

Some Key dates:

Royal visitors include:

Charles I 1647

Victoria 1858

Edward VII 1868, 1894, 1908

George V 1894, 1915, 1918, 1933

Edward VIII 1923

George VI 1928

Elizabeth II 1949, 54, 58, 65, 77, 78, 82, 2012

Charles III 1982, 2022

Other visitors include:

Clement Atlee 1951

Nelson Mandela 2001

Opening times

Monday – 9.00am – 8.00pm

Tuesday – 9.00am – 8.00pm

Weds – 9.00am – 8.00pm

Thursday 9.00am – 8.00pm

Friday – 9.00 – 5.00pm

Saturday – 10.00am – 4.00pm

Sunday - Closed

For more information

Local and Family History

Leeds Central Library, Calverley Street,
Leeds, LS1 3AB

T: 0113 378 6982

E: localandfamilyhistory@leeds.gov.uk

W: www.leeds.gov.uk/libraries

Blog: secretlibraryleeds.net

Tickets:

ticketsource.co.uk/Leedslibraryevents



LCC Papers:
Official visits
and events

Leeds Town Hall 1933. King George V
inspecting a Guard of Honour,

Leeds City Council Papers: Official Visits & Events

Our Research Guides list some of the most useful, interesting and unique items in at Leeds Central Library. Many others are listed in our online and card catalogues. Items marked * may require 24-hours notice to view.

Contact us for more information:

Visit: www.leeds.gov.uk/localandfamilyhistory

Email: localandfamilyhistory@leeds.gov.uk

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Over 200 years of Council papers are lodged in the Central Library, and these give details of how it has contributed to making the city what it is today.

19th Century

Leeds in the 19th century was a rapidly developing town, with the population increasing from 30,000 in 1800 to 250,000 by 1850. Like other burgeoning towns and cities, Leeds was keen to attract investment and establishing prestige was an important aspect. So the visit of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1858 was quite a coup. It was a grand affair - primarily for the opening of the Town Hall, but the Queen also watched 26,000 Sunday School children sing on Woodhouse Moor. She also found time to knight the Mayor, with whom she was staying.



This was the only time Queen Victoria visited, although two future monarchs, Edward VII (1868 & 1894) and George V (1894) both visited before the end of the century.

20th Century

George V came to Leeds in 1918 to see munitions factories and to visit those wounded in the First World War at Becketts Park Hospital. Queen Elizabeth II visited Leeds in 1958 to celebrate 100 years since Victoria's visit. Leeds was a very different place to when Victoria visited. The population of Leeds was 500,000, stretching to nearly 2 million for the wider metropolitan area. Leeds had become a thriving industrial city with a diverse range of industries which helped it adapt as the wider economy changed. It was at this time that Montague Burton's clothing factory in Harehills was the largest clothing factory in the world.



Queen Elizabeth II was a frequent visitor to Leeds and showed the changing role of royalty following the Second World War, by visiting a total of 8 times, the last time being in 2012. Her visit here in 1958 included visits to the University of Leeds and the Burton factory.