



Victorians

## Map 26 LOUGHBOROUGH

'Here would be a fine place for us to pick up our regular argument over your obsession with screen machines, my boy.'

I made a face, always dreading that particular subject coming up. We were standing in front of a town hall, which Aunt Bea informed me was a marvellous example of the mid-nineteenth-century Italianate style, and which I had to admit definitely looked like it had been dropped into place from a different country.

'This neck of the woods will always be linked to a tension where disruptive technologies are concerned. It was in these parts that one of the final destructive acts said to have been carried out in the name of the Luddites took place. The Luddites were a secret group of textile workers who reacted to the ongoing mechanisation of their industry by destroying factory machinery. They were named after the almost certainly fictitious Ned Ludd. What was true, however, was the systematic destruction of machinery by those who lost their jobs due to mechanisation. Though there were stories



of disgruntled workers breaking their equipment from earlier, it lasted officially from 1811 to 1816. There are some who doubt that the attack on a lace-making factory here was even connected to the Luddites, but rather believe it was a rival factory owner's attempts at sabotage.

'Luddite or not, the attack on John Heathcoat's bobbinet machines was the last major event in a long series of destructive acts against industrial machinery. The Luddites are a reminder that what looks to us at a distance like the long, clean natural arc of progress, with a logic to each age succeeding another, was nothing like as neat to live through. When we trace our fingers over a map, when we pass over warehouses and factories, old industrial districts and docks, when we stand in the place where history happened, we remember that these were people whose lives were transformed, not always happily.'

Aunt Bea lamented the fact that we wouldn't have time to reach the Peak District on this trip, but promised me we would have time to see the steam engines at the Great Central Railway.

'Now if it isn't too ironic, perhaps you could get out one of your devices and find us a café. We can sit and you can help this old Luddite solve some of our puzzles.'





## QUESTIONS

### Easy

1. How many public telephones are shown on the map?
2. In total, how many wells and springs are marked on the map?

### Medium

3. Which column of the map grid contains the fewest schools?
4. Where on the map will you find a pub near some schools?

### Tricky

5. Which location's name contains a word that is one letter change away from being a place to moor a ship?
6. How many locations printed on the map contain words that are types of drink within their letters?

### Challenging

7. Using only the initial letters of words that appear on the map in blue, can you find a 5-letter word describing a solid shape?
8. The following block of simple cipher text identifies four locations on the map.

Can you identify them?

OOTKHRE

FSLRTAR

NNEALET

AOBPEPN

TDRNHRE

SRAOSOC

