

# THE BOOK OF IVYBRIDGE

Ivor Martin

Few places can boast a trout and salmon river running through their centre, but it is to the River Erme that Ivybridge owes its very existence, and because of the ancient bridge, its name. The river once powered a corn mill and paper mill, along with a fulling and tucking mill. The mills are largely silent now, save for a specialist paper mill, but the town has continued to grow.

Through the use of over 250 photographs, many of them never before published, this book traces the history of Ivybridge from its position as a simple crossing point on the turbulent moorland river, through its rise when Wool was King in Devon, down to more recent times. To tell the story of Ivybridge, which grew up in the 1800s, you also have to include its four more ancient neighbouring parishes, Cornwood, Harford, Ermington and Ugborough. These were the principal communities when Ivybridge was just the ivy-covered packhorse bridge.

For anyone who lives in the town, or who has family connections to Ivybridge, this book will prove of great interest and enjoyment.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ivor Martin was born and raised a Cockney, and wanted to pursue a career in farming from a young age. This dream was realised, and apart from a three-year break in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, he eventually worked his way up to being a farm manager in Sussex. He moved to Ivybridge in 1968 as an agricultural sales rep, citing the friendliness and welcoming nature of the community as a prompt for staying. He has served on many community bodies including Ivybridge Town Council, The Ivybridge Youth Club, and Ivybridge & District Civic Society. Before setting up the Ivybridge museum with Tony Barber, Ivor admits he was not a particular fan of history. However, he now revels in it, enjoying helping others to trace their family history, and he has already compiled two books on Ivybridge.

## HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

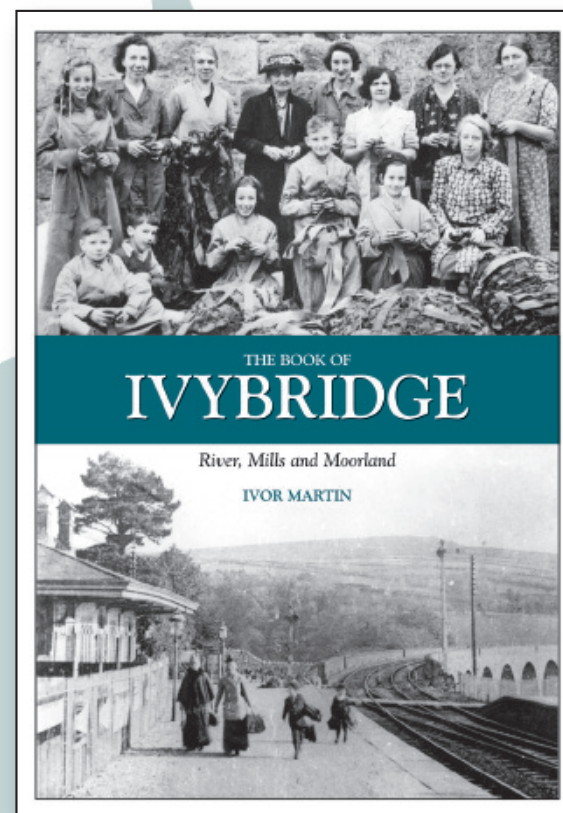
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