AT CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Sc 1 - 7

The North Riding County Borough of Middlesborough is famous not only for its iron works and industry but it also houses Wilf Marnion the famous footballer at No.8, Highbury Avenue.

" 5 - 22

In celebrating the centenary of the town's incorporation the civic heads remembered that in 1800 Middlesborough was a village of 25 inhabitants.

" 11 - 42

Alderman Taylor, the Mayor, met the town's three V.C.'s, Stanley Hollas, Jim Smith and Tom Dresser.

" 13 - 52

The Lord Lieutenant of the North Riding presented Major General Robinson of the Green Howards with a portrait of Queen Alexandra <sup>at time</sup> who ~~was~~ Colonel in Chief <sup>the</sup> of the Regiment ~~which~~ later marched through the streets of the town, as privileged freemen, bayonets fixed, colours flying and the bands playing.

" 21 - 73

The Mayor took the salute at the gaily decorated saluting base in Victoria Square and it was cheering all the way for the famous shoulder flash soon to be seen in Austria and Suez.