

# PROTEST DAYS, REBELLION NIGHTS

00.00 WELCOME -

*RUNNING ORDER / TIME — SINGALONG —*

*... see you on the other side*

01.00 [ WEAVING SONG ]

02.45 NED LUDD

07.15 TOPHAM'S TALE

*... and that is the tale of Benjamin Topham*

12.15 [ CROPPER SONG INTRO MUSIC ]

HUDDERSFIELD CROPPERS

16.00 [ CROPPER SONG V1 + C ]

SMALL ATTACKS

17.00 [ CROPPER SONG V2 + C ]

GUNS

18.00 [ CROPPER SONG V3 + C ]

MILL SELECT — DUMB STEEPLE —

*Count: ONE, TWO*

19.30 [ CROPPER SONG V4 + 2 x C ]

20.00 ATTACK ON CARTWRIGHT'S MILL — BRONTE

JOHN BOOTH AND SAMUEL HARTLEY

*... and so can I.*

27.00 [ CROPPER SONG V + C REPRISE (quiet) ]

33.15 FUNERAL — COURT MARTIAL —

WHIPPING — MURDER PLAN —

HORSFALL MAN HABIT — CLOTH HALL

*... Business done, on horse, started to make way home*

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- 37.00 [ JOHN THE WEAVER MUSIC INTRO ]  
PUB — DRINK — *starts to have a drink...*
- 37.30 [ JOHN THE WEAVER 3 x VERSES (MUTTON CHOP) ]  
*Horsfall starts up hill*  
[ JOHN THE WEAVER V4 ]  
*There's a shot, and another, and Horsfall cries "MURDER"*  
[ JOHN THE WEAVER V5 ]  
DEATH OF HORSFALL — OATHS OF SECRECY —  
PROCLAMATION — 66 MEN — TRIAL — ALIBIS —  
GEO. MELLOR / WILL. THORPE / THOS. SMITH  
OTHER TRIALS (RAWFOLDS, ILLEGAL OATHS)  
*Administering oath to spy...*  
14 MORE HANGED, OTHERS TRANSPORTED  
ONTO PLATFORM — ENEMIES/FORGIVE AS WORLD
- 48.00 [ FAREWELL ME LADS SONG ]
- 50.30 END OF HUDDS — NOTTS 1814 / 16 —  
LAST TRIAL 1817 — LANCASHIRE DIFFERENT —  
TO MANCHESTER —  
BREAK FOR DRINKS AND MERCH — BACK IN 15
- 53.00 [FAREWELL REPRISE]

# **PROTEST DAYS, REBELLION NIGHTS**

00.00 [ FOUR LOOM WEAVER ]

03.00 IT'S 1817 — PRINCE REGENT ATTACK —  
FEAR OF UPRISING — HABEAS CORPUS —  
MARCH OF THE BLANKETEERS

*One man made it to London. Waiting still?*

13.00 1820s — SWING 1830 —  
1840s — CORN LAWS — POVERTY —  
CHARTISTS — PLUG DRAWER'S  
[ PLUG DRAWERS' MUSIC INTRO ]

17.00 [ PLUG DRAWERS' SONG ]

20.00 THANKS — ANYWHENS —  
DAVID AND COUNTERS —  
RICHARD SOUND  
VIKKI AND VOLUNTEERS  
AUDIENCE  
JOIN IN ONE LAST CHORUS

22.00 [CROPPERS REPRISE]

23.00 END

After “CROPPER SONG V3 + C”, Dumb steeple, men formed into ranks and counted out: G - ONE, S - TWO, D - THREE, M - FOUR, E - FIVE

Alibis - watches; washerwoman

As well as the trial of Mellor, Thorpe and Smith, several men were tried in that Special Commission for the part they played in the attack on Rawfolds mill, others for the theft of guns, and others for twisting in, which is to say, administering an illegal oath, to a man who happened to be a magistrate’s spy acting under a less than imaginative false name: [READ OATH and use the name M’Donald gave - John Smith]”

And here the tale ends, for the Yorkshire Luddites at least. In Nottinghamshire, outbreaks of violence would reoccur, in 1814, and 1816, about which there are more tales we could tell, although time does not allow it now. The last of the Nottinghamshire Luddite trials would take place in Spring, 1817, for an attack in Loughborough the year before. There had also been Luddite attacks in Lancashire throughout 1812, with large trials at Chester and Lancaster. Manchester was a still a new town, then, without an MP even until the mid-1800s, and for the cotton mill workers in the towns to the west of the Pennines, their grievances were not the result of trying to preserve the old traditions, but a reaction to the way the new industry was taking in workers to feed the new factories, factories that were built around machines from the very beginning, and paying the workers so poorly, even as food prices rose, that they were forced take action themselves. Because then, just as now, you paid once for your machine, but had to pay your workers every week. And you could reduce *that* cost by paying them less. But those stories are also stories that we must save another day. Because unlike the

Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire Luddites, who had tried to appeal to Parliament for a preservation of the old ways, but whose cause was largely apolitical, in Manchester, where there was no MP, there was also a clamouring for representation, and Parliamentary reform. And so it is to Manchester that we will return, after a short interval, and an opportunity to refill your glasses and maybe pick up some merch, for another short set, of 20 minutes or so, with songs and stories of protest that arose out of the Luddite times, of the Blanketeers, and the Plug Draw rioters.

Plug Drawers - where the riot act was read, and placards announcing the fact that the riot act had been read were displayed around the town.

As we draw to an end, thanks to...; and so to finish off, [INTO CROPPER LADS IF NOT ALREADY SWITCHED TUNE] we invite you to join in with us in a couple of rounds of the chorus of the Cropper lads, which you can find on the handouts we provided earlier.