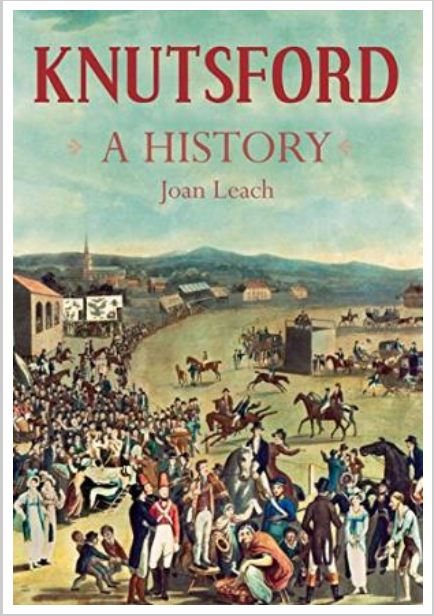


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Knutsford: A History

By Joan Leach

The History Press Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Knutsford: A History, Joan Leach, KNUTSFORD OWED ITS PROSPERITY less to the villages served by its market, gained with a 1292 charter, than to its surrounding manorial estates and the Egertons of Tatton, lords of the manor, who wielded both infl uence and wealth. Knutsford was given an importance disproportionate to its size; despite having little trade beyond agriculture and cottage industries, it held quarter sessions from 1575 and was home to a workhouse and rural district offi ces that covered a wide area. A lack of both water power and canal doomed the town's attempt to advance the textiles industry with a silk mill and cotton workshops. Knutsford later became a resort for the gentry, owing to its location on the London to Liverpool coaching route. Its 18thcentury Assembly Rooms at the George inn and the races on the heath made it a popular destination until the arrival of the railway in 1862. Knutsford can also claim an illustrious inhabitant in Elizabeth Gaskell whose novel, Cranford, recreates the 19th-century town through her childhood memories. Elizabeth was married in the parish church in 1832 and is buried at the 300-year-old...

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